



Volume 2

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February 2014

News from the Selectboard

John Jordan for the Selectboard

I would like to remind everyone of some upcoming dates that are important.

Conval Deliberative Session: Wednesday, February 5 @ 7:00 PM in the Conval High School Gymnasium. The School Budget represents over 70% of your tax bill. The proposed Budget and Warrant Articles represent an increase of approximately 5% in the District Assessment. Our December tax rate increased by \$2.47 because of the District Assessment. This is the only opportunity that the citizens of the District have to affect the School Budget to be voted on in March. The Selectmen's Advisory Committee representing the nine ConVal towns does not support the proposed budget or the warrant articles for the CVHS running track, CVHS parking lot or the SMS entry road.

Hancock Budget Hearing: Monday, February 10 @ 7:00 PM in the Town Office Building Caverly Meeting Room. The proposed Town operating budget is \$1,923,953 which is an increase of \$28,669 over 2013. It includes new

I wish to thank all my co-workers, friends and neighbors for my wonderful celebration of my retirement. I was amazed and honored at the large turnout, especially on such a wet weather day! A big thank you to Linda Coughlan for organizing the event; the Selectboard for their dedication of the Meeting Room; my co-workers from all department for the luggage, Kindle, gift certificates and – a special thank you to Deb Porter-Hayes and John for the photo of downtown Hancock/Norway Pond with the signatures all around the mat that were collected at the party. It was a totally overwhelming day and words

principal payments totaling \$32,358 for the addition to the recycling center and purchase of a new highway truck voted at last year's Town Meeting. There are warrant articles for a new police cruiser (\$35,000), refurbishing the highway department backhoe/loader (\$30,000), improvements to the boat landing at Nubanusit (\$18,000) and Fourth of July fireworks (\$2,500). It is our intention to offset the cost of these warrant articles with the health insurance refunds which we received from ConVal (\$67,630) and Local Government Center (\$19,552). There will also be the usual warrant articles for the Meetinghouse Capital Reserve, Bridge Capital Reserve and the Grapevine.

Hancock Meetinghouse Restoration Warrant Article Hearing, Monday, February 17 @ 7:00 PM in the Town Office Building Caverly Meeting Room. At that time we hope to have more definite costs as well as some options to consider relating to the scope of the work. We hope that you will consider participating in these three meetings.

cannot express my true feelings, but the wonderful memories will be carried with me.

Thank you!
from Barbara Caverly

You are all the greatest and I have fully enjoyed the many years of working with you, Selectboards, employees and townspeople, as well as those from neighboring towns – some longer than others – but all from 1971 to 2014!

I hope to keep in touch with everyone as time goes on – I'm only retiring from the Town Office, not from town (yet). The people are what this is all about – thank you!

Hancock Happenings Mission Statement

Hancock Happenings is the monthly newsletter of the Town of Hancock, established in 1999 for the purpose of publishing news articles contributed by Town Departments and local organizations. The publication is self-supported through the sale of block and classified advertising. *Hancock Happenings* is not a forum for opinion pieces of any nature, political advertising and political columns; any such submissions will be edited or rejected.



Town Administrator Barbara Caverly Retires

by Nancy P. Adams

Barbara Eva Caverly, Hancock Town Administrator for 42 years, was fêted at a retirement party in her honor on Saturday, January 11, at 7:00 p.m., in the Vestry.

Always the master of diplomacy, Barb simply said of her decision to retire, “It was time to go—time for a change for both me and the town office.” A large crowd joined Barb at the party, organized by Linda Coughlan. “It was a lovely party,” Barb said, as she expressed her thanks for the many cards and gifts, including an aerial photo of the town, donated by photographer Deb Porter Hayes, and signed by many friends and party guests. A bit overwhelmed by so much attention, Barb expressed her thanks and appreciation for everything, including the naming of the downstairs meeting room at the Town Office Building as the Barbara Eva Caverly Meeting Room.

A Hancock native, Barb has never been far from her roots. After finishing college, she returned to Hancock to live in 1963 while her husband Ralph was in Vietnam with the U.S. Air Force. Following her husband’s service stint, the couple settled into a home on what is now named Caverly Road in Hancock. Never one to be idle, Barb became town secretary in 1971 when her father asked if she would be interested in the job. With three young girls at home, she wasn’t really looking for a job, but decided to give it a try. She recalls that Dick Amidon was one of the Selectmen at the time who encouraged her with the new job of taking minutes, writing letters and maintaining the yearly blotter books. The blotter books contained the names of all property owners in town; those names were entered yearly by hand and every tax bill then manually calculated.

“I used a Royal non-electric typewriter and carbon paper for all the work,” Barb recalled, *“there were no copier machines until about the late 1970s. I kept lots of extra forms on hand, since there was lots of starting over if you made mistakes. Now,”* she continued, *“there are no typewriters in the office—just computers.”*

Sometime around the mid-1980s Barb’s job title became Administrative Assistant; later, around 2006, it

was changed to Town Administrator. *“I laughed to myself a little,”* she quipped, *“every time there was a new title, because the job itself didn’t change—I just felt, this is what needs to be done; I don’t care what title they hang on me.”* Over time, her job started with three mornings a week and gradually progressed to upwards of 40 hours a week by the time she retired.

Barb has always been one to ‘go with the flow’—with good humor. When she first began working as secretary, the Selectmen met in the Meetinghouse small room. From there, they moved to what was the former high school on School Street. At that time, the Selectmen themselves undertook the painting of the office room and outfitted it with a large table for their work. When it was decided to tear down the old high school to build a new one, the board moved to the Depot in the interim, before locating to their present offices in what was then the old elementary school on the Common. When asked if all the town records and files had to be moved each time, she just smiles and says, “Oh yes!”

When Barb first started working with the Selectmen, the board met every Monday night for many years, changing as needed, to the present schedule. They meet in the afternoon, at 4:00 on the first three Mondays, and at 7:00 on the 4th Monday. The meetings were never less than once a week, she recalled. Barb was still taking the Selectboard minutes at retirement time, but she felt this might change, noting it was becoming increasingly difficult to take minutes and be a participant as well.

“I really enjoyed working with the various Selectmen—29 of them in all,” she said, *“because they were all so different. Some of the boards worked with little discussion among themselves, while others had more diversification. Sometimes there would be a two-to-one vote, one way or the other, but they all got along,”* she added.

Barb will still be a familiar face around Hancock for a while, as she readies herself to eventually move to North Carolina where two of her three daughters now live. In the meantime, she keeps busy with church activities, friendships and helping new Town Administrator Diane Kendall a few hours a week during the job transition period.

PUBLIC NOTICE

A public hearing will be held Monday evening, February 10, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Office meeting room to review the proposed budget and warrant articles for the 2014 Town Meeting and to hear any questions or concerns of Hancock residents, per RSA 32:5. (Parking and entrance in the rear of the building).

Hancock Selectboard



**TOWN OF HANCOCK
PUBLIC HEARING**

A Public Hearing will be held Monday, February 17, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Office Meeting Room for the purpose of hearing any questions or concerns regarding the long term borrowing of more than \$100,000.00, per RSA 33:8-a, for the Meetinghouse Restoration Project.

Hancock Selectboard

Elected Positions to be filled March 11, 2014

Filing Period

January 22, 2014 to January 31, 2014

Town Hall Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Moderator

1 position - 2 years

Selectboard

1 position - 3 years

Water Commissioner

1 position - 3 years

Common Commissioner

1 position - 3 years

Library Trustees

1 position - 3 years

Trustees of Trust Funds

1 position - 3 years

Supervisors of the Checklist

1 position - 6 years

Cemetery Trustees

1 position - 3 years

Town Election

Tuesday, March 11, 2014, 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Caverly Meeting Room (Town Hall Lower Level)

Town Meeting

Saturday March 15, 2014, 9:00 a.m.
Hancock Fire Department

Annual Town Holidays

The Town of Hancock Town Offices and normal operations of the Dept of Public Works will be closed on the holidays listed below:

- New Year's Day (January 1)
- Memorial Day (last Monday in May)
- Independence Day (July 4)
- Labor Day (first Monday in September)
- Veterans' Day (November 11)
- Thanksgiving (fourth Thursday in November)
- Day after Thanksgiving
- Christmas (December 25)

ConVal Forum District Meeting

Forum on the budget

Wednesday, January 29, 2014, 7:00 p.m.

Hancock Elementary School

Pierce Rigrod (Hancock Rep to School Board)

Marian Alese (ConVal Business Manager)

will discuss the 2014-15 ConVal Budget

Deliberative Session (District Meeting)

Wednesday, February 5, 2014, 7:00 p.m.

ConVal High School Gymnasium

ConVal Schoolboard Some Updates On The Next ConVal Budget (2014-15)

ConVal School Board held a public hearing on the 2014-15 budget on January 14, 2014. The School Administrative Unit (SAU) presented a gross operating budget of \$45,793,510, an increase of 0.98%, or \$424,000.

The increase in the 2014-15 ConVal operating budget would result in an estimated annual tax increase of \$102 per \$200,000 in assessed property value in Hancock (a 3.32% increase in local property taxes District-wide); however, that doesn't include the possible voter approval of warrant articles the School Board voted to place on the ballot in the spring. The School Board decided to put four capital improvements for voters to approve. Warrants will include: reconstruction of the High School parking lot (a portion of which was done last year), resurfacing the high school track, repaving the South Meadow School access road, and a lease for a tractor. All of the warrant articles, except for the tractor lease, will involve asking voters for approval to draw upon capital reserve trust funds to minimize the impact on taxes. The SAU Administration flagged each of these items as high priority for a variety of reasons. If all warrants pass, an additional \$43 will bring the estimated total annual tax increase of \$145 per \$200,000 of property value is expected in Hancock.

Within the operating budget there are major improvements in technology (computers and mobile devices) for students and teachers, upgrades to building HVAC (Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning) systems and installation of LED (Light-Emitting Diode) lighting – the latter two increase efficiency and reduce energy costs. Health

benefit costs, usually a cost that drives up the budget, fell by 0.4%, (-\$123,000) in part due to teachers absorbing a greater share of the benefit cost per their contract.

Student enrollment, which had been dropping by 50 to 100 students per year since 2006, fell by only 6 students from 2012 to 2013 (2,390 to 2,384). The SAU did reduce its force in the 2014-15 budget by a net of two teachers, two para professionals, and a Technology Director position, as well as an Administrative assistant. As a member of the Budget and Property Committee and Strategic Plan Committee, I am sure we'll revisit questions brought forth by some Selectmen and others concerned about any increase in the budget.

This budget is not flat, but it is reasonable. It was crafted by the SAU Administration with the Board's expressed concern about impact on local taxes, yet it funds the educational and infrastructure priorities that maintain ConVal facilities, and it provides all students with high-quality educational and co-curricular services.

Last year Hancock supported the ConVal budget by 64%, the highest in the District. I hope you'll visit www.conval.edu and review the budget materials posted and support this year's budget.

Please come to a public forum on the budget on **January 29 at 7:00 p.m.** at Hancock Elementary School. It will feature me, along with Marian Alese (Business Manager for ConVal) to discuss in more detail the 2014-15 budget in advance of the first Deliberative Session (District meeting) on **February 5 at 7:00 p.m.** at the ConVal High School gymnasium.

*Pierce Rigrod, Hancock Representative,
ConVal School Board*

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Conservation Commission News

Do you have a passion
for conservation?



Then consider joining the Hancock Conservation Commission. Duties include easement monitoring, scheduling educational programs, coordinating Hancock clean-up day, conducting trail maintenance,

managing town land for timber production, and providing comment on wetlands permits. Interested parties should contact Town Administrator Diane Kendall at the Town Office, 525.4441 or email townadmin@hancocknh.org.

Submitted by Eric Masterson

Winter-Spring 2014 Speaker Series

Aquatic Invasive Species: A Growing Problem in New Hampshire—February 26, 2014, 7:00 p.m.—Hancock Library—Speaker: Amy Smagula,

freshwater biologist with the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services, is a New Hampshire native (so she is not an invasive species). She completed her undergraduate and graduate degrees at the University of New Hampshire, Durham.

What are invasive and exotic plants in New Hampshire? Why are these plants such a problem? What can we do to prevent and control them? Amy Smagula will introduce the topic of invasive species, the problems they pose, and their impacts on the environment, with an emphasis on invasive aquatic plants in lakes, rivers and other freshwater ecosystems in New Hampshire.

Watch for more details in March and April for: **Exotic Plants and Native Wildlife in New Hampshire—March 26—Matt Tarr, UNH Cooperative Extension**

Notary Public

In the event you need the services of a Notary, Town Secretary Linda Coughlan is a Notary Public.

Conservation Through Observation—April 30—

*Henry Walters, NH Audubon
Submitted by Phillip Brown*



Hancock Town Library Events

Amy Markus, Hancock Library Director

Mondays at 9:00 a.m. Yoga with Chris Justice—Gentle stretch and strength-building poses. \$15 per class for drop-ins or \$60 for 6 weeks.

Wednesday, February 5 at 7:00 p.m.—First Wednesday Book Club—We'll discuss this month's book, *Me Talk Pretty Someday* by David Sedaris. All are welcome!

Sunday, February 9 at 5:30 p.m.—The Hidden Sky Star Party at the Christmas Tree Farm on Norway Hill—(*Snow/ice/cloudy date is Monday, February 10*)—Everyone knows the night sky is filled with stars, along with the moon and the planets, but there's so much more to see! Join Scott McCartney at 5:30 p.m., Sunday, February 9 on Norway Hill as we explore the hidden wonders of the sky through a telescope. We'll look for double stars, galaxies and the moons of Jupiter! Dress warmly. Carpool if you can! Free and open to all. Call the library at 525.4411 if you have questions about weather conditions. We'll leave a new message on the answering machine if we are postponing to February 10. Free and open to all!

Saturday, February 15 from 10 to 11:30 a.m.—Love Letters to the World – A Writing Workshop with Leaf Seligman—Each day the earth sends a valentine. We'll take time to notice and write the

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world a love letter back. Using simple prompts to guide reflection and writing, this experience is designed to invigorate gratitude, deepen awareness, and reconnect us to what matters most. *Make everything you write a love letter to the world. If you don't love the world why be in it?* Leaf Seligman joyfully lives a writing-centered life in Troy, New Hampshire. She teaches at Keene State College and offers writing experiences and guidance to groups and individuals. This program is free and open to all but **please register at the library by February 7.**

Thursday, February 27 at 7:00 p.m.—Film: *What's Eating Gilbert Grape?* —*What's Eating Gilbert Grape?* is a beautifully shot movie of tenderness, caring and self-awareness that is set in the fictional working class, one-street town of Endora. The Grape family: Ellen and Amy, their two brothers Arnie and Gilbert, and their morbidly obese widowed mother Bonnie Grape. All are striving to survive and coexist with the absence of a father figure, low wage work, and 17-year-old Arnie's severe mental condition. Depp and DiCaprio delivered excellent performances in this movie that foreshadowed their success as two of the most talented actors of our time. Free admission. Free popcorn.

From the Children's Room

Rennie Timm, Children's Librarian

Thursdays in February at 10:30 a.m. (no storytime February 27)—Laptop Storytime— Walking and talking, this babies to toddler story time is an interactive program for all pre-schoolers and their parents or care providers. We'll share books, rhymes, songs, finger play and movement. Our goal is to foster an early love of books and literacy. At the end of the program, there will be playtime for parents and caregivers to share books, puzzles, or other literacy activities with their toddler. Dress comfortably as we will be sitting on the floor in the Children's Room. No registration required, feel free to drop in anytime.

Tuesday, February 4 from 3:15 to 4:15 p.m.—Block Party: LEGO® Fun— Join us for the afternoon and let your imagination run wild. Hands-on learning opportunity to explore how things work. LEGO® bricks are provided by the library. All ages welcome.

Date to be determined, Wednesday from 4:30 to 6:45 p.m.—Movie, Popcorn and Trivia Night for Tweens and Teens— Middle School and High School Students are invited to gather with friends, munch on popcorn and watch a movie together. Our feature presentation will be determined by the group in attendance. Check Library Facebook page for updates.

Saturday, February 8 from 11:00 a.m. to noon—PAWS to Read with Toven—A DOG in the Library? Children reading storybooks to dogs—what could be cuter? But every day we're learning there's more than just cuteness when this happens. The smiles on a child's face, the wagging tail of the dog, the excitement of doing something different (even forbidden in some public places) proves there's anticipation when it comes to reading in this particular setting. And that's what it's all about. Youngsters of all ages are not only learning to read, they're looking forward to it. They're learning to love to read!

Please welcome Toven and Mary Stefanik (his handler) to the Hancock Town Library PAWS to Read program. Sign up at the front desk or email Rennie at hancockkidlib@comcast.net Each child will read to his or her dog for 15 minutes. Parents are asked to bring their child to the library 10 minutes prior to the scheduled reading time. If you are unable to make your scheduled appointment please call and let us know, so that we can notify any children on the waiting list.

Saturday, February 8 from 10:00 a.m. to noon—Story Walk (co-sponsored with Harris Center for Conservation Education)— Walk or snowshoe along a trail that tells a story at this year's Hancock Winter Frolic. The story from the book *The Mitten* by Jan Brett will be laid out along a trail for you to read as you go along. This Story Walk will be open on Saturday, February 8 from 10 a.m. to noon at Norway Pond in Hancock. Free, and cosponsored by the Harris Center for Conservation Education and the Hancock Town Library. Contact Susie Spikol Faber at spikol@harriscenter.org or 603.525.3394 for more information,

Thursday, February 13 from 3:15 to 4:15 p.m.—Valentine's with Miss Rennie— Create your own Valentine's and decorate an edible sweetheart treat.

Registration required as space is limited, sign up in Children's Room email hancockkidlib@comcast.net

Tuesday, February 18 from 3:15 to 4:15 p.m.— Crazy Bands...Rainbow Loom Club— Create your own bracelets, rings, necklaces...go wild with bright colored glow in the dark rubber bands. Rubber bands will be provided, just bring your imagination and expertise to share with others.

Thursday, February 20 from 3:15 to 4:15 p.m.— Literary Winter Movie Series— This month's winter movie *Charlotte's Web* is based on the Newbery Award winning novel by E.B. White. Barnyard animals are reluctant to befriend Wilbur, who's fated to be served up as the humans' Christmas dinner. But Wilbur (voiced by 10-year-old Dominic Scott Kay) is so sweet, curious, and affable that they're soon won over. And Charlotte A. Cavatica (Julia Roberts), the spider who spins her webs in the barn doorway, decides to find a way to save Wilbur's life. See reviews online at www.common sense media.org This movie is Animated, rated G, and runs 96 minutes.

Tuesday, February 25 from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m.— PAWS to Read with Mozart— Please welcome Mozart and Nancy Benda (his handler) to the Hancock Town Library PAWS to Read program. Sign up at the front desk or email Rennie at hancockkidlib@comcast.net. Each child will read to his or her dog for 15 minutes. Parents are asked to bring their child to the library 10 minutes prior to the scheduled reading time. If you are unable to make your scheduled appointment please call and let us know, so that we can notify any children on the waiting list.

ConVal Ski and Ride Trip

Save the date: March 20!

The ConVal School District does not have school on **March 20**. The Hancock Recreation Department is planning a (school) bus trip to Mount Sunapee to ski and ride for the day. Mount Sunapee is only one hour away. There is room for 50 people, plus gear, on the bus. If we can get 50 people, the bus ride would only cost \$10 per person, whether you ski or not. We will get a group discount rate for 20 or more people for lift tickets.

Adult tickets are normally \$72 for midweek. On March 20, they would only cost \$40 for adults, \$35 for ages 13-18, \$27 for ages 6-12, and free for ages 5 and under. More details to follow in the March *Hancock Happenings*. Please call Donna Coty at 525.4763 or email coty@myfairpoint.net if you cannot wait for details! It will be very affordable and a lot of fun! That much we know!

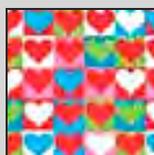
Submitted by Donna Coty



BULLETIN BOARD

Another Tale From Home: www.herb-gardner.com
At a concert in North Carolina the Red Molly group encountered a heckler who just wouldn't stop. Finally, Abbie strode up to the mike, scowled at him and said, "I thought I told you to wait in the truck!" Naturally, she got a standing ovation.

Monadnock Roller Derby practices every Monday and Wednesday (unless schools are closed) from **6:30 to 8:30 p.m.** at Great Brook School in Antrim. There are bouts several times per year. For those dates, visit www.MonadnockRollerDerby.com For more information, contact Jess Gerrior or Amelia Gardner at info@monadnockrollerderby.com or www.Facebook.com/MonadnockRollerDerby
Submitted by Jess Gerrior



Parents' Night Out for Valentine's Day

Friday, February 14, 2014
6:00 to 8:15 p.m.

Hancock Town Library Daniels Room
For children preschool (potty trained) to Grade 5.
Featuring: *Despicable Me 2* (Rated PG)

Your children can join us for a special Valentine's Day evening with a craft, popcorn and a movie! Children are welcome (not required) to wear their pajamas and/or bring a blanket, sleeping bag, pillow, etc.

The cost is \$8 per child. Payment made at the door, but **please RSVP by Wednesday, February 12 to:**
jennifer_s_marshall@yahoo.com

Sponsored by the HES PTO



Red Molly is coming to Peterborough— Abbie Gardner’s internationally famous supergroup, Red Molly, will be giving a concert at

the Peterborough Players at **8 p.m. on February 22, 2014**, with special guest Herb Gardner (Abbie’s dad). Tickets at 603.827.2905



Community Supper

Join the Hancock Woman's Club as they host this month's community supper. A memorable meal will be served on **Thursday, February 27, at 5:30 p.m.** at the Vestry.

Submitted by Donna Coty

Monadnock at Home



In December, the staff and board of Monadnock at Home enjoyed celebrating the holidays with our members at our Holiday Dinner, held at the beautiful Hancock Inn. A special thank you to Jarvis and Marcia for their generosity and accommodating our near 60 member turnout! Check out our upcoming programs at www.monadnockathome.org

Submitted by Sandra Faber

New England Meetinghouses



Paul Wainwright, a noted historian and photographer of New England Meetinghouses, will present a program on that topic at the Hancock Meetinghouse on **Thursday, February 27 at 7:00 p.m.** His presentation chronicles the historic role of Meetinghouses in colonial communities.

They were the central focus of the community for religious worship and town business.

Mr. Wainwright is a photographer who works with traditional sheet film, a large format camera, and silver gelatin printing. His beautiful photographs exemplify the form and function of these historical structures.

He has won numerous awards for his photographs and publications on New England Meetinghouses, including the New England Book Festival award for the Best Photography/Art Book of 2010, as well as the Boston Globe Book Festival Award.

In Hancock, we are fortunate to have a classic style Meetinghouse. Take advantage of this opportunity to learn about the historic role of our Meetinghouse, as well as other Meetinghouses in New England.

*Submitted by Byron Niederhelman,
Hancock Meetinghouse Restoration Committee*

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Hancock Women's Guild

A reminder to all ladies of Hancock: the February Guild meeting has been cancelled. The next meeting, scheduled for **Wednesday, March 19** in the Vestry, will usher our thoughts to spring. Details of that meeting will be announced in next month's newsletter. In the meantime, may everyone have a safe and healthy winter!

Submitted by Linda Blicher

Hancock Woman's Club News

February celebrates Presidents, Valentines, days getting longer and our next meeting! We will meet on **Wednesday, February 12 at 2:00 p.m.** in the Vestry. Our program will be about "Canine Comeback - Training and Rehabilitation."

Deborah Ash, Operational Leader and Senior Training Officer of Canine Alert Search and Rescue Teams of Southern New Hampshire will be our guest speaker. Ms. Ash will speak about Search and Rescue. In addition to rehabilitating injured dogs, Canine Alert Search and Rescue are known as well for their optimum physical performance training. Deb will be accompanied by one of her German Shepherds.

After the presentation, delicious treats will be available along with tea and coffee prepared by our hostesses Diane Kidd, Rita Klug and Sandy Weston. Our meetings are open to anyone who would like to enjoy some social time. So, if you know of anyone new to the area, please feel free to invite them to attend!

Submitted by Gertie Kanner

Circle of Strength Military Support Group



The Circle of Strength Military Moms and Family Members Support Group would like to thank local people and companies for their donations which allowed for sending care packages to our local troops deployed at Christmas time. With your kind donations, we sent 15 boxes to former ConVal students and a few other local troops.

I would like to personally thank Mrs. Wasserloos who coordinated with teachers of Antrim's Great Brook School and their students in writing letters and creating many wonderful handmade cards for the troops. I received "thank you" notes from those troops. I was told also that they passed all the cards and letters around, so that their entire platoon got to read them on Christmas Eve. This let our troops know that people from home were thinking of them, and were proud and thankful for their service.

It was an honor to be a part of this wonderful event and I hope to do it as long as our children, family members and friends are in the military protecting us here at home. Thank you also to the caring ladies who belong to the Circle of Strength Military Moms and Family Members Support Group for all their hard work in helping me make this idea come to life!

If you would like to join our group or know of a troop to whom you would like us to send a care package, please email me at llsworthsusan@ymail.com
Thank you all again,

Submitted by Susan Ellsworth



Ice Out Contest 2013

Ice Out 2014 Tickets for Sale Now Phase One: Ice Making

Mother Nature is cooperating. During the ice-making period of December 1 through January 19, her work on the project has been more inspired and determined this winter than last. The total of mean temperatures for the 50 days of this period was 1,460.2 last year and only 1,181.9 this year. The average daily temperatures, therefore, of 29.2° F and 23.6° F respectively for the two seasons reflect a 5.6° F, or 19.2 % colder period this year than last. Last year, we had 30 of the 50 days with mean temperatures below freezing. This year we experienced 36 freezing days in the same period. And last year, the lowest temperature of the period was recorded on January 3, 2013 at 6.6° F, while the lowest this year was reached on January 4, 2014 with a minus 0.1° F. (Source: www.almanac.com/weather/history. Data. Concord, NH.)

Last year, the ice went out on April 10, 2013 at 10:18 a.m. Phil Mathewson held the ticket with a predicted time closest to the actual event and won the payout of \$706.23.

A brief recap of the rules: Tickets upon which to register your predictions are available and may be purchased from any member of the Hancock Congregational Church, or at the Hancock Inn, the Hancock Market and Fiddleheads. Two dollars will buy one ticket and five dollars will buy three tickets. Tickets will be collected at Ice Out Central (Phil and Jane’s house) until March 15, 2014 (Town Meeting Day) at 5:00 p.m. when sales will terminate. The tickets will then be stored under lock and key in Pastor Judy Copeland’s office until the ice finally melts enough for the weight to break through and stop the clock.

As last year, the ticket with predicted time closest (either plus or minus) to the actual event will be declared the winner. The proceeds of the ticket sales (minus expenses of the contest) will be divided evenly and exclusively between the winning ticket holder and the Meetinghouse/Vestry building maintenance fund. Should two or more tickets come equally close, the ticket holders will divide the winner’s share. Should equipment failure, etc., make it impossible to determine the true Ice Out moment, the winner will be chosen by randomly drawing a single ticket from all those collected.

Thank you, Mother Nature, for making such nice ice! Now, sometime after Town Meeting, please cooperate again and melt it right away!

Submitted by Phil Jones
2014 Ice Out Committee

Library Art Exhibit Curing Cabin Fever

If the frigid, windy weather has kept you indoors for longer than you’d care to admit, put on your winter woollies and head to the Daniels Room at the library. During the month of February you will be treated to two very special exhibits.

You have only until February 13 to catch Michael Moore’s entertaining and evocative show. His black-and-white images from the 1970s will help you forget how cold you are, but beware—if you’re of

a certain age, they will also remind you of how old you are! As you look closely at the performers he caught on film, some faces would be easy to identify, even without the captions—but who would have recognized Bill Murray?

Included in the show is a collection of Michael’s color photography, depicting life in the Monadnock Region and ranging from humorous to heartbreaking to heroic. Don’t miss it!



Phoenix, by the ocean
 32x96 inches, corten steel

Then, from February 15 to March 27, a totally new medium will be on view. Aaron T. Brown is known for his outdoor large-scale steel sculpture and his

original hand-pulled prints. Given the size of his sculpture, the Daniels Room was unable to accommodate those works, but his unique and appealing prints will draw you in for a closer look, lift your spirits and spark your curiosity.



Order 1

At a very early age, Aaron Brown was introduced to and influenced by the work of the German-born artist Jean Arp.

His work today shares the buoyancy and an element of surprise and chance that one sees in Arp’s work.



Pulling Squid

“My shape making is dynamic, and the resulting work is imbued with a palpable life, an aliveness that viewers sense when beholding the work. At the same time, it is restful, as the harmonies and balance of the forms imbue a sense of equanimity and peace, having a magic of their own, resonating within.”

The artist will have a **reception** in the Daniels Room on **Friday, February 28, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.** to

which the public is welcome. The artist's work may be viewed www.hancocknh.org/BB/BB.htm#Brown Art exhibits at the Daniels Room can be viewed during regular library hours: Monday and Wednesday from 2-6; Tuesday and Thursday from 10-7; and Saturday from 10-4. It is advisable, however, to check with the library before visiting, since the room is sometimes reserved for community events.

Submitted by Sandy Taylor



MUSIC ON NORWAY POND

CARMINA BURANA Comes to Music on Norway Pond

On **Sunday, February 16 at 4:00 p.m.**, Music on Norway Pond will present Carl Orff's iconic *Carmina Burana* at the Hancock Meetinghouse.

Orff's raucous retelling of 24 medieval poems praises springtime, love, lust and fortune. It requires an orchestral ensemble of two pianists and six percussionists who play every percussion instrument you can imagine.

The Norway Pond Festival Singers, 70 strong, will sing in a mix of old languages. There is even an appearance by the Junior Mints! New England Conservatory's exciting young baritone Joshua Quinn and brilliant tenor Dustin Damonte join our local gem soprano Amy Knight for the solo movements.

The riveting choral refrains of *O Fortuna* that open and close *Carmina Burana* are familiar to even the least classical-oriented listener since many sections of *Carmina Burana* have been re-used in movies and commercials. But nothing equals the power when you hear it live, in its entirety.

There is only one performance and tickets are available online by going to our website www.musiconnorwaypond.org. But hurry. They are going quickly. It just might be time to rent a Jumbotron!

Submitted by Jody Simpson

Tai Chi for Arthritis and Health



We present three safe and gentle exercise programs for adults with arthritis and others interested in a beginning level of Tai Chi movements and general principles. Each 6-week class is at the Library

Daniels Room and instructed by Howard (Howie) Eng.

- (STCA) "Seated" form (Core Movements)– Start Date Wednesday 4/2/2014 from 4 to 5 p.m.
- (TCA1-1) "Standing" Form (Section One – Part One: Core Movements)– Start Date Wednesday 4/2/2014 from 5 to 6 p.m.
- (TCA1-2) "Standing" form (Section Two – Part One: Extended Movements)–Start Date Wednesday 5/21/2014 from 5 to 6 p.m. AND participant must have completed TCA1-1 program

Cost is \$30 per participant for each class. Wear loose, comfortable clothing and shoes with flat soles, e.g. sneakers. The Arthritis Foundation of USA, UK and Australia support this program. To register or for more information, please call 603.716.0798.

Submitted by Howard Eng



Kristen Vance, Director

Free Tax Prep—IRS-certified tax preparer and Hancock resident Larry Schwartz is providing free tax preparation at The Grapevine on Mondays from **3:00 to 6:00 p.m. through March**. According to Larry, people often do not realize that they are eligible for credits and benefits intended for middle and lower income individuals and families. All returns will be filed electronically. Call The Grapevine now for your appointment.

Don't miss the Fancy Schmancy Tea Party– Saturday, February 15 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Antrim Town Hall! Dress in your fanciest, schmanciest duds and join us for tea, punch, petits fours, crumpets and other assorted sweet as well as savory goodies. Enjoy games, crafts and other delightful diversions. We'll be drawing the winner of a beautiful Gourmet Chef Kitchen with accessories, donated by Heidi Hemming Schultz. Get your raffle tickets and advance party tickets at The Grapevine, or visit The Grapevine Facebook page for ticket sales locations around town. Party tickets are \$10 for an adult/child pair, \$20 family maximum, let us know if this is a hardship. For more information call 588.2620.

Stop, Drop & Romance–Sunday, February 16 from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. This is a great opportunity for your child to enjoy fun activities and crafts with other children while you and your love celebrate. \$12 for the first child, \$6 for siblings. Please let us know when you call to sign-up if the cost is a hardship. Space is limited, so call now.

The People's Service Exchange–What talents and skills do you have? We offer a coordinated network to connect you with your neighbors who may need what you have to offer. Need a service that is hard to find? Call to see if one of our members could help you out. *Services usually needed this time of year:* Help with firewood, yard clean up, delivering meals, snow shoveling and plowing are a few that come to mind. *Popular services year round:* Financial planning, massage, house repair, transportation, someone to talk with and housecleaning. For more information on exchanging free services, call Nancy at 588.2620 or visit www.pse-nh.org

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Other services available at The Grapevine...

- Community Wood Bank, free firewood on an urgent or emergency basis Fuel Assistance information.
- Assistance with on-line applications for food stamps, Healthy Kids insurance and other State assistance
- Child and family counseling through Monadnock Family Services
- Help finding meaningful employment for people with disabilities through A.C.C.E.S.S.
- GED preparation and tutoring in reading for adults through Project LIFT

The Grapevine is a nonprofit service organization serving residents of Antrim and nearby towns. Tax deductible contributions are gratefully accepted at PO Box 637, Antrim, or drop by the center at 4 Aiken Street (behind the Antrim library). Thanks so much to all who have donated to our Annual Campaign, The Grapevine wouldn't be here without you.

What's happening at the Hancock Professional Center

15 Forest Road, Hancock

New Update for our Hancock Astrology Study Group. Due the winter weather we will meet twice a month: the **first Monday and the last Monday.** Beginning with the February the dates are: Monday, February 3 from 1:00 to 2:30 p.m., and Monday, February 24, from 1:00 to 2:30 p.m.. As always, Everyone is welcome. No prerequisites. Free birth charts provided on request.

Attention: Place Wellness in YOUR hands Introduction to Bowenwork:

Class open to all. Bowenwork is a gentle, effective, noninvasive touch therapy that stimulates the body's ability to heal itself. Therapy applied through person's clothing. In this four hour,

The Holistic Way
Physically, Emotionally
and Spiritually
Certified Professional Practitioners

Rose Bochicchio, RN
Susan Marrotte, BA
Karen MacWhorter, Jin Shin
Jyutsu
Arlene Smith, LSH, CMT, RMT
Jan VanDerWood, Attunement

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Center**
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603-933-3294
hancockholistichealthcare.com

Affordable Sessions

introductory class, you will learn to apply key elements of Bowenwork to different parts of the body to ease breathing difficulties; relieve muscle tension, joint pain and/or stiffness; ease heartburn, acid reflux and other gastrointestinal complaints; relieve, neck, back and knee pain; address injuries.

Bowenwork is safe and appropriate for all – from infants to the elderly, from professional athletes to people with chronic conditions. Bowenwork is the complement to complementary therapies. **Saturday, February 15, 2014, 11:00 to 3:00 p.m.** at the Hancock Professional Center, 15 Forest Road, Suite C, Hancock. \$95.00 (includes a manual with photos and anatomical illustrations designed with care for the needs of beginners). Healthcare professionals earn 4 CEUs for this class. The instructor is Rose Bochicchio, RN, Associate Bowenwork Instructor. Visit this site www.bowenatcompasstaff.com to reserve a space. Click on classes and fill in the required PayPal information. For additional information call 603.831.2027 or email: rogodbo10@yahoo.com. Visit: www.bowenworkacademyusa.com

Affordable counseling available on demand. Call Arlene at 603.933.3294.

Coming in March: SomaEnergetics Sound Therapy - Phase I –Saturday and Sunday March 8 & 9. Health Care Professionals earn 12 CEUs. Inquiries to Arlene, 603.933.3294 or email healthnurturer@gmail.com
Submitted by Arlene Smith

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Arlene Smith 525-4229
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Affordable Sessions

Snowmobile Fun for the Whole Family!

**Monadnock Trail Breakers Partner
with Rock the Hills VT Snowmobile Series
March 1, 2014**

Local snowmobile club, Monadnock Trail Breakers, a non-profit organization, has spent the last several months preparing for exciting upcoming fundraising and community events. Namely, a first-time event called the “*Trail Breaker Challenge*” to be held on **March 1, 2014**. The Monadnock Trail Breakers have partnered with a snowmobile racing series, Rock the Hills VT, to create a day of family-friendly snowmobile fun and education in Dublin, NH.

Located at the Engine Meet Field off Route 101 in Dublin, NH, this event will feature two professional snowmobile stunt shows by the freestyle riders from Treeline Sled Style. These riders fly over 40 feet high through the air with their machines performing acrobatic tricks in the air. Other featured events will be Snowmobile Side by Side Drag Racing; Obstacle Course and Barrel Race; Oval Track for Youth and Vintage Racing; and Vintage Snowmobile Snow. Vendors and concessions will also be present throughout the day.

The Monadnock Trail Breakers is largely responsible for making the recreational use of many local trails possible through the winter months. The Trail Breakers belong to the NH Snowmobile Association and are very active in the Cheshire and Hillborough County Districts. Funding from this event will directly benefit the trail system through grooming and maintaining trails from Dublin through Peterborough and all the way through Hancock for walkers, runners, hikers, equestrians, skiers, snowshoers,



snowmobilers and other winter recreational activities, as well as maintaining club equipment. A portion of the event proceeds will also be donated to the Easter Seals. Currently, the club is able to provide these trails for public use through fund-raising and the volunteer efforts of members.

The Monadnock Trail Breakers look forward to a day of snowmobile fun for the whole family. If you've never experienced the thrill of snowmobiling, this is an event not to be missed! Whether watching or participating, the non-stop action will provide a full day of entertainment for everybody.

For more information about the Trail Breaker Challenge and the Monadnock Trail Breakers please visit www.monadnocktrailbreakers.com

Dump News

Batteries are everywhere. It wasn't that long ago that a battery was used either in your flashlight or to start your car. Now, batteries are in everything from your watch to your camera, your telephone to your computer, and even in your car key. Naturally, all of these batteries will eventually be used up or fail and must be disposed of.

There are basically two types of batteries: rechargeable and non-rechargeable. Any rechargeable battery – nickel-cadmium, nickel metal hydride, nickel zinc, lithium-ion, or sealed lead acid

– is considered hazardous waste and must not be disposed of in the trash. Most, but not all, non-rechargeable batteries contain little or no hazardous materials. The old familiar zinc carbon or alkaline batteries – the AA, AAA, C, D and 9v types – contain no hazardous materials and may be disposed of in the trash. (Some AA batteries ARE rechargeable, and thus hazardous.)

Two now-familiar types of non-rechargeable batteries can also be hazardous. Lithium batteries, commonly used in cameras, are potentially reactive if not completely discharged. The little button cell batteries may contain mercury or other hazardous substances such as silver. Both types should be saved up for a hazardous waste collection.

Speaking of which, our Household Hazardous Waste Collections will begin again in March. Watch this space, local bulletin boards, the Town website at www.hancocknh.org/DPW/Dump/HHHWD.htm and the Monadnock Shopper News for schedules.

Hancock Dump Committee

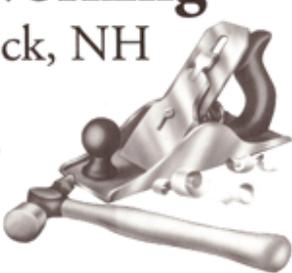
Great Brook School

by 8th grade GBS reporters
Rhiannon Bell and Cheyanne Watman

Once again, Great Brook News with Chey Watman and Ree Bell. This month will include a little taste of what each grade is doing academically, basketball and New Hampshire Dance Institute (NHDI) updates.

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The sports for the winter season are starting to pick up say both P.E. teachers/coaches. Mr Baldwin, the boy's basketball coach says, "They

have won three games in a row and their record is five and three. They are starting to get to the point where they are going to be having some more challenging games to attend. I think that they will have a successful season." Mr Ketchum, the girl's basketball coach, reports, "The girls basketball season has been successful. They have won three games and their next game is at Kearsarge. They have seven games left for the season." The girls will be going to South Meadow School for a Winter Slam Down where the girls are going as the defending champions. There are fourteen members in the girls' basketball team, seven of them are 8th graders, three are 7th graders and four are 6th graders.

Mrs. Wasserloos helped with the Coats for Kids Drive which is a program that collects coats for kids between October and January. All of the

collected coats go to Anton's Cleaners who clean all the coats for free. Mrs. Wasserloos said that, "We collected more coats than we have in the past years. The community was very generous."

Mrs. Bundy, a 5th grade teacher, said that in math they are working on decimals, multiplying, dividing and going on to fractions. In science, they used thinking skills to analyze the differences and similarities between Granny Smith and Macintosh apples. They learned about photosynthesis and are working with microscopes. The next field trip will be to the Christa McAullife Planetarium in Concord. They are reading different genres of books and Mrs. Gnade is helping with finding books that are right for their levels.

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Ken Moller Ann Moller
Tammy Garre Dorreen Raitto
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Carol Nelson

The HANCOCK INN

Innkeepers' Sunday Supper

February 2nd

Potato Pancake
Beef Stroganoff & Egg Noodles
Bublinina

February 9th

Bean Salad
Roasted Chicken
Meringue Tart

February 16th

Following the Carmina Burana performance

Music on Norway Pond Fundraiser

\$20.00 per person \$10 to MoNP

Lentil Soup
Roasted Pork with Sauerkraut & Apple
Ginger Chill

February 23rd

Chilled Cabbage & Cranberry Salad
Swedish Meatballs
Dutch Apple Pie

\$16.50 per person
Excludes tax, gratuity & beverage
Reservations Encouraged

603-525-3318

Mrs. Blanchette, which is one of the 6th grade teachers, said that in math they are working on fractions and in their science classes they are working on projects for the Science Fair. They are going to visit a farm in March. They are also writing thank you letters to families going to Harris Center.

Mrs. Bigford reported that the 7th grade is working on a geography project about New Hampshire. There are ten groups of people studying a New Hampshire county for social studies. In math, they made maps to scale of each of the ten counties. These county maps with cool facts on them will be hung up in the 7th and 8th grade wing. Its going to be a big map of the states of New Hampshire. In language arts, they are working on vocabulary words from a story that they have read and they also made a Taboo game. They are working on a, "This I Believe" essay. It is a story about an important moment in the student's life.

Mrs. Egan and Mrs. Lecler's classes are working on the Science Fair projects. It is coming up on

February 19 and they're both working hard to make sure they all get done on time. The reason they do the science project is because it gives everyone the opportunity to explore something they don't do in class, it's also good for students to have to plan a long term project.

Mrs. Hale is the NHDI teacher at our school. We actually got to watch some of their dances today and they were really good. Mrs. Hale said that they are doing four dances for the show in May. The story/ theme this year is butterflies. We will have more information about NHDI in our next news article.

Goodbye for now and we look forward to sharing more GBS news next month!

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jacobs@harriscenter.org.

Harris Center online calendar:

www.harriscenter.org

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***February 1 and 2 (Sat and Sun)
Comprehensive Tracking and Sign
Certification Workshop—8:30 a.m. to
4 p.m.** at the Harris Center in Hancock
– \$250 for Harris Center members and
nonmembers. Instructor: George
Leoniak. This two-day track and sign
certification workshop — cosponsored
with Antioch University New England
(AUNE) — is open to amateur trackers,
students, and professionals seeking to
improve their tracking skills. Those
who successfully complete the Level I,
II, or III competency tests will receive a
certificate from CyberTracker
Conservation, which has established an
international standard for wildlife
tracking skills. Participants are
responsible for their own food and
water, and for being prepared for cold

temperatures, snow, and rough terrain. Space is limited, and enrollment is on a first-come, first-served basis. For more information, contact Peg Smeltz at 603.283.2301 or msmeltz@antioch.edu. To sign up for the course and to make a registration payment by credit card, please visit:

<https://continuinged.antioch.edu/wconnect/ace/CourseStatus.awp?&course=2014SES001K>. Instructor George Leoniak is a widely recognized animal tracker based in northern New England, and an adjunct faculty member at AUNE. To learn more about George, visit www.leoniacktracking.com.

February 7 (Fri) Easy-going Hike in Casalis and Nichols Forests—All ages and abilities are welcome on this moderately easy, 3-mile hike, led by Ollie Mutch and Lee Baker. We'll start in Casalis State Forest in Peterborough, and cross the Sharon town line into the Nichols property, with ponds and brooks along the way. Bring lunch, and meet at 10:00 a.m. in the parking area beside Ocean State Job Lot (at the intersection of Routes 101 and 202) in Peterborough. Back by 3:00 p.m.



Illustration: Jan Brett

***February 8 (Sat) *The Mitten* StoryWalk at the Hancock Winter Frolic**—Jan Brett's charming retelling of the classic tale, *The Mitten*, will be laid out

along a trail for you to read as you stroll. Open from 10:00 a.m. to noon at Norway Pond in Hancock. For more information, contact Susie Spikol Faber at spikol@harriscenter.org or call 603.525.3394. Cosponsored with the Hancock Town Library.

***February 9 (Sun) Bald Mountain Loop**—Loop around and over Bald Mountain on the Tamposi, Bald Mountain, and Tudor Trails with Henry Walters and Russ Daigle. All ages are welcome on this moderately strenuous, 3-mile hike through NH Audubon's Willard Pond Wildlife Sanctuary. Bring lunch, and meet at 10:00 a.m. at the Sanctuary parking lot at the end of Willard Pond Road. Back by 2:00 p.m. For more information, contact Henry at walters.henry@gmail.com or 603.525.3572 or Russ at 603.477.7506.

***February 14 (Fri) "Sweetheart" Full Moon Hike Up Skatutakee**—Bring flashlights (and water) for this moderately strenuous, 3-mile roundtrip hike up Mount Skatutakee during the Valentine's Day full

moon. Led by Russ Daigle and Brian Bishoff. Meet at 6:00 p.m. at the Harris Center. Back by 10:00 p.m. For more information, contact Brian at bjbeam2@myfairpoint.com or 603.899.5770, or Russ at 603.477.7506.

***February 15 (Sat) Trail Maintenance on Cobb Hill**—Join Jim Orr for a morning of moderately strenuous trail work clearing blowdowns on the Cobb Hill Trail. Work off the Valentine's Day chocolate while enjoying a beautiful vista of Mount Monadnock and Lake Skatutakee! All ages and abilities are welcome. Tools will be provided, but bring gloves, a bow saw, and loppers if you have them. Bring water, too, and meet at 9:00 a.m. at Merrill's Four Corners (the intersection of Old Dublin Road and Jaquith Road in Hancock). Back by 1:00 p.m. For more information, contact Jim at trailchief@gmail.com or 603.924.6934.

Feb 15 (Sat) *The Mitten* StoryWalk in Bennington—Jan Brett's charming retelling of the classic tale, *The Mitten*, will be laid out along a trail for you to read as you stroll. Open from 10:00 a.m. to noon at the Bruce Edes Forest in Bennington. For more information, contact Susie Spikol Faber. Cosponsored with the G.E.P. Dodge Library.



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***February 16 (Sun) Armchair Tour of U.S. National Parks**—Join Ollie Mutch and Jan Miller for an audiovisual presentation on their recent trip through the United States National Parks, Forests, and Monuments – 35 parks, 62 days, and 12,120 miles! – with stunning images of scenery and wildlife. 2:00 to 3:00 p.m. at the Harris Center. For more information, contact Ollie or Jan at 603.386.5318.

February 22 (Sat) Gilsum Exploration by Snowshoe—Join Roger and Ann Sweet, along with Rick Brackett of the Monadnock Conservancy, for this moderately strenuous exploration by snowshoe of newly-conserved land in Gilsum. The route will follow trails from White Brook to Porcupine Falls, with good opportunities for studying wildlife sign. If there is no snow on the ground, meet at 9:30 a.m. in the parking lot of the Bear Den's Natural Area on Route 10 in Gilsum to carpool to White Brook Road. If there is snow that would prevent parking in an unplowed parking area, please call Roger or Rick to find out where to meet. Back by 2:00 p.m. Cosponsored with the Monadnock Conservancy.

***February 24 (Mon) Winter Wol's Nest One-Day Adventure**—Calling all hardy, winter-loving kids ages 7 to 11! Join naturalist Caitlin Houlihan on a snowshoe expedition to the wintry fields and forests surrounding the Harris Center. We'll track animals, explore boulders, and build forts and fires. Children who sign up for this wilderness outing need to be comfortable with the cold, and excited about being outside for extended periods of time. 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Harris Center. Snowshoes provided. Space is limited. \$40 for Harris Center members, \$50 for nonmembers. For more information, contact Susie Spikol Faber. To register, contact Sara LeFebvre at lefebvre@harriscenter.org or call 603.525.3394.

***February 24 (Mon) Spring and Summer Outings Planning Meeting—All Are Welcome!**—Join the crew of Harris Center staff and volunteer outing leaders to plan spring and summer outings. We welcome ideas for new places to visit, as well as old favorites. 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Harris Center. For more information, contact Eric Masterson at masterson@harriscenter.org or 603.525.3394.

February 27 (Thurs) Ordinary Extraordinary Junco Film Showing—Readily found in backyards

and city parks as well as wilder landscapes, Juncos—little, gray songbirds sometimes known as “snowbirds”—can be easily overlooked. But for scientists who study animal behavior, ecology, and evolutionary biology, the Junco is a rock star.

This 90-minute documentary film brings to life more than 100 years of groundbreaking research in animal behavior, evolution, and ecology, featuring one of North America's most abundant groups of songbirds. It shows just how much wild bird studies can teach us – from how the body works to how new species form – in an exciting demonstration that absolutely nothing in nature is ordinary. 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. at the Monadnock Center for History and Culture in Peterborough (formerly the Peterborough Historical Society). For more information, contact Brett Amy Thelen. Cosponsored with the Monadnock Conservancy, NH Audubon, and the Monadnock Center for History and Culture.

February 28 (Fri) Moons of Jupiter and Myths of the Milky Way—How well do you know your winter skies? How different do they look through a telescope with a 14-inch lens? Jonathan Weis, director of Dublin School's Perkins Observatory, will show us a range of celestial objects, from star clusters within our own Milky Way to the Andromeda Galaxy, more than 2.5 million light-years distant.

Henry Walters will take us on a tour of familiar constellations, retelling some of the ancient myths that give a human cast to the night sky. 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. at the Dublin School. In case of clouds, this event will be held on Sunday, March 2. Space is limited. Please register in advance with the Harris Center.

Submitted by Margaret Baker



Licorice told someone who relayed it to a friend who spilled the beans to the editor: “I’m glad Barb retired, now I can have her all to myself.”

Hancock Hours and Meetings

Please check meeting dates and times. If you notice any incorrect listings, please let the editor know at happenings@hancocknh.org

Tax Collector - Monday & Wednesday 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. or by appointment;

Town Clerk – Monday 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.;

Wednesday 3:00 to 6:00 p.m.;

Town Dump – Wednesday 3:00-7:00 p.m.; Saturday 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.; Demolition hours: Monday 2:30-4:30 p.m., Saturday 1:30-5:00 p.m.

Selectboard - Monday at 4:00 p.m. at the Town Office Meeting Room (rear entrance); the 4th Monday of each month the meeting is at 7:00 p.m.

Planning Board - On the 1st Wednesday of every month at 7:00 p.m.: may hold working sessions for planning purposes. On the 3rd Wednesday of every month at 7:00 p.m.: meets to process subdivisions, site plans and other applications which may legally come before the Board. Appointments can be made by calling the Town Office at 525.4441. Applications must be received prior to the end of the preceding month to be included in the schedule and satisfy notification requirements. The Planning Board may hold working sessions for planning purposes the first Wednesday of every month.

Zoning Board – 2nd and 4th Wednesdays as needed at 7:00 p.m., Town Office Meeting Rm, meetings will be noticed;

Advisory Committee – as noticed, Town Office;

Conservation Commission – 1st Tuesday at 7:00

p.m., Town Office 2nd floor;

HEAT Committee – 2nd Wednesday at 7:00 p.m., Town Office;

Historic District Commission – 4th Tuesday at 7:00 p.m., Town Office Meeting Room;

Hancock Library Trustees – 4th Wednesday at 1:00 p.m. in the Daniels Room;

Town Archives Committee – 2nd Wednesday at 7 p.m., Town Office Archives Room;

Water Commissioners – 4th Wednesday at 4:00 p.m., DPW;

Dump Committee – 3rd Tuesday at 4:00 p.m., DPW

Trustees of Trust Funds – as needed, Town Office;

Cemetery Trustees – as needed, Town Office;

Common Commission – every other 3rd Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m., Town Office.

Meetinghouse Restoration Committee – as noticed, Town Office

Nubanusit Landing Committee – as noticed

School Board – 1st & 3rd Tuesday, Board Room



Publishing Information

Submit articles for *Hancock Happenings* to N. Sherman, editor, at happenings@hancocknh.org or call 525.4061 for information and rates.

Advertisement sizes and rates are listed at www.hancocknh.org/HanHap/hhnews.htm.

Deadline for submissions, advertising and payment for advertising: 5 p.m. on the 22nd of each month. Checks should be payable to Town of Hancock and mailed to N. Sherman (not the Town of Hancock) at PO Box 95, Hancock, NH 03449.

Inserts are not accepted, unless they are for official Town of Hancock information. Please refer to the *Hancock Happenings* Mission Statement on 'page 1 for the newsletter's editorial policy. Distribution by Pat Newcomb, Elinor Johnson, Lynn Frank, Sandy Brooks, Edna Drasba and Nancy Adams; copying by Savron Graphics; nameplate by Eleanor Amidon.



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SAVE THE DATE

HANCOCK WINTER FROLIC

**Saturday, February 8, 2014**

proudly sponsored by the hancock rec committee

2014 Hancock Winter Frolic - Event Schedule

The Winter Frolic will be held this year on **Saturday, February 8**. The day promises to be full of fun, food, and a few surprises! We can share one of the surprises: Dan Harper will be dressed in a hot dog costume and will be performing the "Oscar Meyer Wiener" song on harmonica. This must be seen to be believed.

The real festivities begin at **8:30 a.m.** with the **Hancock PTO breakfast** to be held in the Vestry. The **Winter Chiller Race** follows at **9:00 a.m.**, registration opens at 8am in the Meetinghouse. Don't forget to register otherwise you won't be able to run outside in the freezing cold, snow/ice and slush. For the non-runners, grab a hot coffee from the PTO breakfast and cheer on the runners from the warmth of the Vestry.

A **Story Walk** follows at 10: a.m. at the Norway Pond – meet at the pond and look for the "Story" signs. The StoryWalk will include a light hike, with a reading of the classic Ukrainian folktale "The Mitten" as re-told by Jan Brett. Jan Brett won't actually do the reading, but I understand Susie Spikol-Faber will perform the reading with a spot-on Ukrainian accent. This is not to be missed.

Box Sled Races will be held starting at **11:00 a.m.** on the sledding hill at Norway pond. If you would like to enter please bring your box sled to the hill by 11am. Sleds must be made from cardboard and duct tape only, excluding decorations. Come on over and watch the kids (and adult kids, you know who you are) try to break the sound barrier as they speed down the hill!

Food Alley will open up at **11:30 a.m.** at the horse sheds behind the Meetinghouse. Follow the aroma of deliciousness and come on down for burgers, dogs, cheesy fries, soups, 'over the top' hot chocolate, and many more fantastic food offerings. We will have food for sale from Fiddleheads, the Hancock Market, the Hancock Inn and more!

Next up, **Broomball** will be played on Norway pond starting at **noon**. This is a real crowd pleaser, so gather up a team and come on down to the pond. We will bring the brooms and broomballs, you bring the competitive fire. Please note, you must wear a helmet to play – so bring your bike helmet or ski helmet to protect that noggin.

The **Winter Games for Kids** comes to Hancock starting at **noon** on the sledding hill near the Pond. The thrill of victory, the agony of defeat! So, gather up the children of Hancock, and meet up at the sledding hill for the Games!

From **noon until 2:00 p.m.** we will have a **Make your own S'mores** station at the beach at Norway pond. S'more fixings and fire pits will be provided. We request that the children (and adults) refrain from sword fighting with the S'more sticks. That's how you can lose an eye! Let's save the injuries for Broomball.

At **1:00 p.m.** we will have live **Karaoke at the Gazebo!** (or inside the Meetinghouse if it's too cold). Emily "Beyoncé" Daniels and the Daniel-ettes will be performing *All the Single Ladies*, so you know you have to come out just to watch that. So grab a burger at Food Alley and mosey on up to the gazebo to listen to Hancock's brightest stars! For the kids we will have **Lego® Mania and StoryTime** from **1:00 to 2:00 p.m.** at the Hancock Meetinghouse.

In a nutshell, this day offers something for everyone: food, fun, music, and a hot dog playing harmonica. So come on down for the food and stay for the Broomball and the Band. We hope to see you out there for this year's Frolic! For more information, log on to .

Submitted by the Hancock Recreation Committee

(Please see page 24)



2014 Hancock Winter Frolic

Saturday, February 8, 2014

Schedule of Events

- **8:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.** – Hancock PTO Breakfast at the Vestry.
- **9:00 a.m.** – Winter Chiller Race (8am Registration at the Hancock Meetinghouse)
- **10:00 a.m.** - StoryWalk at Norway Pond, featuring the story *The Mitten* by Jan Brett
- **11:00 a.m.** - Box Sled Races on the sledding hill at Norway pond. Sleds must be made of cardboard and duct tape only – excluding decorations
- **11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.** – Food Alley at the Horse Sheds. Fiddleheads, the Hancock Inn and Hancock Market will be selling hamburgers, hot dogs, and more!
- **Noon** – Broomball Tournament on Norway pond. Bring your helmet, we'll bring the brooms/balls
- **Noon – 1:00 p.m.** – The Winter Games for Kids, to be held at the sledding hill near Norway pond
- **Noon – 2:00 p.m.** - Make your own s'mores down on the beach at Norway pond. S'more fixings and fire pits provided!
- **1:00 p.m.** – Karaoke Live at the gazebo (or inside at the Meetinghouse if it's too cold)
- **1:00-2:00 p.m.** - Lego® Mania and Storytime in the Vestry

Go to www.hancocknh.org/REC/REC.htm for more information. *Please see page 23.*

The 2014 Hancock Winter Frolic Extravaganza is sponsored by the Hancock Recreation Committee.