News from the Selectboard
Erik Spitzbarth, Chairman for the Selectboard

PRIMARY ELECTION DAY IS
TUESDAY, FEB 9th

This year there are some significant changes that both Voters and Ballot Clerks should be aware of.

VOTERS:

PLEASE remember to bring your photo ID

1. When you arrive announce your name, AND the party to which you belong. If you are UNDECLARED, announce the primary in which you want to vote..... Republican or Democrat.

2. Provide the clerk with a valid Photo ID. Failure to present an acceptable Photo ID will require verification of identity by either the Moderator, Supervisors of the Checklist or Town Clerk. Ballot clerks cannot provide verification.

A Challenged Voter Affidavit (CVA) IS required if a Voter’s ID is not verified by an authorized official.

New this cycle: Completion of the CVA REQUIRES a facial photo be taken and attached to the form. Completion of an Affidavit of Religious Exemption can be attached to the CVA in lieu of the photo.

3. Undeclared Voters wishing to remain Undeclared will need to sign the Undeclared Voter Re-registration form before leaving the polls.

That’s it! Enjoy your right and responsibility to vote.

BALLOT CLERKS:

1. Repeat the name given by the Voter, locate and post (check mark) the name on the checklist, REPEATING the name again. In the case of an undeclared voter, the party ballot chosen will be posted (NOTE: If the voter’s name IS NOT on the checklist, the Ballot Clerk shall direct the Voter to the Supervisor of the Checklist/Registrars.). State the domicile and mailing address on record for verification. Inconsistencies will be corrected, HOWEVER if the current address is NOT in Hancock, the Voter will be informed that they are NOT at the correct polling place and can only vote where they are domiciled.

2. Out-of-state driver’s licenses or non-driver licenses will be noted by posting the two letter abbreviation representing the state on the checklist.

2016 BUDGET is in the final stages of review by the Selectboard. All efforts are made to balance the prudent needs of our town’s residents on a day-to-day basis. Extraordinary expenditures and charitable donations are handled by the Warrant Article process and left to be voted on separately at Town Meeting. Public meetings will be scheduled to present the budget and review of proposed capital expenditures by bond or notes over $100,000.00.
ICE!

It seems like every winter, I have to learn the hard way that ice is slippery. After an inch plus of rain that came down on a Sunday in January, the temperature dropped, and the thin layer of snow on the ground became a skating rink. I wound up on my backside more than once trying to work in the yard before I smartened up and put on my "boot chains." They are just what they sound like, basically tire chains for your feet. They give you much, much better traction on ice. (Just don't wear them on the wooden floors in your house, or you'll get yelled at....) There are several versions of chains or creepers for any size footwear. Try a pair; it beats a sore butt.

Be cautious driving on icy or snow-covered roads as well. It seems like more and more of us own all wheel drive vehicles, which are great for our NH winters. However, it's the turns and stops that can get you in trouble. Slow down on questionable road surfaces. Give the Hancock DPW and State DOT trucks room to do their plowing and sanding.

Ice has it's upside, if you are a skater or ice-fisherman. (Also if you like your Scotch on the rocks.) Norway Pond freezes up quite reliably, as there is not much circulation there. Nubanusit is different- the wind and currents and huge variations in water depth make for ice conditions that change from spot to spot. Resist the urge to drive on any lake; it is not worth the risk of drowning, or the cost of getting your vehicle fished out. A rule of thumb is that about 4" of good black ice is more than adequate for people on foot. We train our members every year in the basics of ice rescue, but if you fall through and can't get yourself out, it will be a very chilly time waiting for us to get there.

At our annual January elections, Joshua Moreen became our newest Captain, joining the father/ son team of Mark and Spencer Thompson. Josh spent 7 years in the Army Infantry, retiring as a Sergeant, so he certainly has some leadership potential.

Mark, MaryLou, and I have been running CPR classes for all HFD members, as required by state law. Thanks to the folks that gave up another evening for this training. We recently put it to use on a January call, and everyone did a great job working as a team.

I hope that by the time you read this, the Patriots will be getting ready for Super Bowl 50! Whatever happened to the use of Roman Numerals for the Super Bowl? I guess Super Bowl "L" just didn't sound right.

January Raffle Winners:
Werner Kanner, $40; Gertie Kanner, $20; Otis Wilder, Karen McWhorter, Chris Ingalls, $10 each

Hancock Fire & Rescue
Nevan Cassidy, Chief, Hancock Fire Department
What’s Happening at HES

Parents’ Night Out
sponsored by the HES PTO

Friday, February 12, 6:00-8:00pm
Hancock Town Library Daniels Room
For children K-Grade 5

Featuring: Inside Out
Do you ever look at someone and wonder what’s going on in their head? “Inside Out” takes a rollicking journey into the mind to find the answer. Based in Headquarters, the control center of 11-year-old Riley’s mind, five emotions are hard at work, led by the lighthearted optimist Joy. She strives to make sure Riley stays happy as she operates alongside fellow emotions Fear, Anger, Disgust, and Sadness. Rated PG

Your children can join us for a fun evening with popcorn and a movie! Children are welcome (not required) to wear their pajamas and/or bring a blanket, sleeping bag, pillow, etc.
The cost is $8 per child. Payment is received at the door.

Peterborough Folk Music Society

Barnstar!
February 12, 2016
$20 adv/$25 night of concert
Barnstar! is Charlie Rose, Zacharish Hikman, Mark Ewell, Taylor Armerding & Jake Armerding. Barnstar makes Bluegrass for people who hate bluegrass. This ain’t your daddy’s bluegrass. Except in the case of Jake Armerding, his dad is in the band.
Tickets available at Tootsalo Books in Peterborough, Milford & Keene or online at Ticketsago.com/PFMS
Info: (603) 827-2065 Email: deb@pfmconcerts.org

Ed’s Shoe & Leather Repair

140 Monadnock Highway #3
Swanzey, NH 03446
603 355-1133

Tues–Fri 9am-6pm
Sat 9am-5pm
May drop off at Hancock Market

Nancy M. Driscoll
Owner
Ice Out 2016

Hancock’s Ice Out Contest for 2016 is underway. Sexton Dick Warner, with the help of Bob Fogg, Sr. and Matthew Hale installed the little church on the pond on Sunday, January 17, 2016. The ice at the time was five inches thick.

Tickets may be purchased from any member of the First Congregational Church of Hancock, any member of the Ice Out Committee, and at the following cooperating firms: the Hancock Market, Fiddleheads Café, and the Hancock Inn. Price of tickets is $2.00 each or $5.00 for three tickets. Completed tickets may be submitted until midnight on March 31, 2016. The rules of the contest are posted on each ticket.

Proceeds from this fundraiser are shared 50%/50% with the person who submits the ticket most closely predicting the actual time the ice goes out and the maintenance fund devoted to upkeep of the our town’s most commonly used buildings, the Meeting House and the Vestry.

This is the fourth year for the Hancock Ice Out Contest. Prior winners picked the following dates:

- 2013 April 10th
- 2014 April 16th
- 2015 April 15th

Thank you for supporting this worthwhile program and good luck.

HANCOCK HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Hancock Historical Society program for February will be showing a double matinee with a 1934 film titled “Skiing, sledding, and snowshoeing in New Hampshire”. The second feature is titled “Secrets of the Mt. Washington Hotel”. This 40-minute film provides us a history of the grand resort in New Hampshire's Bretton Woods and can also provide some insight to the old days in Hancock when trains and stage coaches brought tourists to our grand town. These videos will be shown Sunday, February 28, 2016, at 2:00pm in the Daniels Room of the Hancock Library and will conclude approximately at 3:15pm. We hope you will join us!

PHC Tax Service

$ 50% Savings $ 
From what you paid another tax preparer last year-guaranteed

Larry Schwartz (RTRP)
603-525-3312
Personal & Small Business
Dump News

**Plastics, The Market, the Recycling Rate, and Thanks, Karlene.**

The market for recycling materials rises and falls just like other commodities, and for the present time, the market for plastics is down. Plastic buyers currently are paying less per ton than what it costs the town to process the plastics. In order to prevent having to sell the plastic at a loss, and until the price recovers to a level advantageous to the town, the plan is to store the plastics, even if it takes several months for the price to return to an advantageous level.

Recent figures compiled for the calendar year 2015 on tonnage of the various materials handled at the Hancock recycling and Transfer Station show the recycling rate at 40 percent, about three percent lower than 2014. That is still a pretty good percentage. Yet when we consider the “other side of the coin” (60 percent of our waste went into trash, nearly 346 tons of it in 2015) and when we observe recyclables of all kinds (cash money) being thrown down the chute, it is evident that we can improve. Hauling of trash from the compactor is the most expensive means of disposal for us, and there is still significant amount of recyclables that end up there. Every recyclable put in the trash ultimately COSTS all of us. But putting those cans, bottles, and junk mail into recycling ultimately helps to bring INCOME to the operation which keeps costs down. The Dump Committee thanks all those who regularly recycle. It helps all of us.

Kurt and the Dump Committee would like to send Karlene Embler our best wishes upon her departure from the committee, and we thank Karlene for all her work as a member.

*Submitted by Denny Caldwell*
Another "Tale From Home" at www.herb-gardner.com

An NPR guest was describing the help that the Marquis de Lafayette had given the colonial army against the British during the Revolutionary War. "If it weren’t for the French, we’d all be speaking English today!"

Join Divine Mercy Parish’s Women’s Guild as they host the community supper on Thursday, February 25, 2016 at 5:30pm at the Vestry.
Submitted by Mike & Carol Domingue

Dear Citizens of Hancock

My name is Marc Edscorn and I am a Boy Scout of Peterborough Troop 8. I was in need of a Service project in order to achieve the highest rank in scouting and that is Eagle Scout. Your Conservation Commission offered me a project, removing and replacing a bridge by your town's elementary school [the leads to Kepner Meadow]. The current bridge has become unsafe and is rotting, my goal is to make it new! so that the school and other programs of the town may have a path to get to the ball field instead of walking on the highway. But for this project I am going to need help removing the old bridge and building the new bridge.

The current planned work dates are

**Removal day**
2/13/16
with a bad weather date of 3/12/16
Starting at 9:30am and going to 3:00pm (depending on how fast we remove the bridge and weather)

Dress Warm! Wear warm work gloves. There will be hot cocoa and food.

**Building day**
4/9/16
With a bad weather date of 4/23/16

Please RSVP me at scoutermarc117@gmail.com

The Circle of Strength would like to thank the people that made donations for our Christmas giving to the active troops and local Veterans. Without your help we would not be able to do these wonderful acts of kindness to the people who protect us or have protected us each day and night. We sent care packages to the deployed troops, gift checks to the active military in the USA, and 15 gift cards from Dunkin Donuts and 20 gift meals from Rick and Diane Restaurant in Antrim NH to our local American Legion and VFW Veteran's or surviving spouses. It was a small token of our appreciation for their services past and present. We believe it is never too late to say thank you to our Military members. We included wonderful handmade cards from the Great Brook School Students and a local 4-H group. I know the troops love to receive these cards from the children. It reinforces why they joined the military, in that they are protecting us All here at home. We also will be bringing lovingly handmade Lap blankets made by one of our group members and her mom to the Manchester VA Hospital with some other goodies.

These are some of the people and companies we liked to thank that donated to our Christmas 2015 Gifts: Ms. Nancy Clarke, The Brick Ends Financial Services, Mr. & Mrs. Richard Woodin, Mr. & Mrs. Sue Conklin, The Hancock Womens Club, Ms. Bonnie Drummond, Mr. & Mrs. Hollister.

Thank you all,

Susan Ellsworth, Founder of The Circle of Strength Military Support Group
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

New Children’s Librarian: Jennifer Wood

Please stop in and welcome Jennifer Wood to the Hancock Town Library and the Hancock community. Jennifer grew up in Peterborough and has worked as a Teen & Technical Services Librarian in Wilton, NH and as a Reference & Children’s Librarian at the Cincinnati Public Library. Jennifer invites you to come in and tell her about your favorite programs and/or programs you might like to see hosted by our library. She’ll be here Monday and Wednesday afternoons and Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10:00am until 5:00pm.

Mondays at 9:00am Yoga with Chris Justice
Gentle stretch yoga class. Bring a mat and a blanket. $15 per class or $60 for six weeks.

Saturday February 6th from 11:00am – 12:30pm
Writing Workshop: What’s the story your life longs to tell?
Explore the stories waiting to unfold. Using a series of accessible, invigorating prompts, Leaf Seligman will lead you on a writing path to stories that matter. Open to novice and experienced writers alike (age 16 and up). Leaf Seligman, author of A Pocket Book of Prompts delights in working with folks to make meaning, deepen connection, and inhabit joy through writing. She teaches at Keene State and serves on the board of Monadnock Restorative Community. This program is free thanks to the Friends of the Hancock Town Library but you MUST register by February 3rd. Please stop by the library or call us at 525-4411. We will need at least four participants in order to hold the class. Snow date is Saturday February 27th.

Tuesday February 9th at 7:00pm
Celebrate Fat Tuesday with Louis Armstrong
Grab your beads and your beignets and join us for Fat Tuesday in the Daniels Room at the Hancock Town Library! In the beginning there was Satchmo…Louis Armstrong. He was the grandson of slaves and an iconic trumpeter and vocalist who brought jazz from the brothels of Storyville, New Orleans to the bright lights of New York City. Kid Ory, King Oliver and Fletcher Henderson were players in Armstrong’s influential rise to stardom while the Chicago and New York mob fought over this charismatic jazz star. Vocalist Nanette Perrotte adds this classic jazz from the Big Easy to her portfolio of interactive multi art-form jazz presentations. Laissez le bon temps rouler! Free and open to all thanks to the Friends of the Library.

Thursday February 18th at 12:30pm
Books Sandwiched In
Bring a brown bag lunch and join our library book club this month as we discuss Anne Tyler’s latest novel, A Spool of Blue Thread. Copies of the book are available at the front desk.

Saturday February 20th at 7:30pm at Avenue A Teen & Community Center in Antrim
Sticks and Tricks Adult Game Night
A collaboration of The Grapevine and the Hancock Town Library, this adults-only night of fun will be offered the third Saturday of each month from 7:30-10pm. On site pool, foosball, ping pong, board games, poker, or bring your own game! Begins Saturday, Feb 20th at the Avenue A Teen & Community Center, Antrim. Suggested $5 donation

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Wednesday February 24th 10:00am – 12:00pm
Waiting in the Departure Lounge
with Pam Erdmann

This workshop will explore the concept of Waiting in the Departure Lounge before the Big Trip.

For those of us of “a certain age” there is an awareness of being on the last leg of this journey called Life. There is plenty of information about how to leave your assets, how to plan your funeral, how to set up living wills, etc., lots of "how to's". The real unspoken question is a closer examination of who we really are as we wait to make this transition, waiting in the Departure Lounge. What do we bring with us? What could we leave behind, with intention and deep self-understanding. In short, what do we need to let go of, what do we need to hold close by. This experiential workshop will be done with deep self-exploration, humor and a sense of our human commonality and interest in this time of transition. Pam Erdmann is seventy-eight and intensely interested in how we hold ourselves at this stage of life. There seem few discussion groups on this subject or even much writing so she has “invented” Waiting in the Departure Lounge for both her needs and her suspicion that other elders might also be interested in the discussion. There is no fee but Pam encourages you to make a donation to the library. Please register for this program by contacting Pam Erdmann directly at 525-4424 or by email: grammypam37@myfairpoint.net.

Thursday February 25th at 7:00pm
Lefty Blue Musical Concert

Monadnock area performers Brian Murphy and Monica Laskey-Rigrod joined forces to form Lefty Blue Music Duo two years ago. Brian has been a fun-loving, free-spirited vocalist and musician since dinosaurs roamed the earth. He plays a variety of instruments including guitar, banjo, and mandolin, and is known to weave humorous anecdotes into his lively performances. Monica, a Hancock resident, has performed in the shower her entire life, and only in the last few years has been brave enough to open that shower door and sing in front of a live audience. Their debut performance was at this very library a year ago and ever since they have been performing at area restaurants, open mics, and nursing homes. They perform an eclectic range of musical styles, hitting every genre: Motown, country, jazz, blues, golden oldies and classic rock. They have a special affinity for romantic love songs and toe tapping, bouncy numbers that connect with their audiences to get them grooving along with them. This concert is free and open to all, thanks to the Friends of the Library.

Coming in March…
Introduction to Bridge! A three-part program to teach you the fundamentals of the card game bridge beginning Monday March 7th at 4:00pm.

From the Children's Room
Jennifer Wood, NEW! Children’s Librarian

A Note from Callie Faucher
I just wanted to thank you all for making my year at the Hancock Town Library so wonderful! As I move on to new adventures, I will always look back on this year with great fondness.

Hancock is filled with such kind, creative, and friendly people – it truly is a special place that I will miss. Keep reading! ~Miss Callie J

Make and Take Valentines
During the month of February, drop in anytime the library is open and make a Valentine. We will have all supplies on hand in the Children’s Room. Come by and create something special for the ones you love!

Wednesday, February 24th at 3:30pm
Afternoon Movie
Come watch a movie on the big screen at the library during school vacation! Popcorn will be served. Movie title to be announced.

Mondays February 1st & February 15th from 3:30 to 4:30pm Paws to Read with Coffee
Come by the library after school 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! Adults are always welcome to come in just to visit and pet Coffee. Proven stress-reliever!
Saturday, February 27th from 11am to 12pm
Paws to Read with Toven
Come read to Toven, a gentle Great Pyrenees dog! Toven, a registered reading therapy dog, comes to the library one Saturday a month and loves when kids read to him. Reading to a therapy dog is great for children who want to improve their out-loud reading skills. Come meet Toven, you will love him! Adults are always welcome to come in just to visit and pet Toven. Proven stress-reliever!

Every Thursday at 10:30am Story Time
We always have fun at Story Time! Each Thursday morning we sing songs, read stories, dance with scarves, play, and do crafts. For preschoolers and their parents and caregivers. Held in the Children’s Room of the Hancock Town Library. No need to sign up; just drop in when you can.

Tuesdays: February 2nd & February 16th from 3:30 to 4:30pm Lego Club
Due to its popularity, Lego Club is now held twice a month, on the first and third Tuesday of each month. Come to the library after school to work on your Lego creations or try a Lego building challenge. Bring your friends! Held in the Children’s Room of the Hancock Town Library.

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

Is your car 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
Do you know? Leap Day, on February 29, has been a day of traditions, folklore and superstitions ever since Leap Years were first introduced by Julius Caesar over 2000 years ago.

And, are you interested in finding out -
- how you can take charge of your health,
- health problems we face, the lifestyle that contributes to them,
- solutions that fail to fix them,
- and how to take personal responsibility to fix it yourself?

Then, you should attend our meeting on Wednesday, February 10th at 2pm in the Vestry regarding a "Healthy Living Workshop, Taking Charge of Your Own Health," with Dr. David Cretsinger, Chiropractic 202. He will speak on Alternative Medicine and how you can effectively take charge of your health through prevention and wellness; teaching us how to become proactive and responsible for our own health. Please feel free to invite anyone you know who would be interested in this program. Our meetings are always open to the public.

After the program, tea, coffee and delicious light refreshments will be served. All this prepared by our tea committee Carol Carlisle, Terri Lombardi and Mimi Mason.

REMINDER: The Hancock Woman's Club's 2016 $1,000 Scholarship for Adult Women application deadline is fast approaching. Applications must be received no later than March 31, 2016. For more information or to obtain an application, please contact Joyce Perry, 525.3304; OR in writing, Hancock Woman's Club, PO Box 366, Hancock, NH 03449. New this year, the club has expanded the area of eligibility to adult women living within the ConVal School District. Applicant must have lived here for more than 2+ years. The Scholarship Committee's choice will be notified in early May. Hancock residents.....if you know of any adult woman who may be returning to school after rearing a family or had other responsibilities, please share this information with them.

Check us out on FB!

Submitted by Gertie Kanner
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Mon-Fri 6:30am-7pm • Sat 8am-7pm • Sun 8am-3pm

Will Punxsutawney Phill see his shadow on February 2nd??

Random Fun Fact About Valentine’s Day
It is used to be believed that if a woman saw a robin flying overhead on Valentine’s Day, it meant she would marry a sailor. If she saw a sparrow, she would marry a poor man and be very happy. If she saw a goldfinch, she would marry a millionaire.
CLASSIFIEDS

Classified rate in Hancock Happenings:
20 cents per word, maximum of 50 words.
Call Jaime Donovan, editor, 525.9459 or email
happenings@hancocknh.org

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Jane Billings 525.4641
References Available

HOUSECLEANING AS NEEDED
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Peggy Emerson  525.8050

Presidents' Day Facts
Presidents' Day falls on the third Monday in February. It is also known as Washington's Birthday, after George Washington, our first president. The day is meant to celebrate George Washington and all the presidents of the US. Even though Presidents' Day is a federal holiday, each state is free to call it what they choose and how to celebrate.

There were four presidents born in February:
George Washington  February 22, 1732
Abraham Lincoln February 12, 1809
William Harrison February 9, 1773
Ronald Reagan February 6, 1911

The Town Office is open.

Explore the multi-faceted work of Fish and Game's Nongame and Endangered Wildlife Program, conserving more than 400 species in New Hampshire that are not hunted, fished or trapped, at www.wildnh.com/nongame.
ART EXHIBITS AT THE LIBRARY

While planning for their exhibit, “The Road Not Taken,” Ingeborg Seaboyer, Corinne Dodge, and Judy Krassowski read and re-read Frost’s work, so they could match just the right words to the appropriate visuals. Many of his poems resurfaced with the familiarity and comfort of old friends; others, more unfamiliar or obscure, presented their own intrigue and challenges.

The artists chose one poem to be interpreted with their individual styles as the lead works for the exhibit. Each subsequent work is accompanied by a selected verse with the artist’s notes, explaining the process or personal perspective that she applied to that particular piece. Images are in pen and ink, watercolor, acrylics, and oils, and an exhibit reference book provides additional information on the artists as well as upcoming exhibit venues. The show remains on view in the Daniels Room through February 18th.

“The February Project: Images with Brush, Word & Lens” brings together three artists with three distinctive mediums that express their intimate views of the world. John Sirois, Sandy Sirois, and Carolyn Gregsak have been drawn together in friendship while being inspired by each other’s work.

John and Sandy Sirois are a familiar couple to the art watchers of the Monadnock Region. John’s paintings offer a refreshing perspective on familiar scenes. They convey a strong sense of freedom and joy through the use of color and form.

When Sandy discovered her artistic expression through a camera lens, her artistry, in turn, blossomed. Her photographs communicate layers of meaning through an emphasis on the texture and perspective found in the details of our surroundings.

Carolyn is a former Peterborough resident who has shown her mixed media work in the local area. These current works on paper are a monochromatic display, simple in form and presentation. Complexities arise in a closer observation of the written word, original diary entries alongside the typewritten transpositions.

All three artists shape and are shaped by their individual mediums. As their friendships have deepened, the common and varying threads in the artistic tapestry has continued to shape their individual artistic expressions.

“The February Project” will be exhibited from February 20th through March 31st. An opening reception is being held on Sunday, February 21st, from 1:00 to 3:00pm.

Art shows in the Daniels Room can be viewed during regular library hours: Monday and Wednesday, 2:00 to 6:00pm; Tuesday and Thursday, 10:00am to 7:00pm; and Saturday, 10:00am to 4:00pm. The library is closed Friday and Sunday. It is best to call the library (525-4411) to make sure the Daniels Room will be available at the time of your visit.

Submitted by Sandy Taylor

The Mollers, Inc.

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Tammy Garre  Darleen Raitto
Janet McEwen  Carol Nelson
Sean Kerwin

Hancock Happenings is available online at
http://www.hancocknh.org/hancock-happenings
Feb 5 (Fri)  Easygoing Hike through Nichols Woods in Sharon
Join Ollie Mutch and Lee Baker for a moderately-strenuous, 4-mile roundtrip hike through the Nichols Woods in Sharon. Bring water, lunch, and snowshoes. **Meet at 10am next to Ocean State Job Lot in Peterborough (at the junction of Routes 101 and 202) to carpool.** Back by 3pm For more information, contact Ollie at 978.386.5318 wapack@peoplepc.com, or Lee at 603.525.5262 or snowman3137@gmail.com.

Feb 7 (Sun)  Hike in Hancock's Big Woods
Meade Cadot and Russ Daigle will lead an easy, 3.5-mile snowshoe hike along the Channing, Boulder, and Dandelyon trails through the large block of protected land once known as "The Big Woods." In the 19th century, when most of the region was cleared for agriculture, these woodlands were spared, courtesy of the large boulders that made it difficult for loggers to clear the land. Bring water and snowshoes.  **Meet at 9:30am at the Harris Center.** Back by 12:30pm For more info contact Russ at 603.477.7506 or Meade at 603.525.3394, cadot@harriscen ter.org.

Feb 13 (Sat)  Deering Wildlife Sanctuary Timber Harvest Tour
Join Phil Brown (NH Audubon), Matt Tarr (UNH Coop Ext), Jeremy Turner (Meadowsend Timberlands), and Wendy Ward (Natural Resources Conservation Service) for a tour of an active timber harvest on NH Audubon's second largest property. This walking tour will demonstrate how carefully planned timber harvests can be designed to improve wildlife habitat and accomplish additional goals. Wildlife experts and foresters will discuss how various management techniques can benefit a diverse assortment of wildlife – including many of our familiar bird species.  **Meet at 9am at the upper parking area of the Deering Wildlife Sanctuary on Clement Hill Road in Deering.** Dress for the weather and bring water, a snack, and snowshoes. Back by noon. Co-sponsored with NH Audubon and UNH Coop Ext. Please RSVP to Phil Brown at (603) 525-3499 or pbrown@nhaudubon.org.

Feb 14 (Sun)  Harrisville Rail Trail Hike
Join Rich Taylor and Russ Daigle for a moderately strenuous, 3-mile roundtrip snowshoe hike along the Harrisville Rail Trail and the new Rail Trail Connector to Merrill’s Four Corners. Bring snowshoes, water, and lunch.  **Meet at 10am at the Rail Trail parking lot on Hancock Road in Harrisville (next to the dam on North Pond).** Back by 2:30pm. For more info, contact Rich at 603.827.4105, rtaylor@gerkensinc.com or Russ at 603.477.7506.

Feb 17 (Wed)  Nature on Tap: Intoxication in the Animal Kingdom
Join Brett Amy Thelen for stories of intoxication from the animal kingdom. From boozy bears to wasted waxwings, wallowed wallabies to tipsy tree-shrews, we’ll separate fact from fiction in this light-hearted happy hour (what else?) conversation. **5:30 to 6:30pm at the Hancock Inn.** Drinks on you, conversation on us! Seating is limited and reservations are required. To register, contact Sara LeFebvre at 603.525.3394 or lefebvre@harriscenter.org.

Feb 20 (Sat)  Second Session of ESI Course Fire for Survival, 9am to noon at the Harris Center
**Per morning: Members $25 /Nonmembers $35**
Join Primitive Skills Specialist Ian Lockwood for two winter mornings, learning the ancient art of fire making. Working with primitive tools such as bow drills and flint and steel, learn a variety of ways to start a fire during winter’s harsh conditions. Practice and more practice will be the name of this all-outdoors course. During the second class, when you have begun to master fire-making skills, you’ll expand your repertoire to include brewing a cup of tea from available winter vegetation. This mini-course could save your life! A great program for families with children in Grades 5 and up. Space is limited and registration is required. For more info or to register, contact Sara LeFebvre at lefebvre@harriscenter.org or 603.525.3394.

Ian Lockwood has been studying primitive living skills for the past three years, both in Washington and at the Primitive Skills School outside of Augusta, Maine. He’s excited to share his knowledge and passion for living in the wild.
News from the Depot
February Hancock Depot Cabaret!

“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," music by John Kander, Lyrics by Fred Ebb

On Saturday, February 6th, we are joining forces with the Hancock Recreation Committee to make the Winter Frolic an event to remember! In fact, we’ll be hosting two events:

- First, from 1:30-3:30pm, we’ll host the Kids Talent Show & Karaoke at the Hancock Depot. If you have children who want to sing a song, perform a poem or skit, or do a dance--the sky’s the limit--be sure to bring them along to the Depot! In addition to the music, we’ll also provide hot chocolate, cider and cookies.

- Second, we’ll have our adult Depot Cabaret. This month, we’ll be featuring a number of local musicians, and, of course, anyone is welcome to sign up for the open mic spots. The show begins at 8:00pm; doors open at 7:30pm if you want to sign up to play one of several open mic spots. In addition to the music, visitors will enjoy snacks, veggies, and drinks (BYOB)! We’ll also hold a 50/540 raffle, so you just may walk away a winner! All proceeds go to help support the Depot.

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 Association will use to keep the lights on and provide general maintenance for the Depot.

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:

Email: hancockdepotcabaret@yahoo.com
Phone: 508.641.0076

Like us on Facebook and receive automatic notifications about upcoming shows.

A Heartfelt Thanks to Bob Fogg!
The Depot Association would like to thank Bob Fogg from the bottom of our hearts for helping to keep the Depot parking lot clear of snow and ice...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.

HOLISTIC HEALTH PROFESSIONALS CENTER

"Let all that you do be done with Love." 1 Corinthians 16:14

Bowenwork Discussion Series/Bowenwork and Back Pain
When: Thursday, February 4, 2016
Where: Holistic Health Professionals Center
123 Prospect Hill Rd, Hancock, NH
Cost: Free of charge / open to All Time: 6:30 - 8:00pm
Bring your back pain with you. Snacks provided.
Contact: Rose Bochicchio 603.831.2027
e-mail: rogodbo10@yahoo.com
www.compassionatestaffingllc.com

On going during February our practitioners are available by appointment:
Bowenwork - body healing sessions - Rose Bochicchio, RN - 603.831.2027
Spiritual & Angel Card readings - Annmarie Will, CST, RM - 845.800.3764
Sound Therapy sessions available with Annmarie Will, CST, RM - 845.800.3764
Past Life & Angel Card readings - Susi Marrotte, BA, RM, CST - 603.547.7604

SPECIAL EVENT: Sunday, February 21, 2016; 1:00-4:00pm - Ladies Love Fest & Mary Kay Spa! Come and be pampered! Time for YOU! Beauty Makeovers! Experience the new Spring Colors! Healthy snacks and refreshments. Reserve your spot: Susi Marrotte - 603.547.7604
Hello Hancock Friends and Supporters,

Winter is a time when many of us tend to hunker down and hibernate, or at least, we tuck away a bit more than we would in those warmer months. But we’ve got the cure for the winter blues! We have a number of new and fun programs being offered this winter, as well as the continuing programs that run throughout the year. I encourage you to take a peek at the child and adult events we have planned, and consider trying something new. We’re also really interested in how we bring the Grapevine to YOU. Do you have an idea of something we could offer in Hancock? Send me an email with your thoughts and ideas: melissag@grapevinenh.org or call: 588.2620. Thank you for your continued support!

SPECIAL PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

Card Making with Cards By Pam
Parent & Child Valentine Card Making with Pam Berry. For parent and child age 4 and older. Each person will go home with 2 beautiful cards. $5 per person. Call 588.2620 to register. **Saturday, February 6th at 9:00am**

3rd Annual Fancy Schmancy Tea Party
Get out your fanciest schmanciest outfits and get ready for our 3rd Annual Fancy Schmancy Tea Party! Tickets are $10 each, which include 1 adult and 1 child (max family expense of $20). Tickets will be sold in advance at the Grapevine and at the door. (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. **Saturday, February 13th from 11-1 at the Antrim Town Hall.**

Stop, Drop & Romance
Leave your child with us while you and your significant other enjoy an afternoon of romance! Each child will be provided with a healthy snack, outdoor play and enrichment activities. Cost: $15 first child; $10 each additional child. **Sunday, February 14th 1-4pm at the Grapevine**

WINTER PROGRAMS

Better Beginnings for Newborns and Infants
Join and connect with other parents of new babies, share successes and challenges, and learn parenting and coping strategies in this exciting, yet tiring phase of life! Facilitated by parenting educator Nancy Macalaster, MEd. Welcoming infants up to 6 months old. Expectant parents welcome! Call 588-2620 to register and for more info. **Beginning in January 2016 Wednesdays from 1:00–2:30pm at the Grapevine**

Free Tax Preparation
Larry Schwartz, PCH Financial, IRS-certified tax preparer
Last year, Larry extended financial services to 63 families through The Grapevine. Not only does he help prepare taxes but he has also helped many families with budgeting and financial planning. This year he was named “Man of the Year” by the Peterborough Chamber of Commerce. Thank you, Larry for continuing to offer your time and expertise! **Now scheduling appointments for Mondays starting January 18th from 3-6pm at The Grapevine. Call 588.2620 to schedule your appointment.**

Sticks and Tricks Adult Game Night
A collaboration with the Hancock Library, this adults-only night of fun will be offered the third Saturday of each month from 7:30-10pm. On site pool, foosball, ping pong, board games, poker, or bring your own game! **Begins Saturday, February 20th at the Avenue A Teen & Community Center, Antrim. Suggested $5 donation**

Internet Safety Awareness Program
Are you concerned about the content and security of what your middle school child views on the internet? Watch for details about this upcoming winter program to be held at the Avenue A Teen & Community Center.

The Grapevine is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit family and community resource center located at 4 Aiken Street in Antrim, behind the Tuttle Library. For more information call 588.2620, email us at admin@GrapevineNH.org or visit www.GrapevineNH.org. We gratefully accept donations, which are tax deductible. No contribution is too small—or too big! Please make your check payable to The Grapevine and mail it to PO Box 637, Antrim 03440. Find and LIKE us on Facebook! https://www.facebook.com/grapevinenh.org/
MUSIC ON NORWAY POND
presents
George and Ira Gershwin’s
silly and sublime lampoon of American politics

OF THEE I SING
Sunday February 14th at 4 o’clock
At the Hancock Meeting House

The year was 1931. The United States was embroiled in its greatest economic crisis in history, the Great Depression. In the midst of this dark hour for the young democracy, there appeared upon the stage one of the liveliest, most delightful pieces of musical theater ever written. "Of Thee I Sing" is widely hailed as one of the greatest Broadway musicals, as much for its clever lyrics and melodic score as for its brilliant satirical thrust.

And on Valentine’s Day afternoon, Music on Norway Pond will re-create this production, concert-style, for the pleasure (and comic relief) our Monadnock audience!

The play's targets are as varied as they are skillfully attacked; nor does the play attempt a one-sided view. The play mocks the ineffective politicians with their empty campaign slogans, but even more so it points the finger at the American populace that is willing to accept them and even elect them to office.

"Of Thee I Sing" was the longest running musical of its decade, with "Anything Goes" a close second. The songs are as crucial to the aesthetic value of the show as the libretto, in fact even more so; the most timeless satire is captured not in the dialogue, but in Ira’s lyrics, the finest of his career. The score was George's finest so far, brilliantly combining a popular idiom with recitative and the patter song. Today, with the clarity of vision hindsight affords, we can see where the true aesthetic dignity of "Of Thee I Sing" lies. There were American operettas before it and after it but after almost seventy years, "Of Thee I Sing" remains unchallenged as the greatest American operetta ever written, and one of the masterpieces of the American stage.

Tickets are $20 and are available on our web-site musiconnorwaypond.org. They will also be available at the door but purchasing them ahead of time may be a wise idea!

Submitted by Jody Simpson with excerpts from an article by Brian D. Sweeney, Savoyard Light Opera Company
**Children and the Arts**

Children and the Arts is happy to announce the theme for the 2016 Festival: Tell Me a Story! The annual festival will be held in downtown Peterborough on May 21, 2016. Children and the Arts acts as a venue for many local performers, especially children and teens, and artists whose work focuses on children. We're excited to see how Hancock will contribute to our storybook-themed performances, artwork, and giant puppets.

We are looking for volunteers for the day of the Festival - you can help make Children and the Arts the best it can be. Volunteers take short shifts throughout the day to help with set up, take down, and everything in between. It's great community service! For more information, visit our website at [www.childrenandthearts.org/get-involved](http://www.childrenandthearts.org/get-involved).

The 2016 Festival is supported by the John and Maude Corser Fund, the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation, and the local community. Donations can be sent to Children and the Arts Festival, PO Box 771, Peterborough, NH, 03458. For more information, please visit [www.childrenandthearts.org](http://www.childrenandthearts.org) or find us on Facebook.

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**NH Fish and Game Law Enforcement Benefits from Two Private Donations**

**CONCORD, N.H. --** The Wildlife Heritage Foundation of NH has received two private, anonymous donations to benefit the [Law Enforcement Division](http://www.nhfishandgame.com) of the N.H. Fish and Game Department.

The first donation came from an experienced hiker who severely injured his leg while on a climb last spring and was assisted by members of the N.H. Fish and Game Law Enforcement Division Search and Rescue Team. The hiker's donation is earmarked for the purchase of additional safety rope, along with new cold weather stoves used to heat up fluids for those being rescued. "Thanks to you, I am on the mend. You guys are real professionals at what you do," the donor said in a note of thanks.

The Foundation was also the recipient of a donation from a private philanthropic fund to provide new holsters, revolver lights and new multi-layered jackets for all Conservation Officers. The donor of the equipment is a strong supporter of Fish and Game's Law Enforcement Division, and believes that Conservation Officers need to be supplied with up-to-date equipment.

New Hampshire Fish and Game, like many other wildlife agencies today, faces significant challenges as a result of reduced budgets and ever increasing costs. Equipment needs and requirements have to be prioritized which limits what can be purchased.

"As a result of these generous donations, and the continuing support of the Wildlife Heritage Foundation of New Hampshire, Conservation Officers will receive necessary safety equipment to be used during lifesaving search and rescue missions, new technology to enhance firearm defense in low-light conditions, and improved clothing for each officer in the field," said Colonel Kevin Jordan, Chief of the Law Enforcement Division. "We are very grateful for these generous donations."

The Wildlife Heritage Foundation of New Hampshire is the official non-profit partner of the NH Fish and Game Department, and works to secure funds in support of the Department's critical education, conservation, wildlife and law enforcement programs important to preserving New Hampshire's quality of outdoor life for generations to come.

To learn more about the Foundation and how you can help preserve New Hampshire’s heritage of wild places and wild things, visit [www.nhwildlifeheritage.org](http://www.nhwildlifeheritage.org) and on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/wildlifeheritageNH](http://www.facebook.com/wildlifeheritageNH).
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
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 Wednesday at 1:00pm 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 525.9459 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 on page 1 for the newsletter’s editorial policy. Distribution--Hope Pettegrew, Edna Drasba, Sandy Brooks, Josephine Warner, and Marcia Coffin. (Sorry if I missed anyone)
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Hancock Happenings Mission Statement

Hancock Happenings is the monthly newsletter of the Town of Hancock, established in 1999 for the purpose of publishing news articles by Town Departments and local organizations. The publication is self-supported through the sale of block and classified advertising. Hancock Happenings is not a forum for opinion pieces of any nature, political advertising and political columns; any such submissions will be edited or rejected.
2016 Hancock Winter Frolic
Saturday February 6th

Saturday, February 6th

9am – Winter Chiller Road Race (8am Registration at the Hancock Meetinghouse). Who runs outside in shorts in the dead of winter? These folks do. Come cheer them on, and get inspired to do some running and exercising yourself. Or grab a coffee and a scone at Fiddleheads and sit inside where it’s warm and watch the show.

9am to Noon – Kids Ice Fishing Derby. Kids under 16 compete to haul in the biggest fish. Big game hunter Erik S. will be our official judge!

10am – Family Snow Shoe Hike at Norway Pond. Join expert snow shoe guides Emily and Kristin for a fun, family hike in the snow. Shorts are not recommended.

11:30am - Box Sled Races on the sledding hill at Norway pond. Sleds must be made of cardboard and duct tape only – excluding decorations. Dan Harper is in charge of the rules and if he catches you using illegal sled substances he will strip you of your participation ribbon. No, he wouldn’t do that but don’t test him!

11am-1pm – Food Alley at Sledding Hill. Enjoy food from local eateries, including the world famous Depot Dog, a hot dog grilled to perfection by the fine people at the Hancock Depot Association.

Noon – Broomball Tournament on Norway pond. Bring your helmet, we’ll bring the brooms/balls. What’s broomball? It’s like hockey except without skates, and without a puck. It’s also like, a lot of fun. Come on down and check out the excitement!

Noon – 1pm - Bonfire and make your own s’mores down on the beach at Norway pond. S’more fixings and fire pits provided!

1:30pm - Kids Talent Show at the Hancock Depot. It’s a little known fact that Taylor Swift got her start at the Hancock Kids Talent Show, perhaps your little one can follow in Taylor’s footsteps. Bring your talented kid to the Depot to display their singing or musical talent, and for Kids Karaoke, Hot chocolate and cookies!

8pm Adult LIVE MUSIC at the Hancock Depot. There’s no better way to cap off the evening then to dump your (talented) kids off at the babysitter and come out for an evening of Live Music at Hancock’s historic Depot Building. Located, coincidentally, on Depot Road in Hancock.

The 2016 Hancock Winter Frolic Extravaganza is sponsored by the Hancock Recreation Committee.