We had quite the range of weather in January, welcome to New Hampshire in the winter. The DPW has been busy plowing and sanding, usually at night or on the weekend; fixing a water line break; and dealing with flooding of several town roads, including Longview Road which took a bath when Moose Brook rose to ten inches above the surface of the road leading to the bridge. Speaking of the Longview Bridge, the Selectboard and the DPW Director are working with Holden Engineering on replacement/rehabilitation options for this bridge rebuilt after the floods of 1936. Our recommendations will be brought to Town Meeting as a warrant article. Following up on last month’s news, the Selectboard received town counsel blessings on the Meetinghouse Articles of Agreement which we then jointly signed with church representatives on January 8th, updating and replacing the original agreement signed December 17th, 1851. A copy of the agreement can be found on the town’s website.

Lesson 11: The Selectboard and Town Land Use Related Boards. Town land-use boards operate under many different RSA’s; the role and responsibility of the Selectboard in interacting with these Boards varies. Hancock has three land-use boards (planning board, zoning board of adjustment and historic district commission); and one board concerned with land-use and environmental protection (conservation commission). RSA 673 and RSA 36-A give limited options to the local legislative body (i.e., you at town meeting) to establish these boards. RSA 673 also delegates the selectboard role to basically appointment and removal of members.

The PB is responsible for developing and updating the master plan and the capital improvement plan, dealing with subdivision and site plan reviews; and adopting driveway regulations, and regulating sand and gravel excavations. In January the PB initiated the update of the master plan, by conducting a survey and holding a public meeting to assess citizen wishes. The master plan is a “guide to the development of the municipality” (RSA 674:1(I)) and acts as an aid for the PB in performing its duties. The master plan cannot regulate development. The legislative body must pass ordinances and give approval to implement recommendations laid out in the master plan.

The role of the ZBA considers the applicability of zoning ordinances to specific parcels of land including applications for variances, special exceptions, and equitable waivers of dimensional requirements; and hearing appeals of administrative decisions (RSA 674 and RSA 676). The ZBA is a quasi-judicial board using state and case laws (court interpretation of state law) in decision making when reviewing applications and hearing appeals. Their work rests on the exercise of proper judgment and is not an easy one.

The purposes of the HHDC are to preserve the district’s cultural, social, economic, political, community resources and architectural history; conserve property values; foster civic beauty; strengthen the local economy; and promote the use of the district for the education, pleasure and welfare of the town’s citizens (RSA 674:45). The HHDC uses zoning ordinances and Interior Department Standards for systematically approving uses and the rehabilitation of historic structures to meet these goals.

The ConCom is not a land-use board because it has no authority to enact land use regulations, nor authority to enforce regulations or police violations of local or state laws or regulations. RSA 36-A:2 defines their mission as “the proper utilization and protection of the natural resources and …the protection of watershed resources…of the town.” RSA 36-A lays out the means to accomplish these important goals.

Enjoy the rest of winter; Town Meeting is on the horizon.

Office of the Town Clerk will be closed on President’s Day, Monday, February 19th
Winter is upon us which means we need to be extra careful. With your amazing driving skills on slippery roads one needs to watch out for the other guy because unlike you, they are the crazy driver. Because of the other crazy driver we have responded to some serious motor vehicle crashes lately. When I moved here from the Midwest I was taught to do some kind of New England shuffle when walking on slippery surfaces, less chance of falling. And, of course, stay safe on icy ponds and lakes. As we learned a few years ago it is not advisable to drive vehicles onto the ice. Even snowmobilers aren’t very lucky and have gone through the ice. If on foot, carefully assess ice safety before venturing out by using an ice chisel or auger to determine ice thickness and condition. Remember – thick ice does not always mean safe ice! Be especially careful of areas with current, such as inlets, outlets and spring holes, where the ice can be dangerously thin. It has been cold, then very cold, then warm, then cold and warm again which can make ice very unpredictable. Don’t go on the ice during thaws, especially along the shoreline if it is cracked or squishy. Ice seldom freezes uniformly so please be careful.

In the words of Monty Python, now for something completely different. The month of February is dedicated to Burn Awareness. Scald burns (caused by hot liquids, steam or foods) are the most common burn injury among young children and elderly adults. A few items to remember:

Teach children that hot things can burn.
Use oven mitts/pot holders.
Open micro-waved food slowly, away from the face.
Never heat a baby bottle in the microwave.
Never hold a child while you are cooking, drinking a hot liquid, or carrying hot foods or liquids.
Turn pot handles inward.

Burns are the most common household injuries. Severe burns should be treated by a doctor, but mild burns can be treated at home. Run cool tap water over the burn for 5 minutes. Do not use very cold water or ice. Dry the burn gently by patting, not rubbing. Apply aloe vera or a soothing burn gel to the area. Apply a clean, loose dressing to keep the burn covered during the healing process. Most important of all: Call 9-1-1 immediately should the burn be severe.

The Fire Department recently held our annual elections of officers. We have a new face as Captain. Dave LeFebvre is our newest HFD Captain. Dave has served on the department for ten years. He is an EMT and recently completed the Monadnock Area Firefighter Skills program. Dave is married to Angie, the love of his life and a Fire Department Auxiliary member, and has a daughter Sophia, the other love of his life. He works for Belletetes and lives (loves) to ski. Dave replaces Spencer Thompson. Spencer is a busy guy. He is a Paramedic, recently became the Deputy Chief of Diluzio Ambulance, and is going to school to further his degree. The rest of the crew stays the same. Tom Bates, Fire Chief; John Pirkey, 1st Asst. Chief; Mark Thompson, 2nd Asst. Chief; Tom Ball, Captain; Paul Towers, Captain; Nevan Cassidy, Fire Warden; Jon GrosJean, Secretary; Siobhan Martin, Treasurer; and Hunt Dowse, Association President.

Thanks to all of the officers and firefighters for making the Hancock Fire Department a great organization.

Raffles winners for the month were:
$40 Mary Ann Auth
$20 Meghan Gould
$10 Dottie Cannon, Lee Bruder, Ted Renna

May you be well, warm, and safety educated this month.
The frigid month of January is now in the past and we welcome in February with a sign of relief. Our meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 14th at 2:00 p.m. in the Vestry. Valentine’s Day will be a great day to enjoy Jane Simpson’s presentation “Button, Button – Who’s got the Button? We all do!” Jane will tell us what she does to recycle her buttons into attractive jewelry. Bring some of your own buttons and possibly we’ll create something for ourselves! All are welcome to join in the fun and please plan to stay for tea, coffee, and delicious goodies following Jane’s presentation.

Hancock Woman’s Club Scholarship Committee News

In December an anonymous donor sent a gift of $1,000 to our Scholarship Fund. Two additional gifts were received from members and friends of the Club. These gifts allow for more flexibility and generosity in this year’s grant awards. Thank you!

Applications for the Woman’s Club Scholarship are now available. The scholarship is for women in mid-career who plan to continue their education, update their training, enter new fields, etc. The award is $1,000 or more. Applicants must be residents of Hancock and have lived in Hancock for at least 2 years. The application deadline is March 31, 2018.

For more information or to request an application contact Joyce Perry, 525-3304 or jwkp43@gmail.com.

Art and Wine Party

Come and enjoy an afternoon with adult friends while painting a finished work of art. Art Parties are creatively fun in a relaxed, casual group environment, where beginners and more established artists come together and paint.

Barbara Danser will guide beginner artists through the process and basics of painting your own work of art. Freedom to creatively express oneself through individual style and artistic voice will be encouraged. Everyone will finish and take home a painting that they are be pleased with. No experience necessary!

All art materials, wine and refreshments are included. Saturday, February 24, 2018
2:00pm–4:30pm: Painting Party, Wine and Refreshments
Hancock Vestry $20 per person Please contact Terri Lombardi by email talombar@aol.com or 525-9451 to sign up. Space is limited.

GIVE A RIDE – SHARE A RIDE

Join CVTC’s “Elite Fleet” and become a Volunteer Driver:
- Help your neighbors with transportation to non-emergency medical and support services
- Drive when you want, as often as you want
- Mileage reimbursement is available
To learn more about our Volunteer Driver Program, call, toll-free: 1-877-429-2882, extension 5
To learn about Monadnock Ride share, our free online carpool rideboard at www.cvtc-nh.org, or call, toll-free: 1-877-429-2882, extension 2
HANCOCK HAPPENINGS
February 2018

News from the Hancock Congregational Church

We hope you are all planning to join us at the Ice-Out Chili Supper on Saturday, February 3rd (see page 20). It will be a good time to enjoy various kinds of chili, cornbread, and homemade desserts, and more importantly, to honor two great members of our community—the two Nancy Adamses. The supper starts at 5 pm and the cost is just $5.00 per person or $20.00 per family. Proceeds from this annual fundraiser are used for the upkeep of the Vestry and Meetinghouse.

Lent, the season of preparation for Easter, follows an unusual trajectory this year. It begins on Valentine’s Day (Ash Wednesday) and ends on April Fool’s Day (Easter). We invite you to join us in the Vestry on Ash Wednesday, February 14th, at 6:30 pm for a simple supper (soup and bread) and a candlelight prayer service to mark the beginning of Lent. The imposition of ashes will be offered for those who wish to receive them.

This year our congregation will be using The Book of Joy: Lasting Happiness in a Changing World by Desmond Tutu and the Dalai Lama as a focus for some of our Lenten sermons and discussions.

Do you have any cotton fabrics that you would like to move along to a good cause? We would be happy to receive donations for our school bag project, spearheaded by Diane Kidd. Last year, Diane’s team sewed 83 school bags, which were then filled with school supplies and passed along to Church World Service to be delivered to children in need. Colorful, child-friendly fabrics are especially appreciated. If you have fabric to donate or would like to learn more about the project, please contact Diane Kidd at 603-525-4049.

We want to offer thanks to those who contributed towards hurricane relief in Puerto Rico, via the jars at the Market, Inn, and Library, as well as in the envelopes on the Christmas Tree in the Vestry. $478.12 was raised.

Our congregation worships upstairs in the Meetinghouse every Sunday morning at 9:45 am, with a coffee hour to follow in the Vestry. All are welcome. Please take a look at our Facebook Page (Hancock Congregational Church) for the latest updates.

Submitted by Judy Copeland, Pastor

Hancock Historical Society Annual Meeting: Save the Date

On February 25th at 2 pm, the Hancock Historical Society and the Hancock Town Library will show the film The Crossing in the Daniels Room at the library.

The Crossing is an historical film about George Washington crossing the Delaware River and the Battle of Trenton, produced in 2000. The film opens with the retreat of the Continental Army across New Jersey during the American Revolutionary War, after repeated losses and defeats during the campaign of 1776. Directed by Robert Harmon and based on the novel of the same name by Howard Fast, it stars Jeff Daniels as George Washington.

Please join us for the fun, free event!
Plenty of Ice

Ice out Committeemen, Marc and Anthony Spinale (below, left to right) and colleagues installed the little church on Norway pond around noon on January 21, 2018. Their yard stick measured the ice to be 12.5 inches thick.

When will it melt?

Buy your tickets; make your guesses and wait for the spring thaw to find out.

Tickets are available on line (http://hancock.iceout.us), at the Hancock Market, Hancock Inn, and Fiddleheads as well as through all the Ice Out Committee members and the members of the Hancock Congregational Church.

Tickets will be on sale through March 15, 2018. One for two dollars; three for five dollars.

A worthy program, proceeds of the contest benefit the Meeting House and Vestry maintenance fund; good luck.

Ice Out Committee for 2018
Submitted by Phil Jones 525-4485
Community Supper

The next community supper will be held on Thursday, February 22nd and will be sponsored by the Divine Mercy Parish of Peterborough. We would like to express our thanks to the Hancock Board of Selectmen for taking the time and efforts to host the January Community Supper. We look forward to seeing you on the 22nd!

Searching for a new Hancock Community Supper Committee and Committee Chairpersons

We are still searching for a new person or group to step forward to take on the role of managing the Hancock Community Supper Program. This does not mean putting on the suppers every month. It means recruiting groups throughout the year to host the supper and provide the food and a fairly static schedule has been established.

The Grapevine started these suppers in our area towns 15 years ago. To this day Hancock, Antrim, Francestown, and Bennington offer a monthly community supper on a rotating Thursday. We and the Grapevine really want to ensure that the suppers continue in Hancock. Enjoying a meal together with friends and neighbors is a wonderful way to build community. If you or anyone you know might be interested in learning more about the coordination of the suppers please be in touch with Carol and Mike at: mcdomingue@comcast.net; talk with us at the next Community Supper, or contact Melissa Gallagher at the Grapevine Family and Community Resource Center; 603-588-2620.

Thank you in advance for your consideration -
Mike and Carol Domingue

Another "Tale From Home"

at www.herb-gardner.com

The West End Cafe was right near Columbia University in New York.

One night when I played there I found a nice parking spot on a one-way street near the club.

When I came back after the gig, my VW Karmann Ghia was in the same spot, but was turned the other way around.

I hope the college pranksters saw me laughing.

Look who Mary Ann Fleming saw at the Transfer Station!!
Black History Month February is Black History Month so come in to choose from our special display of books set up near the front desk. And don’t miss our showing of the documentary film, Shadows Fall North on Tuesday February 13th with a discussion to follow facilitated by Jerrianne Boggis, Executive Director of the Black Heritage Trail of New Hampshire.

PING PONG TOURNAMENT It’s that time of year again. Please sign up for the Hancock Town Library’s Second Annual Ping Pong Tournament! Sign up by February 7th. We’ll start Round Robin play the week of February 12th and continue regular play for four weeks or so. After that the playoffs begin. Children 16 and under will be in their own group this year. Adult and Children’s groups will still be divided into Beginner, Intermediate, and Advanced.

If you need help deciding which level you belong in, please join us on Saturday February 3rd between 10am and 2pm in the Daniels Room. We’ll have ping pong enthusiasts there to play with you and assess your skill level. Here’s the criteria we used last year:

Beginner ~ You spend more time bending over picking up balls than hitting them
Intermediate ~ You can keep a volley going for at least half a Beatles song and can put some spin on the ball
Advanced ~ You’re quick, consistently put spin on the ball, can place the ball on inconvenient corners of the table, and can smash it good

Once you sign up we’ll assign matches. You will schedule yourselves again this year but please try to play once a week so that we don’t drag this out too long. We’d like to be sticklers and say you will forfeit if you don’t play in the week you’re supposed to but the Ping Pong Brain Trust has a soft heart so will just strongly urge you to keep up. Sticking to singles play again this year. Feel free to play doubles anytime but that won’t be a category in the tournament.

All are welcome to play. Please help us spread the word!

Blind Date with a Book ~
Are you up for a mysterious date this winter? The library has just the thing for you! Come into the library throughout the month of February and pick out a wrapped book from our display. You won’t know the author or title of the book. Choose the one that most appeals to you, bring it (still wrapped!) to the front desk, and take it home to read it. Then let us know what you thought of the book!

Prepare for Peeps! Last year’s Literary Peep Dioramas were so much fun that we’ve decided to do it again this year. Choose your favorite book, then illustrate it with a diorama made of Peeps! Make them in March, we’ll display them in April.

LAST MINUTE POP UP PROGRAM FOR JANUARY!
Tuesday January 30th at 7:00pm
Masonry Wood Stoves with Albie Barden
Come learn about masonry wood stoves! Albie Barden from Maine Wood Heat will be here to run a workshop on these wonderful wood heaters. He will give a presentation and offer discussion for all interested. Michelle Russell from Hancock met him at the Common Ground Fair several years ago. She has wished to build one ever since helping her grandfather fire up his "kachelofen" in his Austrian Guest House, keeping the 8 room post and beam toasty. She and her friend Samuel Foucher went to a workshop last fall and are now building one here at her house in Hancock. The stoves are very efficient and get more heat for less wood because of the chambers and stone body around the wood fire box. Science, art and sustainability all combined! Free and open to all.

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HANCOCK HAPPENINGS
February 2018

Saturday February 3rd 10am – 2pm
Ping Pong Sign Ups & Level Assignment
Come play a round with our ping pong enthusiasts and learn whether you’re a beginner, intermediate, or advanced player. You don’t have to do this to play in the tournament, just if you’d like help assessing your level of play! Free and open to all.

Tuesday February 13th from 6-7pm
Representative Jon Manley
Come with your questions for Rep. Manley (Hillsborough County 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.

Tuesday February 13th at 7:00pm
Documentary Film: Shadows Fall North with JerriAnne Boggis
How does a state with the motto “Live Free or Die” and a celebrated legacy of abolitionism confront and understand its participation in slavery, segregation, and the neglect of African-American history? The film will seek to answer the question: What happens when we move toward a fuller understanding of our history by including all voices. Shadows Fall North focuses on the efforts of two dedicated historic preservationists and activists, Valerie Cunningham (co-author of Black Portsmouth: Three Centuries of African American Heritage) of Portsmouth and JerriAnne Boggis of Milford, to recover the stories of people who have been rendered nearly invisible in the historical record, from individuals laid to rest at the African Burying Ground in Portsmouth to the novelist Harriet Wilson of Milford to the twenty slaves who petitioned the state legislature for their freedom in 1779… and many more. Discussion will follow the film. JerriAnne Boggis is the Executive Director of the Black Heritage Trail of New Hampshire an organization that preserves, celebrates and honors African-American history in the state. She is a writer, educator, and community activist whose work corrects the historical record on the racial complexity and richness of New Hampshire’s diverse past. Free and open to all.

Wednesday February 28th at 7:00pm
Kettle of One: Following the Broad-winged Hawk Migration by Bicycle with Eric Masterson
Many of us dream of following migrating birds to warmer climates for the winter, few people actually do it. Eric Masterson did, and he did it by bicycle. Eric grew up roaming the Irish countryside for birds. When Ireland got too small, he started roaming the continent, and then that got too small so he moved with his wife to North America. It couldn’t last, and so on September 6th 2016, he left his Hancock house, jumped on his bicycle and started pedaling south in the wake of four satellite-tagged broad-winged hawks on their migration to South America. The trip was part documentary for a book project and part pilgrimage to follow what Eric characterizes as the eighth natural wonder of the world. Eric Masterson currently works in the field of environmental conservation with the Harris Center for Conservation Education in Hancock. He is the author of Birdwatching in New Hampshire, a comprehensive guide to the occurrence of the Granite State’s birds, and is working on a second book documenting the life history of the Broad-winged Hawk. Free and open to all.

Wednesday February 14th at 7:00pm
Game Night for Grownups!
This Valentine’s Day grab a loved one and come on down for some board time at Game Night for Grownups. Bring a game if you’ve got one, and a snack or beverage for the table. Always the second Wednesday of the month from 7:00-9:00pm. Please RSVP to us here at the library: 525.4411 or hancocklibrary@comcast.net just so we have an idea of numbers! Free and open to all.

Tuesday February 20th from 5:30-7:00pm
Free-Form-Français
“Parlez vous Français?” Are you learning French and would like a chance to get better at speaking it? Were you fluent once and wish you had the opportunity to converse once again? Or would you just like to brush up on this romance language? The Hancock Town Library is hosting a French language conversation group and you’re invited! The setting is very informal and will be open from 5:30 to 7:00 on the 3rd Tuesday of the month, beginning February 20th. Arrive and leave at your leisure. All levels welcome. Modeled on the Manchester Franco-American Centre’s “Prêt-à-Parler,” the sessions will be free flowing and with your help, fun. Hélène Laliberté Bickford, French first-language speaker (“mais tres rouillé”) will help to keep the conversations going. “Venez tous!” Free and open to all.
From the Children’s Room
Jenn Wood, Children’s Librarian

A Note from Miss Jenn
During the month of February, we will be doing our candy jar guessing game again! A jar of candy will be at the front desk guess how much candy is in the jar and win the jar! Closest to the total number of candies wins!

Tuesday February 6th 3:30-4:30pm Lego Club
Free build with Legos. Each participant gets one base to build on. At the end of the one-hour build time we put all our creations up on display! This program is open to all Lego fans and builders, all ages welcome.

Wednesday February 7th 3:30pm-4:30pm
Make Your Own Valentines Chocolates!
This is a limited space program so please sign up in advance. We will be creating our very own chocolates! Recommended for ages 8 and up!

Monday February 12th & February 26th 3:30pm-4:30pm
Read with Coffee
Come by the library and practice your reading with Coffee the Chihuahua! Coffee, a registered reading therapy dog, loves when kids practice their reading with him or tell him stories. Also, if you bring 3 non-perishable items for the Food Pantry, you get to choose a free stuffed animal graciously donated by Douglas Cuddle Toys!

Thursday February 15th 3:30pm-4:30pm
Chinese New Year Crafts
We will have various Chinese new year themed craft stations set up in the Daniel’s room. This program is open to all ages.

Tuesday February 26th 2pm
Movie and Popcorn
Join us for a movie and popcorn over February vacation.

Thursdays at 10:30am
Family Storytime
Every Thursday we will gather in the children’s room for stories, songs, and movement!

Here at Monadnock at Home we are in the midst of our 8th year of operation! When I first began working for Monadnock at Home we had just a few members in Hancock. Now, twenty-one of our 114 members who are spread across ten towns, live in Hancock. There are so many wonderful non-profits in our midst making a difference to those who live in this community. In each of those non-profits there are the quiet champions giving of their time and talents that make the most difference. This month we’d like to thank those who give of their heart all year long. We are so grateful to our many volunteers who make it possible for us to assist the seniors in our community. In 2017 we assisted our members with nearly 500 requests, filling 85% of those requests with volunteers. The gift that is given when someone helps another goes deeper than the visible act; a friendly visitor, good conversation, the comfort of a hot meal, the reassurance of a ride, the relief from the worry of living alone, and friendships especially when family is far away. These quiet champions are receiving back just as much as they are giving. Spread the love this month! We would love to have you join the many volunteers assisting those age 62 and over living in their own home. Contact us at 603-371-0809 or www.monadnockathome.org for information.
Autism Services for Children

Crotched Mountain’s Ready, Set, Connect! program will be opening an autism clinic at the Greenfield campus on January 2.

Ready, Set, Connect! provides ABA therapy for young children in a group setting, offering an environment of fun and learning and a path to a bright future!

Locations also in Manchester and Concord.

603.547.1430 or cmf.org/autism

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Home (603) 525.5210
Cell (603) 831.0864
“This Place,” a collection of photography by Callista Faucher remains on view in the Daniels Room through Wednesday, February 14th.

In her artist’s statement, Callista writes: “This body of work examines the interesting juxtaposition between the exhilaration of exploring new places and the comfort of finding beauty in the familiar surroundings of home. Travel has always called to me; yet, at the same time, home time draws me too. Wander and explore, or put down roots? A perennial question, and a question I’m so thankful that I have the circumstances to ask. I’m eternally grateful for the trips I’ve taken, along with the beauty of my home that has made these images possible….

“When I first started shooting, I used a Fugifilm Finepix digital camera. At just 5 megapixels, it was a pretty lousy camera, yet I was so happy to have it, and I took some shots that I am still fond of today. At the time, I was a fan of really editing my photos: I loved a cross-processed look, deep sepia tones, sharp contrasts: making things look a bit larger than life. Some of those shots are included in this show, because it wouldn’t be an honest portrayal of my artistic growth if I left them out. I eventually saved up my pennies (literally) and bought a Nikon D5000 DSLR in 2009. Its wide-angle lens helped to develop my love for sweeping landscapes. These days, I like a more subdued look and gravitate towards calming scenes with minimal editing.”

* * * * * *

Joan Barrows of Peterborough and Jane E. Simpson of Dublin will exhibit their work—“Paint and Paper”—from February 17 to March 28.

Joan Barrows (left) and Jane Simpson

Joan Barrows of Peterborough and Jane E. Simpson of Dublin will exhibit their work—“Paint and Paper”—from February 17 to March 28.

Joan works primarily in oil paint on wood panel in her home studio. She recently has been painting oversized bird nests, illustrating their detailed variations of interwoven textures. Joan is known for her life-sized depictions of birds: long-legged shorebirds, wily crows, and hearty chickadees, among them.

She has exhibited in a variety of local venues over the last couple of decades, and most recently in Boston and at the AVA Gallery in West Lebanon, New Hampshire. She is vice president of the board of the Monadnock Art Tour and also sits on the board of the Healing Arts Gallery. Her most current works can be viewed on the Art Tour each year in October.

Jane Simpson’s minimalist collages are composed of paper, thread, and natural materials. Most of her work employs shadow as part of the composition. This show includes several pieces from a body of work created in response to the 2010 oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico.

Jane is a juried member of The League of NH Craftsmen, and twice recipient of residency award at I-Park artist colony in East Haddam, Connecticut.

Jane’s vocation as a picture framer began after graduating from Keene State College in 1980. Her frame shop is located in Peterborough. More of Jane’s work can be seen at Lawrence Academy/Conant Gallery in Groton, Massachusetts, through March 2, 2018.

* * * * * *

Art shows can be viewed in the Daniels Room 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.; closed Friday and Sunday.

The Daniels Room is sometimes reserved for community activities, so please check with the library (525-4411) to make sure the room will be available at the time of your visit.

Submitted by Sandy Taylor

Join Keene Toastmasters!
Connect with People who are dedicated to improving Professional and Personal Skills
Location: Hannah Grimes Center, Keene, NH
Time and Dates: 6 to 7:30 pm First and Third Thursdays
Email: Secretary-1562@Toastmastersclubs.org
www.keene.toastmastersclubs.org
February 3 Depot Cabaret
This month, our feature performer will be **Julie Snow**. Julie is a seasoned performer who started her career as a member of the Bennington Ladies Jug Band in the 1960s, entertaining at local New England colleges and culminating in a performance at the legendary Gerdes Folk City. As a Cambridge, Massachusetts resident in the 1970s and 1980s, she continued writing and playing and was introduced to an up-and-coming Connecticut singer-songwriter named Lui Collins — who was a kindred spirit. The meeting was the beginning of a long friendship, and Lui recorded five of Julie’s songs on her early albums.

In the early 90’s, Julie moved to rural NH and discovered a vibrant community of acoustic musicians, making both traditional and contemporary music. She became part of a women’s songwriting collective, affectionately named The Rolling Crones, and began writing and performing again. Since then, Julie has made two albums of her original songs, including the brand-new No Ordinary Love. She is an active member of a song circle in southern NH and a regular at her favorite songwriting camps — Summer-Songs in NY, and the Moab Folk Camp in Moab, Utah.

She coaches songwriters at SummerSongs and recently has begun to teach at the Moab Folk Camp.

For more information, and to listen to some of their music, visit [https://www.juliesnowsongs.com/home](https://www.juliesnowsongs.com/home) or [https://www.facebook.com/julie.snow.10](https://www.facebook.com/julie.snow.10).

**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!).

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](http://www.facebook.com/hancockdepotcabaret)

**Upcoming Feature Acts**
- March 3: Coyote Bleux
- April 7: Off the Cuff

**Special Thanks to Bob Fogg, Jr.**
Once again, the Hancock Depot Association would like to thank Bob Fogg, Jr. from the bottom of our hearts for keeping the Depot parking lot free of ice and snow — you are truly appreciated!

**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.

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**Monadnock Roller Derby**

2nd Annual I Hate Valentine's Brawl Saturday, Feb 3rd 1:30 PM (Doors open 12 PM)
Great Brook School, Antrim

See skaters of all levels and ages from leagues around New England test their stuff in a full game of mixed black-and-red competitive play. Join us for a dessert-focused pot luck in the cafeteria afterward and you might enjoy a taste of dishes from Monadnock Roller Derby's new cookbook, which will also be available for purchase.

Community Supper Served on Skates Thursday, Feb 15th at 5:30 PM First Presbyterian Church, Antrim

Community Supper is a monthly event coordinated by The Grapevine Family & Community Resource Center, serving the towns of Antrim, Bennington, Hancock, Francetown, and neighboring community. It's for everyone! Donations will be shared with The Grapevine to support programs that strengthen communities, families, and people. Come enjoy a fantastic meal prepared with love and support a great cause!

**Saturday Boot Camps: No Skates Required Saturdays through February** at 10:00-12:00 Hancock Elementary

Monadnock Roller Derby members are free; suggested $5 donation for community members. Boot Camps are two 45 minute sessions with 5-10 minute health/fitness discussion breaks (45 minutes of circuit and tabatas training, 45 minutes of yoga with a focus on flexibility, core strength, and balance). Intended for the average person to create a basic athletic training and care routine. Exercises will be off-skates for a cross-training experience.

Bring: towel or yoga mat, athletic shoes, water bottle, free weight (optional)

Contact: Sprawkett 603-748-9945 or email: sprawkett@gmail.com
MUSIC ON NORWAY POND

proudly presents

a concert performance
with
Norway Pond Festival Singers
Norway Pond Junior Minstrels
Guest soloists from Boston, New York City and our very own Monadnock region
and, of course,
a fiddler!

**Sunday, February 11th at 4 pm** at the Hancock Meeting House.

Tickets are $20 at the door (students free),
or purchase a ticket on our web site
musiconnorwaypond.org.

The Kroks of the 70’s are coming!

On **Saturday, February 3rd**, this popular singing group will be back Hancock!

Rumor has it that they may make an appearance at the Chile Supper in the Vestry, honoring not one, but **two** Nancy Adams, and also raising funds for the Hancock Church.

You can also join the Kroks for dinner later at the Hancock Inn (they’re bound to serenade you there, too). I can’t think of a better way to spend a Saturday night....These guys are so much fun to be around!

Originally founded in 1946, the Krokodiloes are Harvard University’s oldest *a cappella* men’s chorus. The Kroks singing for MONP first came together in the 1970s (performing for the original group’s 60th reunion), and they have been generous in their fundraising efforts, supporting a number of non-profit organizations.

The ‘70s Kroks come from all walks of life, says member Rick Simpson who lives on Main Street in Hancock: businessmen, educators, lawyers, doctors, judges, best-selling authors, film-makers as well as professional musicians.

Former Kroks include notables like Fred Gwynne from TV’s *The Munsters* and philanthropist David Rockefeller, Jr.

The ‘70s Kroks promise perfect four-part harmony with popular hits and show tunes from the 1920s to the present day in Hancock on **Saturday 2/3**.
Report from the Norway Pond Commission
Submitted by Tom Shevenell, Chair

The Norway Pond Commission has gotten off to a fast start in 2017. The Canada Geese were under the watchful eye of Dick Warner and his trusted companion, Monty. We had 5 to 7 groups of geese (20-30 total) spending time on the pond, usually early in the morning near the town beach; fortunately, there were no resident geese this year. The Commission plans to continue the volunteer effort in 2018 to scare the geese however possible. We plan to search the marshy areas looking for nest this spring. Woody Huntington has volunteered to head up this effort.

Our NHDES facilitated Volunteer Lake Assessment Program (VLAP) continued into it’s 11 consecutive year with Dick sampling the deep spot in the pond as well as inflow from and outflow to Moose Brook for water quality. The pond continues to be classified as a “mesotrophic” pond (in laymen’s terms “not good, but not bad”) with moderately high nutrients, low dissolved oxygen near the deep bottom in August, and increasing levels of conductivity (indicator of dissolved metals and salt) over the 11-year period.

Dick and Jack McWhorter conducted a detailed bathymetric survey in September using equipment borrowed from NHDES. NHDES reduced the field data and created a bathymetric map with contours at 1-foot intervals. The pond depth is about 20 feet at its deepest spot.

In August, Dr. Lisa Doner collected two cores from the deep spot in the pond to study the “paleolimnology” of the pond. She is looking at the time period from the present to when the area was first inhabited by settlers moving from the seacoast region of New Hampshire and Massachusetts. Each core was 0.5 meters long and was sampled at 0.5 cm intervals, so she has collected 100 samples, which will cover about a 200-year period. Each sample will be dated with a Pb$^{210}$ dating technique, and analyzed for wide range of parameters, including grain size, organic content, metals, and nutrients. The goal is to see how the influence of nature and man’s activities on the pond environment has been recorded in the sediment. Jack McWhorter has initiated a time line of man’s activities in the watershed to compare with the sediment record. The Commission is planning a tree-ring study to be conducted by the Harris Center to see how the local forests may have responded to environmental changes including periods of drought and air temperature fluctuation.

The Commission is also collaborating with the Harris Center on a new program, Lab Girls Afield, being developed by Susie Spikol Fabor. She is planning a weeklong summer program where kids will study the pond’s ecology and present their findings to the Commission and the town. Look for more news on this project.

Finally, the Commission, on Saturday March 10th will be holding the 1st Annual Norway Pond Symposium at the Harris Center. The purpose of the symposium is to bring together a group of pond/lake researchers to assist the Norway Pond Commission in developing an ecological research and education program for the pond. There will be a public morning session presenting research conducted on Norway Pond and lessons learned from researchers studying other NH ponds or lakes. An afternoon work session will follow where the presenters will work with the Commission in developing a plan for recommended future studies and opportunities. The symposium morning session is free. If you are interested in attending please send an email by March 1st to shevenellsselect@gmail.com so we get a head count and send out a program.
February 2018 HANCOCK HAPPENINGS - 17 -

Thank you to our supporters who makes these programs possible.

The Harris Center for Conservation Education is dedicated to promoting understanding and respect for our natural environment.

Feb 2 (Fri) Easygoing Snowshoe Hike Along Sargent Center Trails
Join Rich Taylor and Lee Baker for a moderately strenuous, 4-mile snowshoe hike along some of the trails on the 800-acre Sargent Center property, with views of the National Radio Astronomy Observatory antenna. Bring lunch and meet at 10am at the gas station at the intersection of Routes 101 and 137 in Dublin. Back by 2pm. For more info, contact Rich at 603.827.4105, rtaylor@gerkensinc.com or Lee 525.5262, snowman3137@gmail.com.

Feb 3 (Sat) Get Fit Hike Up Bald Mountain
Looking to keep your shadow in tip-top shape? Join local health coach Sonya LeClair for a fitness-paced, post-Groundhog Day 2½-mile roundtrip snowshoe hike up Bald Mountain in Antrim. Plan for a fun cardiovascular challenge with periods of rest and fabulous views of Willard Pond. Meet at 10am at the parking area at the end of Willard Pond Road, off Route 123 in Hancock. Back by 11:30 a.m. Registration is required. For more info contact Sonya info@thereluctantenthusiast.com.

Feb 7 (Wed) Nature on Tap: Adventures in Migration
Join Julie Brown, migration enthusiast and monitoring site coordinator for the Hawk Migration Association of North America, as she shares stories of her adventures studying raptors from Pack Monadnock to the tropics. She’ll talk about what makes migration so intriguing and what we’ve learned about raptor populations from migration research. Drinks on you, conversation on us! 5:30 to 6:30pm at the Hancock Inn. Reservations are required, as space is limited. To reserve a seat, contact Sara 525.3394 or lefebvre@harriscenter.org.

Feb 17(Sat)Snowshoe Hike around Castor Pond Wilton
Dave Butler and Jocelyn Duffy will lead a moderately easy, 3-mile snowshoe hike around Castor Pond at the Forest Society’s Heald Tract in Wilton. Cross-country skiers are welcome. Meet at 1pm at the trailhead Russell Hill Road in Wilton, 1.3 miles south of Route 101. Back by 4 p.m. For more information, contact Dave at davidlbutler@comcast.net.

Feb 22 (Thu) Family Program: Babies in Backpacks and Families in Tow
Thursday, February 22
Saturday, March 31
Friday, April 13
Join naturalist Susie Spikol Faber for gentle morning hikes around the Harris Center’s beautiful grounds and trails with your babies and toddlers. As we walk, we’ll look for signs of the changing seasons and discuss ideas for getting outside with young children at all times of year. 10 to 11:30am at the Harris Center. Bring your child's pack, snacks, and water for yourself and your kiddos. For more info, contact Susie at 525.3394 spikol@harriscenter.org.

Feb 24 (Sat) Snowshoeing the Hancock Rail Trail
Join Meade Cadot and Lee Baker for a moderately strenuous, 2 ½-mile snowshoe hike along the Hancock Rail Trail, keeping an eye out for critter tracks. Meet at 9am at the junction of Old Dublin and Jaquith Roads in Hancock. Back by 12:30 p.m. For more info, contact Meade at (603) 525-3394, cadot@harriscenter.org or Lee at (603) 525-5262, snowman3137@gmail.com.

Feb 26 (Mon) First Day of Winter Adventures Camp
Monday through Wednesday, February 26th to 28th
Snow date: March 1
9am to 3pm at the Harris Center For children in grades K through 4 $120 for Harris Center members / $150 for nonmembers
Join us for Winter Adventures, a three-day winter vacation camp filled with snowshoeing, fort building, animal tracking, nature crafts, games, songs, and more! Space is limited, and registration is required. For more info or to register, contact Sara LeFebvre at (603) 525-3394 lefebvre@harriscenter.org.
Dear Hancock Friends and Neighbors,

There are lots of opportunities in the winter months to get out of the house and join some of our special Grapevine programs. Come connect with other families and friends!

- Parents with young and school-age children: Come join our first ever Snow Families Play Day on Saturday, February 3rd;
- For parents of preteens: The Guiding Good Choices program is for YOU!
- Older Teens and adults: Our popular Vine Story Hour at Avenue A on February 15th

With deep gratitude, we would like to thank Mike and Carol Domingue for coordinating the Hancock Community Suppers for the past few years. They have put in a lot of time and dedication to supper coordination and are ready to pass the baton as of May. The Grapevine started these suppers in our area towns 15 years ago. To this day Hancock, Franconestown, Antrim and Bennington offer a monthly community supper on a rotating Thursday. We want to ensure that the suppers continue in Hancock. Enjoying a meal together with friends and neighbors is a wonderful way to build community. If you or anyone you know might be interested in learning more about helping with the coordination of the suppers please contact Melissa at the Grapevine: 588-2620 or Mike and Carol Domingue. Thank you!

**Grapevine Special Programs and Events**

**Free Tax Preparation** with Larry Schwartz of PCH Financial

Appointments will be held on Monday afternoons and evenings starting January 22nd at The Grapevine. Last year Larry extended services to 96 families through The Grapevine. As a member of our People's Service Exchange, Larry also offers financial planning services. Contact the Grapevine to set up your tax appointment at 588-2620.

**Snow Families Outdoor Play Day - Saturday, February 3rd from 10 to 12:** Join us for a morning of fun for all ages on Saturday, February 3rd; 10am -12pm at The Grapevine, 4 Aiken Street. We will be hosting a fun gathering for families to create snow(man) families, bird feeders, do some snowshoeing, and enjoy warm treats. There is no fee to attend but if you would like to contribute to the gathering by way of cocoa, coffee, marshmallows, supplies or help planning, contact Lisa Hennessy at the Grapevine.

**Avenue A Teen Center**

**Special Event**

The Vine Story Hour - "Battle Scars" | Thursday, February 15th at 7pm

Based off the popular MOTH Story Hour that airs on NPR, The Vine Story Hour invites local storytellers to bring their story to the Avenue A “stage”. Come just to listen or seize the opportunity to share your story! This event is for adults and older teens. Admission is by donation. Refreshments provided. All proceeds benefit our programs for local youth.

Email avenuea@grapevinenh.org for more info about our programs. Or call The Grapevine at (603) 588-2620.

**Meet & Greet Monday, Feb 26th** at 5:30-7:30pm

Come on out & mingle with YOUR 2018 Monadnock Roller Derby league! Join some junior and adult skaters in your community for: Pool & foosball games, Scavenger hunt, Door prizes, Refreshments, Learn our league chants, Preview the season schedule, Snap photos with the most bold & beastly athletes around.

The Grapevine is a nonprofit service organization located behind the Tuttle Library and serving residents in Antrim, Hancock, Bennington, Franconestown, Hillsborough, Deering 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 and LIKE us on Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/grapevinenh.org/
HANCOCK HAPPENINGS

February 2018

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. 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, Barbara E Caverly Meeting Room

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

Hancock Library Trustees – 4th Tuesday at 5:00pm in the Daniels Room

Recreation Committee – 3rd Wednesday, 6:30pm., Hancock Inn

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

Water Commissioners – 4th Wednesday at 4:30pm, Town Office Main Floor

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 Main Floor

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.

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.


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 ads. 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.
2018 Ice Out

Chili Supper!

With corn bread and homemade desserts

February 3 @ 5:00 PM

in the Vestry

$5.00/one or maximum $20.00/family

Honoring our two Nancy Adams for their years of service to the Hancock community!

Sponsored by the First Congregational Church of Hancock to raise funds for the maintenance of the Meetinghouse and Vestry