



Volume 5

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## News from the Selectboard

*Jim Mose for the Selectboard*

Two years have passed since that fateful day my lovely wife Robin and dear friend Barbara conspired to find something for me to do. My instructions were simple: report to the Town Office in a dignified fashion and discuss with Barb Caverly the many opportunities to honorably serve Hancock. I distinctly recall the sunny Friday and my assertion that I would not run against any of my friends and neighbors and their willingness to serve our hometown in any capacity.

With only fifteen minutes remaining on the last day to register, I threw my metaphorical hat in the ring and agreed to serve on the Selectboard. I say, "serve on the Selectboard" because THERE WAS NO ONE ELSE RUNNING! I signed something with Barb and headed out the door.

It's been a wonderful opportunity. Erik, John and I serve together in relative harmony and always with respect for each other's opinions. We are blessed to work with a team of talented and caring Town supervisors and employees. Our job of overseeing the affairs of Hancock on behalf of our friends and neighbors is made easy by the enormously capable people whose job it is to actually run our town's affairs. If anything, it can't be easy for them to educate and instruct an otherwise fresh batch of selectmen every couple of years in the infinite details of their many responsibilities. They have the patience of saints.

As promised to you in my last letter, the philosophical and business strategy meetings

between Hancock and the Congregational Church began this month with a visit by Rev. Judy Copeland and Jane Richards-Jones.

We agreed to convene a group of four church members together with the Selectboard and Kurt Grasset to organize our strategy for addressing our shared economic interest in the Hancock Meetinghouse. We decided to forgo assembling yet another committee in the interest of moving the forthcoming agreement forward with all good speed.

The new accounting procedures known as GASB 34 (Government Accounting Standards Board) are in place. Thank you to our Town Treasurer, Lois Haskins, and everyone involved in the process of bringing Hancock into modern accounting compliance. It was a necessary big step forward in the evolution of our Town governance and planning.

Finally, a call to service to all Hancock residents! Please report in a dignified fashion to our Town Administrator, Diane Kendall, at the Town Office and throw your hat in the ring.

My kids, Grace and Quinn, were marveling at the sheer massiveness of moving a building across the street. As you all know, the Meetinghouse was picked up and moved – entirely by volunteers! Many hands make light work. We're not asking you to move buildings, but we are asking for volunteers to honorably serve Hancock on various committees in need of members.

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### *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.

## Memorial Day Parade and Related Events

### Memorial Day Is Almost Upon Us!



The departure of winter brings the arrival of spring and with that Memorial Day. The Memorial Day Committee is preparing for yet another moving tribute to our departed brothers and sisters in arms. Opportunities to help, as well as simply pay tribute have been planned again this year.

- On **Saturday, May 17, from 9 a.m. to noon**, local veterans will distribute Buddy poppies at the Hancock Recycling Center. Please look for these ladies and gentlemen to offer your support. This activity is sponsored by the American Legion Post #5.
- On **Saturday, May 24**, all are welcome to help place flags at our three local cemeteries. We will be meeting at Pine Ridge Cemetery at **1:00 p.m.** and any help would be appreciated.
- Beginning at **noon on Sunday, May 25**, Veterans are invited to participate in a short ceremony to honor veterans at Hillside

Cemetery. From there we will travel to three other smaller cemetery plots.

- Finally, on **Monday, May 26**, our parade will assemble at the Hancock Elementary School. All Veterans are encouraged to attend. As always, uniforms are not necessary; however some insignia representing your branch of service is helpful. Cars will be provided for anyone who would prefer to ride the parade route. All baseball teams, 4-H members and Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts are welcome to participate as well. Our parade will **step off at 2:00 p.m.**

As we move beyond Memorial Day, we will be looking for new members on the committee. If you have any questions or would like to be a member of the committee, please contact:

Ken Davis, 525.3505 - Hank Drury, 525.3375  
or Andy Benoit, 525.3512  
Thank you!

*Submitted by Hancock Memorial Day Committee*

## Meetinghouse Restoration Update



With Town Meeting funding approval and some \$280,000 in cash and pledges raised so far, we are making final preparations to begin construction and restoration of the Meetinghouse.

It is anticipated that the initial phase of construction will begin on May 5, with abatement of asbestos in the first floor area. After the asbestos is removed, the roofers will begin staging the exterior of the building with scaffolding. Also at this time, the interior demolition will begin in the old Selectmen's office.

The refurbishment of the crawlspace supports under the Meetinghouse will begin in mid-May. The cedars removed from the north side of the building will be milled into posts and used as replacement supports in the crawlspace.

Details of the construction schedule and contract wording have been finalized with the General Contractor MacMillin Company. And, we are in the process of finalizing loan documents with Lake Sunapee Bank.

Watch future editions of *Hancock Happenings* for project updates as work progresses.

*Hancock Meetinghouse Restoration Committee*

If you have not sent in your donation for 2014 as shown on your pledge form, we urge you to do so as soon as possible. Mail to:

**The Hancock Improvement Association, Inc.**  
**P.O. Box 112, Hancock, NH 03449**

*Thank you!*

## Hancock Fire and Rescue News Springtime, Finally!

It seemed like a long and cold winter, didn't it? After all those snowstorms, I was plowing and snow-blowing my driveway onto the lawn. I have just finished shoveling all the snow from my lawn back onto the driveway to melt quicker. I think it is an "Old Guy" thing. I hope my lawn appreciates my sore back.

The lack of snow also means that we have to go back to issuing written permits for Hancock residents to burn brush piles. Once the ground dries out, the brush fire danger goes up rapidly. There is a lot of dead dry material that can ignite and spread a fire rapidly, particularly in windy conditions. Brush burning information is available on the Fire Department link on the Town website. We also try to post flyers at the Post Office, Town Office, the Dump and the back door at the Fire Station. Burning brush is a time-honored tradition in New Hampshire, but it is a privilege, not a right.

There is nothing in the U.S. Constitution about your right to burn couches in your backyard. Be sensible – burn clean brush, with a permit, and make sure that you are not creating a nuisance to your neighbors with the smoke. If the Fire Department gets a complaint, we have to check it out – we may ask you to extinguish a fire, or put it out ourselves. In that case, you may receive a bill for that work.

Hopefully, this warmer weather will put an end to the "Polar Plunge" fad going around the state. (Kids jumping into icy lakes and rivers, then calling out their friends on Facebook to do likewise...) I told you I was hip to new trends, right? Anyway, Kurt Grasset predicted somebody dying, and today he was right; a man jumped into the Smith River in Bristol and has not yet been found. (*Ed. note: please see F&G page 21 for details*) If you have teenage kids, tell them how dumb this is and that they should not succumb to peer pressure. They won't listen to you, but at least you tried.

In Fire Department news, we have taken on Marta Raczek as our newest probationary member. Marta is a young woman from South Elmwood Road, and already has an EMT license. She has done extensive Ski Patrol work and has certificates for several wilderness rescue classes.

After an incident with a car taking down a telephone pole and its transformer on Verney Road last month, we have reviewed our policies on such situations. It turned out that the 9000-volt line had not gone dead, and the young woman driving the car, as well as Fire Department and Police personnel were lucky not to be injured by live wires.

The HFD Association will be purchasing two more "Hot Sticks," sensors that can detect live wires from a safe distance. I don't get paid enough to do the paperwork if somebody gets fried by live wires!

Brett and Stephani Martin are proud to announce the birth of their son, Grayson Noah Martin, on April 16, 2014. Brett is a member of the Hancock Fire Department, as well as part of the Hancock Department of Public Works crew. Congratulations to the new parents from all of us!

### April Raffle Winners:

Ryann Shippee, \$40; Anne Kenney, \$20;  
Susan Norton, Scott Manning,  
Sharon Podgurski, \$10 each.

*Nevan Cassidy, Chief  
Hancock Fire Department*



### FOR SALE: Kevlar ultra-light 14 ft. canoe made by Wenonah Co. in Minnesota

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Call 603.525.6625 to see or ask about this canoe. [www.wenonah.com/Canoes.aspx?id=109](http://www.wenonah.com/Canoes.aspx?id=109)



## Spring Happenings at the Hancock Historical Society

### Spring Program

May brings warm weather, flowers, and a flourish of activity to the Hancock Historical Society. The spring season kicks off with our spring program, *Family Stories: How and Why to Remember to Tell Them*, on **Saturday, May 17, 2:00 p.m.** at the Hancock Library Daniels Room (details at right). This program is open to members and non-members, but space is limited. Call Lauren Carney at 525.3818 or email her at [lauren@norwayhill.com](mailto:lauren@norwayhill.com) to register.

### HHS Plant Sale

The Historical Society will hold its annual Plant Sale at the museum on Main Street on **Saturday, May 31, from 8:00 a.m. to noon.** This is our major fund-raiser each year. Don't miss out on this opportunity to stock up on beautiful perennials that grow well locally, and an assortment of home-baked goods, all while supporting the Historical Society. As you are dividing your perennials, please consider potting up extras for the plant sale. We also welcome donations of baked goods. Contact Neal Cass at 525.4132 or [n\\_cass@comcast.net](mailto:n_cass@comcast.net) to donate, or with any questions.

### HHS Hammer Time

When was the last time you saw a dumpster in front of the Hancock Historical Society? Well, you'll see one soon, and it will mark the beginning of the Heritage Campaign's museum renovations. In mid-May, work will begin on the ballroom ceiling, and in July and August the four chimneys will be taken down and rebuilt from the roofline up. But this is just the beginning. With the support of our

community, which you can gauge by the "hammer of progress" in the front yard, the museum will be restored, the collections will be preserved, and Hancock's cultural history will be shared with one and all, near and wide. Stop by the museum for a look-see.

*Submitted by Ruth Wilder*



*Hancock Historical Society  
2013 Plant Sale*

**HISTORICAL SOCIETY SPRING PROGRAM**

**Family Stories:  
How and Why to Remember and Tell Them**

**Saturday, May 17, 2014 — 2:00p.m.**  
**Hancock Library — Daniels Room**

Please join the Hancock Historical Society on Saturday afternoon, May 17, at 2:00 o'clock for an interactive workshop that promises to evoke memories of the past for great storytelling techniques and much more.

Telling personal and family stories is fun and connects townspeople and neighbors, strengthens links between generations, and gives children the self-knowledge to carry them through hard times. Knowledge of family history has even been linked to better teen behavior and mental health. In this active and interactive program, storyteller, Jo Radner, shares foolproof ways to mine memories and interview relatives for meaningful stories. Participants practice finding, developing, and telling their own tales.

"My mission is to call forth and tell stories that honor  
the past and delight the present..." Jo Radner

Jo Radner is an accomplished storyteller, folklorist, and scholar. She holds a BA, MA, and PhD from Harvard University. Ms. Radner served on the Board of Trustees of the American Folklife Center in the Library of Congress, and served as President of the American Folklore Society (1998-2000). Over the past 15 years Ms. Radner has performed in theaters, festivals, conferences, schools, colleges, and at community events. She creates personal and family tales as well as stories about the people and history of Maine. I believe that humor and sadness are good bedfellows, and she particularly favor characters who have shaped admirable lives around unavoidable misfortunes. She now serves on the Board of Directors of the National Storytelling Network.

Space is limited. Please register for the program by contacting Lauren Carney at 525-3818 or [Lauren@norwayhill.com](mailto:Lauren@norwayhill.com).





### Ice Out Champion for 2014

Riley Grise, an eight-year-old girl from New Canaan, Connecticut, won the payout this year. Her winnings reflected the growth of the contest (13%) from 2013 to 2014 as noted below:

|                          | <u>2013</u>                    | <u>2014</u>                    |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <i>Tickets Sold</i>      | 835                            | 949                            |
| <i>Ice Out Date/time</i> | 4-10-13, 10:19 AM              | 4-16-14, 1:54 PM               |
| <i>Winner</i>            | Phil Mathewson,<br>Hancock, NH | Riley Grise,<br>New Canaan, CT |
| <i>Payout</i>            | \$706.23                       | \$801.20                       |

Riley is the granddaughter of Dick and Josie Warner. She plans to divide her winnings between the Meetinghouse/Vestry maintenance fund and her local animal shelter, while reserving a portion for her own use.

The Ice Out Committee again wishes to thank everyone who helped out on the project, and especially, everyone who purchased a ticket. Together, we achieved another enjoyable and great success.

*Submitted by The Ice Out Committee for 2014*



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and it's time for some  
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**Conservation Commission**  
 Winter-Spring 2014

**Conservation Through  
 Observation—April 30, 2014, 7:00**

**p.m.—Hancock Library—** *Speaker: Henry Walters, New Hampshire Audubon.* What good is the layman's love of Nature? For those non-specialists among us, feeling ourselves to be “mere onlookers,” what tangible benefit does Nature reap from being



*Sharpie and Merlin*

watched, marveled at, loved? Henry Walters draws on his experience as a hawk-watcher at Pack Monadnock Raptor Migration Observatory to discuss the ways in which

our individual perspective onto the natural world matters to science, to ourselves, to our environment, and to sharpening the senses of those who come after us.

Henry Walters is a writer, teacher and practicing falconer. He has spent three fall seasons as Interpretive Naturalist for NH Audubon at the Pack Monadnock Raptor Observatory. His poems, essays, and translations have appeared or are forthcoming in publications as varied as *The Old Farmer's Almanac*, *The American Guide*, *The Literary Bohemian* and *Hawk Migration Studies*. He lives and writes at Willard Pond in Hancock, where he acts as steward of NH Audubon's Wildlife Sanctuary.

*Submitted by Phillip Brown*

**Hancock Old Home Day**  
 August 15, 16 and 17

The warm weather is finally here and that has us on the Old Home Day Committee thinking about this year's celebration. The year 2014 will mark the 135th Hancock Old Home Day! So, we thought it would be fitting if this year Old Home Day celebrated... Old Home Day. Our theme is “135 years of Hancock Old Home Day.” All of everyone's favorites events will be back, as well some events brought back from years past. We will be consulting with the Historical Society to see what events or activities from the past would be fun to revive. We, on the Committee, would love to hear about what have been some of your favorites from years back that we might try again. Some new things in the works for this year are a dunk tank and a scavenger hunt. We will keep you posted. Old Home day is one of everyone's favorite summer activities and we are looking forward to another great one again this year.

**Announcing Hancock Old Home Day  
 2014 Official T-Shirt Design Contest**

As everybody knows, one of a Hancock resident's most prized possessions is an official Hancock Old Home Day T-shirt. This year we are giving everyone a chance to get your design on this year's shirt. From May 1st until May 31st, we will be accepting drawings of your idea for this year's design. Submission can be any medium you chose,

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but please keep in mind the shirts will be printed with only one color ink to keep the cost down. Please mail your drawing to The Old Home Day Committee, P.O. Box 6, Hancock, NH 03449. The committee will choose the winning design to be announced in the June *Hancock Happenings*. This contest is open to Hancock residents of all ages and the winner will receive a free T-shirt, and will have the satisfaction of seeing friends and neighbors wearing your artwork, of course!

*Submitted by Siobhan Martin*

## Hancock Women's Guild

April's blustery winds have given hope that May flowers will bloom! With that thought in mind, mark your calendars for **Wednesday, May 21, at 7:00 p.m.** at the Vestry, for an exciting spring program to delight one's eyes! The Guild is hosting its May meeting with Judy Copeland, Pastor of the Hancock Congregational Church and a juried member of the League of New Hampshire Craftsmen. Judy will present a program on the varied techniques she uses in working with glass. With her glass examples on display as a "show-and-tell" program, Judy will discuss the intricacies of working in this medium. In addition to a question and answer period, Judy will have a "hands-on" period of the program for interested guests to prepare a small glass item for later firing in her kiln. Considering the many hats Judy wears, the program is guaranteed to reflect her enthusiasm for this beautiful art. Do come and enjoy this craft! Following Judy's program, refreshments will be served by hostesses Sandy Brooks and Judy Mills. A short business meeting will conclude the evening.

*Submitted by Linda Blicher*

## Library Art Exhibit From Abstract and Realistic Acrylics to the Technique Encaustic

There are only a few days left for viewing "Images Real and Imagined" — a collection of paintings by Mary Wood Cornog, whose colorful palette and engaging sense of humor will boot the blues out of anyone's system. The show **ends Thursday, May 8.**

Then, award-winning encaustic painter Danielle M. Le Bris will have an exhibition called "Dreamscapes," running from **May 10 to June 19.**

On opening day, **Saturday, May 10, the artist will host a reception** in the Daniels Room from **2:00 to 4:00 p.m.**

For many years, Le Bris was fascinated by the ancient Fayum mummy portraits painted by the Greco-Romans during the Coptic period — around the 1st century BC — at the time of the Roman occupation of Egypt. Their technique involved hot beeswax and egg-based tempera, fused by heat onto a thin wooden board.

Unlike the Greco-Romans, Le Bris uses a modern butane torch to melt and fuse the wax and oil-colored pigments onto a wooden substrate. The jewel-like transparent color and luminous quality of the wax both reveal and conceal as the painting is built up in layers. The final effect is rich in lush texture and deep optical space that is most dramatic when viewed in person.



*Coquelicots*

"Dreamscapes," which will include paintings on panels as well as on paper, is a series of landscapes inspired by visual memories, recalling the emotional impact of a particular moment in time. The most vivid of these came from Le Bris's childhood experiences in Versailles, France, where she was born and raised. She studied art in France and England, and at the University of the Arts in Philadelphia, and graduated from the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts, also in Philadelphia.

Le Bris now lives and paints in New Hampshire. Her studio is located at the Torch and Palette Studios on Main Street in New Ipswich.

You may also view samples of Le Bris's art on the Town website Community Bulletin Board at [www.hancocknh.org/BB/BB.htm#Le-Bris](http://www.hancocknh.org/BB/BB.htm#Le-Bris)

Art exhibits can be viewed during regular library hours: Monday and Wednesday, 2:00 to 6:00 p.m.; Tuesday and Thursday, 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.; and Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 pm.

It is always advisable, however, to check with the library before visiting since the room is sometimes reserved for community events.

*Submitted by Sandy Taylor*

## Hancock Woman's Club News

### Scholarship News

### Women of Hancock, attention!

There's a thousand dollar scholarship waiting for you to claim it! Are you a newly liberated mother who would like to return to the workforce, but needs a refresher?

Are you a long-term employee who would like to move up or move on? And, a little academic preparation in an educational program will give you a boost!

Are you a woman who always dreamed of developing a talent and are now free to do so?

The Hancock Woman's Club annual \$1,000 scholarship is once again being offered to an adult Hancock woman. To qualify, an applicant must be an adult woman in mid-career, or an adult woman who plans to either begin, change or return to a career after years of family rearing or other responsibilities. The applicant must be a current Hancock resident who has lived here for 2+ years. She must provide official confirmation of acceptance or enrollment at an accredited school, such as a college, university, technical or other training school.

To obtain an application form, please write to the Hancock Woman's Club, PO Box 366, Hancock, NH 03449; or call Eleanor Falcon at 525.4650.

Could this scholarship help you? **Applications must be received no later than June 1, 2014.**

In early August, applicants will be notified of the Scholarship Committee's choice. With the recipient's permission, her name will be announced publicly.

*Submitted by The Scholarship Committee*

## Woman's Club

### Annual Meeting and Luncheon

Well, spring has finally arrived, with maybe a few bumps! Our final meeting for the 2013-14 club year will begin at noon on **Wednesday, May 14** at the Bantam Grill located at 1 Jaffrey Road in Peterborough, near the Pearl Restaurant. We are asking members to arrive **about noon** to pay their annual dues of \$15, and to enjoy a drink with friends. Lunch will begin to be served at 12:30 p.m. In case you missed the last meeting or missed emails from Sandy, the menu is as follows:

*First Course:* Tomato Bisque *or* Insalata Italiana

*Main Course:* Choose one:

- Handmade Ravioli, Tomato Parmesan Cream, Basil Pesto
- Fish and Chips – Crispy Flounder, Red Cabbage Slaw, Shoe String Fries
- Blue Mussels and Angel Hair Pasta in a White Wine Butter Sauce

*Dessert:* Chocolate Lava Cookie (the most popular dessert choice at the restaurant)

*Coffee and tea*, tax and gratuity included.

*Wine and beer* available at the cash bar.

Reserve your place by sending a check for \$18 made out to Hancock Woman's Club to Sonja Mucha, 122 Forest Road, Hancock. If there is a need to cancel, refunds will be made up to one week before the luncheon. Come join us to celebrate the conclusion of another wonderful year of the Hancock Woman's Club!

April's raffle of two beautiful tote bags from Bali, donated by Wayan Suarni, were won by Ethel Piotrowski and Diane Loomis. Congratulations to these two lucky ladies!

Wishing everyone a healthy and restful summer, and hoping to see you on October 8 at our first 2014-2015 club meeting.

*Submitted by Gertie Kanner*



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*The* **HANCOCK INN**  
**Innkeepers' Sunday Supper**

**May 4<sup>th</sup>**  
 Cornbread w/ bacon-honey butter  
 Chicken & Biscuits  
 Chess Pie

*May 11<sup>th</sup>* **Happy Mother's Day!**  
 Salmon Bisque  
 Baked Scrod, rice pilaf & green beans  
 Chocolate Mousse Parfait

**May 18<sup>th</sup>**  
 Bratwurst & IPA mustard  
 Pork Loin, sauerkraut, lemon-parsley potatoes  
 Poppy Seed Cake

**May 25<sup>th</sup>**  
 Cucumber Salad w/ dill vinaigrette  
 Lamb Meatballs, chickpea puree & spinach  
 Fruit Salad

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

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**FIREWOOD REMOVAL**  
 Hancock resident looking for firewood... Will remove downed trees and branches from your property. No cutting of standing trees. For more information please call Mike or Nancy at 525.9335

**LOOKING FOR**  
 Wanted: Live-in Nanny for baby boy, Oyster Bay, NY - \$400/wk + Room and Board. For details call Nathaniel Peirce 516.982.2226 or email [nathanielpeirce@comcast.net](mailto:nathanielpeirce@comcast.net)

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 Local gal with local references. Experienced and dependable. Peggy Emerson, 525.8050.



### Community Supper

Join The Well School on **Thursday May 22** as they host this month's community supper. The Vestry

**5:30 p.m.**, be there!

*Submitted by Donna Coty*



### BULLETIN BOARD

**Another Tale From Home:** [www.herb-gardner.com](http://www.herb-gardner.com)

Turning on the car radio in the middle of some terrific violin music, I couldn't wait to find out what it was. What a disappointment to hear the stuffy announcer intone, "That was... 'I Own A Brown Violin...'" (What a dumb title! Lots of people have brown violins!) But then he continued, "...playing Mozart's Violin Concerto in A Major." It seems that Iona Brown is a helluva violinist.

**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.

For more information, contact Jess Gerrior or Amelia Gardner at [info@monadnockrollerderby.com](mailto:info@monadnockrollerderby.com) or [www.Facebook.com/MonadnockRollerDerby](http://www.Facebook.com/MonadnockRollerDerby)

*Submitted by Jess Gerrior*

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**Mother's Day "Surf and Turf"**  
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### Hancock Town Library Events

*Amy Markus, Hancock Library Director*

Library Hours:

**Mondays and Wednesdays 2-6**

**Tuesdays and Thursdays 10 to 7**

**Saturdays 10 to 4**

Be sure to "Like" us on Facebook, visit us here

[www.facebook.com/hancocknhlibrary](http://www.facebook.com/hancocknhlibrary)

and check out new changes at our website:

[www.hancocktownlibrary.blogspot.com](http://www.hancocktownlibrary.blogspot.com)

Don't forget that we have puzzles to swap and museum passes to give out thanks to the Friends of the Library! We have passes to the Currier in Manchester, the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston, Strawberry Banke in Portsmouth, Shaker Village in Canterbury, The Montshire in Norwich, Vermont, the Mariposa in Peterborough, and the new Cheshire Children's Museum in Keene. Please use them!

#### **Monday May 5 at 7:00 p.m.–Learn About Linux with Jon GrosJean**

Now that many people are facing the obsolescence of Windows XP, it may be time to consider a free operating system that will run faster on your old computer and includes a free office suite which will import and export Microsoft word documents. It operates about the same way as the system you have been using, but is much more customizable with different desktops. Web browsing is exactly the same and it is very easy to become familiar with LibreOffice, the office suite.

Installation simply involves making a copy of your old files in My Documents, inserting a CD or DVD and following the instructions. The files are then copied into the new installation. If you have some programs which will only run in Windows XP, it can be installed in what is called a virtual machine in Linux so that is safe from malware. You can run your old programs or hardware and move files between the two systems. Jon GrosJean has been a Linux fan for some time now and has installed Linux on all his computers with the old Windows XP running in a virtual machine. The first session will be to show how Linux operates, and the different

versions that are available. If there is enough interest, we can get started with the conversion process.

**Thursday May 8 at 7:00 p.m.–Postcards from Peru with Jess Gerrior**—Experience Iquitos, Peru, the largest city with no roads connecting to the outside world, through the eyes of a North American environmental educator. Learn about Jess Gerrior’s experience of the International Association of Universities’ (IAU) 2014 International Conference on “Blending Higher Education and Traditional Knowledge for Sustainable Development” which Jess attended in March 2014 in Iquitos, Peru. Learn about the drafting of the IAU Statement on Higher Education for Sustainable Development and how the IAU’s 2014 International Conference may shape UNESCO’s (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) Post-2015 Development Agenda. This is a child-friendly program, but know that some images may evoke strong emotion. Jess Gerrior has an MS in Environmental Studies from Antioch University New England and currently works as Sustainability Coordinator for Franklin Pierce University in Rindge, NH. Ms. Gerrior is also a proud member of Monadnock Roller Derby. She lives in Antrim with her family. This program is free and open to all.

**Thursday May 15 at 7:00 p.m.–Legislative Update from Hancock’s State Representatives**—State Representatives Jon Manley and Dick McNamara will be here to give us an update on legislation in Concord. Bring your questions! Free and open to all.

**Thursday May 22 at 7:00 p.m.–Film: A Little Romance (1979) with Diane Lane and Sir Laurence Olivier**—A French boy (Daniel) and an American girl (Lauren), attending school in Paris, meet and begin a romance. They befriend Julius who enchants them with his storytelling. In an attempt to solidify the teens’ love forever, the three journey to Venice. This is Diane Lane’s first feature film at the age of 14. You may recognize her from the lead role of Frances in *Under the Tuscan Sun*, but she has many other films to her credit. A glimpse of the roots of Diane Lane’s lovely style and talent paired with the experience and class of Olivier. Wonderful! Free admission and popcorn thanks to Friends of the Library.

**Thursday May 29 at 7:00 p.m.–Music and Poetry for Memorial Day**—Join us as we listen to poetry and classical guitar in memory of the soldiers, sailors and airmen who have died in the service of their countries. Poet Rodger Martin will read from his book *The Battlefield Guide* and other works. He will be joined by classical guitarist Ted Mann as they combine the spoken word with music in commemoration of Memorial Day. Martin teaches journalism at Keene State College and is a co-editor of Hobbleshush Books’ Granite State Poetry Series. Ted Mann is an award-winning musician and composer who teaches music and composition at Keene State College. Free and open to all.

### From the Children’s Room

*Rennie Timm, Children’s Librarian*

**Thursdays in May at 10:30 a.m.–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.



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**Tuesday, May 6 at 3:15 – 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.

**Tuesday, May 6 at 3:15 – 4:15 p.m.–Mother-Daughter Tea Party and Floral Arrangements**–Moms, grandmothers, daughters, join Megan Dodge for an afternoon of creative teacup floral arranging. Share a story, make a lovely teacup centerpiece and indulge in an old-fashioned tea, complete with cookies. Pre-registration required. Call the library or email Rennie at [hancockkidlib@comcast.net](mailto:hancockkidlib@comcast.net). All ages welcome.

**Thursday May 8 at 10:30a.m.– 11:15 a.m.–Merry Music for Kids with Miss Katy** –This program combines the joy of singing with action-oriented activities. Puppets and live music with the accompaniment of the baritone ukulele, mandolin, banjo and various percussion instruments create a fun filled show for children ages 2-6.

**Saturday, May 17 at 11:00a.m.- noon–PAWS to Read**– 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! So 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](mailto: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.

**Tuesday, May 20 at 3:15 – 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. Crazy-rainbow bands will be provided, just bring your imagination and expertise to share with others. If you have your own loom, please bring it, as we have a limited number to share with the group. All youth welcome.

**Tuesday, May 27 at 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.–PAWS to Read**–A DOG in the Library? 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](mailto: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.

**Thursday, May 29 at 4:30 – 6:45 p.m.–Movie and Popcorn 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 *The Book Thief* based on the book by Markus Zusak. Check the library Facebook page for updates.

**WANTED:** Classic old-fashioned teacups and saucers for our floral arranging program. Please drop donations off at front desk. Thank you for your contribution and support.

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## Children and the Arts Day



*Parade dragon*

**Saturday, May 17, 2014**

On **May 17, 2014**, downtown Peterborough will host the 21st annual Children And The Arts Day. The year's theme is *Dragons, Fairies and other Mythical Creatures*. The festival is free and full of excitement.

Children of all ages will find activities and performers to enjoy. From fairy house building to drum lines to Improv groups, the Children and the Arts Day promises so many delights. Events will begin at **9:00 a.m and run until 4:00 p.m.**



Due to rave reviews from last year, our keynote performance will be a return of *The Dragon King*, a marionette show for all ages by Tanglewood Marionettes. Don't miss this amazing, beautiful show at **2:00 p.m.** in the Town House!

*Left: The Dragon King show  
Tanglewood Marionettes  
at 2:00 p.m.*

Throughout the day, children of all ages will find things to watch and things to do. Angela Klingler will tell stories to fit this year's magical theme at the Mariposa Museum. The Whirlygigs will delight kids



*The Whirlygigs*

and their parents with his folksy, hand clappin', toe tappin' songs. Local dance companies and musicians, the New Hampshire Dance Institute Swat team, Acting Out, and other annual favorites will join in the fun.

All groups are welcome to walk in the Parade of Giant Puppets. We love to see new clubs or teams that want to get into the spirit. Build a puppet or plan your costumes along the theme!

Children bring special magic to the festival when they join in the hands-on artwork tables at the Unitarian Church. Local artists will offer many projects for them to enjoy. In keeping with the theme, children will build fairy houses in the wilds of Putnam Park.

Several dozen adult volunteers are needed to help make this festival a success. Morning and afternoon shifts are available. Help is needed in the late afternoon for closing up the festival too. For more information about volunteering or anything else, contact committee member Felice at 502.8566.

This festival is free due to generous individual and business donors from ConVal communities and beyond. If you can make a contribution to this annual event, please send donations to Children and the Arts, PO Box 771, Peterborough, NH 03458. Donations are tax-deductible. Information about the festival can be found at [www.childrenandthearts.org](http://www.childrenandthearts.org) or on Facebook.

*Submitted by Tina Kriebel*

## The Harris Center for Conservation Education

*Making tracks since 1970*



For information about programs call 603.525.3394 or email Diana at [jacobs@harriscenter.org](mailto:jacobs@harriscenter.org). Harris Center online calendar: [www.harriscenter.org](http://www.harriscenter.org)

**May 1 (Thur) First Session of ESI Course *Native Americans in the Monadnock Region: An Archaeological History***—May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, and June 5 (Thursdays), 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. in the RiverMead Auditorium, 150 RiverMead Road, Peterborough. \$45 RiverMead residents/\$50 non-RiverMead residents. Registration: RiverMead residents, wait-list members, and Village depositors can register by contacting Kim Mansfield at 603.924.0033, ext. 201. All others, register by contacting Keene State College's Office of Continuing Education at 603.358.2290. Please mention course code NCLL-190 at registration. Dr. Robert Goodby will explore with us the long history of Native Americans in the Monadnock Region, using archaeological records to travel back to the region's first inhabitants 13,000 years ago. We'll continue through time to the Abenaki struggle

for survival during the 18th century and their resistance within the last few decades. Important local sites, including the Tenant Swamp Paleoindian site in Keene and the Swanzy Fish Dam, will be reviewed in detail. Dr. Robert Goodby, Associate Professor in the Department of Anthropology at Franklin Pierce University, teaches a variety of courses on archaeology and anthropology, including Introduction to Archaeology, Human Origins, Field Archaeology, and Archaeology of New England.

### **May 2 (Fri) Easygoing Hike Up Rose Mountain–**

Join Ollie Mutch and Lee Baker for a moderately strenuous hike to the summit of Rose Mountain in Lyndeborough. All ages and abilities are welcome on this 4-mile round-trip hike. Bring water and 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. For more information, contact Lee at 603.525.5262, or Ollie at 978.386.5318.

### **May 2 (Fri) Vernal Pool Workshop for**

**Landowners and Foresters–**Vernal pools are temporary woodland ponds that serve both as critical breeding habitat for many amphibian species and as important feeding grounds and shelter for many reptiles, birds and mammals. Because they are small and seasonal, these wetlands are especially vulnerable to human impacts, but finding a vernal pool on your land doesn't mean it's off-limits for forestry! Join Jeremy Wilson and Brett Amy Thelen for a workshop on forest management with vernal pools in mind. We'll begin indoors with an illustrated talk on vernal pool ecology and best forestry practices for vernal pool protection, then head outside for a closer look at a vernal pool in spring bloom. 1:00 to 3:30 p.m. at the Harris Center and a nearby field site. For more information,

contact Brett Amy Thelen at [thelen@harriscenter.org](mailto:thelen@harriscenter.org) or 603.358.2065. 1.5 Category 1 SAF CFE credits are available.

### **May 3 (Sat) Hiking Meadow Brook Flowage to Sharon Town Forest–**

Join Bob Boynton and Roberta Flashman on this moderately easy, 3.25-mile hike following the Meadow Brook flowage to the Robert Bass Memorial Forest, then connecting with the Sullivan loop trail to the trailhead on McCoy Road. The trip includes a total elevation gain of about 200 feet with 1 mile of bushwhacking, and plenty of opportunities for observing wildlife sign. Bring water and lunch, and meet 10:00 a.m. at the Sharon Arts Center on Route 123 in Sharon. Back by 2:30 p.m. For more information, contact Bob at 603.878.3220 or Roberta at 978.386.7104.

### **May 10 (Sat) Otter Brook Hike–**

Join Roger and Ann Sweet for a picturesque hike along Otter Brook in Sullivan. Expect a moderately difficult bushwhack. Meet at 10:00 a.m. at the Nature Conservancy parking area on Valley Road in Sullivan. (From Route 9, turn right onto Centre Street, then take the first right onto Valley Road. Continue 1.5 miles to the parking lot.) Back by noon. For more information, contact Roger or Ann at 603.847.3465 or [rogerandannsweet@gmail.com](mailto:rogerandannsweet@gmail.com).

### **May 13 (Tues) Ashuelot River Water Quality Monitoring Volunteer Training–**

Join the Ashuelot River Local Advisory Committee (ARLAC) in gearing up for their fourteenth season of water quality monitoring on the Ashuelot River. Volunteers conduct monthly physical and chemical water quality monitoring along the length of the Ashuelot River from Washington to Hinsdale. The data are then used by New Hampshire DES, the EPA, and local conservation commissions. Participants in this volunteer training will gain

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hands-on experience in sampling techniques and in the use of monitoring equipment. 6:30 to 8 p.m. at the Keene State College Science Center (Room TBA). For more information or to register, please contact Barbara Skuly at [bskuly@ne.rr.com](mailto:bskuly@ne.rr.com) or (603) 352-0987. Cosponsored by the Harris Center for Conservation Education with ARLAC and Keene State College.

**May 16 (Fri) In Bloom Conference for Early Childhood Educators**—Learn how to connect the natural world to the lives of young children and their families at the In Bloom Conference. Keynote speakers include Ann Pelo, author of *The Goodness of Rain: A Year of Natural Exploration with a Young Child*, and educator Erin Kenny from Cedarsong Nature School in Vashon Island, Washington. Choose from 10 additional workshops. 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Antioch University New England in Keene. New this year: an evening campfire at the Harris Center! (See *Froggie Went A'Courtin Family Campfire*, below). To register or for more information, please visit [www.antiochne.edu/events](http://www.antiochne.edu/events) (search words “In Bloom”) or contact AUNE’s Peg Smeltz at 603.283.2301 or [MSmeltz@antioch.edu](mailto:MSmeltz@antioch.edu).

**May 16 (Fri) Froggie Went A'Courtin Family Campfire**—Join Harris Center naturalist and frog enthusiast Susie Spikol Faber and folk heritage musician and amphibian adorer Mary DesRosiers for an evening of frog campfire stories, songs, and myths. Sing to the frogs and hear them sing back as we celebrate the amazing amphibians that make their home at the Harris Center’s own small frog pond! 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Harris Center. To help us plan for this free family event, please register with Sara LeFebvre at 603.525.3394 or [lefebvre@harriscenter.org](mailto:lefebvre@harriscenter.org).



*Rose-breasted Grosbeak*  
by Janet Bleicken

**May 17 (Sat) NH Audubon Birdathon**—Join Francie Von Mertens and Meade Cadot for New Hampshire Audubon's annual Birdathon, a friendly competition to see or hear as many bird species as possible. We'll visit the newly conserved Wilson Tavern Land in Stoddard, which boasts a mix of forest types that should host a wide range of species. Expect a

relatively easy, 2-mile hike. A per-bird-species donation to support the Pack Monadnock Raptor Observatory is welcome. Carpool from the Harris Center at 7:30 a.m. Back by noon. For more information, call the Harris Center at 603.525.3394.

**May 17 (Sat) Young Birders Club Takes On The Birdathon**—Who knew that birding was a competitive sport? Here's your chance to experience the thrills, despairs, and total sensory overload of an entire day of all-out birding, with the goal of seeing and hearing as many bird species as possible. All are welcome, at any level of participation. 7:30 a.m. to noon. Any Birdathon per-bird-species donations will go to support the Young Birders Club. To learn more about joining a Young Birders Club Birdathon team, visit <http://nhyoungbirders.org> or contact [nhyoungbirders@gmail.com](mailto:nhyoungbirders@gmail.com) or 603.525.3572.

**May 21 (Wed) Go Botany Workshop for Educators and Outdoor Professionals**—Go Botany ([www.newenglandwild.org/gobotany](http://www.newenglandwild.org/gobotany)) is a user-friendly, interactive, free, online guide to New England flora for folks ages 8 to 80. This guide is used by environmental educators, middle school and high school teachers, and university professors to foster curiosity, close observation, and cooperation among students studying plants. Developed by the New England Wild Flower Society and partners, Go Botany specifically addresses science frameworks, and appeals to very broad audiences. Enjoy test-driving this National Science Foundation-funded teaching tool. Bring a laptop or tablet and we'll provide a plant for you to identify! 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. at the Harris Center. \$10/person. Professional development certificates are available. Register by May 16 by contacting Sara LeFebvre at 603.525.3394 or [lefebvre@harriscenter.org](mailto:lefebvre@harriscenter.org). Space is limited.



*Spottie on a speed hump*  
Photo: Brett Amy Thelen

**May 24 (Sat) Searching for Salamanders along the Bailey Brook Trail**—Vernal pool enthusiast Kathy Schillemat will lead a “hunt” for salamanders along the Bailey Brook Trail in

Nelson. We'll search in the stream bed, under fallen logs, and in the beaver pond for various species of salamanders, with hopes of finding Redback, Two-

lined, Dusky and Spotted Salamanders, as well as Red Efts or Eastern Newts. All ages are welcome to join this moderately easy morning of exploration. Bring water and lunch for a picnic at the Bailey Brook Mill waterfall. Meet at 10:00 a.m. at the Bailey Brook trailhead on Bailey Brook/Old Stoddard Road in Nelson, approximately 1.5 miles from Route 123. Back by 1:00 p.m. For more information, contact Kathy at 603.847.9785 or [kschillemat@yahoo.com](mailto:kschillemat@yahoo.com).

**May 31 (Sat) Fitzwilliam to Winchendon by Bicycle**—Join Russ Daigle and Brian Bishoff for a moderately strenuous 15-mile round-trip bike ride along the Cheshire Rail Trail from Fitzwilliam to Winchendon and back. Bring water and lunch and meet at 9:00 a.m. at the Fitzwilliam Depot on Route 119. Back by 2:00 p.m. For more information, contact Russ at 603.477.7506 or Brian at 603.899.5770.

### Circle of Strength Military Support Group



The Circle of Strength Military Moms and Family Member Support Group will have our May meeting on **Saturday, May 10 from 1:00 to 2:30 p.m.** at the Monadnock Community Hospital Bond Wellness

Center Conference room. Please join us and tell any military families about our group. We are here for all branches of the military.

You can also contact me at [ellsworthsusan@ymail.com](mailto:ellsworthsusan@ymail.com) for more information. See you there!

*Submitted by Susan Ellsworth*

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### What's happening at the Hancock Professional Center 15 Forest Road, Hancock

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Galatians 5:22 NIV

**Hancock Astrology Study Group** will meet ONLY on **Monday, May 5, from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m.** because of Memorial Day.

**May 11 and 12**—I will be participating at the annual Riverview Mill Healing Arts event in Wilton, NH. Come on over and enjoy the artists' exhibits!

**May 17 and 18**—**Sound Therapy class, Phase I** — Course includes:

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#### May's Special Event

**On Saturday, May 31**, The Hancock Professional Center welcomes a new, unique and moving event created by Psychic Medium Anne M. Mitts. Anne combines her love of spirit communication and

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music, and what has come from this is quite an amazing experience! Anne uses different types of music to activate your imagination. Learn how to use your ability of clairvoyance and clairsentience. This is a very hands-on class. You will be an active participant. You will learn what mediumship is, and Anne will share her experiences and what she has learned so far on her journey. There will be a demonstration of mediumship and readings will be given as spirit leads. This is an intimate and safe space to start or continue your spiritual journey. Come experience the love, healing and support in a very unique way. This event is limited to 10 participants so please purchase your ticket in advance. Tickets may be purchased here [www.thelightwithinnh.com/upcoming-events.html](http://www.thelightwithinnh.com/upcoming-events.html) or call 603.504.8768 for more information!

*Submitted by Arlene Smith*



*Kristen Vance, Director*

**THANK YOU!** Fiddlehead's Café and The Hancock Inn for supporting The Grapevine with our second annual "Eat Out for The Grapevine" in March. The event, which also took place at Rick and Diane's Restaurant and The Common Place Eatery, was a great success. These four fine local restaurants donated 20% of their gross receipts to The Grapevine on their "Eat Out" day, which is a huge help as we continue to recover from the loss of State funding three years ago.

**Walk With Us May 10–The Grapevine's 10th Annual Spring Walk for Families is Saturday, May 10**, and we need to raise \$15,000 to support our programs for children and families. The Finlay Foundation has put a \$5,000 challenge grant on the table, but we still need to raise \$10,000 to reach our goal, so please come out and walk with us! Bring your family, your book club, your band, your synchronized swimming team, your running buddies. This is The Grapevine's biggest fundraiser and we count on your support, so please call 588.2620 or stop by to get your pledge sheet, download one on [www.GrapevineNH.org](http://www.GrapevineNH.org) or pick one up at the Hancock Library. And then meet us in The Grapevine parking lot at **9:30 a.m.** on May 10 to register and walk in support of our families and

community. Join us for the cookout and music after! Can't be there? Pledge a walker by calling 588.2620 or making a pledge online at [www.GrapevineNH.org](http://www.GrapevineNH.org)

**Big Bold Grown-up Paint Camp with Carol Lunan Saturday, May 31 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.** Be prepared to get messy and laugh a lot – No painting experience or skill necessary. You owe it to yourself to sign up for this one, described by one past participant as "an experience like getting lost in a good book." \$50 for the day (due at registration), materials included. Early Childhood professionals receive staff development hours and a certificate. Registration is required. Please let us know if the fee is a hardship.

**2014 Children's Summer Adventures Program** is filling up, so call now to register.

- **"Backyard Adventures"** for 4 ½- to 6-year-olds – Two one-week sessions, July 21-25 and July 28-August 1, \$110 – Activities include investigating flying creatures, creepy crawlers and swimming bugs; exploring mud and water; and scavenger hunts, hikes, nature stories, songs, crafts and painting. According to leader Carol Lunan, "this is a wonderful opportunity for young children to discover the natural world, and their place in it."
- **"Backyard Science"** Camp for 7- to 9-year-olds – August 4-8, \$130– For older children, this camp offers nature exploration through the lens of science. The daily challenges and "experiments" are sure to please! Activities include mud, water, camp songs and games, scavenger hunts, and science through art.
- **"Overnight in the Backyard"** for 7- to 9-year-olds – July 17, 3:00 p.m. to July 18, 10:00 a.m., \$30– New this year is "Overnight in the Backyard," a one-night overnight offering many nature, science, cooking and art activities combined with a good old fashioned sleep out in the backyard of The Grapevine.

**Spring Cleaning?** Grapevine parents are collecting new and gently-used items for the annual Learning Vine Yard Sale on **June 21**. All proceeds support the Learning Vine Parent-Cooperative preschool and make it possible to provide scholarships. Call Carol at 588.2620 if you have a donation.

**Thinking about preschool this fall?** The Learning Vine is now enrolling students for the 2014-15 school year, call 588.2620 to schedule a visit.

**Coming soon... Black Fly Community Art Show, Saturday, June 7, from 10:00 a.m. to noon,** featuring multimedia art by local children and youth, community and family art activities, and more. If you have art you would like to show please call Beth 588.2620.

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And don't forget... you can now visit us online at [www.GrapevineNH.org](http://www.GrapevineNH.org) and Friend us on Facebook!

*The Grapevine is a nonprofit service organization located behind the Tuttle Library and serving residents in nearby towns. For more information call 588.2620. The Grapevine exists because of charitable contributions from people like you. Tax-deductible contributions are gratefully accepted at PO Box 637, Antrim, or drop by the center at 4 Aiken Street (behind the library). Thank you to all who have contributed to this year's annual campaign—there's still time!*

**Great Brook School News**

This month we will report about the Middle School of the Year competition and the upcoming concert.

**Middle School of the Year Competition—Mr. Elder**, our principal, explained that the process started last year when we applied for Middle School of the Year. During the summer and fall, the teachers had staff meetings to discuss the process. After our application was submitted, we waited to hear from the judges who were to let us know if we were selected to go to the next step, but we didn't hear back. So Mr. Elder called and asked what we had done wrong, so that we could make the necessary changes for next year. He was told that we were one of the eight finalists! Committee representatives said they were sorry that we had not received the e-mail they had sent. So, a team of teachers, parents and students traveled to Concord to make a 30-minute presentation. The presentation was a hit! We received the news that we were one of two finalists



for Middle School of the Year. The committee then came to visit our school (*photo*) and talk with teachers, parents and

students, and to see what an awesome school we are! Now, we wait until June 7 to hear who won. "I felt like the teachers and students really pitched in and did a great job at presenting our school," said Mr. Elder.

**Concert—**The concert for chorale and band happens **May 14, 2014 at 6:30 p.m.** We hope to see everyone there. The chorale, concert choir and select

choir have been practicing hard on the selections they will sing to everyone. All who come to the concert will be impressed with those pieces. The band conductor is Ms. Moncrief and our chorale director is Mr. Cogan. We all hope to see people at the concert to cheer on the students. The chorale will perform *The Lion Sleeps Tonight*, *Waka Waka*, *The Mad Hatter* and *Lean On Me*. The Concert Choir will sing *Seize The Day*, *Zum Gali Gali* and *I Want You Back/ABC*. The band will be playing music from around the world such as *Blues*, *Spy Chase*, *Fiesta* and *Final Countdown*. Ms. Moncrief tells us that the band is, "Ready to rock out."

This is our month with information from Great Brook School. We want to thank our teacher Mrs. Marshall for supervising us while we write for the newspaper, so people will know about what the school has been doing and about upcoming events. Have a great month!

*Submitted by 8th grade GBS reporters  
Rhiannon Bell and Cheyanne Watman*

## News from Fish & Game

Leave Young Animals Alone!  
Keep Wildlife Wild!

With the arrival of spring, many species of wildlife are giving birth to their young. Finding young wildlife can be exciting, but in most cases, even if it appears abandoned, the mother is not far off. If you encounter young wildlife – even young animals that appear to need help – the kindest and safest thing to do is to leave them alone and let nature take its course.

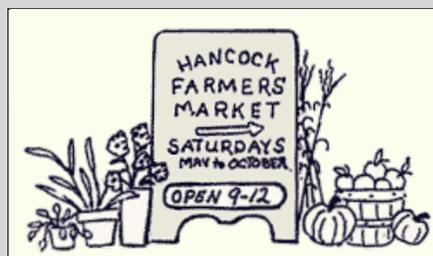
Reports have already begun coming in to Fish and Game and local wildlife rehabilitators from people who have picked up young animals, often mistakenly thinking they are orphans. "Picking up young animals is an error in judgment," says NH Fish and Game Wildlife Biologist Dan Bergeron. "People think they're doing a good deed, but they are often removing the animal from the care of its parents and potentially exposing themselves to the risk of disease. In particular, your actions may result in the animal having to be euthanized for rabies testing."

Young wild animals (including mammals, birds, reptiles and amphibians) typically have their best

chance of surviving when they are in their own natural environment, explains Bergeron. What should you do if you find a young animal? "Give wildlife plenty of space and leave them alone and in the wild, where they belong," he said. If in doubt, report the location of the animal to NH Fish and Game by emailing [wildlife@wildlife.nh.gov](mailto:wildlife@wildlife.nh.gov) or calling 603.271.2461.

Only qualified people with special rehabilitator permits, issued through NH Fish and Game, may take in and care for injured or orphaned wildlife. Improper care of injured or orphaned wildlife often leads to their sickness or death. Unless you have rehabilitator credentials, it is illegal to have in your possession or take New Hampshire wildlife from the wild and keep it in captivity. For a list of licensed wildlife rehabilitators, go to [www.wildnh.com/Wildlife/wildlife\\_rehabbers.htm](http://www.wildnh.com/Wildlife/wildlife_rehabbers.htm).

## Hancock Farmers Market



Join us this 2014 season  
in celebration of the 20th year  
of bringing to our community  
locally grown or made  
produce and products.  
New vendors always welcome!

**Season starts on**

**Saturday, May 17, 2014  
9 to 12**

"Like" us on Facebook  
**Submitted by Sue Beers**

The New Hampshire Fish and Game Department is the guardian of the state's fish, wildlife and marine resources and their habitats. Visit [www.wildnh.com](http://www.wildnh.com).

### Winter Bat Surveys Reveal No Good News at NH Hibernacula

Recent surveys for bats in New Hampshire hibernacula – places where bats spend the winter – resulted in biologists finding a total of only 28 bats, with two formerly very common species missing. “White-nose syndrome has decimated little brown bats and northern long-eared bats,” said New Hampshire Fish and Game biologist Emily Preston. “Little brown bats were the most common species in the state before 2009.”

White-nose syndrome is a fungal infection that infects bats during the winter, while they are hibernating. It damages the thin tissue of the wing. That tissue helps the bats with temperature regulation, air exchange, water retention and flight. “Since bats are hibernating, their immune system is suppressed, so they cannot fight the fungus,” said Preston. The fungus causes the bats to wake up from hibernation much more frequently and stay awake

longer. This burns through their stored fat too quickly, often times not leaving enough to survive the winter.

White-nose syndrome was first documented in New Hampshire in 2009 during normal winter surveys conducted by Preston, researchers Dr. Scott Reynolds and Dr. Jacques Veilleux, as well as US Fish and Wildlife Service biologist Susi von Oettingen. One survey this winter found that a mine that previously had 514 bats with three species in 2009, now had no bats. Since bats generally have only one pup a year, it will take many decades for the population to rebound, if they ever do.

Overall, over 90% of little brown and northern long-eared bats in the Northeast have been killed by this disease. The disease has now spread to 23 states and 5 Canadian provinces, killing millions of bats.

Not finding little brown or northern long-eared bats in hibernacula does not mean those species are gone from the state. NH’s summer bats fly to hibernacula in Vermont and New York also. “We monitor a couple of little brown bat maternity colonies. These are places where female bats raise their pups. So far, these still have bats and they are producing pups,”

said Preston. Maternity colonies in barns and homes are also monitored by homeowners under a citizen science program run by NH Fish and Game. Homeowners simply go out at dusk and count the number of bats that exit when it gets dark enough. The survey takes about

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Affordable Sessions



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; Barbara Caverly Meeting Room

**Zoning Board** – 2nd and 4th Wednesdays as needed at 7:00 p.m., Barbara Caverly Meeting Room, 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., Barbara Caverly Meeting Room;

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

**Recreation Committee** – 3rd Wednesday, 6:30 p.m., Town Office;

**Town Archives Committee** – 2nd Wednesday at 7:00 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, Meetinghouse

**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](mailto:happenings@hancocknh.org) or call 525.4061 for information and rates. Advertisement sizes and rates are listed at [www.hancocknh.org/HanHap/hhnews.htm](http://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. 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.

Support *Hancock Happenings* advertisers! They allow you to enjoy the newsletter at no cost to you or to the Town of Hancock!



The Circle of Strength Military Moms and Family Members Support Group in Southern NH would like to thank all those who donated funds to cover postage or product to fill the boxes for our spring care package event, including:

The Contoocook VFW, The American Legion of Antrim and Bennington, Peter M. Cerroni, D.M.D. of Peterborough, Greg A. Perry and Kit R Gurwell D.D.S. of Antrim, Brick Ends Financial Services Nancy Luby, Antrim and Bennington Congregation Church, Antrim Presbyterian Church, Antrim Baptist Church, Hillsboro Ford and Chrysler, Boutwell’s Sugar House of Lee Sawyer and family in Jaffrey NH, Fieldstone Farm Sugar House of Dana and Beckey Ryll in Rindge NH, The Longview Forest Products in Hancock, NH, Hancock Happenings, The Limrik, The Villager, Messenger, Monadnock Ledger Transcript for placing our articles, Photographer Virginia Pereira for our wonderful pictures in the local papers, the Great Brook Middle School Students and Staff for the wonderful handmade get well cards for the wounded warriors, the Monadnock Community Hospital for allowing us to conduct our monthly meetings in the Bond Wellness Center conference room.



*Kneeling: June O'Day - Standing: Janet Merrill, Jean Bacon, Lillian Bolduc, Susan Ellsworth, Sue Conklin and Barbara Thorngren*

I would like to personally thank the ladies of our group for their hard work in helping make this event happen. If anyone would like to be a part of our group or donate to our care packages in the future, email me at [ellsworthsusan@gmail.com](mailto:ellsworthsusan@gmail.com)  
**Sincerely,**  
**Susan Ellsworth**



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Hancock Meeting House

*\$10 suggested donation at the door*

**Church  
Yard  
Sale**

The Hancock Congregational Church is having the annual Spring Yard Sale on **Saturday, June 7!** We welcome donations of your no-longer essential items: kitchen, household, garage, cellar or attic articles. Please call first before donating furniture. We will welcome donations on

- Tuesday, June 3 and Thursday June 6, from 2:00 to 4:00 and 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.
- and Sunday June 1, from 2:00 to 4:00.
- 

For more information call Kathy Anderson, 525.4909 or Lexy Heatley 525.413

*Submitted by Kathy Anderson*



**HES PTO  
Donations Needed...  
Spring cleaning?**

We are in need of clean, sellable items to be donated to the Hancock Elementary School PTO. Books, toys, housewares, bric-a-brac.... All proceeds from the sale of these items will directly benefit HES children.

Items can be dropped off at 16 Carriage Hill in Hancock, anytime but no later than April 30<sup>th</sup>. Pick-up may also be arranged. Please call **Megan Dodge @ 525.9465** with any question or to arrange a small pickup.

Your continued support is greatly appreciated.

The sale will take place **Saturday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> 8am-1pm** at the **Union Congregational Church, 33 Concord Street, Peterborough** at Kiwanis Club Spring Yard Sale. All unsold items will be donated to the Kiwanis Club.