News from the Selectboard  
Submitted by John Jordan, Chairperson

We have been holding extra meetings to develop the budget and we now have a close to the final set of figures. There are only some minor items to complete the budget. At the outset of the budget process, we set a goal of keeping the Town portion of the tax rate flat. It is currently at $5.91 and is close to the lowest in the Conval District. The Town tax rates in the district range from $5.51 to $12.52. Sharon is $5.51, Temple is $5.81 and we are third lowest at $5.91. The next lowest is $7.31. The proposed School Budget results in an increase in the district assessment of .93%. Our school district assessment is currently $15.89 which could result in an increase in the neighborhood of 15 cents.

The Town is in good shape with no deferred maintenance issues and our equipment is being kept up-to-date. There are many people to thank for this including our employees and the numerous volunteers who add much value to our community. We will have to keep a close watch on the future Capital Improvements Plan to keep our budgets in balance. In the March issue we will have a review of the proposed warrant articles.

The Compensation Study is complete and we are making adjustments where they are indicated by the market based data. In general, we are competitive with our salaries and benefits. We will use the study moving forward to make certain that we stay competitive. There are some increased costs due to the adjustments but the value is there and it is important to retain good personnel.

With Jeff Wright as the Department of Public Works Director, we needed to fill his former position of Foreman. Ron Clough who has been with the department for a number of years has agreed to accept our offer to fill the position. Ron has the necessary skills and experience and we are pleased that he has agreed to the promotion. The department will now be looking to train an employee to fill his former position of heavy equipment operator with the primary focus on the road grader.

Please note the following change in Town Clerk hours:

**PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING CHANGE IN TOWN CLERK HOURS:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, February 15, 2017</td>
<td>CLOSED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, February 16, 2017</td>
<td>OPEN: 3pm to 6pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, February 20, 2017</td>
<td>CLOSED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, February 22, 2017</td>
<td>CLOSED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, February 23, 2017</td>
<td>OPEN: 3pm to 6pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Also, the Tax Collector’s Office is open available additional hours. Please see page 19 for details
Thanks!

As you know, I have stepped down as the Chief of HFD, so this will be my last article for Happenings. Tom Bates has been elected by our membership to fill the position. Tom has been with us for 15 years after moving here from Nebraska. We have taught him about trees and hills, and how to be a frugal New Englander, so I think he will do fine. John Pirkey is staying on as Asst. Chief, joined by Mark Thompson, who took Tom's position.

MaryLou has retired as our Treasurer- this was her last month to send out checks to our Raffle winners. Siobhan Martin has taken that job. As a self described "numbers nerd", she should handle it nicely.

MaryLou and I are both staying on the department as fire-fighter/EMTs. I will also stay on in the State position of Fire Warden, so you can still bug me about brush burning permits. I am now 14-W-1 for you people out there in scanner-land.

Looking back, it has been an interesting stretch since 2002. In the post 9/11 era, there has been some trickle-down from the federal government all the way to HFD. We have new radios with state wide interoperability, and also have received grants to purchase new hose and gear. We now have new air-packs and thermal imaging cameras, as well as new diagnostic equipment for patients with cardiac issues. We have 11 EMTs, several with advanced training, to deal with any medical emergencies. We have laughed and cried with the residents and visitors of Hancock. We have seen your kids wreck your vehicles before they learned to watch the road, not their phones. We have fought fires in conditions from 95 degrees down to minus 13. Some older drivers have plowed cars through their garages into their backyards. We have dealt with the aftermath of floods and major ice storms. We have hiked up mountains to put out fires or to carry down bodies, both dead and alive. Lake Nubanusit has always been interesting- remember the year that all the trucks fell through the ice, then the tow truck sent to retrieve them went to the bottom as well? We have dealt with drownings, illegal fires, boat launch accidents, and even a scuba diver with the bends, all on Nubie. We once had to send out a crew to chase down an intoxicated half-naked guy running across the ice. Recently, we have helped out a man who dropped his anvil on his head, and also stood up a big pregnant cow. Never a dull moment, as they say. (I have even pulled a few cats down from trees, but that is not an official HFD duty.)

I am grateful to the men and women of HFD who are always willing to drop what they are doing or to jump out of bed anytime our pagers go off for a call. They spend long hours in meetings and trainings to prepare for whatever emergency might be thrown their way, and then respond in a calm and professional manner. Thanks also to the Select-board and the folks in the Town Office for their assistance over the years. Thanks to the Hancock Police and DPW- they have always been there for us. And Thank You to the editors of Hancock Happenings; Nancy Adams, Nahida Sherman and now Jaime Donovan, for letting me spout off in this space for all these years. In 160+ articles, they only censored me a few times! Thanks especially to the residents of Hancock, who have supported the Fire Department in all our endeavors.

Sincerely, Nevan

January Raffle Winners:
Pamela Stevens, $40; Sue Smith, $20; 
Tammy Garre, Jackie Hill, Rick Haskins, $10 each

Note from the Editor:
I am going to miss reading Nevan’s articles. He has a special way of teaching us how to be safe while making us chuckle!

Thank you for all your articles, Nevan!
News from the Hancock Congregational Church

First of all, we offer our heartfelt thanks to all who participated in our recent drive to collect Shaw’s Saver Stamps so that we could obtain Farberware cooking pots for refugee families arriving in New Hampshire. We know that Hancock is a community that likes to eat, but we had no idea that you would turn in stamps representing $63,800 worth of grocery purchases! We were able to trade them in for 31 pots and pans, including many large stockpots and roasting pans. Special thanks to the Library and Hancock Market for lending us valuable real estate on their counters for the collection boxes.

We are also continuing to collect cereal for the End 68 Hours of Hunger program that is now in operation in our school district. Currently, about 90 children are receiving a bag of food every Friday to tide them over the weekend. We have a collection box in the vestibule of the Meetinghouse, so if you are coming for a concert or other event or want to drop off your contribution during church office hours on Tuesday or Thursday mornings from 10-12:30 (other times hit or miss, or by appointment), we would be happy to receive them. Please note that we are looking for 10-13 ounce boxes of cereal as the larger ones do not fit handily into children’s backpacks.

We hope you are all planning to join us at the Ice-Out Chili Supper on Saturday, February 4. It will be a good time to enjoy various kinds of chili, cornbread, and homemade desserts, and more importantly, to honor our special guest, Nevan Cassidy, for his 15 years of service as Hancock’s Fire Chief. The supper starts at 5 pm and the cost is just $5.00 per person or $20.00 per family. But do consider bringing a little extra for the Ice-out tickets and notecards we will have on sale...All proceeds from this fundraiser go towards the upkeep of the Vestry and Meetinghouse.

And as always, we worship 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 HAPPENINGS
February 2017

HANCOCK HAPPENINGS
February 2017

Hancock Historical Society

The Hancock Historical Society held their annual membership meeting on January 22, 2017. Newly elected officials were welcomed on board as we thanked and said goodbye to the president and vice president. Leaving their positions are Tim Lord, President; John Hayes, Vice President; and Pat Payne, Secretary. They are replaced with Mike Domingue, who will serve as President and Jeff Wilder, Vice President along with Linda Coughlan filling the Secretary position. We wish all newly elected official well in their new roles.

A special thanks goes out to Tim Lord who was instrumental in management of the recent Historical building remodeling project which includes climate control for our artifacts and general building repair. We thank Tim for his endless efforts.

HIA completes Meetinghouse Campaign with 99% rate of pledge receipts

The Hancock Improvement Association has completed its campaign to raise money for the Meetinghouse Restoration. As a result of the generosity of Hancock residents and regional foundations, a total of $305,399 has been received through the end of year 2016. This amount is a remarkable 99.4% of the $307,299 that was pledged for years 2014 to 2016.

Donations have covered one-third of the cost of the $900,000 project. They were received from foundations and from Hancock residents, some of whom are members of the Church that shares the Meetinghouse with the Town. It is interesting to see that the dollars donated break down into one-third from residents in general, one-third from members of the Church, and one-third from foundations.

Generous private and foundation donations totaling $24,000 have also been received to supplement State “LCHIP” funds for the current restoration of the Meetinghouse windows, and for exterior landscaping.

It is a fitting source of pride that both the amount and the fulfillment of pledges for the Meetinghouse have been so generous. The HIA Board is pleased to be part of this exceptional campaign.

Rod Perry, Chair, HIA Board of Directors

Board Members: Regina Brinolf, Hunt Dowse, Lois Haskins, Byron Niederhelman, Nat Peirce, Chuck Van Horn

As part of our meeting and to set the stage for this year’s coming exhibit, attendees took part in watching a WWI newsreel video; WWI will serve as the Hancock Historical Society’s exhibit theme for the summer of 2017.

We look forward to bringing you similar programs throughout the year.

----------

Upcoming Programs & Events

The Ice Harvest – Presented by Ellena Weston Zimmermann
February 19, 2017, 2:00pm. Hancock Library - Daniels Room

Submitted by: Pat Payne
ICE OUT CONTEST UNDERWAY

The ice was here, the ice was there,
The ice was all around:
it cracked and growled, and roared and howled,
Like noises in a swoodl

Coleridge, Rime of the Ancient Mariner

Do not be faint-hearted. Participate. Tickets available
at the Hancock Inn, Market, and Fiddleheads. Also
on line at http://hancock.iceout.us

PHC Tax Service
$ Half Price $ 50% off whatever
you paid any other
tax preparing firm
last year-guaranteed
Larry Schwartz (RTRP)
603-525-3312
Personal & Small Business

General Carpentry        Fully insured
Roofing, Caretaking

John A. Huntley

28 Old Hancock Road
Hancock, New Hampshire 03449
Home (603) 525.5210
Cell (603) 831.0864

Hearing loss affects
one in ten people in America

Hearing loss can make you feel
embarrassed, frustrated, isolated. But it
is treatable!

Our experienced audiologists are experts
in helping people of all ages improve
hearing function – so you
can fully participate
in life again.

CALL FOR AN APPOINTMENT
AUDIOLOGY SERVICES
603.547.3311, ext. 1660

CROTCHED MOUNTAIN
Audiology

PETERBOROUGH  GREENFIELD
Board Chiropractic Office  Crotch Mountain
Another "Tale From Home"

While playing intermission piano I noticed one of the guests watching me intently. Finally he came up and said, “You look exactly like the guy who plays trombone with the Smith Street Society. You could be his twin brother!”

When I explained that I was the same guy and just played different instruments with different bands, he drew back, scowled and said, “Nah...you don’t look THAT much like him.”

Tai Chi for Arthritis and Health

A safe and gentle exercise program for adults with arthritis and others interested in a beginning level of Tai Chi movements from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m. on Wednesdays at the Library - Daniels Room. Ten-week session with Instructor Howard (Howie) Eng will start on Wednesday, March 15th, 2017. Cost is $70; $50 for Seniors. Wear loose, comfortable clothing and shoes with flat soles, e.g. sneakers. The Arthritis Foundation of USA, UK and Australia support this program. To register or for more info, please call 603.716.0798, or just show up.

Submitted by Howard Eng
Hancock Town Library Events
Amy Markus, Hancock Library Director
http://hancocktownlibrary.blogspot.com
Mondays and Wednesdays 2:00 to 6:00pm
Tuesdays and Thursdays 10:00am to 7:00pm
Saturdays 10:00am to 4:00pm

Over 60 people signed up for our first annual HTL Ping Pong Tournament! We are in full tournament mode here for the next month or so. We will announce winners in early March. Feel free to stop by to watch anytime! Just call ahead to see when play takes place in the Daniels Room.

Valentine’s Day is almost upon us – try our Blind Date with a Book for adults and teens! Starting February 1st there will be books wrapped in plain brown paper available for check-out. You can’t open it until you get home though. Hopefully you’ll be pleasantly surprised and find a favorite new title (or author)!

Candy Jar Contest during the month of February! Guess the number of candies in the jar on the front desk and you win the entire thing! First correct/closest guess wins. One entry per person.

Tuesday February 7th at 7:00pm
An Evening of Stories with Larry Chambers
Storytelling makes human connections in the most entertaining and sometimes profound way. Join us for an evening of mesmerizing stories for all ages with Larry Chambers. “Larry Chambers, a cross between Santa Claus and a Southern Minister, brings joy and passion to his work and others.” That’s how a classroom teacher recently described Larry. The School Program Director at Sargent Center, Larry designs and directs the outdoor school program for thousands of New England students. Sargent Center is an extension of the classroom where students learn through hands-on activities in the real world or as one student said, “Sargent Center is the place where the ordinary come to get extraordinary and where the extraordinary come to change the world!” A storyteller since 1992, Larry creates and collects stories to help students of all ages make authentic and meaningful connections with the real world and with each other too! Enjoy an evening of stories Larry uses in his work to educate, motivate, challenge and inspire students of all ages. Free and open to all.

Thursday February 9th at 7:00pm
Understanding ACES (Adverse Childhood Experiences), Health, and Addiction
The research is clear: childhood trauma can damage the body and brain. In this presentation, participants will learn about Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACES), their undeniable relationship to disease and addiction, and how the ConVal Substance Abuse Task Force is making it the focus of their prevention work. Presenters will be Emily Daniels, Student Assistance Counselor and the facilitator the ConVal Substance Abuse Task Force along with other members of the task force. Ms. Daniels has a B.A. in Sociology and Women’s Studies and an M.Ed. in School Counseling from the University of Delaware. She also holds an MBA from Antioch University New England in Organizational and Environmental Sustainability. She has extensive experience working with at-risk youth, ages 3 to 18 and providing support through individual and group counseling. The Substance Abuse Task force is a diverse group of community members from the high school, middle school, elementary school, and MCH as well as physicians, parents, students, and police officers. The Task Force has been facilitated by Ms. Daniels since 2014. Free and open to all.

Saturday February 11th from 10-4
Winter Frolic Ping Pong!
Tournament play will be going on but if there’s a break in the action, feel free to pick up a paddle and try your hand at ping pong. The table will be up all day!

Tuesday February 14th from 6-7pm Ask Your State Representative with Rep. Jon Manley
On the second Tuesday of each month we will host Representative Jon Manley (Hillsborough County District 3: Bennington, Greenfield, Hancock) who will answer your questions and talk about the state legislature. Stop in on your way home from work. We’ll have snacks! Free and open to all.

Thursday February 16th at 12:30pm
Books Sandwiched In
Join us this month as we read The Paris Wife by Paula McLain. A deeply evocative story of ambition and betrayal, The Paris Wife captures a remarkable period of time and a love affair between two unforgettable people: Ernest Hemingway and his wife Hadley. Copies of the book available at the front desk.
2017 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Hancock Winter Frolic

Friday, February 10, 2017
7:00–9:00PM "Stink Bug" Story Hour @ the Depot

Saturday, February 11, 2017
8:00–9:30AM Hancock Inn Breakfast ($10/ADULT, $5/CHILD)
9:00–10:00AM Guided Snow-Shoe with Susie Spikol
9:00–12:00PM Ice Fishing Derby on Norway Pond
9:00–2:00PM Story Walk
11:00–12:00PM Box Sled Races
12:00–2:00PM Broomball Tournament

Sponsored by Hancock Recreation Committee
Hancock Winter Frolic

2017 SCHEDULE
OF EVENTS

Friday, February 10, 2017
7:00-8:30PM  “Stink Bug” Story Hour @ the Depot
Join us for stories about living in Hancock. Stories are told in the MEP "Moth Radio Hour" format.
Storytellers will include Jarvis Cuffin, Ken Schilling, Kari Shumway, Kelly Arkel, Kristi Bemler, David and Susan Young, and a surprise guest or two. Light refreshments served.

Saturday, February 11, 2017
8:00-9:30AM  Hancock Inn Breakfast ($10/Adult, $5/Child)
Enjoy pancakes, bacon, quiche, fruit, and a beverage. Adults/ $10, Children (12 and under)/ $5, Babies (2 and under)/ free

9:00-10:00AM  Guided Snowshoe Trek with Susie Spikol
Experienced guide Susie Spikol will lead a snowshoe trek around Norway Pond. She will also indicate the future location of a potential New Trail System. If you need snowshoes for this event, email susiespikol@gmail.com. Snowshoe trek begins on the Norway Pond Beach.

9:00-12:00PM  Ice Fishing Derby on Norway Pond
Phil and Addison Dodge, resident fishing experts, will be the official judges for the event. Prizes for winners in the following categories: Children 10 and Younger, Tweens 10-14, Teens 14-18, Adults

9:00-2:00PM  Story Walk
Jen Wood, Children’s Librarian, has selected a story that will be posted at stands around Norway Pond. This is a self-guided activity.

11:00-12:00PM  Box Sled Races
On the sledding hill behind the horse sheds is where all the action occurs. Sleds must be constructed of cardboard (not sleds covered with cardboard). Prizes for winners the following age categories: Preschool (ages 5 and younger), School Age (5-10), Tween (10-13), and most creative.

12:00-2:00PM  Broomall Tournament on Norway Pond
Scott Daniels will coordinate teams and competition. Don’t forget to bring your helmet!

Sponsored by Hancock Recreation Committee
Tuesday February 28th from 1-7pm
Celebrate Fat Tuesday at the Library!
Drop in anytime between 1 and 7 pm to make your own Mardi Gras mask! Open to everyone, adults and children alike. We will have masks and lots of fun and sparkly decorations for you to create your Mardi Gras masterpiece. Snacks and jazz and Fat Tuesday masks in the Daniels Room -- laissez le bon temps rouler!!

From the Children’s Room
Jennifer Wood, Children’s Librarian

Tuesday February 7th at 3:30pm Lego Club
Come play with Legos and build your own creation. Each person gets to display their creation until next month's Lego Club. Open to all ages!

Wednesday February 8th at 4:30pm
Teen Advisory Board
This advisory board meets once a month to discuss programs and select materials to purchase. Open to ages 10yrs to 18yrs old. Snacks are served.

Saturday February 11th 10-1
Storywalk at Winter Frolic
Walk or snowshoe along a trail that tells a story at this year’s Hancock Winter Frolic. The story from the book Bear Snores On will be laid out along a trail for you to read as you go along. The trail will be open 10am to 1pm at Norway Pond Nature Preserve on Depot Road in Hancock. Co-sponsored by the Harris Center for Conservation Education and the Hancock Town Library.

Saturday February 18th at 11am
Read with Toven
Toven is a Great Pyrenees who loves to sit and read with you. Come share your favorite story with Toven. Open to all ages.

Mondays February 6th and 13th at 3:30pm
Paws to Read with Coffee
Coffee is a small mixed breed dog who loves to give kisses and hear stories. Come practice your reading skills with Coffee. Open to all ages.

Tuesday February 28th 1-7pm
Mardis Gras Mask Making
This is a drop in craft that is open to everyone, adults and children alike. We will have masks and decorations for you to create your own mask to celebrate Mardi Gras.

Wednesday March 1st 3-5pm Robots!
We will be working on more challenging puzzles with our Robots this month as we see what types of tricks we can do. Open to ages 5 and up.

Thursdays at 10:30am Storytime
Every Tuesday morning we have a family storytime where we read some stories and sing some songs together. Join us for a fun morning of activities.
Stonehouse Forest Awarded $1 Million Federal Grant

Major grant from US Fish and Wildlife Service’s National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Program boosts effort to conserve 1,500 acres in Barrington, NH

Photos: The Stonehouse Forest property includes several natural ponds. The property includes an exemplary natural community with black gum trees aged at 450 years old. Select an image for larger, high-resolution photos.

BARRINGTON, NH -- The 1,500-acre Stonehouse Forest in Barrington, NH, just got one step closer to being a reality with the announcement of a $1 million Federal grant from the National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grant Program, administered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). The grant, awarded to NH Fish and Game Department, will support the Department’s partnership with the Southeast Land Trust of New Hampshire (SELT) to conserve this expansive and unfragmented forestland. “This one million dollar Federal grant from the National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grant Program will help ensure that 232 acres of coastal wetlands buffered by high quality forested uplands will be available for fish and wildlife species in perpetuity,” said NH Fish and Game Department Executive Director Glenn Normandeau. NH Fish and Game’s grant was part of more than $17 million awarded by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to 20 projects in 10 coastal states to protect, restore or enhance more than 13,000 acres of coastal wetlands and adjacent upland habitats under the National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grant Program. (See the national announcement) “We are proud to help conserve important coastal wetlands in the Northeast like the Great Bay Estuary-Stonehouse Forest Coastal Wetlands property,” said Wendi Weber, USFWS Northeast Regional Director. “Wetlands are valuable natural resources for wildlife as well as for people, providing flood protection, improved water quality, economic benefits and recreational opportunities.”

The entire article can be read at http://archive.mailermailer.com/view/110280990m-aace382d%2a1217486f-79fd5239

PRIVATE CHEF, COOKING LESSONS, PERSONAL ASSISTANT, & ELDERLY CARE/COMPANIONSHIP
Liliana Musteata is highly experienced and is seeking new clients in the Monadnock region. Please contact her to learn more: 603-313-4762

Support Hancock Happenings advertisers!
They allow you to enjoy the newsletter at no cost to you!
AIRPORT TRANSPORT
Linking Hancock area with MHT, Logan and Bradley
Jane Billings cell 547-0665

CLASSIFIEDS
Classified rate in Hancock Happenings:
20 cents per word, maximum of 50 words.
Call Jaime Donovan, editor, 903.0190 or
email happenings@hancocknh.org

HOUSECLEANING
As needed
Pet & plant care; Housesitting
45 years in Hancock.
Peggy Emerson 525.8050

Antrim’s Blossoms Early Learning Center
is accepting registration from infants to seven
years old children. Daily preschool curriculum,
with nurturing responsive teaching, developmental
practices. 588-2405, info@BlossomsABC.com,
enrichment classes forming.

Tammy Garre - REALTOR®
Serving the greater Monadnock area
Direct: 603-630-2185
Email: tammy.garre@beanpgroup.com

Bellows-Nichols Insurance
Your road to Coverage
since 1836
FOR ALL YOUR INSURANCE NEEDS!
We represent over 25 “A” rated regional and
national insurance companies.
We make sure you have the coverage
you need at the most competitive price!
And we are located right here in your
community... so please call, come in,
or go on-line today for a free quote!
27 Main Street, Hancock, NH
525-3342
www.bellowsnichols.com
FIND US ON FACEBOOK!

Critter Solutions
“We get them out and keep them out!”
Professional Home Sealing
603-525-8116
Gary McCullough
State Licensed, Bonded and Insured
ART EXHIBITS AT THE LIBRARY

“Morning Serenity,” “A Study in Blue,” “Into Darkness,” “The Passage,” “Dawn Greets me,” “Where Sand and Sky Meet,” “Morning, Dew, and Quiet”—these are just a few of the titles of Lisa Mann’s exquisite artwork on display in the Daniels Room.

An abstract landscape painter working with oil and cold wax medium, Lisa writes that her art is a reflection of collected stories from a lifetime of adventures of living, traveling, and working overseas: “It is an expression of a feeling of a place that comes through in colors and gestures.” Lisa’s show can be viewed through Thursday, February 16.

*   *   *   *   *

Starting Saturday, February 18, and continuing through Thursday, March 30, watercolorist Alicia Cubbage will exhibit her work: “Mystery & Magic of the Natural World.” A reception is planned for opening day from 4:00 to 7:00 to which the public is cordially invited.

A New Hampshire native, Alicia and her husband, Aaron, live in Peterborough. She started painting in 2014 after attending a watercolor workshop. The workshop was a reminder of her love of the watercolor medium and a jumping off point for her own journey as an artist. Her love of the natural world and her life in New Hampshire inspire and influence her paintings.

“There is magic in the natural world,” she writes, “and I don’t think it is always visible with the naked eye so I like to bring it out in my paintings to show the beauty and mystery that is all around us. I also like to laugh and have fun, so you will see that some of my paintings have a whimsical and silly element to them. I add these elements because they make me smile and I hope they bring a smile to others as well.

“The creative process is a wonderful healing tool. It helps us connect to ourselves on a deeper level by being in the present moment and practicing self-expression. It is my hope that my love for painting will inspire you to your own creative expressions and as a result bring healing into your lives.”

Art shows can be viewed in the Daniels Room during regular library hours: Monday and Wednesday, 2:00 to 6:00; Tuesday and Thursday, 10:00 to 7:00; Saturday, 10:00 to 4:00. The library is closed on Friday and Sunday. It is wise to call the library (512-4411) before traveling any distance to attend a show because the room is sometimes reserved for community meetings and events.

Submitted by Sandy Taylor
News from the Depot

“What good's permitting some prophet of doom?  
To wipe every smile away  
Life is a cabaret, old chum!  
So come to the cabaret!”  
-- From "Cabaret" by Fred Ebb & John Kander

February 4 Depot Cabaret

This month, our feature will be Crazy Cowz! Known for their tight harmonies and eclectic mix of original and cover songs ranging from acoustic-guitar-based ballads to straight-ahead rock n’ roll, Crazy Cowz has performed all across New England, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and beyond. For this performance, the full band will participate, so bring yourself, your friends, and your favorite beverage, and get ready to rock out!

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
- March 4: The Lied To’s
- April 1: Justin Cohn

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.

Haley’s Service Center, LLC
4 Forest Rd • Hancock NH 03449
603-525-8024

Is your care hesitating to start in this cold weather?  
You may need a new battery,  
We stock Interstate batteries all year!  
Battery, alternator, starter test is $15.00 this month

Featuring state of the art equipment, computer scanner and dealership tools to diagnose and repair your vehicle.


www.facebook.com/HaleysServiceCenter
February 2017  

HANCOCK HAPPENINGS

February 2017

HANCOCK HAPPENINGS

Inspirational quote: We often take for granted the very things that deserve our gratitude. ~ Cynthia Ozick

Crystal Tea Ceremony event held at: 123 Prospect Hill Road, Hancock from 1 – 4pm on January 29th. The tea ceremony will somewhat follow the Chinese tradition in honor of the Chinese New Year, the Year of the Rooster.

The event will be as follows: Meet and Greet; next the Crystal Tea Ceremony including scones and biscuits, huge selection of organic teas. Anne Marie Will is available for card readings following the tea ceremony. There is a charge for the card readings. All of the other activities are gratis.

We are showcasing a small boutique for your collecting pleasure: crystals, pendulums, angels, etc. A large crystal grid will be available for you to sit inside of for a private, quiet meditation. Yoga for your hands. A 20 minute introductory session for self healing with your very own hands. Closing with a 2 minute meditation. This event is for 12 guests - RSVP required. Contact: Arlene Smith 603-933-3294 or Email: healthnurturer@gmail.com Snow date: Sunday, February 26th.

 Monadnock at Home will be taking part in a live webinar featuring Dr. Atul Gawande, MD, MPH, author of the seminal book Being Mortal. To celebrate the 15th anniversary of the first aging in place Village, and the Village movement it inspired, Beacon Hill Village in Boston has invited Villages around the country to participate “virtually” in this event. Dr. Gawande will speak about the value of community and opportunities as we grow older and answer questions from Villages around the country. Monadnock at Home will broadcast the live event at our office (SDE Building) in Peterbrough, on Feb. 13th starting at 4:15. We will have a light dinner catered by Fiddleheads Cafe, followed by the live broadcast from 5pm-6pm, and concluding with a question and answer session from our panel of local professionals to include Dr. Mike Lindberg, Chief Medical Officer for Monadnock Community Hospital; Chris Gallagher, Retired Social Worker for Cheshire Medical Center; and Rev. Jamie Hamilton, Rector of All Saint’s Episcopal Church in Peterborough. MaH members and the public are welcome. RSVP by February 6th to sandrafaber@monadnockathome.org or call 603-371-0809. Check out our website www.monadnockathome.org for more great programs!

On going during February 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

Remember February is heart health month and VALENTINE'S DAY, the 14th.

Respectfully Submitted, Arlene Smith
Monadnock Roller Derby

 Monadnock Roller Derby is a registered NH nonprofit. We are a league of skaters and community members dedicated to the sport and spirit of roller derby. Our members come in all shapes, sizes, colors and flavors. We have multiple jobs, roles, challenges, and gifts, but above all, we are tribe.

Monadnock Roller Derby is ramping up its 2017 season with exciting developments and opportunities for skating and non-skating community members to get involved.

The league is joined this year by Sarah "Sprawkett" Wright. For those who are not yet familiar, Sprawkett is newly returned to the Monadnock Region after playing with the Texas Roller Girls, who are HUGE in the world of roller derby! She is one of Monadnock Roller Derby's original members, and in addition to her skills on the track, she has experience as an educator, is a fantastic organizer and task-master, and has a lot of enthusiasm for the sport and our community, all of which she is bringing back home.

Sprawkett is offering her training talents to community with non-skating fitness sessions on Saturdays, 10-12 at the Elementary School, now through April 29. The intention is to welcoming space for average people to practice cross-training and self-care regimen, alongside roller derby players in their community, to improve core-strength, flexibility, and balance. This "boot camp" style sessions consist of two 45-minute sessions with health/fitness discussion breaks. The classes are free for Monadnock Roller Derby league members; a $5 donation is suggested for interested community members. Participants should bring a yoga mat or blanket, athletic shoes, water bottle, and (optional) free weight for more resistance if desired. To RSVP, call Sprawkett at 603-748-9945 or email sprawkett@gmail.com.

Monadnock's junior roller derby team, the Mad Misfits, is very quickly gaining in terms of performance and teamwork. After holding their ground against NH Roller Derby's Sabotage Sisters last season, the Misfits are ready to take on three junior teams this year. They are a great bunch of kids who work hard and have fun!

Monadnock's women's team, the Mad Knockers, is also on track to compete with several tough teams from throughout New England, with new and returning skaters.

Monadnock Roller Derby is a nonprofit league dedicated to the sport and spirit of roller derby. Its mission is three-fold: Challenge ourselves to get back up, as many times as it takes; Challenge one another to be our best, because no one survives alone; and Create a safe and supportive space for all members to learn, grow, and destroy fear.

For more info visit www.monadnockrollerderby.com

Norway Pond Water Quality Meeting

On January 17th, I invited several concerned citizens to discuss Norway Pond water quality. The following people attended: myself, Tom Shevenell, Rod Perry, Dick Warner, Eric Aldrich, Peter Beblowski, and Tim Theberge. We had a rich discussion that lasted longer than our scheduled time. Here were highlights of our discussion (CAVEAT, the following information is what I gleaned from the geologists and other "experts" around the table):

Norway Pond has had stable water quality over the last 20 years;
Upon preliminary studies conducted by Tom Shevenell and water sampling completed by Dick Warner, the overall health of Norway Pond appears better than the public believes;
“Brookies” (Brook Trout) thrive in Norway Pond. This is an indicator of good water quality;
Norway Pond is the only natural pond body of water in the region. All others are dammed: Nubanus-it, Willard, Gregg Lake, SpoonWood, MacDowell, etc;
Norway Pond is shallow compared with other local bodies of water. Its greatest depth is about 19 feet. This along with its low flush rate (19.2%) contributes to warm water temperatures;
It’s plausible that a “triple effect” of environment factors contributed to the cyanobacteria that resulted in the August beach closing. Drought, heavy rainfall and warm water temperatures create the perfect growth conditions for bacteria;
It’s unknown exactly the impact geese and beaver activity has on water quality; A commission was formed in 1986 to study this exact issue in town. Folks expressed an intention to reauthorize this commission at the 2017 Town Meeting;
More in depth study may help indicate how we can direct action for the most impact;
This group of individuals believe the recreation committee should present at town meeting about this matter. The recreation committee agreed.

If you wish to join our effort to make a difference about this issue, please contact Emily Daniels (525-4443) or Tom Shevenell.

Submitted by Emily Daniels
HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION: The new year of 2017 is HERE! Do you still have the urge to write “2016” as the year? Me too, but this means that springtime is not far off, which also means Hazardous Waste Collection will resume at the Keene Recycling center in the near future. Director of Public Works Jeff Wright is handling the application to Keene as this is being written. Scheduling and details on the recycling of hazardous waste materials should be available in the March issue of Hancock Happenings and on information boards at the Hancock Recycling Center. Traditionally, hazardous waste collection has begun in early April each year, with collection dates scheduled for Hancock on two Saturdays and one Wednesday each month through October.

DUMP STICKERS: This is a reminder that your current dump sticker should be attached to the inside of the lower left corner of the front windshield. Every year when you register your vehicle in the Town Clerk’s office, you receive a new Town of Hancock dump sticker with lettering color that matches the color of the inspection and license plate date stickers. Hancock property owners whose vehicles are registered elsewhere may obtain a Hancock dump sticker by visiting the Town Clerk’s office during office hours. If someone’s windshield does not have a dump sticker attached, the attendants are authorized to exercise the unpleasant task of denying the vehicle operator the use of the recycling center. This is to help keep costs down for all the residents; non-residents sometimes use our facility to dump their trash, which means residents ultimately pay for it, since we pay to have trash hauled away. A dump sticker properly displayed will help prevent unneeded questioning as to someone’s user status, and dump personnel already have enough to do.

PLEASE TELL ‘EM “THANKS” FOR A JOB WELL DONE: Whether the weather is cold, raining, icy, hot, dry, or any combination, the guys and gals at the dump work awfully hard for the residents of Hancock. Behind the warm greetings of the paid staff, the work they do is physically demanding, requires constant awareness of the hazards of the job, sometimes involves the unpleasant task of questioning one’s status but in general, are really helpful to us in disposing of our fetid trash and recyclables. We drive away relieved and freed of our unwanted stuff (out of sight, out of mind-) and they take it from there. THANK YOU to Tim, Chester, and Raf, for all you do. And we must not forget the Swap Shop crew that does such a great job of sorting, helping, and making the shop orderly. The Hancock Swap Shop has taken the New England tradition to a higher level. To this crew of dedicated volunteers, a big “Thank You” as well.

For the Dump Committee, Denny Caldwell
Hancock Woman's Club
2017 Scholarship for Adult Women

The Hancock Woman’s Club annual scholarship is once again being offered. This year’s scholarship will be in the amount of $1,000.

To qualify, an applicant must be:
- An adult woman in mid-career. OR
- An adult woman who plans to either begin, change or return to a career after years of family rearing or other responsibilities.
- A current resident within the Conval School District and has lived there at least 2 years.
- Applicant must provide official confirmation of acceptance or enrollment in an educational program, such as a college, university, technical or other training school or professional organization.

To obtain an application:

Write to the:
Hancock Woman’s Club
PO Box 366,
Hancock, NH 03449
or
Call: Joyce Perry 525-3304

Deadlines
Applications must be received no later than March 31, 2017.
Applicants will be notified of the Scholarship Committee’s choice in early May.

This is not a school-sponsored event.
HANCOCK WOMAN’S CLUB

As we celebrate the ‘special days’ in February:
14th Valentine’s Day
20th President’s Day and the father of our nation
22nd our first President, George Washington’s Birthday,
we can claim HWC our day per the following!

The story below tells us just how Hancock Woman’s Club began in 1922. Thanks to Diane Kidd, Archives/Records Management Committee!

HAPPY 95th BIRTHDAY, Hancock Woman’s Club!

Just 95 years ago, on a cold February 4th, the Hancock Woman’s Club met in the Vestry for the first time with forty charter members, an acting chairman and a clerk. Those in attendance adopted a constitution and by-laws, and voted to have annual dues of $1.00 per member. Also agreed upon was to meet every second Wednesday of each month at 2:30 pm in the Vestry. The Woman’s Manual of Parliamentary Law by Harriette Shattuck was adopted. Officers were elected by ballot and Marie Whiting Peitersz became the club’s first president. At a special meeting four days later, the standing committees of Entertainment and Hospitality were formed. They also agreed to serve tea at the close of each meeting and a committee be appointed to serve. The ladies also voted that “the Hancock Woman’s Club unite with the New Hampshire Federation of Woman’s Clubs.” Some of those “first traditions” have been replaced with other traditions, but like them, we still value community involvement. We welcome all women to join, engage interesting speakers, beautify our town and perform numerous charitable acts. The club hopes to remain a valuable asset for Hancock and fulfill the legacy set down by those forty women so long ago.

Our meetings are open to the public and you need not be a member in order to attend. Please come and check us out!

Wednesday, February 8, 2pm in the Vestry our guest artist will be Jane Cartmell who will have us create a piece of “Coffee Stain Art.” Yes, so get ready for some fun and see what you can make through this art form where we use a base cloth and splash coffee stains on it; then using special pens, the participants trace around the patterns that are created. The designs can then be sewn into squares and made into a wall hanging.

What is a ‘birthday’ without a cake! Our tea committee, Carol Carlisle, Sara LeFebvre and Alison Rossiter will serve us some birthday cake along with coffee and tea. Diane Kidd will bring scrapbooks and by-folds from the archives to display some of the club’s mementos.

The Hancock Woman’s Club is offering scholarships for adult women in mid-career; an adult woman who plans to either begin, change or return to a career after years of family rearing or other responsibilities and must be a current resident residing in the ConVal School District for at least 2 years. Applicant must provide official confirmation of acceptance or enrollment in an educational program such as, a college, university, technical or other training school or professional organization. An essay of no more than 2 pages is required along with the application. Please direct questions to Joyce Perry at 525-3304, or request an application by writing to the Hancock Woman’s Club, PO Box 366, Hancock, NH 03449. Application must be received no later than March 31, 2017. Notification of Scholarship Committee’s choice will be in early May. The scholarship award will be sent directly to the academic institution.

Would you like to know more about the Club? Check us out at www.hancockwomansclubnh.org, or on Facebook, Hancock Woman’s Club New Hampshire.

Submitted by Gertie Kanner
Grapevine Special Programs and Events - for all programs please call 588-2620 to register

Free Tax Preparation
IRS-certified tax preparer Larry Schwartz is providing free tax preparation at The Grapevine on Mondays from 2 - 6pm beginning Monday, January 23rd. All returns will be filed electronically. Call The Grapevine now for your appointment.

Super Duper Tea Party! Saturday, February 11th from 11 – 1 at Antrim Town Hall
This year we’ve given our annual tea party event a bit of a facelift! Our **Super Duper Tea Party** invites children to come donning their favorite super hero or tea party costume (or anything in between)! Tickets are $10 each, which include 1 adult and 1 child (max family expense of $20). (Reservations are recommended for preferred seating). Delicious baked goods, light lunch fare and beverages, with tea of course, will be served. Call 588-2620 for more information.

The Vine Story Hour: "All for Love" - February 2nd, 7pm at Avenue A Teen + Community Center
Based off the popular MOTH story telling hour that airs on National Public Radio, The “Vine” Story Hour invites storytellers to bring their story to the Avenue A “stage”. Come just to listen or seize the opportunity to share your story with a captive audience! Your story must be a true account of something you experienced and must not exceed five minutes. Admission is by donation. Proceeds benefit the Grapevine Family and Community Resource Center. Delicious soups will be served! This event is intended for adults and older teens.

How to Talk to Your Teens...About Anything- Feb 9 at The River Center
Take the fear out of communicating with your children. Join our discussion about: the Internet, Helpful? Harmful? developmental stages and family meetings. Featuring Parent Educators; Bonnie Harris, M.Ed, Carol Lunan , M.Ed & Shannon McNamara, LICSW. Co-sponsored by The River Center and The Grapevine. Hosted at the River Center

Presentation on ACES (Adverse Childhood Experiences) and the toxic effects of stress – Feb 13 from 6 – 7
Conval Student Assistance Counselor Emily Daniels, member of Conval’s Substance Abuse Task Force, will present on the ACES research; which looks at childhood trauma and stress and its impact on brain development. **Note: A Narcan training (interceptor of heroin overdose) may be available after this presentation**

Guiding Good Choices in March - Begins Wednesday, March 8th for five Wednesday evening sessions.
This nationally-recognized workshop, teaches parents of children ages 9-14 the effective family management and communication skills needed to help reduce their children’s risk for using alcohol, tobacco and other drugs. Says one parent, “Guiding Good Choices gave our family the skills to help our son deal with peer pressure. Now that he’s in high school, we’re thankful we took the course when he was nine.” Offered in partnership with Great Brook and Antrim Elementary Schools, and generously sponsored by Bank of New Hampshire. Pizza dinner is provided and childcare is available. Call 588-2620 to register.

Ongoing Programming
Grandparents Parenting Grandchildren
If you are parenting your grandchildren, you are not alone. “Grandparents Parenting Grandchildren” meets monthly and is free. Grapevine parenting educator Carol Lunan and River Center parenting educator Wendy Hill co-facilitate discussions on topics of interest to participants. Recent discussions have focused on advocacy and speaking for the children. 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 – on Tuesdays and Fridays at the Grapevine from 1:30 – 2:30
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! Call us for more information.

WEEKLY CHILDREN’S PROGRAMS Please call Carol at 588-2620 to sign up for programs, or for more information.
Avenue A - On the Frontlines of Prevention
By: Jacqueline Roland
Coordinator, Avenue A Teen + Community Center

“I just feel really happy when I’m here.” That’s what a teen told me at Open Hours last Friday. I couldn’t help but smile, because I know how much his words mean. Now more than ever, teens face tremendous challenges. Data from the NH Youth Behavioral Risk Assessment shows that one out of every four teens in our region was bullied in the last year, and 28% of local teens felt hopeless for over two weeks in a row. To make things worse, our state ranks highest in the nation for youth binge drinking and opiate abuse, according to the 2016 “Voice of New Hampshire Young Adults” survey by the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). On top of all the stress of adolescence, our teens are dealing with exposure to a myriad of drugs and risky behaviors. It’s overwhelming, to say the least.

In the midst of these challenges, Avenue A has become a haven for local youth. In the DHHS survey, teens reported that boredom, stress-relief, and peer-pressure were the top reasons they engaged in behaviors like binge drinking. At Avenue A we combat these factors by giving teens a safe, supervised, drug-free place to interact and learn new skills. This is prevention. And, it’s valuable.

Regardless of the program, we always have caring staff and volunteers available to listen to teens, and even that fills a void—44% of local middle schoolers say they don’t have an adult they could go to if they needed help with a problem. Nearly all our programs are free, which is a huge draw for parents and teens alike.

Our Creative Writing Club, led by Cynthia West, Publisher of Monadnock Living Magazine, draws a steady group of 10 writers each week. High school students also enjoy sharing music at our monthly Teen Open Mic Nights. Topics like “Drawing on the Right Side of the Brain” and “Exploring Abstract Art” connect middle and high school students with local artists through our ongoing art workshop series. And, over a dozen middle school students meet on Wednesdays for the Avenue A afterschool Club, led by Coordinator Arlene Soule.

Once a month during Friday Night Open Hours, John Anderson and Ragdoll Animation Studio let teens play games with their Virtual Reality set. January’s “VR Night” brought in 30 teens from Antrim, Bennington, Hancock, and Franconia. The Anderson Family and Ragdoll Animation also donated an Xbox One to Avenue A in December, and the Antrim Police Association contributed funds to purchase controllers and games. It’s already provided hours of fun!

Community partners have been instrumental in the success of our programs. Last fall, the Monadnock Roller Derby partnered with us to offer roller skating classes, and they raised funds for Avenue A at one of their bouts. ConVal High School’s English Department invited me to visit classrooms for Writing Club promotion. They also helped us make the Club an Extended Learning Opportunity—now students can earn credit for their writing. From Principal Elder to the front office, the amazing staff at Great Brook Middle School are great supporters of Avenue A. Throughout the school year, I’ve enjoyed visits to the GBS Morning Show. Many teens connected with Avenue A thanks to their coverage of our programs!

As always, new programs are in the works! In February, we’re starting a teen pick-up basketball program in cooperation with the Antrim Rec Department. Students from New England College are helping us offer more art programs through internships. They’ve also volunteered with local writer Becky Sakalleriou to facilitate a middle school creative writing club at Avenue A. Looking ahead to summer, we’d love to offer additional open hours and programs, but we need more funding and volunteers to make that happen.

Our community makes Avenue A possible, filling an important need for local youth. This programming matters to families and teens. It’s evident in their attendance of our programs, in the happy hum of activity at Open Hours, and in little things like the container of pretzels that a Mom sent to Avenue A—the note on the lid said “Thank you for providing a safe place for our kids.”
The Harris Center for Conservation Education is dedicated to promoting understanding and respect for our natural environment through education of all ages, direct protection and exemplary stewardship of the region's natural resources, conservation research, and programs that encourage active participation in the great outdoors.

**Wednesdays, February 1, 8, 15, and 22**

**Nature Writers – Reading, Writing, and Discussion**

2 to 3:30 p.m. at the Hancock Town Library

$40 for Harris Center members / $60 for nonmembers

This reflective course is rooted in a keen appreciation for both nature and those who write about it. We’ll discuss writers who offer us their deep observations, poetry, meanderings, humor, spiritual meanings, and scientific study of nature. We’ll enjoy painters, dancers, and composers who pay homage to nature in their works. We’ll take heed and inspiration from authors who warn us about threats to the natural world. And perhaps we’ll do a little of our own writing or painting, as well. **Space is limited and registration is required.** For more info or to register, Sara LeFebvre at lefebvre@harriscenter.org or (603) 525-3394.

David Robins is a retired minister and a trail steward for the Harris Center’s Hiroshi Trail. He loves the writing craft, grew up near the Pine Barrens of southern New Jersey, and enjoys canoe trips to Minnesota’s Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness.

Feb 4 (Sat) **Winter First Aid and Outdoor Safety**

Join Joslin Bennett, longtime outdoor enthusiast and former SOLO Wilderness Medicine instructor, for an introduction to outdoor safety in all types of winter weather. This free course won’t provide a certification, but it will help you hike smart and safe this winter, teaching you how to handle common winter first aid situations. **10am to 2pm at the Harris Center.** Further details will be provided upon registration. **Registration is required.** For more information or to register, contact Sara LeFebvre at (603) 525-3394 or lefebvre@harriscenter.org.

Feb 11 (Sat) **Hiking the Eastview Rail Trail**

Join Meade Cadot and Francie Von Mertens for a moderately easy, 2 ½ mile roundtrip hike over level terrain on the Eastview Rail Trail, past a beaver flowage and across a new footbridge over Nubanusit Brook. The walk will continue on the new trail around “Little Skatutakee (otherwise known as North Pond).” Trip leaders will recount the Y2K conservation story when nearly 1,000 acres were protected in the Eastview region. Bring water and a snack, and **meet at 9:30am at the junction of Jaquith Road and Hancock Road in Hancock.** Back by 12:30pm. If the snow is more than 8 inches deep, snowshoes are in order. If you’d like to borrow a pair, please call the Harris Center by February 8. For more information, contact Meade at 525-3394 or cadot@harriscenter.org, or Francie at 924-6550 or vonmertens@myfairpoint.net.

Feb 18 (Sat) **Tenney Pond Backcountry Ski**

Dave Butler will lead a moderately strenuous, 3.5-mile cross-country ski to Tenney Pond in the SuperSanctuary. This trip is appropriate for both novice and intermediate backcountry skiers. Bring lunch and skis, and **meet at 10am at the Harris Center to carpool to the trailhead.** Back by 2:30pm. For more information, contact Dave at (603) 472-5608 or davidbutler@comcast.net.

Feb 22 (Wed) **Nature on Tap – Real Life Stories from Mount Monadnock**

Join Ben Haubrich for an evening of storytelling drawn from his two decades as Managing Ranger of Monadnock State Park. After this happy hour chat, Grand Monadnock will never look the same to you again. Drinks on you, conversation on us! **5:30 to 6:30 p.m. at the Hancock Inn.** Seating is limited and registration is required. To register, contact Sara LeFebvre at (603) 525-3394 or lefebvre@harriscenter.org.

Feb 25 (Sat) **Second Session of 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 from the loss of a loved one, the end of a relationship, life transitions, or earth-centered grief. 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. Bring water and snowshoes, or reserve a pair of ours when you register. **Registration is required.** For more info or to register, contact Sara LeFebvre at (603) 525-3394 or lefebvre@harriscenter.org.

Feb 27 (Mon) **First Day of Winter Adventures Camp**

**Winter Survival Skills for Middle Schoolers**

Monday, February 27  9am to 3pm at the Harris Center for ages 10 through 14

$40 for Harris Center members / $60 for nonmembers

Join Eagle Scout and Harris Center naturalist Michael Hightower for a day of learning winter survival skills, including fire making, shelter building, food and water gathering, and basic winter first aid. Learn how to “lost-proof” your hikes, and connect with your inner Yeti. This day could teach you how to save your life! **Space is limited and registration is required.** For more info or to register, contact Sara LeFebvre at 525-3394 or lefebvre@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 Pettegrew, Edna Drasba, Sandy Brooks, Josephine Warner, and Marcia Coffin. (Sorry if I missed anyone)
Printing by Gem Graphics;
2017 Ice Out
Chili Supper!

With corn bread and homemade desserts

February 4 @ 5:00 PM
in the Vestry
$5.00/one or maximum $20.00/family

Honoring Nevan Cassidy as he retires after 15 years as Chief of the Hancock Fire Department

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