



News from the Selectboard

Jim Mose, Chairman for the Selectboard

Hancock lost an adored husband, father, grandfather, friend, selectman, US Army veteran and 22-year Hancock Police Chief - Edward James Joseph Coughlan, Jr. sadly passed away on February 13th. Chief Coughlan and his lovely wife, Linda, are beloved Hancock institutions. Although Ed will be deeply missed by many, Linda Coughlan will shine on as a ray of Coughlan-sunshine in the Hancock town offices. The Coughlans countless generous contributions to Hancock run deep to the core of our community's brilliant past and sustain us now and into the future. Thank you, Chief Coughlan for your honorable service to family, country and Hancock. The people of your community will keep you and your family in our hearts always.

What follows is my final contribution to the Happenings as chair of the select board. I apologize in advance as I fear it may perhaps offend some of my fellow Hancockers.

My Barack-Obama-final-days-in-office-plan for Hancock is to change our hometown's zip code to Florida. It's a simple plan. We all get together and get a group discount from U-Haul, load up our "stuff" and head south. For all my love of Hancock, NH this place is making me insane with snow, ice and frigid cold. Why do we live here? Sure, the recreation committee puts on a fantastically successful day of fun at the Hancock Winter Frolic – thank

you Kary and team for that; the NH slopes are killing it this year with the perfect ski conditions; and the ice fishing and snowmobiling are epic this winter. But why turn our backs on the opportunity of a lifetime. A warm winter together with no snow!

The basic plan is to buy a section of central Florida land roughly the size of Hancock's total land area and move the whole shebang to warmer territory. South Hancock, FL – our new home! We annex Bennington for the few Yankee die-hards who will no doubt resist my South Hancock master plan. They can remain in NH, snowshoe and enjoy whatever they insist they love about winter. Otherwise the loyal and capable service providers of the newly annexed Bennington will protect and defend the NH Homeland while the winter rages on. I haven't worked out all of the details yet, but I'm sure the new selectman, together with Erik and John, will iron out the rest.

In closing, thank you Hancock for your generous support and kindness. I have enjoyed my time learning from and working with everyone in the town departments and committees and especially my fellow board members and Barb/Diane.

I look forward to seeing you all in March at town meeting in the newly restored Hancock Meeting House. We'll be reserving U-Hauls and picking out the right spot for Hancock South – it'll be fun.

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 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.

Hancock Fire & Rescue

Nevan Cassidy, Chief, Hancock Fire Department

Had Enough Snow Yet?

I don't know about you, but I am getting sick of shoveling snow already. I remember digging out from the big storms of '78, but this winter seems to be getting close to that benchmark. Be cautious if you are trying to lessen snow loads on your roof. Also, if you can, help us out by digging out fire hydrants in your neighborhood. Have faith- March comes in like a lion, and goes out like a lamb....let's hope that holds true this year.

Early in the morning of February 16th, we were called out for a house fire on Knight Farm Road. We had issues with a narrow dirt road, deep snow, a very narrow and long driveway, and temperatures that went down to minus 13. Creosote in the chimney of a woodstove had caught on fire, and then fell in a pile to the bottom of the chimney.

Creosote can burn at very high temperatures, and the heat radiated through an iron clean-out door to ignite combustibles in the cellar. Because of an open concept solarium wall, the fire quickly spread upwards towards the first and second floors. Working smoke detectors awoke the residents who were able to escape without injury. We had a crew of four firefighters who entered the cellar and made a quick knock-down of the bulk of the fire. Bennington and Peterborough crews also helped out with the interior work. We were lucky that a plastic water pipe ruptured over the seat of the fire and acted as a sprinkler head to help dampen

down the fire. We had about 9,000 gallons of water in trucks on the road, and stretched about 2500 feet of large diameter hose down to Antrim Road to be ready for a "big water" incident; thankfully we did not need it. We owe thanks to the Hancock DPW for their sanding and plowing so we could extricate our apparatus when all was said and done.

There is extensive damage to this house, but it is structurally sound and can be gutted out and rebuilt. Keep these three things in mind: don't put stuff near your chimney cleanout doors, keep your driveway open for our trucks, and make damn sure that your smoke detectors work.

Thanks also to Kurt Grasset for opening up the road and a driveway for an ambulance call on Prospect Hill during a snowstorm. Somehow he knew about the call before we did...

We were saddened to hear of the death of Ed Coughlan in February. Ed was a classic small town police chief, and our departments worked well together during his tenure. Ed was also a Deputy Fire Warden for us; many people would go to him to get burn permits when he worked at the Hancock Market. Our thoughts go out to Linda and their family at this time.

February Raffle Winners:

Mark and Susan Ellingwood, \$40; Wayan Suarni, \$20; George Kidd, George Lohmiller, Ken Mollnar, \$10 each.

Elected Positions to be Filled March 10, 2015

1 position each-3 years

Selectboard - Thomas C. Shevenell

Water Rent Collector – Linda Coughlan

Water Commissioner – Joel Chandler

Common Commissioner – Allison Kerwin

Library Trustee – Mary T. Garland

Trustees of Trust Funds – Leonard H. Dowse, Jr.

Cemetery Trustees – John E. Hayes

1 position-1 year

Town Treasurer – Diane Loomis

School District Moderator - Timothy Clerk

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Mon-Fri 7-7 • Sat 8-7 • Sun 8-6

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hancockmarket@hotmail.com

ConVal School District News

2015-2016 Budget News

Pierce Rigrod, Hancock Representative to the ConVal School District

Tuesday March 10th is not far off so here's a bit more information for consideration when you vote on the ConVal 2015-16 School District Budget.

The 2015-16 budget retains key educational programs and priorities for the District including a wide array of co-curricular activities, art enrichment, Harris Center programs and the Cornucopia Project. The budget includes money for the QUEST educational summer camp program organized by the Peterborough Rotary and held at the Sargent Center in Hancock. The budget includes modest capital investments, cuts in equipment/supplies, replacement of outdated computers/technology (nothing new) and relatively small investments in curriculum. It benefits from \$500,000 in "rebate" funding (revenue) from the New Hampshire Municipal Association (NHMA) due to past overpayment of health and property insurance by the District on behalf of its employees to NHMA.

The District's 2015-16 operating budget is approximately \$470,000 less than the current 2014-15, and will result in a reduction in the school portion of local property taxes starting July 1, 2015. The School Board voted to support this budget almost unanimously and the Selectman's Advisory Committee also voted to support this budget. On February 17th the Board voted to contract out food service. Quality food service, financial savings and fairness to current dedicated employees were the three most important factors to me. In the end, the vendor selected has an opportunity to deliver on all of these issues over the next year under a one year, renewable contract.

As I wrote back in February, the District also came to an agreement with the CVEA which includes modest (2-3%) pay increases for teachers and para-professionals, while also increasing the percentage of the health premium (to 12% of premium cost) paid by employees covered by this agreement. It is a three-year agreement; however, wage and benefits will be reopened for negotiation in years two and three in part due to the uncertainty of health care costs further into the future. The Collective Bargaining Agreement will be Article 2 on the School Ballot.

As you've read elsewhere I am sure, there are two petition warrant articles that will be on the ballot. One involves

changing the Articles of Agreement to allow closure of elementary schools by the School Board, and the other is an article to close Great Brook School in Antrim (which is non-binding as only the Board can vote to close schools).

The Board voted not to recommend either of them at our January 20th meeting.

Other warrant articles ask voters to place \$100,000 into each of four trust funds: capital trust fund, special education trust fund, health maintenance trust fund and the athletic/co-curricular trust fund. Appropriations to trust funds will be from 2014-15 budgeted funds leftover at the end of this current budget period (June 30, 2015). These trust funds have been helpful over the years to deal with unexpected events/repairs that incur additional costs that were not otherwise budgeted.

Please remember to vote on Tuesday March 10!

District-wide Voting
Tuesday, March 10, 2015
8:00am - 7:00pm.
 Election Day
 Hancock Town Hall



Hancock Historical Society

The Hancock Historical Society invites you to two afternoon programs this month.

"Alone in the Wilderness"
Sunday, March 1st - 2:00pm
Daniels Room - Hancock Library

This 60 minute documentary is about Richard Proenneke's self-sufficient life in his log cabin. The film is a simple account of his day-to-day explorations and activities he carries out alone in the wilderness and the constant chain of nature's events that keep him company. Dick Proenneke who, in the late 1960s, built his own cabin in the wilderness at the base of the Aleutian Peninsula, in what is now Lake Clark National Park, Alaska. Using color footage he shot himself, Proenneke traces how he came to this remote area, selected a homestead site and built his log cabin completely by himself.

Please bring a friend and join us for this interesting and entertaining film.

This event was rescheduled from an earlier date of February 22. We apologize for any inconvenience.

Poor Houses and Town Farms:
The Hard Road for Paupers
Sunday, March 29 - 2:00pm
Daniels Room - Hancock Library

From its earliest settlements New Hampshire has struggled with issues surrounding the treatment of its poor. The early Northeastern colonies followed the lead of England's 1601 Poor Law, which imposed compulsory taxes for maintenance of the poor but made no distinction between the "vagrant, vicious poor" and the helpless and honest poor. This confusion persisted for generations and led directly to establishment in most of the state's towns of alms houses and poor farms and, later, county institutions which would collectively come to form a dark chapter in New Hampshire history. Steve Taylor will examine how

paupers were treated in these facilities and how reformers eventually succeeded in closing them down.

Steve Taylor is a farmer, writer and longtime public official. He and his three sons operate a dairy and maple farm in the Meriden Village section Plainfield, an enterprise that also includes a cheesemaking operation. He has been a daily newspaper reporter and editor, a freelance writer and was the founding executive director of the New Hampshire Humanities Council. He served 25 years as New Hampshire's commissioner of agriculture and 31 years as Plainfield's town moderator. A lifelong student of the state's history and culture, he speaks frequently under auspices of the Humanities Council's Humanities to Go program which has funded this program presentation.

Submitted by Roberta LaPlante

Hancock Guild

The Hancock Guild did not hold a February meeting due to the weather. It seems Mother Nature planned a sneak attack this year, letting us assume we would have an easy winter, judging by the minimal snowfalls we had after Thanksgiving into the holiday season only to let loose in February. We can only hope she is kinder to us in March and April.

On March 18th, the Guild program will be Hancock's own Ken Sheldon, aka Fred Marple of Frost Heaves. We will be holding our meeting and program in the Meetinghouse. This program is free and open to the public. Our business meeting will start at 7:00pm followed by Ken at 7:30pm. Please join us for an evening guaranteed to be entertaining.



Please join us for an evening of fun
and entertainment
Wednesday, March 18th
7:30pm
The Hancock Meetinghouse
Hancock's own
Ken Sheldon, aka Fred Marple of
Frost Heaves

Third Annual Norway Pond ice Out Contest

Hancock Ice-Out Committee 2015

Comparing Ice-Out Contests

The several regional towns that sponsor Ice-Out Contests do not overtly compete with one another; each has a unique history, population, and culture (including the worthy charitable causes each supports). Many variables (including longevity) influence how many people participate and how generously they participate in each contest. Still, it is interesting to note how the contests in several towns fared in 2014:

<u>Contest</u>	<u>Area</u>	<u>First Contest Date</u>	<u>Sponsor</u>	<u>Pay out to winner</u>
Joe's Pond	Danville, VT	1987	Joe's Pond Association	\$5,000
Summit Pond	Killington, VT	2001	Killington/Pico Rotary Club	\$1,625
Norway Pond	Hancock, NH	2013	Ice Out Committee	\$801
Harrisville Pond	Harrisville, NH	2014	Community Church of Harrisville and Chesham	\$728

Norway Pond freezes up in December and January each contest year. Could average temperatures for those two months offer a clue (among many other variables) as to when the ice might go out in the spring? The device on Norway Pond has registered an average temperature of 14.1 F since it was installed in early January. Consider these average temperatures for the combined months of December and January of each contest year:



2013	26.5 F
2014	22.0 F
2015	23.5 F

Hancock's Ice Out Contest will accept completed entry tickets **through March 31, 2015** [End of Contest]. Half the funds raised through sales of tickets are used to help maintain the town's two common use buildings; the Meeting House and the Vestry. The other half go to the winner.

Tickets are being sold at the Hancock Inn, Hancock Market, and Fiddleheads as well as on line. Check out the web site hancock.iceout.us for purchase instructions, ongoing temperature readings, and complete contest details. Good luck!

Hancock Happenings

From the Editor

Thank you everyone for your welcome wishes. Also, I want to give a special thank you to the two previous editors Nahida Sherman and Nancy Adams for their support and help with my first issue.

After listening to my father talk of his entire career in newspapers (Peterborough Transcript and The Boston Globe), and reading the family newsletter that my mother and her sisters wrote ("The Johnstonian") I felt I had to give this a try!

Thank you to everyone for your patience while I learn. If you need to reach me, email is the best way: happenings@hancocknh.org or 525.9459





Another "Tale From Home": www.herb-gardner.com

Her mother said, When Sarah finds someone to marry he'll have to be as strong as an ox and twice as smart! Fortunately, she was able to find one even smarter than that.



Community Supper

Join Seven Maples Campground as they host the Community Supper on Thursday March 26th at 5:30PM at The Vestry. Last I knew, Shepard's Pie was on the menu! See you there.

Submitted by Donna Coty

Hancock Area Watercolor Group

The Hancock Area Watercolor Group will start a new class of six sessions: March 4, 11, 18, 25, and April 1, 8. The class is held on Wednesday mornings at the church Vestry (red brick building next to the church) from 9:30 am until noon. All levels of experience are welcome. For more information, please call Sue Francis at 525.3313.

Submitted by Sue Francis



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First Congregational Church

News

Chili Supper—We are going to try again! The Chili and Plow Guys Thank You Supper (originally scheduled for February 8th, but postponed due to snow) has been rescheduled to Sunday, March 22nd. It will be held in the Vestry at 5:00pm and the menu will include chili, corn-bread and homemade desserts. The cost is \$5.00 per person, \$20.00 maximum per family. Please come say thank you to the fellows who have been working so hard to keep our roads cleared this year. This is also a fundraising event for this year's Ice-Out Contest and tickets will be available so that you can make your guesses as to when the ice will go out on Norway Pond.

Emergency lighting in the Vestry--if you should go by the Vestry some evening and see a red light (beyond the glow emitted by the exit signs), we ask that you call Jane Richards-Jones at 525-4485 or Todd Bryer at 588-2679. This is an emergency lighting system that lets us know the temperature has dropped into the danger zone. Your call could prevent frozen pipes and many cancelled events in the Vestry.

Looking ahead: Spring is coming! Palm Sunday is on March 29th and Easter on April 5th. Services will be held at 9:45 am.

Submitted by Judy Copeland



The Circle of Strength Military Support Group for Moms, Friends and Family members of all Branches of the military will have our next meeting at the Monadnock Community Hospital's Bond Wellness Center's conference room from 1pm-

2:30pm. on March 21st and also on April 11th. We are hoping these dates will be available. If you would like to attend, please email me at ellsworthsusan@ymail.com For our regular members, I will update with an email when I book the dates. We are getting ready to send our spring care packages so please send me the name and address of an active service person you would like us to send a care package to. New members are always welcome or if you have any questions about us please contact me.

Submitted by Susan Ellsworth



Hancock Town Library Events

Amy Markus, Hancock Library Director

<http://hancocktownlibrary.blogspot.com>

Mondays and Wednesdays 2:00 to 6:00pm

Tuesdays and Thursdays 10:00am to 7:00pm

Saturdays 10:00am to 4:00pm

Have you checked out our new online catalog?

Go to hancock.biblionix.com. Latest fun thing that you can do from home is to write and post a review of a book or movie. Click on the title, then scroll down until you see a tab that says either REVIEW THIS TITLE or SHOW REVIEWS, which will then reveal a REVIEW THIS TITLE tab. Won't it be fun to share your opinions and see what others in town think about various titles? We are hoping both adults and children will write short reviews. If you have questions, please don't hesitate to call and ask Amy at 525-4411.

Monday March 9th from 5-7pm-Topic of the Month: Hunting! with State Representative Jon Manley

Join State Rep. Jon Manley (representing Bennington, Greenfield, Hancock) as he talks about current legislation having to do with hunting. Please feel free to bring questions or concerns about other issues as well. Free and open to all.

Wednesday March 18th at 7:00 pm Extreme Coupon Workshop with Kim Bergeron of Extreme Coupon Professors

Learn where to get coupons, how to read coupons, what the coupon policies are for stores, and how to use coupons most effectively for grocery and drugstore shopping. Ms. Bergeron will also cover how to stock up without hoarding! Kim Bergeron has taught thousands of families how to save money using coupons. Extreme Coupon Professors has been a contributor to WMUR and has been featured in the Concord Monitor. Free (no coupon required at your public library!) and open to all.

Tuesday March 31st at 7:00 pm The American Cider Renaissance with Ben Watson

Americans in huge numbers are discovering the pleasures of alcoholic or "hard" cider, yet few people know much about its rich history and cultural traditions. Join author, editor, and self-proclaimed "cider evangelist" Ben Watson for a fascinating look at the past, present, and future of this most typically New England tippie. What are the roots of cider? Why did it become so important in colonial times, only to fall into obscurity? And why is it enjoying such a resurgence today? Ben Watson is the author of *Cider, Hard and Sweet* (Countryman Press, 2013) and several other nonfiction books. He currently serves as Senior Editor at Chelsea Green Publishing Co. in Vermont and resides in Franconia. For many years he has been involved with conservation and biodiversity initiatives, through Slow Food and other organizations, and he is a volunteer organizer of the annual Cider Days festival in western Massachusetts. The US Cider Makers Association recently presented him with one of its first Cider Industry Awards, in recognition of his efforts to promote cider, apples, and cider producers around the world. Free and open to all.

Continued on Page 8

So long winter, hello...

FROST HEAVES

All-new comedy and music

March 27-28, 7:30 pm
March 28, 2 pm matinee

Peterborough Players Theatre
Tickets \$18 at the Toadstool and Steeles, at the door, online at frostheaves.com, or call 525-3391.

"...a hilarious look at life in the Monadnock region..." Ledger-Transcript

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From the Children's Room

Callie Faucher, Children's Librarian

Help Me Decorate the Children's Room!

Help me turn blank bulletin boards into an art gallery! **Bring in your original artwork** and we will hang it up in the library. We will also have supplies out to make your own frame for your piece. Artwork will be displayed through the month of March. **Drop in anytime to decorate your frame!**

Teens

Teens: have you tried a **"Blind Date with a Book"** yet? Stop in to the Teen area of the library to pick up a book wrapped in paper. You can't open the book until you get home. Hopefully, you will find a new favorite title! Be sure to let us know what you thought of your "Blind Date" book.

Saturday, March 14th from 11:00am to noon &

Mondays Beginning March 2nd from 3:15-4:15 pm

Paws to Read

We have two certified reading therapy dogs coming to the library. Toven, along with his owner Mary, will be in on **Saturday, March 14th from 11:00am to noon**. We will also have Coffee, with his owner Luci, coming to the library on **Mondays from 3:15 to 4:15pm starting on March 2nd**. Please sign up in the Children's Room for your individual reading sessions with Toven or Coffee!

Thursdays at 10:30 am

Preschool Story Times

Story Time is for infants, toddlers, and preschoolers along with their parents and caregivers. Come sing, read, play, dance, and craft together!

March 5th Please note~ there is no Story Time due to a conference Mrs. Callie will be attending.

Questions? Please call Mrs. Callie Faucher in the Children's Room, 603-525-4411.

I look forward to meeting you all!

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2015 Hancock Winter Frolic

Hancock celebrated its 2015 Winter Frolic on Friday and Saturday, February 6th and 7th, featuring Broomball on the ice at Norway pond, and sled box races on the hill. Many food vendors were in attendance including Fiddleheads, the Hancock Inn and the Hancock Depot Association. The festivities began on Friday night in the Meetinghouse with a kids' karaoke contest, followed by

a goat cheese sampling from Main Street Cheese and live music from the bands Tombstone Territory and Crazy Cows. Saturday morning began with 66 runners braving the cold in the Winter Chiller Road race.

The Men's winner was Andy McCarion from Keene, and top female runner was 13 year old Clare Veverka from Hancock.



A special thank you to the Monadnock Trailbreakers Snowmobile Club and JP Bernier for grooming the sledding hill, and to the Hancock Fire Department for clearing the snow from the ice skating rink and tending to the bonfire.”

Town of Hancock Website

A New Day...

The new website will go live on or about March 6, 2015: a new face and easy navigation! Although the home address will remain the same, www.hancocknh.org, your favorites or bookmarks for other than the home page will no longer work; you will have to save new ones.

On the home page “Quick Links” to minutes, for ms and applications, and regulations and ordinances

“Official Town Notices”: legal meeting and hearing notices required under RSA 91-A

“News & Announcements”: information on other Hancock events.

“Town Calendar”: quick view of posted events

“Town Resources”: schools, the Library, community and resident information

“Subscribe to News”: request notification when a particular type of document or news is posted to the website.

“Contact Us”: questions or comments, or to report non-working links.

We hope you will enjoy the new site designed by Virtual Towns & Schools of Maynard, MA. You are sure to find your way around more easily than on the old one! Although we will try to fix any discrepancy before going live, for sure, there will be a learning curve for those of us who will have posting access to the website, so it might take a few weeks for the wheels to stop squeaking. We encourage you to report non-working links or erroneous information by contacting the Webmaster via the Contact Us form.

A special “Thank You!” to the Hancock Historical Society for providing a beautifully written “History” page! It is a wonderful recap of Hancock’s Early Years to the 21st Century.

In 2010, the Selectboard designated the official Town of Hancock website as a legal posting location for all official documents, minutes and notices, as authorized by RSA 91-A, the Right-to-Know Law. So, you will be able to continue counting on the new website for up-to-date information.
Submitted by N. Sherman, Webmaster

Haley's Service Center, LLC
4 Forest Rd • Hancock NH 03449
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New Hours
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The Hancock Inn

Innkeepers' Sunday Supper

March 1st

Rava Dosa with apricot chutney
Chicken Vindaloo with jasmine rice
Pistachio Phirni

March 8th

Baked Scallops
Roast Pork Loin with vegetable pilaf
German Chocolate Cake

Eat Out For The Grapevine!
*Part of the proceeds help support this
community center.*

March 15th

Potato & Chicken Croquettes
Corned Beef & Cabbage
Brown Sugar Bread Pudding

March 22nd

Green Salad
Spaghetti and Meatballs
Brownie Sundae

March 29th

Split Pea Soup with Artichoke Crostini Roast
Chicken, gravy & twice-baked potato
Fig Tart, ice cream & balsamic reduction

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

Reservations Encouraged

Our Audiology Office Has Moved!



*Noelle Paradis, AuD, MS, CCC-A, FAAA and
Margaret Glover, MA, CCC-A, FAAA*

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**SUNDAY MARCH 8th 4PM
HANCOCK MEETING HOUSE**

Nothing is more exciting than listening, up close and personal, to a chamber ensemble that is "on fire"! Their passionate risk-taking is both energizing and contagious. It almost feels like you are one of the musicians, as your heart rate increases!

"Absolutely marvelous" were the words of Benjamin Zander after listening to the Huntington Quartet's debut in Jordan Hall. Named after the street in Boston that brought these 4 musicians together, the Huntington Quartet is comprised of graduate students at the New England Conservatory who are passionately eager to share their music and give back to the community. The quartet members hope their strong personal chemistry will enable them to explore and present varied repertoire through bold, honest, and uninhibited interpretations.

Violinist Danny Koo, violinist Hojean Yoo, violist Marthe Husum, and cellist Stella Cho are currently students of Donald Weilerstein, Soovin Kim, Kim Kashkashian, and Laurence Lesser, respectively. Both as individual and chamber musicians, members of the quartet have attended music festivals such as the Kronberg Academy, Verbier, Banff Chamber Residency, Perlman Chamber Program, Yellow Barn, Prussia Cove and have performed internationally across France, Korea, Norway, and United Kingdom. The Huntington Quartet works closely with *Music for Food*, a non-profit organization that raises awareness for the fight against hunger through music, and has already played in many historical venues such as Faneuil Hall and for people such as the Governor elect, Charlie Baker.

The Huntington Quartet's first collaboration was an intensive study of Schubert's "Rosamunde" Quartet in A minor in the fall of 2014 under the guidance of coach Kim Kashkashian, which will be the centerpiece of their concert here in Hancock. They will also play portions of Bartok's infamous Fourth String Quartet.

The concert will be one hour in length with no intermission. Tickets are \$15 and available at the door. Students are admitted free of charge and highly encouraged to attend. This type of concert is nothing short of inspiring!



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HANCOCK WOMAN'S CLUB NEWS

March winds and April showers,
Bring forth May flowers.

Mother Goose rhyme

Let us welcome spring which is only days away! This month's meeting of the Hancock Woman's Club will be held on Wednesday, March 11 at 2 pm in the Vestry. Our meetings are open to all women in the community.

This month's program is "All about Chocolate." Our guest speaker is Neely Cohen who has opened her shop in Peterborough dedicated to all things chocolate, Vicuna. Neely has harvested and roasted cacao in the Amazon jungle and taught thousands how to make chocolate from scratch. Neely will explain how she processes cocoa beans into chocolate using the ancient Mayan tradition. She will discuss the entire "tree to bar" chocolate-making process in depth, and will share stories about her time working with cacao farmers in Peru. She will bring some samples for tasting, and even bring some of her chocolate bars for purchase.

After Neely's presentation, delicious refreshments will be served prepared by our hostesses Polly Curran, Eleanor Falcon and Sonja Mucha.

If you are in need of a gift, we will be selling our Suncatchers for \$10 each. They come in a variety of colors and look lovely adorning a window. We will also pass the food pantry donation envelope around for those who wish to contribute.

Upcoming Events: Please mark your calendars!

Sunday, June 28th at 4 pm The Monadnock Chamber Chorus will perform in concert at the Church Meetinghouse under the direction of Dr. Dan Carberg. More detailed information will be forthcoming pertaining to the program. Their concerts are most entertaining and lovely to listen to.

Even though we are looking at 5 foot. snowbanks, we are formulating plans for our biggest fundraiser, *Visit Hancock Gardens*, **Saturday, July 18, 10 am – 4 pm**. We will have gardens to view for gardeners at all levels and for those who, at the end of the day, wish to be gardeners!

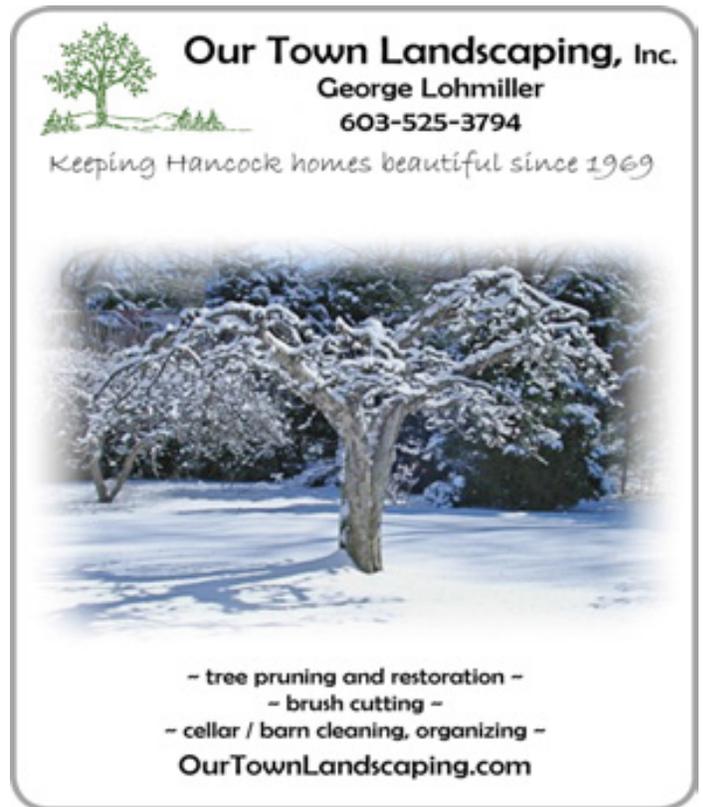
Submitted by Gertie Kanner

THE HANCOCK WOMAN'S CLUB

SCHOLARSHIP ANNOUNCEMENT

The Hancock Woman's Club is announcing its annual scholarship of up to \$1,000 for a Hancock woman who is in midcareer or who plans to begin, change or return to a career. Watch for information regarding the scholarship in the next issue of Hancock Happenings or write to obtain an application from Hancock Woman's Club Scholarship, PO Box 366, Hancock NH 03449, or call Eleanor Falcon, 525.4650.

Submitted by Eleanor Falcon



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Art Exhibits at the Library

The Winchester Sisters

Artwork by Elizabeth (Liz) Winchester Larson and Harriet Winchester Kuzdrall will continue to be exhibited in the Daniels Room at the library during the entire month of

March and until April 2nd

Both Liz and Harriet began drawing and painting as youngsters and later, each earned her BFA degree—Liz's from the Pratt Institute in Brooklyn, NY, and Harriet's from the Rhode Island School of Design.

The sisters will hold a reception in the Daniels Room on **Saturday, March 21st, from 1:00 to 3:00 pm**, to demonstrate and talk about how they create their artwork. If, however, the weather is unaccommodating that day, this event will be postponed until the following Saturday, March 28, again from 1:00 to 3:00 pm.

Liz works with colored pencil, a medium that she first used



One Red Spot
by Liz Larson

in her studies at Pratt for precise architectural renderings. Now, enjoying still-life subjects, she uses professional-grade pencils (rated light-fast by the Colored Pencil Society of America), and 100% cotton rag drawing papers. During the reception/demonstration, she will work from a small still life to demonstrate how she applies many layers of colored pencil to achieve

rich colors and intricate detail.



White Oak in the Morning
by Harriet Kuzdrall

After using pastels for 20-plus years, Harriet needed to avoid the dust, and toxic solvents as well, so she now works with water-mixable oil paints. She uses a fairly limited color palette, preferring to mix greens.

Working from her own photographs, and using a smooth, prepared Masonite board, she will demonstrate

her realistic style with subjects of New England landscapes and old trees.

Come meet and talk with the artists, bring your questions, and enjoy light refreshments during the reception/demonstration.

Art exhibits in the Daniels Room can be viewed during regular library hours: Monday and Wednesday, 2-6 pm;

Tuesday and Thursday, 10 am-7 pm; Saturday, 10 am-4 pm; closed on Friday and Sunday. It is always best to check with the library (525-4411) to make sure the Daniels Room will be available at the time of your visit as it is sometimes reserved for other events.

Submitted by Sandy Taylor

Lunchtime Workshops

Added to Spring Social Media Series

Chris Halvorson of Halvorson New Media will present a short series of lunchtime workshops focusing on special topics in social media marketing starting April 10 at the Hancock Town Library. Cost for each workshop is \$15, or take the series of 3 for \$35.

Lunchtime topics and dates will be:

April 10: Visual Marketing w/Pinterest and Instagram

April 17: Creating Graphics for the Graphically Challenged

April 24: Blogging: What it is and should you do it

Participants are welcome to bring their laptops or iPads to follow along, but this is not required. Sign up and pay at HalvorsonNewMedia.com or by calling Chris at 203.0593 or emailing chris@HalvorsonNewMedia.com. All workshops are geared toward small businesses or nonprofits and are designed to provide a firm foundation in understanding the changing world of social media marketing.

More in-depth workshops are also offered this spring, on Tuesday evenings at the Jaffrey Chamber of Commerce. You need not be a chamber member to attend. The in-depth workshops are \$50 each, discounts when registering for more than one. See HalvorsonNewMedia.com for full descriptions and to register.

March 10: Beginner Facebook

March 17: Advanced Facebook

March 24: Video Marketing Basics

April 7: Twitter

April 14: Extreme Facebook

April 21: LinkedIn

Submitted by Christine Halvorson

**The Harris Center
for Conservation
Education**



Mar 3 (Tues) First Session of ESI Course

March 3rd, 10th, 17th, and 24th, 9 to 11:00 am

(Tues) "Wildflower Identification Primer" Have you ever wanted to learn how to identify NH wildflowers? Or perhaps you need a tune-up on spring ephemerals? Join naturalist and plant enthusiast Wendy Ward to learn the basics of wildflower identification, including flower anatomy, flower family classification and characteristics, and which flowers to expect where. Additional spring field trip dates will be determined in class. Instructor Wendy Ward works for the USDA's Natural Resource Conservation Service, helping landowners conserve natural resources on their land, with special focus on water quality and soil erosion in woodlands, as well as invasive plant control and wildlife habitat enhancement and restoration.

Preregistration is required. Contact Sara at 525.3394 or lefebvre@harriscenter.org. A list of required texts will be sent to registrants.

\$40 Harris Center members/\$60 nonmembers

Mar 5 (Thur) First Session of ESI Course

March 5th, 12th, 19th, and 26th, 10 to 11:00 am(Thurs)

"Nature Journals as Models and Inspiration"

Recording observations of our surrounding habitat can widen our vision, create space for reflection, and provide renewed energy with which to face our daily tasks. Writers such as Henry David Thoreau, Aldo Leopold, Edwin Way Teale, and Hal Borland have left us a legacy of insight in the form of nature journals, which can both uplift us and prod us to consider our universe in its beauty and its complexity. In this group, we'll explore some of these masters of the genre — and perhaps share entries from our own journals. Instructor Polly Pattison is a Harris Center naturalist, as well as an avid reader and journal keeper.

Preregistration required. Contact Sara at (603) 525-3394 or lefebvre@harriscenter.org.

\$30 Harris Center members/\$50 nonmembers

Mar 5th(Thur) Workshop on the Emerald Ash Borer 7 to8:30pm at the Harris Center Forest Health officials need the help of outdoor enthusiasts — including birders — to detect evidence of the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB), the most destructive forest pest in North America. Its larvae tunnel just under the bark of ash trees, killing the trees quickly. You can help locate this pest by spotting the



characteristic bark damage caused by woodpeckers feeding on EAB larvae. In this workshop, Molly Heuss (NH Division of Forest and Lands) and Steve Roberge (UNH Cooperative Ext) will teach you what to look for

and how to report potentially infested trees. They'll discuss the history and biology of EAB, the status of infestations in NH, the impacts EAB is expected to have on NH's forests and landscapes, and the steps NH Forest Health officials are taking to manage this insect. Phil Brown of NH Audubon will discuss the birds that feed on EAB, how to identify them, and why their feeding behavior leaves characteristic "blonding" on infected ash trees. You'll also hear a landowner's perspective on EAB infestations.

For more information, contact Eric Masterson at masterson@harriscenter.org. Cosponsored with NH Audubon, UNH Cooperative Ext and NH Division of Forest

Mar 6 (Fri) Owl Moon Prowl March 6th, 7 to 8 p.m.

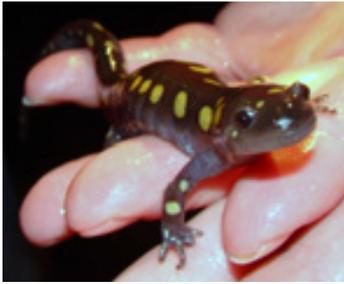
at the Harris Center Join us for an evening program on the natural history of New Hampshire's most common owl, the Barred Owl (*Strix varia*). Inside, we'll look at mounted specimens and natural history artifacts to discover how this bird has adapted to its nocturnal lifestyle. We'll also listen to the different types of owl sounds that can be heard in this part of New Hampshire, and learn the Barred Owl's distinctive, "Who cooks for you?" call. We'll then venture outside onto the Harris Center grounds in hopes of hearing a courting barred owl in real life.

For more information, contact Susie Spikol Faber at spikol@harriscenter.org or (603) 525-3394.

Mar 6th(Fri) Easygoing Hike from Fitch's Corner to Milford A moderately easy, 4-mile roundtrip hike along a rail trail from Fitch's Corner to Milford Village and back. **Bring water and lunch, meet at 10 am.** in the parking area beside Ocean State Job Lot in Peterborough (at Routes 101 and 202) to carpool. **Back by 3 pm**

For more info contact Lee Baker 525.5262 snowman3137@gmail.com or Ollie Mutch 978.386.5318 wapack@peoplepc.com

**Mar 26th (Thur) "Salamander Crossing Brigades"
Volunteer Training 7 to 9 pm in the Keene State College**



Spotted Salamander

Photo:Christina Chappell

Science Center (Room 129). As the earth thaws and spring rains drench New Hampshire, thousands of salamanders, frogs, and toads make their way to vernal pools to breed. Many are killed when their journeys take them across busy roads. Each spring, we

train volunteers to serve on Salamander Crossing Brigades at amphibian road crossings throughout Monadnock Area. These heroic volunteers count migrating amphibians, and safely usher the animals across roads during one or more "Big Nights." To join the ranks, attend either this volunteer training in Keene, or the training at the Harris Center on March 28th. (No need to attend both.) For more info contact Brett Amy Thelen. thelen@harriscenter.org
Cosponsored with Keene State College

**March 28th (Sat) 10am to noon at the Harris Center
"Salamander Crossing Brigades" Volunteer Training**

For a training description, see the March 26th event listed above. For more information, contact Brett Amy Thelen at thelen@harriscenter.org.

Submitted by Margaret Baker



Kristen Vance, Director

Free Tax Prep IRS-certified tax preparer Larry Schwartz is providing free tax preparation at The Grapevine on Mondays from 3-6pm through April 13th. All returns will be filed electronically. Call The Grapevine now for your appointment.

Eat Out for The Grapevine in March! Four generous local restaurants are once again donating 20% of their gross receipts on their "Eat Out" day:

- Rick and Diane's—All day Friday, March 13th
- The Hancock Inn—Sunday Dinner, March 15th
- The Common Place Eatery—Saturday Breakfast 7-11am, March 21st
- Fiddleheads Café and Catering—All day Thursday, March 26th

Please support The Grapevine by enjoying a meal!

NEW! Parenting the school-age child – In response to several requests, parenting educator Carol Lunan is hosting a lunchtime series for parents of children in elementary school. Bring your lunch if you wish and join in a facilitated discussion on parenting. Topics will be those of interest to the group. *With interest this may become an ongoing group.* Wednesdays 12:30 to 2pm – March 4th, 11th, 18th and 25th. \$40 for all four sessions, please let us know if the fee is a hardship.

Collaborative Communication: How we get there together. Saturday, March 21st 8:30am to 12:30pm. This promises to be an engaging interactive workshop with parenting educators Carol Lunan M.Ed and Nancy Macalaster MA. We will explore our patterns of communication, the challenges of listening and communicating effectively, and ways to increase our engagement in order to better understand what the other is saying. This workshop serves all sorts of relationships between adults, children and teens. \$45 per person (please let us know if this is a hardship). We're sorry, there is no childcare for this program. If childcare is an issue for you please let us know, we may be able to help you arrange it.

Continued on Page 16

News from NH Fish and Game

HAPPY 150TH, NH FISH AND GAME!

This is a big year for the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department, as the state's wildlife agency celebrates 150 years of fish and wildlife conservation in the Granite State. A growing collection of stories and photos celebrating Fish and Game's fascinating history is being gathered on the Department's website at <http://wildnh.com/150>. Visit often!

Grandparents Parenting Grandchildren. Saturday, March 28th 10:00am-noon. Nationwide some 2.5 million grandparents are parenting their grandchildren and not without a host of challenges and issues that come with the job, including mixed emotions, financial burdens, health concerns and keeping pace with the children. Join Carol Lunan for brunch and a discussion on the joys and challenges grandparents face, hear from other grandparents and learn about some of the resources and supports available. Co-sponsored by The River Center, *this workshop is FREE and with interest may become an ongoing group.* Call to let us know you are coming 588-2620. If child care is an issue please let us know.

Services at The Grapevine

Information & Referral: Information about area resources for financial assistance, food, childcare, legal assistance, clothing, health and dental care, and other needs.

Community Wood Bank: Call if you need wood, if you have wood to donate, or to volunteer for the 2015-16 season.

Heating Fuel & Electric Assistance : Call 924.2243 or 877.757.7048 for an appointment or The Grapevine for information.

Child & Family Counseling by Monadnock Family Services

Help Finding Shelter for families who are homeless or face homelessness.

Visitation Site for noncustodial parents and their children.

The Grapevine is a nonprofit service organization located behind the Tuttle Library in Antrim and serving residents in Antrim, Hancock, Bennington, Francestown and nearby towns. For more information call 603.588.2620. Tax deductible contributions are gratefully accepted at PO Box 637, Antrim, or drop by the center at 4 Aiken Street (behind the library). And don't forget... you can now visit us on www.GrapevineNH.org and Friend us on Facebook!

What's Happening at the Holistic Health Professionals Center

March quotation: "There are two ways to live: you can live as if nothing is a miracle; you can live as if everything is a miracle." Albert Einstein.

Sunday, March 29th 1 - 4:00 pm Susan Marrotte, B. A., presents "Light Fragments Auracle Cards" Class and Practice Workshop. Please join me for a fun afternoon of learning how to read my "Auracle"~ Oracle Cards by discerning the auras around the individuals on the cards separated by color, orb and symbol. I would love to teach you how to use these cards to help others as well as for your own daily guidance. These are designed to motivate you in a spiritual direction. \$50.00 first class includes a deck of cards if you do not have them (\$30) and the workshop (\$20), includes handouts. Subsequent practice classes (\$20). BE well and BE at peace ~ Love, Susi Registration contact Susi - [603.547.7604](tel:6035477604) For more information about Susan Marrotte and a visual of the beautiful "Light Fragments Auracle Cards" go to our website www.hancockholistichealthcare.com/events



Reminders :

March 8th - 2:00 AM - Daylight Savings Time begins

March 20th - Spring Equinox - High Energy on Friday, first day of Spring 2015 - New Moon and a Solar Eclipse. Submitted by Arlene Smith

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Tempting Tastes!

**What could be better than
chocolate for Valentine's Day?
A chocolate indulgence event in April!**

Mark your calendar for **Saturday, April 11th at 4:00 pm**
for our "I'll-regret-this-if-I-miss it event!"

There is no better way to spend a Saturday afternoon in the midst of the "between season" – done with winter, maybe mud, waiting for iceout. We have rounded up the best local chocolatiers, pastry chefs, auction items and auctioneer for an afternoon that will saturate your senses and bring ultimate pleasure to your evening.

The Hancock Congregational Church is once again hosting *Tempting Tastes* in the Vestry. Invite your sweetie, your neighbors, your best friends and your kids or boldly venture out just because you love chocolate, a good deal and a good laugh. This will be a time to sample spectacular chocolate creations and heavenly hors-d'oeuvres and to find great deals at auction prices. Be entertained as Neal Cass sings his auctioneer's song, the bid paddles flash and tensions rise as the coveted item is "sold" to the highest bidder.

Make sure your Valentine Day cards includes an invite to *Tempting Tastes*, Saturday, April 11, 2015 at 4:00 pm with a preview of auction items. The auction will begin by 4:30. Parties of 8 or more may

call ahead and reserve a table. Tickets for tasting will be sold at the door: 4 tastes for \$5

For more information, to reserve your table for 8, or to donate auction items, chocolate masterpieces, or ambrosial appetizers, please contact

Chris Streeter at 525.3361 or 603.496.0957.

Submitted by Amy Wilson

2015 TOWN MEETING & TOWN ELECTION:

Tuesday, March 10, 2015, 8:00 am to 7:00 pm

To be held at the Barbara E. Caverly Meeting Room
(Lower Level of Town Hall)

Saturday, March 14, 2015, 9:00am

To be held at the Meetinghouse

The Budget and Warrant for the 2015 Town Meeting are posted at Town Hall, Post Office, Meetinghouse and online at www.hancocknh.org/Reports/Town_Meeting.htm

THANK YOU NOTES

Thank you, Elinor Johnson, for ten faithful years of pick up and distribution of *Hancock Happenings*, always done cheerfully through freezing cold, black flies and hot summer days!

Thank you to Hancock's Highway Department crew for keeping our roads cleared and maintained throughout this rough winter season! You did a great job and deserve a break from the weather!

Hancock Happenings is available online at

www.hancocknh.org/HanHap/hhnews.htm



Movie Night

sponsored by the HES PTO

Friday evening, March 13 • 6:30 – 8:30pm

Hancock Town Library Daniels Room

For children grades K - 8



Featuring: Big Hero 6

Join us for a fun evening with popcorn and a movie!

Children are welcome to wear pajamas and/or bring a blanket, sleeping bag, pillow, etc.



Cost: \$8 per child. Payment made at the door.

Please RSVP by Wednesday, March 11, to jennifer_s_marshall@yahoo.com



About the movie: From the team behind "Frozen" and "Wreck-It Ralph," comes "Big Hero 6," an action-packed comedy-adventure about the special bond that develops between Baymax, a plus-sized inflatable robot, and prodigy Hiro Hamada. When a devastating event befalls the city of San Fransokyo and catapults Hiro into the midst of danger, he turns to Baymax and his close friends adrenaline junkie Go Go Tomago, neatnik Wasabi, chemistry whiz Honey Lemon and fanboy Fred. Determined to uncover the mystery, Hiro transforms his friends into a band of high-tech heroes called "Big Hero 6." *Rated: PG*

Children and the Arts Festival

The 22nd annual free Children and the Arts Festival is coming up! Don't miss it this **May 16th from 9:00 am - 3:00 pm** in downtown Peterborough. Balloons, kites, birds and planes are in the spotlight this year with the theme "Up, Up, and Away"! A year of planning and great community cooperation culminates in this all-day event, where the streets will be closed to vehicular traffic and filled instead with song, laughter, parading Giant Puppets, food, fun, dancing, chalk art



and the Art Walk. Local groups and students are preparing for the day by building giant puppets, rehearsing their dance and theater routines, and working on their sky-themed art-work. Several downtown venues will host back-to-back events throughout the day, making this a great chance to explore Peterborough and see what the children of the region can create! We need a lot of volunteer help to make the day run smoothly. Shifts are available in the morning and afternoon during the festival, and afterwards to help close up. If you're interested in helping out, you can call Terry Reeves at 924-9391. Our festival is free due to generous donations from individuals and businesses in the ConVal communities and beyond. Tax deductible donations can be sent to Children and the Arts, PO Box 771, Peterborough, NH 03458. For more information including how you can help, workshop times, and a schedule, visit our website at www.childrenandthearts.org.

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Hancock Hours and Meetings

*Please review your listings
and correct as needed by emailing
happenings@hancocknh.org*

Tax Collector - Monday 3:30 to 6:30 pm;

Town Clerk – Monday 6:00 to 9:00 pm.
Wednesday 3:00 to 6:00 pm;

Town Dump and Demolition Hours – Wednesday 3:00 to 7:00 pm; Saturday 8:00 am to 5:00 pm;

Selectboard – First three Mondays at 4:00 pm; forth Monday at 7:00 pm, Barbara E Caverly Meeting Room

Planning Board - On the 1st Wednesday of every month at 7:00 pm: may hold working sessions for planning purposes. On the 3rd Wednesday of every month at 7:00pm: 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; Barbara E Caverly Meeting Room

Zoning Board –2nd and 4th Wednesdays as needed at 7:00pm, Barbara E Caverly Meeting Room, meetings will be noticed;

Advisory Committee – as noticed, Town Office;

Conservation Commission – 1st Tuesday at 7:00 pm, Town Office 2nd floor;

HEAT Committee – 3rd Wednesday at 7:00 pm, Barbara E Caverly Meeting Room;

Historic District Commission – 4th Tuesday at 7:00 pm, Barbara Caverly Meeting Room;

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

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

Town Archives Committee – as noticed, Town Office Archives Room;

Water Commissioners – 4th Wednesday at 4:30 pm, DPW;

Dump Committee –3rd Tuesday at 4:00 pm, 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

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



Publishing Information

Submit articles for Hancock Happenings to Jaime Donovan, editor, at happenings@hancocknh.org or call 525.9459 for information and rates.

For advertisement sizes and rates please go to : www.hancocknh.org/HanHap/hhnews.htm. Unless you do not have access to a computer, all input must be submitted electronically in text or PDF format; PDF or JPG of scanned text will not be accepted unless for ad copy.

Deadline for submissions, advertising and payment for advertising: 5 pm on the 22nd of each month. Checks should be payable to Town of Hancock (memo line “Hancock Happenings”) and mailed to the Town of Hancock at PO Box 6, 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 Lynn Frank and Jackie Hill ; copying by Savron Graphics; nameplate by Eleanor Amidon

Unfortunately Elinor Johnson is unable to continue with the distribution, but all of her hard work has been deeply appreciated.



