News from the Selectboard
Submitted by Tom Shevenell, Chairperson

April Selectmen’s Report

Town Meeting was a true example of New Hampshire democracy. Two petition articles on hot-button topics of the day packed the Meetinghouse to standing room only. Thank you, Moderator Ric Haskins, for creating the framework for and professionally enforcing a very successful parliamentary exchange. In my mind there were no losers only winners, as I listened to the debate. Talking in public is hard, so I know what was said came from the heart. I commend those who stood up, told very personal stories, and clearly stated their position based upon a unique set of experiences. I also commend those who respectfully listened to both sides of the debate. Thanks to everybody for voting your conscience. Hancock is a special place; and I believe, is already a safe and welcoming community for all.

Now looking to the future, each month I’ll present a “civics lesson” to explain why the Selectboard may act in response to a particular issue.

Lesson 1: New Hampshire is not a “home rule” state. What does that mean to Hancock? Simple, we don’t have the “local control” that we traditionally think we do. The New Hampshire Constitution grants no power directly to municipalities. Hancock is just a political subdivision of the state. We have no authority to add or reduce responsibilities on how we govern ourselves. The state legislature grants us all our authority in the language of state statutes (i.e., laws; commonly known as RSA’s or Revised Statutes Annotated).

When the Selectboard is asked to respond to an issue brought before us by you, the town’s people, we must find the specific law, giving us the authority to do so. If a law exists, then our position must be in accordance with the language of the law. If we cannot find a law that provides us the permission to act, we cannot act, because silence in the law generally prohibits any action.

In short, Hancock cannot make its own laws. What we can do, and what we do, is write and approve ordinances, regulations, policies and guidelines, all based in state and/or federal laws, to give us guidance in applying the laws fairly and consistently.

Recently the Selectboard approved the “re-establishment” of the Norway Pond Commission. This commission was originally established at the 1986 Town Meeting as an advisory commission to the Selectboard on matters pertaining to Norway Pond. In response to current concern’s regarding the pond’s water quality, the commission was re-established to specifically advise the Board on issues, which could impact the preservation of Norway Pond as a pristine asset of Hancock and the State of New Hampshire. More news will be coming as the commission gets organized.

Respectfully submitted: Tom Shevenell, Chair (shevenell@hancocknh.org)

 See page 19 for a notification from the Town Clerk

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.
What a time we have had with widespread wind damage involving downed trees and down wires. On more than one instance the fire department has had to respond to multiple calls for these types of incidents. We want to remind everyone that every down wire should be considered live and should not be touched. As you clean-up the snow or any downed trees, we want people to think about their safety, and the safety of those around them. When you see the fire department out securing the scene please don’t be foolish and try to drive around the flashing red lights, or the cones, or the barricades, or emergency personnel. It’s amazing when we see a person trying to do something brainless that not only endangers their well-being, but also ours! Sometimes all we can do is shake our heads and wonder.

So now we have a tree and wire down. If your power does go out have flashlights on hand. Also have battery-powered lighting and fresh batteries. Never use candles. Generators should be used outdoors. Keep them away from windows and doors. Do not run a generator inside your garage, even if the door is open. Be ready if the heat stops working. Use extra layers of clothes and blankets to stay warm. If you use an emergency heat source, keep anything that can burn at least 3 feet away. There are more home fires in winter and early spring than in any other season. As you stay cozy and warm this season, be fire smart!

With the change to daylight savings time I hope you also replaced the battery in your smoke alarm and carbon monoxide detectors. Test all smoke and CO alarms. Do this at least once a month. This way you will know they are working.

We have two new members that recently joined the department, Susan Hallock and Sarah Thompson. Susan was a prior member that moved away but has now returned to Hancock. She was a great asset then and is a great asset now. Our other newbie Sarah recently moved to Hancock from New Hampton. She works for DiLuzio Ambulance in Keene. Sarah brings to us experience and knowledge. She has her Firefighter I, II, and III, EMT-A as well as various other certifications. Sadly, we also had a couple of our members move from town and leave the department. Josh and Nicole Moreen will be missed by all. Josh served as a Captain and Nicole was a wealth of medical knowledge. We are always looking for members of the community that would like to join our illustrious group. We offer strange hours, lack of sleep, stressful situations, no benefits, excellent training and the best family you can be a part of.

At the town meeting, the Hancock Fire Department Auxiliary served refreshments along with brownies, cookies, and donut holes. They accepted donations to purchase new Cold Water Rescue Suits for the fire department. The four suits we have are getting old and leaky. I am happy to say they received enough to purchase one suit. What is even more exciting is that one of our residents gave us a check to purchase another suit. That family’s generosity is so appreciated. The goal of the Auxiliary is to help us, through their fund raising activities, purchase some of our needed rescue equipment. Their help in the last few years has provided some needed equipment for safe operations at an emergency scene. An added benefit is this also keeps your taxes down. The Auxiliary also provides us with food and drink when we have a major fire or rescue. We can’t thank them enough for their dedication and support. I know they can always use more help so if you would like to volunteer some time please contact Maryanne Bates or John Jordan, or any other member, to be a part of that group. Hey guys, it’s not just for the girls. You can be a member, too.

It’s that time of year – Stay Off Thin Ice!!!

Raffle winners:
$40.00, the Mose family, $20.00, Byron Niederhelman, $10.00, Charles Schmidt, Kern Claflin, Doreen Ames.

From the Auxiliary

The Hancock Fire Department Auxiliary will hold an informational meeting on Thursday April 6th at 7pm at the fire station. Membership is open to anyone interested in supporting our firefighters. We are a great multigenerational family. Some of our activities include supporting our firefighters needs during fire calls (food, drink etc.), our annual raffle (proceeds from which purchase needed items for the fire department), refreshments at town meeting, assisting during fire prevention week open house, and delivering poinsettias to our elderly and infirmed residents. If you want to support your community, please consider joining us. See you on April 6th.
On March 21st, I attended one of my favorite evening events at HES. The fourth grade students gave a presentation of a New Hampshire mammal to their friends, school mates and families. This evening is special for two reasons.

First, I am so impressed with the range of skills and depth of knowledge that students develop during the New Hampshire mammal unit. Each student is asked to become an expert on one New Hampshire mammal of their choice. Through research and instruction, the students learn about the interplay between an animal’s adaptations and its environment. Once the research is complete, the students get to work on creating an informational book and a PowerPoint presentation about their animal. During science, the students create a sketch that is later used in art to make paper mache and clay models of their animals. By the end of the unit, students are not only animal experts, they are competent at creating informational paragraphs, PowerPoint presentations, and making model replicas of an animal. Most importantly, when presenting to their families, friends, and school mates, it is evident that the students are confident and proud of their knowledge, products, and new skills.

The second reason I love this project is that it is an example of what happens when experts collaborate with one another to engage students in learning. The New Hampshire mammal unit involves planning and coordination among a reading/writing specialist, a special educator, a scientist, an art specialist and a media specialist. With Jean Robins’ careful planning, coordination, instructional expertise (she is the reading/writing specialist), each of the experts were able to provide an authentic and cohesive learning opportunity for all students.

Well done fourth grade teachers and students!
HANCOCK HAPPENINGS
April 2017

TOWN OF HANCOCK CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Hancock Roadside Clean-Up Day
Saturday, April 22 - 1:30 Town Office

Volunteers will gather once again to celebrate Earth Day, to clean up our lovely Village and town roads! Please plan to meet at the Town Office at 1:30. Participants will be given safety vests and trash bags and then join a group of other volunteers to scour our roads to pick up lots of trash and treasure. Everyone meets back at the Dump at 3:00 sharp, to show off their findings and to enjoy an ice cream treat!

Fiddleheads Café is donating 3 cakes to be awarded for the strangest, biggest, and oldest trash! Participation certificates will be given to all middle and elementary school students.

Please call Roberta LaPlante at 525.3828, with any questions. Not a Conval School sponsored event.

Community Forum – Presentation of Ecological Assessments of Selected Town Properties

Presented by: Jeff Littleton

Tuesday, April 25 6:30pm – Hancock Meetinghouse

In 2016, the commission contracted with Jeff Littleton, of Moosewood Ecological, to conduct ecological assessments on various town-owned properties. The purpose of the project was to satisfy the ongoing duty the commission has, to update the Natural Resources Inventory and to gain further insight into the various ecological attributes of each area to help guide future land management planning. Jeff will present his findings on Tuesday evening at 6:30p.m. on April 25th. The Ecological Assessments Report has been posted to the commission’s page on the town website.

IT IS NEVER TOO SOON TO THINK ABOUT OLD HOME DAYS

Hello Townsfolk!

Spring is here and before we know it, summer. Remember that Old Home Days always happens on the third weekend of August.

Please let us know if you are interested in being involved. We need a good theme …..Ideas? The whole event is a group creation and we want it to include the events and activities that you want.

We will be contacting those who helped before and keep everyone on board that chooses to be.

One new feature will be a large map of the town where people can post a note such as “learned to swim at Norway pond” or “first kiss in the bandstand” or “Easter morning Hike on Bald Mountain” or “spotted two bear cubs out on Old Dublin Rd” This idea from Susie Spikol!

Kim Cunningham volunteered to do the tee-shirt design!

Hope to hear from you!

Melody Russell  melodyzahnruessell@gmail.com
Mandy Whicker  mjwhicker15@hotmail.com
Ice Out Anticipation Mounts

As of March 22, 2017:

(1.) All the tickets and dollars were collected
(2.) There still was ice on Norway Pond
(3.) Like awaiting a birth, all were hushed in awe

The 454 ice out predictions this year ranged from February 24th to May 27th.

April 1st with 33 predictions was the most popular date; April 6th was second with 21; and April 4th was third with 19.

The week spanning March 31st through April 6th collected 116 predictions (25.5%).

Check the website for current status: http://hancock.iceout.us.

Thank you everyone who helped make the 2017 Norway Pond Ice Out Contest a success.

Ice Out Committee for 2017

HANCOCK WOMAN’S CLUB

We survived another winter, adjusted our clocks to DLST, and now looking forward to spring! The club’s Nominating Committee has been calling members to cover positions that need to be filled such as, Vice President, Secretary and Publicity. Results of their search will be announced soon.

Wednesday, April 12 at 2pm in the Vestry, Lori Frandino of Frandino Antique Oriental Rugs in Walpole will speak of her antique rug collection, which began in New Orleans in 1980. She prefers to purchase rugs dating pre 1920’s and utilizes antique stores, networking and word of mouth to find them. She will share the history of tribal rug makers from the Caucasus Region (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Russia Turkey and others) along with northern Iran, sharing how they differ from each other in color, weaving and design. She sells her rugs out of her home in Walpole, NH by appointment and will bring some of her rugs to share with us all.

Our tea hostesses for April are Barbara Danser, Bobbie Coffin and Ethel Piotrowski. After our program they will offer us scrumptious treats, tea and coffee.

Have you signed up for the club’s May luncheon on Wednesday, May 10th at the Hancock Inn? The menu selection for the luncheon is available and your prepaid reservation of $20 can be made at the April meeting. Sandy will accept your dues of $15 for the 2017-2018 club year. All checks should be made out to the “Hancock Woman’s Club.”

Check us out on FB: Hancock Woman’s Club Hancock New Hampshire or on our website www.hancockwomansclub.org

Submitted by Gertie Kanner
We would like to thank the 7 Maples Campground for hosting our March Community Supper. The meal and dessert they served was delicious. Plenty of food for seconds!

Thank you Kerry and Scott for your generosity.

Our next community supper will be held of April 27th and hosted by Hancock’s Women’s Group. We hope you will get out to celebrate spring with us and join us in sharing a meal together and to simply say hi to some of our local residents you may have seen around town. Submitted by: Mike and Carol Domingue

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

It was the third day of the Macy’s promotion that had small jazz groups and specialty costumed acts performing on different floors all day long. We were talking to the exhausted organizer of the whole thing when she got an emergency call: “Come quick! The vegetables are scaring the children!”

Norway Hill Orchard Cleanup

Save the date, bring a rake
Saturday, April 29th, 9am
Rain date April 30th
For more info call Peg McLeod 525-4912

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Ping Pong Tournament Update
As of this writing we do not yet have winners for all of the ping pong brackets. The Advanced and Intermediate groups need to finish their play-offs. However, we DO have a winner in the Beginner group. Rita Bruder fended off fierce competition and in the final round won over her long-time friend Mary Seebart in a friendly duel on March 10th. Congratulations Rita!

Peeps Dioramas
Don’t forget to submit your Literary Peeps Diorama by April 6th so that we can display them for the month of April. Choose your favorite book and make a scene from it using Peeps (Mary Peepins anyone?). Not just for children!

The Wall-to-Wall Campaign
Something’s underfoot at the Hancock Town Library and you can be part of it! We’re in the second phase of a three-year carpet replacement plan. Last year we installed new carpeting in the Daniels Room; this year’s goal is to extend that warm and colorful wall-to-wall carpet to the adult section of the library. Your donations will help! With a gift of $20, you can sponsor a carpet tile. $10 sponsors half a tile. We’ll happily accept any contribution, large or small, to install new carpet, wall to wall. Thank you!

Boxes Needed!
The new carpeting will be installed at the end of May but before that we need to move all of the books, CDs, DVDs and ephemera out of the adult section and into the Daniels Room. We’ll need boxes, lots of boxes! The best boxes are the ones from the liquor store (not too big and very sturdy) so if you’re going there anyway, could you pick up a few boxes over the next 8 weeks or so and drop them off (empty!) at the library? Many thanks!

A big thank you to the Altemont Masonic Lodge of West Peterborough for their very generous donation of not one, but two bicycles for our Spring Into Reading program. This donation is part of their Bikes for Books effort and much appreciated.

Thursday April 6th at 7:00pm
How NH Government Works
The League of Women Voters is a non-partisan political organization that has worked for 97 years to increase voting participation by offering information on how government works. We never support or oppose any candidates or parties. We do, however, study issues of public policy to develop positions from which we advocate in the legislature and in the public.

In this program the League will explain how government in NH operates, how a bill becomes a law, how the public can make their views known to elected officials and thus advocate for their views. There will be plenty of time for questions and answers. Presenters: Liz Tentarelli, president, League of Women Voters NH. Liz is a retired educator, a former town elected official, and a member of the Citizens Advisory Board to the women's prison. She is a frequent attendee at legislative hearings to present testimony on behalf of the League. Nancy Marashio, vice president, League of Women Voters of the Kearsarge/Sunapee Area is a town moderator in Newbury. She was dean of liberal arts and taught at River Valley Community College for many years. Nancy has served on the national League’s study committee on redistricting and testifies on election law at the State House. Free and open to all.

Tuesday April 11th at 6:00pm
State Representative Jon Manley
Come with your questions for Rep. Manley (District 3: Bennington, Greenfield, Hancock) as he reports to his constituents on current legislation. Rep. Manley is at the Hancock Town Library the second Tuesday of every month. Free and open to all.

———continued to page 8
Thursday April 13th at 7:00pm
Women of Swing with Stephanie Hurley and Chris Albertson
Vocalist Stephanie Hurley and jazz guitarist Chris Albertson will be presenting a “Women of Swing” program at the library on Thursday April 13th at 7:00 PM. Songs made famous by such masters as Ella Fitzgerald, Billie Holiday, Dinah Washington, Rosemary Clooney, Diana Krall and others’ famous works will be performed. Perspectives on their lives will be discussed in honor of these unique artists. Stephanie Hurley is a versatile vocalist in musical theater, jazz, pop, Irish and classical styles. Her rich, smooth mezzo-soprano voice demonstrates a masterful vocal technique accompanied by an intuitive sense of timing and thoughtful expressiveness. Her inviting vocal style can also be heard these days with the Bedford Big Band. Chris Albertson is a jazz, blues, rock and classical guitarist, composer, arranger, percussionist and public school music educator. Chris has been heard on stages throughout New England with The Platters, Amy London, the Vermont Philharmonic, The Best of Times, Straight No Chaser, and numerous others. He has produced 5 solo CD’s and been a guest guitarist and arranger on a number of others. Free and open to all.

Friday April 14th at 7:00pm
No Foothold in this Geography
Becky Sakellariou of Peterborough will read from her newest poetry collection, No Foothold in this Geography, just out from Blue Light Press in San Francisco. Becky lives in both Greece and New England, the duality of which emerges in the geography, music and language of much of her work. Grace Aldrich, singer and story-teller of Dublin, will accompany Becky’s reading with vocal improvisation. Free and open to all.

Wednesday April 19th at 7:00pm
Tiny Houses: A Very Different Approach To Home Ownership
The Tiny Libraries of Bennington, Hancock and Harrisville are pleased to bring you this Tiny Houses program. Learn the basics of planning for and owning a tiny house on wheels, both the challenges and advantages. Discover insights unique from the currently popular tiny house themed TV shows. From approximately "how much" to "where to live", this program addresses options for general design, heat, and hot water and electricity choices, among other components. Living in a tiny house year-round is a topic of rapidly developing debate. Learn why something so "cute" and compact could cause so much discussion! Isa Bauer is the Project Manager and lead designer from Tiny House Northeast, a New England and upper NY State tiny house design-build business. Isa earned a M.A. in Regional Economic and Social Development with a concentration in Sustainable Development, including green building materials and construction methods research. Isa has owned a tiny house since she was 19-years old, as do several of the Tiny House Northeast team. Free and open to all.

Wednesday April 26th at 7:00pm
Two Old Friends with Emery Hutchins & James Prendergast
Over the centuries immigrants from the British Isles have come to the Americas bringing with them their musical styles and tastes as well as their instruments. With the concertina, bodhran, mandolin, octave mandolin, guitar, and banjo, Emery Hutchins and Jim Prendergast sing and play this traditional Celtic music, but they also perform American country music in the way it was conceived in the early twentieth century. Through stories, songs and instrumental melodies, they demonstrate how old time American mountain tunes are often derived directly from the songs of the Irish, yet are influenced by other cultural groups to create a new American sound. Emery Hutchins and James Prendergast are musicians who play and sing a unique combination of Celtic and American country music. In their performances they seek to show the connection between the two genres. Hutchins is a renowned performer of a variety of different styles of acoustic music ranging from traditional Irish tunes to vintage American country music songs. Prendergast worked for thirty years in the recording studios and orchestra pits of Nashville, Tennessee. Producer of CMH Record's Celtic Tribute series, Jim now specializes in producing traditional music at his Mill Pond Music Studio in Portsmouth, New Hampshire. Music preservationists and performers, their program demonstrates that to understand the music of a culture is to understand the heart of a culture. Free and open to all.

———continued to page 9 “From the Children’s Room”
From the Children’s Room
Jennifer Wood, Children’s Librarian

April 3rd 3:30pm
Spring Into Reading Prize Drawing
Come celebrate with us as we find out which 2 lucky readers won a bike! Come thank the Peterborough Masons for their generous donation of bikes for prizes!

April 4th 3:30-4:30pm Lego Club
Come join us for our monthly building session! See what kind of constructions we can build in under an hour. On your mark, get set, build!

April 12th 4:30pm-5:30pm
Tween/Teen Advisory Board
This month we will be planning out our summer reading prizes and programs. Feel free to stop in or email your ideas. Let’s make this summer great!

April 25th 2pm Movie and Popcorn
Come watch the movie SING! Popcorn and a drink provided.

April 26th 2pm-4pm Robots
We will be using the first hour to construct an obstacle course and measure out the steps. We will be using the second hour to navigate our mice and dash through the obstacle course. Come join us for a fun afternoon of robots and coding.

April 27th 6pm-8pm
Family Game Night with Pizza!
It’s back! The night of playing board games and eating snacks with friends. The Library will provide games. Please sign up for pizza ahead of time (at least 24 hours is appreciated). Also anyone interested in bringing a drink or snack to share please let Jenn know.

HANCOCK GUILD
Is it spring yet? Officially, I suppose it is, but Mother Nature seems a little confused. Our March meeting was canceled due to the Nor’easter. We were lucky to reschedule Allison Kerwin of “Enchanted Gardens” for our April meeting. Allison will be giving advice and speaking about how to prepare your gardens for spring. Hopefully the snow will be gone by our April 19th meeting. This event is free and open to the public. The talk will begin at 7:30pm in the Vestry. Please join us.

Our final speaker before our summer break will be James Mangok Wol and His Story as One of the Surviving Lost Boys of Sudan. This event will take place in May and will be open to the public. Keep watch in “The Happenings” for more details.

Also coming soon, will be The Guild’s annual spring/ summer clothing sale. This will take place in June. Please keep us in mind as you start to bring out your warm weather clothes. We take all sizes for men, women, teens/tweens, and children. We would love to see more childrens’ items come in, as this is usually a size we are very limited in. We will also accept coats/jackets, shoes/boots, accessories, linens, and blankets. More details on collection and sale dates will be in May’s “Happenings”.

Submitted by Darlene Tarr, President
Support Hancock Happenings advertisers!
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MHS Annual Rabies & Microchip Clinic

The annual affordable MHS Rabies Vaccination and Microchip Clinic for Dogs & Cats takes place on Saturday, April 22nd 10 am - 1 pm at the MHS Guinane Training Center at our Swanzey facility.

Rabies vaccinations: $15 Microchipping: $20 Dogs need to be leashed and cats in carriers.

No reservations required, first come/first serve basis.
HANCOCK HAPPENINGS

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HANCOCK HAPPENINGS
April 2017

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ART EXHIBITS AT THE LIBRARY

Jean Mann and Kin Schilling will be exhibiting a wide variety of scenes and subjects in oil, watercolor, and pencil in the Daniels Room from April 1 to May 11. Their show is titled “Two Cousins’ Art.” The public is invited to a reception in the Daniel's Room on Sunday, April 2, from 4:00-6:00pm.

Jean Mann

Jean is a local artist who has enjoyed many years of drawing, painting, and teaching art to children and adults. Her love of travel and the beauty and diversity of our country's natural landscapes inspire many of her paintings.

Two Burros” by Kin Schilling

Kin Schilling

Kin Schilling describes herself as “an entrepreneur, gardener, teacher, and a bit of a cook.” Kin studied art in college and was fortunate enough to spend a year in Florence. She has doodled and painted most of her life. Now into semiretirement, she's taking watercolor and oils more seriously. Her love of all animals, including chickens, and the landscape of the Monadnock Region are captured in her paintings.

Two Cousins’ Art” can be viewed during regular library hours: Monday and Wednesday, 2:00 – 6:00 pm; Tuesday and Thursday, 10:00 am – 7:00 pm; Saturday, 10:00 am – 4:00 pm; the library is closed on Friday and Sunday.

Because the Daniels Room is sometimes reserved for community meetings or activities, please call the library (525-4411) to make sure the room will be available at the time of your visit.

Submitted by Sandy Taylor

MUSIC ON NORWAY POND

The Omer String Quartet, New England Conservatory’s premier ensemble, performs on Norway Pond Sunday April 23rd at 4pm

Music on Norway Pond has a most serendipitous arrangement with Boston’s New England Conservatory! Every season, the Conservatory chooses their most promising students to perform here in Hancock….always for one hour with no intermission. They are challenged to choose a program that will fit into this unusually short format and we are the lucky listeners who experience their passionate risk-taking and youthful artistry. The shorter length makes the concerts ideal for people of all ages (and attention spans!) And now, praised by critics for playing with a “sense of discovery and adventure, but also with considerable finesse”, the Omer Quartet will be here on April 23rd to share their music with us.

Comprised of graduates from NE Conservatory, Juilliard and Curtis, the Omer String Quartet was established at the Cleveland Institute of Music in 2009. In 2013, they were awarded the Grand Prize and named Gold Medal winner of the 40th Fischoff National Chamber Music Competition. They have performed across North America and Europe.

The Omer Quartet is currently being mentored by cellist Paul Katz through New England Conservatory’s Professional String Quartet Training Program. The highly selective course offers a two-year residency to exceptional ensembles that show the talent and commitment necessary to pursue a concert career.

Tickets are $20. Children and students are admitted free of charge. Tickets are available at the door or may be purchased on line at musiconnorwaypond.org.
News from the Depot

April 1 Depot Cabaret: No Foolin’ Around!
This month, our feature will be Justin Cohn. Justin is a singer/songwriter from Milford, New Hampshire. His music blends elements of folk, rock, pop, and soul into songs about love, truth, and heartache.
For more information, and to listen to some of Justin’s music, visit https://www.facebook.com/justincohnmusic/.

About the Venue
The show begins at 8:00; doors open at 7:30 if you want to sign up to play at one of several open mic spots. In addition to the music, visitors will enjoy snacks, veggies, and drinks (BYOB!). We also hold a 50/50 raffle, so you just may walk away a winner! All proceeds go to help support the Depot Association.

Sponsored by the Hancock Depot Association and the Keene Music Festival and hosted by Crazy Cowz, the Hancock Depot Cabaret is a music, arts, and function venue located in the old Hancock Train Station/Depot on Depot Road.
The Cabaret was created to provide a venue for local and regional musicians, poets, and other artisans to share their talent in a comfortable, friendly, and inspirational environment. While admission is free, we suggest a $5 donation, which the Depot Association will use to keep the lights on and provide general maintenance for the Depot (upkeep, enhancements/upgrades, insurance, utilities, etc.).

If you are interested in performing as a feature performer, want to sign up for an open mic spot, rent the Depot for an event, or simply want more information:

--> E-mail: hancockdepotcabaret@yahoo.com
--> Phone: 508-641-0076

Like us on Facebook and receive automatic notifications about upcoming shows: www.facebook.com/hancockdepotcabaret

Upcoming Feature Acts
- May 6: Aaron Shadwell
- June 3: Liza Constable

Special Thanks to Bob Fogg!
Once again, the Depot Association would like to give Bob Fogg, Jr., a HUGE shout-out for keeping the Depot parking lot clear of snow and ice … you are truly appreciated!

Monthly Association Meetings
Interested in joining the Hancock Depot Association? We meet at the Depot on the third Monday of each month from 7:15 – 8:00. If you’d like to help out with planning, events, cleanup days, etc., feel free to join us!

Rent the Depot for Your Special Event
Did you know you can rent the Depot? It’s true – the Depot is available for parties, meetings, celebrations, concerts, and other special events. To learn more, call David Young at 525-3085 or Nancy Adams at 525-4433.
FRIENDS OF THE HANCOCK TOWN LIBRARY

I’m pleased to report 2017 is off to a splendidly solid start! We met on January 28th for the Annual Meeting. The budget was passed, the successful year recapped and officers and members at large voted in. I will remain President, Megan Dodge, Vice President, Beth Grosjean, Treasurer and Jenny Green as Secretary. We also enjoyed delicious refreshments provided by Fiddlehead's. Thanks to Sherri for always putting together a fabulous spread!

One of the items that was voted on and approved was a portion of funds for the continuation of the new carpet project. We will be reaching out to all Friends and community members to help with moving books in the main section of the library. Keep an eye out for dates and times when that will be happening.

Spring is almost here and that means its time for our annual membership appeal. We are extremely fortunate for the support provided by our community and look forward to that continued support from existing members and hopefully some new folks as well. Beth Grosjean and Allison Rossiter have already been working hard on the membership list to prepare for the mailing. We will meet on Tuesday April 11th at 7pm for a brief meeting and then the stuffing of envelopes. Please feel free to join us, all are welcome and it always proves to be a productive and fun evening!

Keep the Old Home Days Book Sale in mind when you weed out those books during your spring cleaning!

Submitted by Debra Shumway

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April quote: "A pessimist sees the difficulty in every opportunity; an optimist sees the opportunity in every difficulty."
- Winston Churchill

On going during April our practitioners are available by appointment:

Spiritual & Angel Card readings & Sound Therapy - Anne Marie Will, CST, RMT - 845-800-3764

Soul Auras & Past Life & Angel Card readings - Susi Marrotte, BA, RM, CST - 603-547-7604

Sunday, April 2, 2017: A Crystal Tea Ceremony from 1:00 - 4:00pm

Beautiful display of crystals, stones and jewelry. Angel and Tarot readers will be available for readings. Refreshments Tea, scones, shortbread tea biscuits and Ava Marie chocolate truffles. Four large Crystal Grids are set up for meditation. During meditation Rebecca will activate the Crystal Tones Singing Bowls for your relaxation. Location: 123 Prospect Hill Road, Hancock. Event limited to 12. Reservations required. RSVP: 603-933-3294 Arlene Smith

For your pleasure; the Crystal Tea Ceremony, singing bowls meditation and refreshments are all free!

Combined with this event; Anne Marie Will is doing Angel Card Readings $30.00 for 30 minutes. Susi Marrotte will be performing Paint Scrying with a 3 card validation for the messages received. Susi has developed a unique form of Scrying, which is an ancient form of divination viewing, by incorporating paint into the modality. $30.00 for 30 minutes. Susi will be bringing her paints and materials in case anyone would like a Soul Aura Portrait. $60.00 for 45 minutes.

Respectfully Submitted, Arlene Smith
Stories About This Place
Everyone is invited to a live performance event full of candid recollections, musings, anecdotes and insights into things that comprise life in and around the Monadnock region. On Sunday, April 2, at 6:30 p.m. the Monadnock Conservancy, a land trust for southwestern NH, will host this evening of stories — unrehearsed and from the heart.

You’ll hear from Hancock residents Eric Aldrich and Susie Spikol Faber along with Jamie Trowbridge, Lita Judge, Lincoln Geiger, and Hunter Carbee. All lovers of the natural world.

Eric Aldrich combines journalism, photography and conservation for work and pleasure. Aldrich is a former reporter/columnist for the Keene Sentinel, spokesman and editor for the NH Fish and Game Department. Now in his second stint with The Nature Conservancy, he handles communications for the organization’s North America priority programs. In his spare time, Aldrich writes “The Bobcat’s Tail” column in the Monadnock Ledger-Transcript and serves on the Hancock Fire Department.

Susie Spikol Faber lives on a hillside orchard in Hancock, where her family grows organic apples, peaches and plums. She works as the community program director and as a naturalist for the Harris Center for Conservation Education. In between raising a family, tending to the fruit trees and working, Spikol Faber is a writer and a runner, and loves to search for new additions to her impressive scat collection.

The event is free and open to all. We will gladly accept donations at the door to help defray the cost of the event. Coffee, tea and cider provided. Please bring a dessert to share!

Stories About This Place will be held at the Peterborough Town House, 1 Grove Street, Peterborough. So we can plan accordingly, advance registration is encouraged. Please register online (StoriesAboutThisPlace.eventbrite.com) or call 603-357-0600, ext. 102.

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Summer fun with NHDI!

**NHDI One-Week Summer Camp**
**The Great Green Show** – June 26-30 – 9 a.m.–4 p.m.

Two locations: Grades 4-8 -- Redfern Arts Center (with KSC Kids on Campus), Keene
  Grades 2-6 -- Antrim Town Gym (with Antrim Rec Department), Antrim

Recycling is important to the Earth, and it’s also important in dance. Dance is recycled movement. We reorder and repurpose steps to construct new dance performances all the time! Join the New Hampshire Dance Institute (NHDI) for a week-long energetic dance theatre experience that will keep everyone on their feet – creating, moving and recycling all day. We’ll learn how recycling is essential to all theatrical productions, and at the end of the week, we’ll share what we’ve learned with a special performance for family and friends!

**NHDI Two-Week Summer Intensive**
**Wonder-Filled!** – July 31-August 11 – 9 a.m.–4 p.m.

Marlborough School with final performance at The Colonial Theatre

Come with us as we explore some of the amazing wonders of the ancient and modern world... and, along the way, celebrate the extraordinary sense of WONDER that fills each one of us!

Financial assistance is available.
For details and to register – www.nhdi.org
Thank you once again, for supporting The Grapevine’s warrant article at this year’s town meeting as well as our new request for support for Avenue A Teen & Community Center. We are grateful for your ongoing involvement and commitment to our organization. Have you visited us lately? If you are interested in coming to see programs at the Grapevine and Avenue A, please give us a call at 588.2620 and we would be happy to arrange a guided visit for you!

**Grapevine Special Programs and Events** - for all programs please call 588-2620 to register and for more info

**Free Tax Preparation**
IRS-certified tax preparer Larry Schwartz is providing free tax preparation at The Grapevine on Mondays from 2 - 6pm through April 17th. All returns will be filed electronically. Call The Grapevine now for your appointment.

**Spring Walk for Families Saturday May 13th**
Tune up your strollers, lace up your walking shoes and get your pledges for The Grapevine’s 13th Annual *Spring Walk for Families* on Saturday, May 13th. 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. Then meet us in The Grapevine parking lot at 9:30 on May 13th to register and walk in support of our families and community.

**Youth Programs at Avenue A Teen + Community Center**—Contact Jacqueline at jacqueliner@grapevinenhorg

**Creative Writing Club – 9-12th graders**
Our Creative Writing Club meets on **Tuesdays from 6:30-8pm** for feedback, publishing help, and visits from local writers! New writers are always welcome!

**Friday Open Hours – Ages 13-18**
Friday Open Hours provide a safe place for teens to socialize and unwind. Over the summer we’ve enjoyed fun snacks (nachos and bagel pizzas) and our expanding board game collection (Heads Up, Pandemic, and more!). Stop by **Avenue A from 6:30 - 9pm** and join us!

**Avenue A Club – 5th-8th graders**
The Avenue A afterschool club meets on **Wednesdays from 2:20 – 4:15**. Students enjoy group activities, snacks, and free time in Avenue A’s awesome space. School bus transportation to Avenue A from GBS is available with late bus pick up. Contact us for registration info.

**Middle School Creative Writing Club – 7th and 8th graders**
Avenue A is partnering with New England College and local writer Becky Sakellariou to offer a Creative Writing Club for Middle Schoolers on Tuesdays from 2:15 – 4:15 p.m. starting in February. Teens will write, meet local writers and share their work!

**Ongoing Programming**
**NEW FOR THIS COMING YEAR! EXPANDED TO THREE DAYS….**The Learning Vine preschool for children 3 to 5 years old. Thinking about preschool next fall? We are now registering for the 2017-18 school year! This hands-on program focuses on social interaction and problem solving skills in a small group setting, in a fun, environment. Now scheduling visits for interested families. *Family scholarships may be available – please inquire.*

**Grandparents Parenting Grandchildren**
If you are parenting your grandchildren, you are not alone. “Grandparents Parenting Grandchildren” meets monthly and is free. Call 588-2620 and ask for Carol for more information, and to let us know you’re coming and if you will need childcare.

**Strong Living Wellness and Exercise Group** –
Join seniors from your community in this twice weekly light weight exercise program held at the Grapevine. Meet and become part of a supportive, lively group who together strengthen mind and body! Held on **Tuesdays and Fridays at the Grapevine from 1:30 – 2:30**. Call the Grapevine for more information.

The Grapevine is a nonprofit service organization located behind the Tuttle Library and serving residents in Antrim, Hancock, Bennington, Franconia and nearby towns. 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). Visit us online at [www.GrapevineNH.org](http://www.GrapevineNH.org) and LIKE us on Facebook: [https://www.facebook.com/grapevinenh.org/](https://www.facebook.com/grapevinenh.org/)
Apr 1 (Sat) Salamander Crossing Brigades Volunteer Training in Hancock

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. Every year, we train volunteers to serve on Salamander Crossing Brigades at amphibian road crossings throughout the Monadnock Region. These heroic volunteers move migrating amphibians across roads by hand during one or more "Big Nights" each spring, keeping count as they go. To join the ranks – or simply to learn more about the remarkable spring amphibian migration! For more information, contact Brett Amy Thelen. **10am to noon at the Harris Center.** For more info, contact Brett Amy Thelen at (603) 358-2065 or thelen@harriscenter.org.

Apr 14 (Fri) The Snake and the Salamander: Art Opening and Book Signing

Come to the opening of Matt Patterson’s art show of framed originals and prints from his beautiful new book, *The Snake and the Salamander.* Representing 13 states from Maine to Virginia, the book showcases the lives of 83 species of snakes, lizards, turtles, frogs, and salamanders through a combination of engaging prose and original color artwork. **From 6 to 7:30pm at the Harris Center.** A portion of both book and art sales will benefit the Harris Center. Matt’s prints will remain on display in our Babbitt Room from 8am to 4pm weekdays through Friday, May 12th. Cosponsored with the Toadstool Bookshop. For more info, contact Diana Jacobs at 525-3394 or jacobs@harriscenter.org.

Apr 15 (Sat) Hiking through Grief

Hiking in the healing presence of nature provides a unique and meaningful way to work through grief. This group offers a way to connect with others in a safe, supportive setting. All the hikes are free of charge and open to anyone in the community who is grieving the loss of a loved one, the end of a relationship, life transitions, or environmental loss. Sandy Morgan will facilitate these easy to moderately strenuous hikes, which will all take place on Harris Center trails. **Meet in the Harris Center parking lot at 10am.** Back by noon. Registration is required. For more information or to register, contact Sara LeFebvre at (603) 525-3394 or spikol@harriscenter.org.

Apr 15 (Sat) Vernal Pool Project Volunteer Training

Vernal pools are small, temporary woodland ponds that serve both as critical breeding habitat for a suite of amphibian species and as important feeding grounds and shelter for many reptiles, birds, and mammals. In efforts to protect these vital (yet often overlooked) ecosystems, we’re once again training volunteers to identify and document vernal pools, with special focus on lands where information is needed for conservation planning – including the Harris Center’s own protected lands. In this workshop, we’ll cover the building blocks of vernal pool ecology indoors, then venture outside for hands-on instruction at a nearby vernal pool complex. **1 to 4pm at the Harris Center.** Registration is required. For more information or to register, contact Brett Amy Thelen at (603) 358-2065 or thelen@harriscenter.org.

Apr 21 (Fri) Our Harris Center Hawk Has Landed: Welcome Home Eric Masterson!

Join us in welcoming home Eric Masterson from his 6,000-mile journey following the broad-winged hawk migration from New Hampshire to Panama City on his bicycle! This informal celebration will be your first (but not your only) opportunity to congratulate Eric on the completion of his epic pedaling peregrination. **4 to 5pm at the Harris Center.** For more information, contact Diana Jacobs at (603) 525-3394 or jacobs@harriscenter.org.
Hancock Hours and Meetings

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

Tax Collector - Monday 3:30 to 6:30pm
    Thursday 9:00am to 12:00pm
Town Clerk – Monday 6:00 to 9:00pm
    Wednesday 3:00 to 6:00pm
Town Dump and Demolition Hours – Wednesday 3:00 to 7:00pm; Saturday 8:00am to 5:00pm;
Selectboard – First three Mondays at 4:00pm; Fourth Monday at 7:00 pm, Barbara E Caverly Meeting Room
Planning Board - On the 1st Wednesday of every month at 7:00pm: 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 7:00pm, Town Office 2nd floor;
HEAT Committee – Meets on an as needed basis
Historic District Commission – 4th Tuesday at 7:00pm, Barbara Caverly Meeting Room;
Hancock Library Trustees – 4th Tuesday at 5:00pm in the Daniels Room;
Recreation Committee – 3rd Wednesday, 6:30pm., Town Office;
Town Archives Committee – as noticed, Town Office Archives Room;
Water Commissioners – 4th Wednesday at 4:30pm, DPW;
Dump Committee – 3rd Tuesday at 4:00pm, 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 7:00pm, Town Office.
Meetinghouse Restoration Committee – as noticed, Meetinghouse
School Board – 1st & 3rd Tuesday, Board Room

Publishing Information

Editor and Publisher: Jaime Donovan
Submit articles to Editor at happenings@hancocknh.org or call 903.0190 for information and rates.
For advertisement sizes and rates please go to: www.hancocknh.org/hancock-happenings/pages/block-advertising-rates
All submissions must be in text or PDF format; PDF or JPG of scanned text will not be accepted unless for ad copy. Call if you do not have access to a computer.
Deadline for submissions, advertising and payment for advertising: 5pm on the 22nd of each month. Checks should be payable to Town of Hancock (memo line “Hancock Happenings”) and mailed to the Town at PO Box 6, Hancock, NH 03449. Inserts are not accepted.
Refer to the Hancock Happenings Mission Statement below for the newsletter’s editorial policy. Distribution–Hope Pettigrew, Edna Drasba, Sandy Brooks, Josephine Warner, and Marcia Coffin. (Sorry if I missed anyone)
Printing by Gem Graphics;
Nameplate by Eleanor Amidon

DOG LICENSES DUE IN APRIL
Available in Town Clerk’s Office
Monday, 6 pm to 9 pm
Wednesday, 3 pm to 6 pm
OR
By Mail
Send a check for $6.50 and proof of rabies vaccination to:
Hancock Town Clerk
P. O. Box 6
Hancock, NH 03449
April will be a busy month at the Church and we invite the whole community to join us for the following events:

**A Concert by the Kroks of the 70s— Saturday, April 1, 7 pm**
Harvard's oldest a cappella singing group, the Krokodiloes, was founded in 1946. Today, they perform in over 150 concerts per year, and almost always undertake a world tour during the summer. No tickets required, although a freewill offering will be received to help with organ repairs and other expenses related to keeping the Meetinghouse a vital concert venue for our community.

**Palm Sunday Worship, Sunday, April 9, 9:45 am**

**Holy Week Reflections— Monday-Friday, April 10-14, 4:30 pm**
Join us in the sanctuary for a time of guided reflection led by Rev. Copeland. Our theme during Holy Week 2017 is The Journey Into The Wilderness. We will look at the images of the wilderness presented in the Bible, the ancient tradition of desert spirituality, as well as reflections on the wilderness experience offered by contemporary poets, naturalists, and musicians. These sessions are more informal than our Sunday Morning Worship and last approximately 30 minutes.

**Maundy Thursday Service of Tenebrae, April 13, 2017, 7 pm**
Many experience this as the most sacred service of the entire year. On this night, we remember the Last Supper that Jesus shared with his disciples. Tenebrae, also known as the Service of the Shadows, refers to the falling darkness that occurred at Jesus’ crucifixion. This is represented by the gradual extinguishing of lights and candles.

**Good Friday, April 14, 2017, Noon until 3 pm**
The Church will be open for those who wish to drop in for prayer and quiet reflection. A handout of readings and prayers appropriate to the day will be provided.

**Easter Service, Sunday, April 16, 2017 at 9:45 am**
We all love colored eggs and chocolate bunnies, but the real meaning of Easter goes much deeper. Easter celebrates the Resurrection of Jesus and is the most important holiday of the Christian year. For those new to Christianity and for children who attend, we will be distributing a coloring book that teaches about Lent, Holy Week, and Easter. If you would like to donate flowers to beautify the altar on Easter Sunday, please contact Sandy Jackson at sandjacks@comcast.net. The plants available and prices for this year are as follows: Tulips, $10; Daffodils, $10; Hyacinths, $12.50; Lilies, $12.50.

**Birthday Celebration for Elinor Johnson, Saturday, April 22, 1-3 pm**
Elinor’s 95th Birthday was on March 15th, but her family invites you to stop by the Vestry to see Elinor and enjoy some cake and ice cream the Saturday after Easter. If you have any questions, please contact Sue Shute at syishome@comcast.net or 924-7898 (home) or Elinor’s niece Linda Hatfield at linda@hatco.com or 612-810-3156.

**Birthday Celebration for Milena, Sunday, April 30 at Coffee Hour**
Milena is the eight year old we sponsor in Ecuador. Once a year we receive an offering to cover these expenses ($28 per month with additional gifts made at Christmas and on her birthday). We will receive that offering during worship and celebrate Milena’s spring birthday with special Ecuadorian treats at coffee hour. Some of the letters and drawings Milena has sent us recently will be on display.

**Two More Service Project Reminders:**

**Church World Service School Bags are due back on April 23**
A special word of thanks to the community volunteers beyond our congregation who donated fabric and sewed the 70 or so bags we will be filling this year. The kits give children in impoverished schools, refugee camps, or other difficult settings some of the basic tools for learning. Don’t forget to include the $2.00 processing fee (per kit) when you return your bag(s).

**End 68 Hours of Hunger Update**
We have discovered there is some confusion around the name of this project. The word “End” does not refer to the project wrapping up or coming to an end, but rather to the effort to end the hunger that schoolchildren experience over the weekend (a weekend being 68 hours, more or less). Currently, over 100 children in the Conval School district go home with a bag of food each Friday. In Hancock, we collect cereal in the Meetinghouse Vestibule and last month, we received 82 boxes. Thank you for your generosity, but please keep that cereal coming as the need is high. It is 10-13 ounce boxes that are needed (larger ones do not fit into children’s backpacks).

Questions? The Church Number is 525-4626 and our email address is hancockcongregationalchurch@gmail.com.