News from the Selectboard

Submitted by Tom Shevenell, Chairperson (shevenell@hancocknh.org)

The Selectboard is pleased to announce the hiring of our new highway foreman, Brett Martin. Although Brett lives in Hancock he has been working for New Boston DPW since 2015. Welcome home! Brett is an alumnus of the Hancock DPW working for us between 2012 and 2015 as an equipment operator; so he is familiar with many of you and challenges of our town road systems. Brett has a range of qualifications in addition to his DPW experience, which will be ideal for our community. Brett attended the Manchester School of Technology where he focused on law enforcement and public health and safety. He graduated from Lakes Region Community College in Fire Sciences and from the New Hampshire Fire Standards and Training with a rank of Firefighter II. Brett then served 5 years as firefighter/EMT for the New Boston fire department. Brett has also found time to volunteer for Young Life where he currently serves as a board member and a youth leader. Thanks also to our DPW Director, Mia Gagliardi, for keeping a young family in town as she rebuilds our DPW for the future.

Lesson 8: The Selectboard and the budget process

RSA Chapter 32 the Municipal Budget Law establishes uniformity in how towns appropriate, raise and spend public funds, and controls the town’s budget process. The Selectboard has the responsibility (RSA 32:5) to recommend an annual budget to the voters at town meeting (i.e., the legislative body) whom in turn vote to “raise and appropriate” public funds.

The Selectboard works closely with department heads and elected officials to develop a proposed budget for general municipal operations and other warrant articles for developing town meeting’s warrant. It is important for the taxpayers to understand this proposed budget is advisory only. The next step is a budget hearing. At this hearing each line item of the budget, which represent an “appropriation” must be “disclosed or discussed”. An appropriation is a “policy decision to set aside a specific amount of public money for a specific stated governmental purpose.” This hearing is an important step, because it provides the opportunity for the taxpayers to ask questions and raise concerns. If any changes to the proposed budget result from the first hearing, a second hearing is required. RSA 32:5, II prohibits the Selectboard from adding any appropriations to the proposed budget unless they were “disclosed or discussed” at a public hearing. The Selectboard then finalizes the proposed budget at the conclusion of public input. RSA 32:5, IV requires all proposed appropriations be listed on the “posted budget” which can’t be changed until town meeting.

Only the legislative body can vote to approve the appropriations and raise the money. The budget and other warrant articles on the warrant presented by the Selectboard at town meeting are still not binding on the voters. The voters have the right to change the amounts to be spent a on a warrant article (increase, decrease or in some cases eliminate); but RSA 32:6 checks this power. Therefore, the voters cannot add new warrant articles or change the purpose of the articles as posted on the warrant. This is important because the Selectboard cannot spend any money for any purpose unless that amount was properly “raised and appropriated” for that purpose at town meeting.

In short, the Selectboard works hard to present a reasonable budget to the voters at town meeting. But, the taxpayers have final say at town meeting. So, active participation by the taxpayers throughout the budget making process is key to having a financially healthy community.

Next month, I’ll look at the Selectboard’s relationship with the Town Administrator.

See page 6 for changes to Town Office & Town Clerk’s hours for the holidays
Cold weather is a certainty here in Hancock, and you need to be ready for heating season. If you heat your house strictly with oil or propane, make sure that you have a qualified technician check out your heating system each fall. Oil burners need new jets, and all systems need to be cleaned and new filters installed.

If you burn wood or wood pellets to heat your house, you need to make sure everything is ready for the winter. Wood stoves need to be cleaned out, and the stovepipe and chimney inspected and cleaned. Even pellet stoves need an annual cleaning – they have lots of fans, and nooks and crannies that can load up with soot or dust. This can prevent them from working efficiently or worse, make them a fire hazard. Check your stovetops! They can look fine to you, but flue gasses can erode those pipes from the inside, making them extremely brittle. Poke around your stoverpipes. Squeeze and twist them to make sure they are still sound. If there is any question, it is time to replace them. Even flue gasses from pellet stoves can eat up stovepipe.

Now you need to check your chimney. If you have a clean-out door in the cellar, you may be able to put a mirror in it and look up the flue. If you have a clear view of the sky and see no creosote buildup on the flue tiles, you are in good shape. (This is assuming you do this in the daytime.) Your particular chimney may have a cover over the top or a few bends in it that will prevent you from seeing daylight. Play it safe and get your chimney inspected and cleaned if it needs it.

If you are running a wood stove, only burn clean and dry wood. Green wood does not give off enough heat and can cause creosote to build up rapidly. Creosote in your chimney is what causes a chimney fire. If you ever hear what sounds like a jet airplane inside your chimney, you are probably experiencing a chimney fire. Please do not hesitate to call us at 911 if this happens. We can work from the top and the bottom of your chimney to put out the fire and prevent further damage.

Keep any combustibles well away from a wood or pellet stove. Be careful about drying clothes, gloves, etc. above or near a wood stove. Keep young kids and pets shielded from these stoves. Stay warm safely this winter!

The other evening we were dispatched to a residence in town. I knew the road but wasn’t sure which house it was. To make matters worse, I could not see an address in the dark. I felt pretty foolish driving down the road trying to guess which house we were dispatched to. You may have a nice address displayed that looks good during the day but that sure doesn’t help us in the dark. Think about your own house number. Can you see it at night? Are the numbers reflective? Is your mailbox marked on both sides? We don’t always travel in the direction that the letter carrier does. Help us so we can help you.

We recently had two of our newest members get married. Molly Carson and TJ Webster tied the knot and had a very nice reception at their home. They are both great members of our firefighter family. Our best wishes to both of them and their families. We have a fire department tradition that many of you may not be aware of. When a department member has a wedding reception at their home we like to interrupt a little. During the reception we have a drive-by with the fire trucks operating the lights and sirens. It is pretty noisy and works best when the wedding party doesn’t know it’s coming. So if you hear a commotion and you know your firefighter neighbor is getting married don’t be alarmed – it’s only our way of saying congratulations.

Raffle winners for October:
$40- Pat Russell
$20- William Owen
$10- Arianne Ruoff, Scott Manning, Theresa Walsh

Our thought for the month: Firefighters and EMT’s never know what they will encounter on each call but proceed with the same level of commitment and service.
Many of you have enjoyed the Journey to Bethlehem event which we partner with the Hancock Inn to make happen. This year it is scheduled to be held on the afternoon of Sunday, December 10th. However, in order for this to happen, we need volunteers from the wider community—in particular, adults and children who are willing to take speaking and non-speaking roles as part of the cast. There is minimal rehearsal, costumes provided, and a chance for you to create a meaningful Christmas tradition with your own family, grandchildren, and friends. J Jarvis Coffin is already on board as the innkeeper at “The Bethlehem Inn”, but we also need magi, a King Herod, strolling minstrels, shepherds, angels and a Holy Family. Can you help? Or would you be willing to talk with one of us about the possibility of helping? If so, please contact Amy Wilson at nh.amy.wilson@gmail.com or you can text or phone Judy Copeland at 264-7110 or email her at hancockcongregationalchurch@gmail.com.

We are introducing a new spiritual formation program for those in grades 7-12. Regardless of religious affiliation, it is open to all who are seeking to build stronger spiritual practices, wrestle with questions of doubt and belief, or satisfy their curiosity about our more open and inclusive brand of Christianity.

This will be a “hybrid” program. There will opportunities for group activities at stated times, but also on-line engagement that can be pursued individually. We recognize that families have busy schedules and we value the other activities in which young people in our community participate. We will be using a Facebook group and a Google classroom platform (which most of them already use at school) to help us keep in touch.

Beginning in December 2017 and continuing for a period of six months, there will be a theme each month and several opportunities to explore that theme offered within the month. The themes will include: Who is Jesus?, Making Sense of the Bible, Spiritual Practices, Christianity and Other Religions, Loving Your Neighbor, and a chance for students to pursue a personal project. Participants will be asked to complete one of the activities suggested for each of the topics (although they are certainly welcome to do more).

The enrollment period for this program starts now and continues until November 20th. If you would like to sign your child up, please email Judy Copeland at hancockcongregationalchurch@gmail.com.

Finally, we want to pass of a hearty word of thanks to all who donated household goods for refugees, both in the spring and again last month. The Outreach Committee at our church took on the job of sorting, labeling, and transporting several truckloads of items to Ascentria in Concord. The items will be used to outfit very basic apartments for arriving refugees, as well as to help recently settled families add things to their homes. We have been doing this for a couple of years now and continues to receive high marks from the resettlement agency for the both the quality of items donated and for the care we take in sorting them. Our next collection will be in the spring—watch Hancock Happenings for further information.

Submitted by Judy Copeland, Pastor
As we wrap up another season at the Hancock Historical Society, we invite you, if you are not already, to become a member of the society. Throughout the year, we offer programs, exhibits and events focused on Hancock history. Our goal is always to both entertain and educate about the history of our town.

This year, we presented an exhibit, The Great War: A Hancock Perspective on World War I, throughout the summer. We also offered several programs, including Yankee Ingenuity: Stories of Headstrong and Resourceful People and Calvin Coolidge: The Monadnock Region as I've Known It, as well as demonstrations of traditional crafts. And last, but never least, each October we host Hancock’s youngsters when we decorate the museum and share in Main Street’s annual trick or treat tradition on Halloween.

As a small, all-volunteer organization, it is our members who make everything possible: events, preserving artifacts, and opening the museum throughout the summer.

Please consider joining. The cost is just $25 for a family or $15 for an individual. As a member, you’ll receive our newsletter, which is called the Historical Oracle, and invitations to member events. You’ll also have the satisfaction of knowing you are helping preserve our town’s history.

Just use the form on page 20 or just enclose a note when you mail to HHS, PO Box 138, Hancock.

Thank you!
EUREKA!
at Hancock Elementary School
Amy Janoch, Principal

Every few years, fourth, eighth and twelfth grade students across the country take the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP). The assessment results enable school, state and national leaders to review and understand education over a course of time and from state to state. While it is only one measure of student performance, it provides an important “report card” for states in understanding the effectiveness of the educational system. Based on the 2016 NAEP scores, the percentage of 4th grade students in NH performing at or above proficient in math was 51%. While this percentage has improved since the start of math testing in 1992, NH as well as states across the nation are not seeing the level of proficiency that we would want. As a result, the ConVal district has made a commitment to identify instructional strategies and resources that will ensure all ConVal students become effective and efficient mathematicians.

Over the past three years, the ConVal school district has researched and implemented best practices for math instruction. Through professional development and math coaching, the teachers at the elementary schools have learned strategies to build all students’ number sense. During instruction, teachers have learned to watch and ask questions to identify students’ understanding of math concepts. It has been an exciting and rigorous process. I have loved hearing teachers and students talk about how and why they solved a problem a certain way. As the teachers have grown in their understanding and teaching of mathematics, they have found that the district math resources were not providing problems that facilitated deeper mathematical thinking. As a result, they have worked with the Asst Superintendent and math coaches to find instructional resources which build students’ understanding of the “why” in math.

This year, the ConVal School District has introduced the Eureka Math Program in our elementary schools. Eureka Math, also known as Engage New York, ensures that student not only know how to solve a problem but also why the process for solving the problem works. In understanding why, students are better able to think flexibly and determine the best strategy to use to solve future problems. In order to support teachers in implementing the program, the district has offered a number of professional development opportunities.

https://greatminds.org/math
Community Supper

There will be no Community supper in November, but we would like to wish everyone a very Happy Thanksgiving. Please mark your calendars for the next Community supper which will be on Tuesday, December 12th. We look forward to seeing you then.

Submitted by Mike and Carol Domingue

Donations for Puerto Rico

The Hancock Congregational Church is gathering cash donations to help the people of Puerto Rico who have been battered by Hurricane Maria. There are donations jars at Fiddleheads, The Hancock Market, and Hancock Library, or donations can be mailed to: First Congregational Church, PO Box 96, Hancock. The donations will go to the Emergency USA Fund. Our goal is to collect $1,646 dollars, one dollar for each resident of Hancock.

Town Office:
Closed Friday, November 10th for Veteran’s Day
Closed Thursday, November 23rd and
Closed Friday, November 24th for Thanksgiving

Town Clerk:
Open Monday, November 20th  4 to 8pm
Closed Wednesday, November 22nd

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

During the summer when the church steeple was on the ground for renovations I overheard two ladies discussing the progress.

The first lady said, “I’ll be surprised if the bells aren’t up for Old Home Day.”

The second answered, “Yes. Usually the whole family comes!”

Happy Thanksgiving

Many thanks to all of our clients and friends in Hancock and throughout the Monadnock Region!

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Get your calendars out because November is a seriously busy month here at the Hancock Town Library. Not one but TWO Poetry & Pie programs with fabulous poets! Other programs range from organizing your paper clutter to escaping Bolsheviks to the music of World War I to how public services are funded in New Hampshire. You won’t want to miss any of it! And don’t forget #GivingTuesday on November 28th, when you are encouraged to give back to your community. We hope that you’ll consider a donation to the Hancock Town Library.

**Thursday November 2nd at 7:00pm**

**Shuffle No More! How to Handle Paper Clutter & Organize Your Life**

Overwhelmed by the amount of paperwork still on your desk, dining room table and kitchen counter? Wasn’t this supposed to be the paperless century? Join Helene Parenteau as she shows us how to cut down on paper clutter, handle what you want to hold on to, and create different filing systems for maximum efficiency. Since 1982, Helene Parenteau has organized homes, offices, and retirement estates up and down the East Coast. She has a B.A. and an M.B.A. in Management and Marketing. Based in New England, Helene continues to help individuals and businesses get organized. She is one of only 265 certified professional organizers in the United States. Free and open to all.

**Friday November 3rd at 7:30pm An Evening of Poetry & Pie with Robin Becker & Jeffrey Harrison**

Join us for an evening of Poetry & Pie with celebrated poets Robin Becker and Jeffrey Harrison. Poet Tom Sleigh writes of Becker, “For many years Robin Becker has been writing some of the best poems of our generation. Her devotion to what Frost called “vocal imagination” weds the laconic, half-humorous, half sorrowing quality of her speech to the quiet virtuosity of her music. But what I most value is her clear-eyed affection for other people. To quote Thom Gunn, her poems “bypass the self like love.” Robin Becker summers in Nelson, where she is a fiddle student of Harvey Tolman. Her eighth collection, The Black Bear Inside Me (University of Pittsburgh Press, Spring 2018), includes many poems set in the Monadnock region. Professor Emeritus of English and Women’s Studies at Penn State, Becker serves as Poetry and Contributing Editor for The Women’s Review of Books. Her poems and book reviews have appeared recently in The Georgia Review and The New Yorker.

Jeffrey Harrison is the author of five books of poetry, including The Singing Underneath, selected by James Merrill for the National Poetry Series in 1987; Feeding the Fire, winner of the Sheila Motton Award from the New England Poetry Club in 2002; Incomplete Knowledge, runner-up for the Poets’ Prize in 2008; and, in 2014, Into Daylight, winner of the Dorset Prize from Tupelo Press and selected by the Massachusetts Center for the Book as a Must-Read Book for 2015. His poems have appeared widely in magazines and journals, as well as in Best American Poetry 2016 and 2017, The Pushcart Prize Anthology, Poets of the New Century, The Twentieth Century in Poetry, and other anthologies, and been featured frequently on Garrison Keillor’s radio show “The Writer’s Almanac.” He lives in Mass. The Toadstool Bookshop will have books by both poets for sale at this reading. A portion of the proceeds go to the Hancock Town Library.

**Tuesday November 7th at 7:00pm**

**Hancock’s Prince & Princess Toumanoff on the 100th Anniversary of the Russian Revolution**

On November 7, 1917 (using the Gregorian calendar), the Bolsheviks seized control of Petrograd. That moment forever changed life for the Toumanoff family. Peter Toumanoff, a Hancock resident, will tell the story of his Russian/Armenian grandparents (Prince Irakly and Princess Sophia Toumanoff) escape from the chaos of the Russian Revolution. More exciting than Dr. Zhivago, you’ll learn of their close calls and narrow escapes while they navigated the upheaval of World War I, the Russian Revolution and the subsequent Civil War. You’ll see the shotgun given to Prince Irakly by Czar Nicholas II. The Hancock connection is that the Prince and Princess bought the turkey and pheasant farm on Weston Road near Willard Pond in 1929. Interestingly enough, their experiences include a lot of places in the news: Ukraine, including Kiev, Crimea, Odessa, Mariupol, as well as Minsk in present Belarus, Sochi in Russia, the former Soviet republics of Georgia and Armenia, and Turkey and Iran. Peter Toumanoff is a retired professor of economics at Marquette University. He and his wife Susie recently retired to the family property on Weston Road. Don’t miss this true adventure story! Free and open to all.

**Wednesday November 8th at 7:00pm**

**Board Games for Grown Ups**

Got Game? The days are getting shorter but the nights won’t feel so long if you’re frittering away an evening with board games and socializing. It’s a chance to relax and play games with neighbors. Once a month, we
to play our dusty old favorites and break out those challenging new-in-the-box games. Bring one if you’ve got one, and a snack or beverage for the table. Second Wednesdays from 7:00-9:00pm. Please RSVP to us here at the library: 525.4411 or hancocklibrary@comcast.net just so we have an idea of numbers.

Thursday November 9th at 7:00pm
Understanding Bobcats in New Hampshire
The bobcat’s resurgence in New Hampshire is remarkable. Wildlife biologists estimated there were only 150 bobcats in NH thirty years ago. Now their numbers are estimated to be around 1400 and they reside in all NH counties! Come learn all about these beautiful creatures with NH Fish & Game education volunteer, Gordon Webber. Mr. Webber has been fishing and trapping for close to 50 years. He is a licensed NH guide and a Hunter Safety Instructor for NH Fish & Game in both firearms and archery. He lived and fished commercially in Alaska for many years and has also been a private pilot for the past 40 years. One of his true pleasures is raising and training Labrador Retrievers. Mr. Webber lives in Antrim with his long-suffering wife Leah and their 6 Labs (with another litter on the way!). This program is free and open to all.

Tuesday November 14th at 7:00pm
State Representative Jon Manley
Come with your questions for Rep. Manley (Hillsborough County District 3: Bennington, Greenfield, Hancock) as he reports to his constituents on current legislation. Rep. Manley is at the Hancock Town Library the second Tuesday of every month.

Thursday November 16th at 12:30pm
Books Sandwiched In!
Join the Hancock Town Library’s monthly book club as we discuss Angela’s Ashes by Frank McCourt. Copies of the book are available at the front desk. There’s room in the book club and anyone is free to join at any time. No obligation to come every month but you’ll want to! Join us!

Thursday November 16th at 7:00pm
The Music of World War I
TJ Wheeler is a treasure of American Roots music, or better put, a living, one man Juke Joint! He performs his gumbo of Blues, Jazz, Ragtime and more on a wide variety of instruments, including the 7 string guitar, Ukulele, Tenor Banjo, 1 string Diddley Bow, Tap percussion, nitty gritty vocals & Kazoo! This presentation is a special Musical/History program for the centennial of America’s entrance into World War I. It tells through historic songs & back stories of the dualism that the U.S. had on whether or not to enter "the war to end all wars" and its effects on race relations & basic constitutional rights, back home in the United States. The dualism was also exemplified by President Woodrow Wilson; who in some circles was seen as a peace loving progressive and by others as a regressive segregationist who longed for America to have a more dominant influence as a World power. The Peace movement, Immigration, Women's suffrage, National security vs Freedom of Speech, the Great Migration, and Black segregated troops are all topics that are included and explored. Throughout these serious subjects, the music brings out a whole wide range of how music played an important contribution to that history then, and how it aids insight for us now. Free and open to all.

Friday November 17th at 7:00pm
Another Evening of Poetry & Pie ~ This Time with the Fabulous Paul Hostovsky
Back by popular demand (no, really, this is his third time here!), Paul Hostovsky returns to Hancock to entertain and engage us with his poignant and sometimes hilarious poetry. Paul’s poems have been featured on Poetry Daily, Verse Daily, The Writer’s Almanac, and Best of the Net. He has been published in Poetry, Passages North, Carolina Quarterly, Shenandoah, New Delta Review, Bellevue Literary Review, Atlanta Review, Poetry East, The Sun, and many other journals and anthologies. He has won a Pushcart Prize, the Comstock Review's Muriel Craft Bailey Award, and chapbook contests from Grayson Books, Riverstone Press, Frank Cat Press, Split Oak Press, and Sport Literate. He has nine full-length collections of poetry, Sonnets from South Mountain (2001), Bending the Notes (2008), Dear Truth (2009), A Little in Love a Lot (2011), Hurt Into Beauty (2012), Naming Names (2013), Selected Poems (2014), The Bad Guys (2015), and Is That What That Is (2017). He makes his living in Boston as a sign language interpreter at the MA Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing. Free and open to all.

Tuesday November 28th~ All Day! (From the comfort of your own home.) #Giving Tuesday!
#GivingTuesday is a global day of giving fueled by the power of social media and collaboration. Celebrated on the Tuesday following Thanksgiving and the widely recognized shopping events Black Friday and Cyber Monday, #GivingTuesday kicks off the charitable season, when many focus on their holiday and end-of-year giving. One of the best ways to get involved is in your own community and the Hancock Town Library would be honored if you would consider a donation to the library to help further our efforts to create a lively community center in the heart of Hancock. Send your donations to: Hancock Town Library, PO Box 130, Hancock. Thank you!

Wednesday November 29th at 7:00pm
How We Fund Public Services in NH with John Shea & Phil Sletten of the NH Fiscal Policy Institute
How are the programs and services provided by different
levels of New Hampshire government funded? What role does the state have in funding these programs & services?

Many people think of the property tax as a primary funding source, but there are a range of other revenue streams that we rely on to fund public services, such as education, child care and protection, public safety and health, roads and bridges, and environmental programs.

Public services at the state level are funded through a collection of tax, fee, and enterprise revenue sources, with different degrees of variation due to economic cycles. Federal funds also support a broad range of programs and services at the state and local levels. This presentation will review the primary revenue sources we rely on to fund public services in New Hampshire and some key policy decisions that have had effects on state and local revenues. We will also review the interplay with federal funds and the potential impact proposed federal budget cuts could have on public services here in New Hampshire. The New Hampshire Fiscal Policy Institute (NHFPI) is non-profit, independent, non-partisan organization dedicated to exploring, developing, and promoting public policies that foster economic opportunity and prosperity for all New Hampshire residents, with an emphasis on low- and moderate-income families and individuals. John Shea is the Executive Director of the NHFPI. He brings more than 20 years’ experience with the New England Governors’ Conference (NEGC), including three years as executive director and thirteen years as director of policy and programs. John has a Bachelor of Arts in economics from the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, Michigan, and a Master of Arts from Harvard University, in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Phil Sletten is a Policy Analyst for NHFPI. He previously served as a performance auditor for the New Hampshire Office of Legislative Budget Assistant, where he provided analysis on a wide range of state agency operations. Phil has a Bachelor of Arts in political science and policy studies from Grinnell College, Iowa, and a Master of Public Affairs from the University of Wisconsin – Madison, with emphases on tax, economic, and environmental policy.

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

November 2nd 5-7pm  Game Night for Teens!
Join Jenn and Jacqueline for a fun night of XBox games and snacks! Jacqueline from Avenue A will be bringing over their Xbox One for us all to play!

This program is FREE and available to ages 10 and up. This program is a joint program between the Avenue A Teen Center and Hancock Town Library.

Monday, November 6th at 7pm
Write Out! Anthology Reading
Local teens from The Avenue A Teen Center Creative Writing Club have chosen to Write Out as a way of breaking down stigma surrounding depression, anxiety, body image, gender identity and other challenges youth face. The result of their work is the first ever Write Out! Anthology - *I need to see this on paper*, a collection of raw, humorous, and thought-provoking poetry and prose. Come listen to the teens read from the anthology and answer questions about the project!

Tuesday November 7th 3:30-4:30pm Lego Club
Lego Club is back! Free play with Legos is back for the 2017-2018 school year. This program is open to all Lego fans and builders, all ages welcome.

Mondays November 13th and 27th 3:30pm-4:30pm
Paws to Read with Coffee
Come by the library and practice your reading with Coffee the Chihuahua! Coffee, a registered reading therapy dog, loves when kids practice their reading with him or tell him stories. *Also, if you bring 3 non-perishable items for the Food Pantry, you get to choose a free stuffed animal graciously donated by Douglas Cuddle Toys!*

Wednesday November 15th 3:30pm-5pm
Harvest Potato Stamping with Melody Russell
Come join us for a harvest themed craft day! This craft has limited space please sign up at the front desk. Ages 6 and up!

Monday November 20th 2pm
AcroYoga Workshop with Erica Fayrie-Malone
Did you miss our summer workshops? Did you participate in the summer workshops and want to try more? Join us for an afternoon of fun and Acro poses. Participants in this AcroYoga program must have a signed permission slip.

Tuesday November 21st 2pm Movie @ the library
Come enjoy a movie here at the library! Bean bags and floor chairs provided, but feel free to bring your favorite cushion. Free and open to all!

Thursdays at 10:30am Family Storytime
Every Thursday, except Thanksgiving, we will gather in the children’s room for stories, songs, and movement!
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OLD HOME DAYS TOWN PHOTO
Prints of the Old Home Days town photo taken on August 19th are now available, in either an 8 ½ x 11 for $10 or 16 x 20 for $20. A copy of the photo is on display at the Town Office building. To order a print, or if anyone has questions, contact Deb Porter-Hayes at 525-4952, or porterhayes@comcast.net. Checks should be made out to: Town of Hancock Old Home Days Committee.

Boy Scouts Selling Wreaths
Troop 2, which serves Hancock, Francestown, Bennington, Greenfield, and Antrim will once again be selling their "famous" boy-made Christmas wreaths starting on 11/25. This fundraiser will help the boys fund their trips to summer camp, a tour of Pennsylvania this summer, and Yellowstone National Park in 2019. It helped fund their trip to New York City this past summer. More info will be available at troop2nh.org

Hancock Guild
Annual Christmas Craft Fair
Saturday Nov. 4th
9:00-2:00
Meetinghouse and Vestry, Main St.
ART EXHIBITS AT THE LIBRARY

A collection of works by Deborah Navas of Nelson and Cathleen Calmer of Hancock, remains on view in the Daniels Room until November 20th. Titled “New England Light,” the show includes watercolors, acrylics, and oils.

“Block Island, Rhode Island, light is uncommonly incandescent,” writes Deborah, “because its air is laden with ocean vapor, imbuing an antique glow to its unspoiled sea grass-covered dunes and rolling hills.

“Living as I do now in Nelson—among trees and leaves, farmland gone to grass and wildflowers, rippling ferns, turkeys, foxes, loons—is akin to drowning in beauty. Those of us who thrill to the ever-changing nuances of New England light, its glorious autumn color shows, winter’s chiaroscuro, and spring green rebirth, with paintbrushes in hand, try our utmost to capture it all.”

Cathleen paints where she lives and what she seeks out in the exquisite natural settings around her. Knowing the specific land and its plants and wildlife are an important part of the reason that she paints. “I have used the theme of the four seasons to arrange my work. Come see Hancock throughout the year and revisit the season you like best,” writes Cathleen.

“A Passion for Pastels” is the title of Maryann Mullette’s show, which runs from November 25th through December 27th. She will host a reception in the Daniels Room on Thursday, November 30th from 5:00-7:00 pm.

Art has always been a part of Maryann’s life. Working in oils and printmaking in college, Maryann later had a career in graphic arts at Yankee magazine. Taking a break from fine art, she then kept creative with freelance illustration.

Eight years ago Maryann was introduced to the pastel medium at the Art Spectrum group in Antrim. She fell in love with the immediacy and vibrancy of the medium and now works solely in pastels.

Her inspiration comes from nature, whether it be flora, birds, pets, or vegetables and luminous berries. She often paints close-up views of her subjects and pays attention to detail and composition as a by-product of her graphic arts background.

Maryann has received numerous awards for her paintings and has been published in various art magazines. She is a signature member of the Pastel Societies of America, New Hampshire, and Maine, and associate member of the Pastel Societies of Cape Cod and Connecticut.

Art shows can be viewed in the Daniels Room during regular library hours: Monday and Wednesday, 2:00 – 6:00 pm; Tuesday and Thursday, 10:00 am – 7:00 pm; Saturday, 10:00 am – 4:00 pm; closed Friday and Sunday.

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

Submitted by Sandy Taylor
On November 4th, our feature performer will be Crabgrass… Come on out and listen to Nancy, JB, Guy & Forrest for fun favorites and original songs!

**Logistics & More**

All shows begin at 8:00; doors open at 7:30 for performers who want to sign up for one of several open mic spots. In addition to the entertainment, 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**

- **December 2: Volkert Volkersz**

**Rent the Depot for Your Special Event**

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

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**Volunteer New Hampshire’s Spirit Awards**

CVTC’s VOLUNTEER DRIVERS will receive state-wide recognition for their selfless efforts. **Volunteer NH’s Spirit of New Hampshire Awards** honor outstanding contributions to volunteerism throughout the state. **Volunteer Service Awards** recognize individuals and groups who provide volunteer services that strengthen communities and improve the lives of the citizens of New Hampshire.

These awards honor outstanding volunteers – or groups of volunteers – who reflect the strong ethic of service and volunteerism in our state. Several drivers attended the annual ceremony held at the Capitol Center for the Arts in Concord on November 7th. “CVTC is so proud to accept this award on behalf of not only our Volunteer Drivers, but for all volunteers across NH who drive those without access to transportation. With each mile driven, our passengers are able to maintain or improve their health and that assures their continued independence,” says Ellen Avery, Executive Director.
HANCOCK GUILD

Happy Fall! The Guild has just completed one of our most successful clothing sales to date, and we couldn’t have accomplished that without all the wonderful donations made by our community members. It’s always rewarding to see the generosity of so many as well as the happy treasure hunters that find the “perfect outfit” for a spectacular price. One of the most satisfying experiences is being able to bring a fun, inexpensive shopping event to our community that ultimately benefits so many parties! Those cleaning out their closets and wanting to donate to a worthwhile local cause, those seeking a bargain and a little good hearted adventure, (let’s not overlook the ever popular bag sale!), and of course, the Hancock Graduating Seniors who ultimately benefit from all proceeds from these clothing sales. All monies raised go directly to our Scholarship Fund.

The Guild hosted 68 Hours of Hunger at our October meeting. Linda Caracappa and Carol Cleary joined us and talked about the wonderful work being done in the ConVal District to ensure that school aged children who are “food insecure” can go home with a bag of food that ensures they have enough to eat from Friday evening through the weekend. Over 100 of these bags go home every week. The number of volunteers that keep this local chapter running is truly staggering. From packers, shoppers, those who deliver the bags to the schools, bookkeepers, mailers, fundraisers, and so many others. This is a well-oiled machine and each week they ensure the bags get out and children will be fed.

For more information, or to get involved either through volunteering or donations, please follow the link: end68hoursofhunger.org/find-your-community/new-hampshire/conval-sau-1/

Coming up in November, The Guild will be holding our annual Holiday Craft Fair! Please look for details elsewhere in The Happenings! This is always a well-attended event and we have a wide variety of crafters and vendors. It’s never too early to get a start on your holiday shopping, or maybe find something special for yourself.

Submitted by Darlene Tarr Hancock Guild, President

HANCOCK WOMAN’S CLUB

With these beautiful fall days, it’s hard to believe Thanksgiving is just around the corner. Our November meeting will be held on Wednesday the 8th at 2:00 p.m. in the Vestry. All are welcome to join us for an informative meeting on Feng Shui for Your Home and Lifestyle. Lisa Law, Feng Shui Consultant and Author, will be offering ways to bring more harmony and balance in your life. She will present us with an overview of Feng Shui philosophy and how to practice it in your homes and everyday life. Please stay for tea, coffee, and delicious goodies following Lisa’s presentation.

The Woman’s Club will also be selling our NEW, made in the USA, Hancock, NH canvas tote bags featuring a wonderful design by Diane Kidd. We will have a table at the Holiday Craft’s Fair on November 4th. All proceeds will go to our charitable giving and the Women’s Scholarship Fund.

Submitted by Sara LeFebvre
Thank you to our supporters who makes these programs possible.

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

Nov 1 (Wed) First Session of ESICourse Forest
Bathing: Reconnect to Nature
Wednesdays, November 1, 8, and 15
10 to 11 a.m. at the Harris Center
$30 for Harris Center members / $50 for nonmembers
You won’t need a towel for this bath! Forest Bathing is
gaining popularity in the US after being practiced in Japan
for decades. Gentle rambles around the trails and hidden
courtyards of the Harris Center will wake up your senses
give you a chance to reconnect to the natural world
and to yourself. Through yoga poses, deep breathing, and
quiet sensory observations, our revitalizing Forest Bathing
mornings will help you manage your stress during this
busy time of the year. Space is limited and registration is
required. Contact Sara at (603) 525-3394 or lefebvre@harriscenter.org.

Nov 4 (Sat) Japanese Knotweed: Medicinal Uses for
this Invasive Plant
Join local ethnobotanist Michelle Russell for a fascinating
workshop on traditional medicinal uses of Japanese Knotweed. Learn how to identify this invasive plant, where to
find it, and how and when to harvest it, then prepare the
roots to make a powder or a tincture to bring home.
Michelle will also share her knowledge of how Japanese
Knotweed’s chemicals interact with Lyme disease, plaque,
and inflammation. 9 a.m. to noon at the Harris Center.
Space is limited and registration is required. For more
information and to register, contact Sara LeFebvre at (603)
525-3394 or lefebvre@harriscenter.org.

Nov 8 (Wed) through Dec 3 (Sun) NHDeer Hunting
(Firearm) Season – Wear blaze orange!

Nov 9 (Thur) The Million Dollar Duck Film
This award-winning documentary explores the strange
and wonderful world of the Federal Duck Stamp Contest, the only
juried art competition run by the U.S. government – from the
eccentric contestants who enter each year for a chance at wild-
life art stardom to the challenges facing the continued existence of this successful conservation program. Following the
film, Ray Jackson of Ducks Unlimited will be on hand for
questions. 7 to 8:30 p.m. in the Putnam Theater at Keene
State College. Cosponsored with the Monadnock Con-
servancy, Ducks Unlimited, and the Keene State College
Film Society. For more information, contact Brett Amy
Thelen at (603) 358-2065 or thelen@harriscenter.org.

Nov 11 (Sat) Chainsaw Safety Workshop
Geoff Jones, forester and owner of Loveland Forestry, will
lead this chainsaw safety workshop. Topics include saw
maintenance, chain filing, safety equipment, understanding “kickback,” and safe techniques for felling, limbing,
and bucking trees relative to trail work. Please bring your
own saw with fuel, oil, file, and tools, and all safety equipment: hard hat with face shield and hearing protection,
chaps, gloves, and boots. Bring lunch too, and dress approp-
riately, as there will be indoor and outdoor hands-on
activities during this full-day workshop. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
at the Harris Center. For more info, contact Eric Masterson at 525-3394 or masterson@harriscenter.org.

Nov 18 (Sat) Family Program: Apple Pies and Stories
in the Sky
Join folk heritage musician Mary DesRosiers and natural-
list Susie Spikol Faber for a cozy, faux fireside morning of
songs and stories about the coming of winter. Explore the
magic of the winter world and raise your voice in song to
welcome the darkest season with light from within! 11
a.m. to noon at the Harrisville Public Library. Cospon-
sored with the Harrisville Public Library. For more info,
contact Susie at 525-3394 or spikol@harriscenter.org.

Nov 19 (Sun) Celebrating Our Trip Leaders
Join Eric Masterson for a moderately strenuous, 3.5-mile
roundtrip hike up Thumb Mountain – short enough to be
done by lunchtime, but long enough to whet your appetite
for a feast back at the Harris Center. This is an invitation
to all trip leaders – past, present, and prospective – to
come and mingle. Bring stories (but do not bring lunch!) and
meet at 10 a.m. at the Harris Center. Lunch at 1 p.m.
Please RSVP to Eric at (603) 525-3394 or masterson@harriscenter.org.

Nov 24 (Fri) Annual Post-Thanksgiving Hike Up
Mount Caesar
Join Denny Wheeler and Brian Bishoff for good views and
good cheer on this moderately easy, 2-mile roundtrip hike
to the ledges of Mount Caesar. Meet at 10 a.m. at the
Golden Rod Grange on Route 32 in Swanzey. Back by
1 p.m. For more info, contact Denny at (603) 313-0350 or
Brian at (603) 899-5770 or bjbeam2@myfairpoint.net.
MUSIC ON NORWAY POND PRESENTS

NIGHT TREE
Sunday, November 5th  4pm
Hancock Meeting House

This may be the concert that will be talked about for years to come and I really hope we will fill the church with people of all ages and musical “tastes”. No one should miss this one!

What is Night Tree?

In September of 2016, six wildly diverse musicians came together unexpectedly within the walls of Boston’s New England Conservatory to form a new acoustic band, Night Tree. The group, all students at NEC, were named the Conservatory’s WildCard Honors Ensemble for 2016-2017. These six conservatory-trained musicians have absorbed genres from across the globe. Night Tree is unique, not only for its abnormal instrumentation of two fiddles, cello, accordion, saxophone, percussion, and the occasional viola and mandolin, but for their incorporation of traditions from Irish, Classical, Swedish, Jazz, Klezmer, and Afro-Cuban music. Each artist’s personality is given a spot to emerge with fiery improvisation, individual compositions, and a keen ear. They react to each other at any given time, in a matter of seconds. They have learned to get inside each other’s musical minds, creating one blossoming and unpredictable wave of sound that is Night Tree.

And if that doesn’t convince you, here are some reactions to Night Tree:

“Over the past 25 years, there have been some pretty fantastic moments – none more electrifying than when Night Tree brought the entire house on an emotional, musical “Nantucket sleigh ride.” At the end of the journey, we were speechless. There was nothing to do but stand in spontaneous applause, dumbly acknowledging our collective debt of gratitude... thank you for what you brought up the road from Boston to Vermont this Labor Day.”

“Night Tree are an amazing stew of exuberant virtuosity.”

“Night Tree is six extraordinary musicians who pool their diverse musical backgrounds to create a celtic-tinged fusion the likes of which the world has never heard before.”

Tickets are $20 for adults and free for students. They are available at the door and can also be purchased from our website musiconnorwaypond.org

….and the concert will be one hour with no intermission, as always!

Planning ahead for MUSIC ON NORWAY POND concerts

Saturday December 16th  4pm  Hancock Family Christmas Concert
with guest artist Jazimina McNeil, mezzo soprano

Sunday January 21st  4pm  The Renaissance Men
Sunday February 11th 4pm  Fiddler on the Roof
Sunday March 25th  4pm  Tony Yike Yang, pianist
Sunday April 15th  4pm  Verona Quartet
Saturday May 12th  4pm  JUNIOR MINSTRELS present Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat

Sunday May 20th  4pm  Norway Pond Festival Singers

Spring Concert
Dear Hancock Friends and Neighbors,

November 1st is the start of our 3rd Annual Online Auction! Once again, we have an array of amazing items this year for you to bid on as we head into the holiday season. You’ll find everything from home décor and goods, kitchen gadgets, artwork, pottery and beautifully sewn items to gift certificates for self care (think: massages) to music and soccer lessons for that young person in your life. We thank all of you in Hancock who have contributed to the auction and encourage all of you to register at www.grapevineauction.org to begin shopping and bidding on 11/1. Thank you!

Grapevine Special Programs and Events

Songs and Gesture Games: Bringing joy and companionship - November 11th from 9:00am to noon. This workshop is for all those in the company of the young child: parents and professionals. On Saturday, come for a morning of sharing as we refill our song tool boxes and enjoy the companionable art of singing together. We will share Songs and Gesture Games as a means of building social, emotional and language skills. Grapevine parenting educators Carol Lunan, M.Ed and Nancy Macalaster, MA are NH State certified trainers of early childhood educators, and this workshop will provide participants with staff development hours. For more information and to register, call The Grapevine.

Services at The Grapevine

- Information & Referral: Information about area resources for financial assistance, food, childcare, legal assistance, clothing, health and dental care, and other needs.
- Community Wood Bank: For those who use wood to heat their home and can’t afford to buy it. The wood bank has also helped residents who typically can buy their own wood but find themselves in a bind due to major ice and snow storms. Call if you need wood, if you have wood to donate, or to volunteer for the 2016-17 season.
- Heating Fuel & Electric Assistance: Call 924-2243 or 877-757-7048 for an appointment or The Grapevine for information.
- Child & Family Counseling by Monadnock Family Services
- Help Finding Shelter for families who are homeless or face homelessness.

The Grapevine is a nonprofit service organization located behind the Tuttle Library and serving residents in Antrim, Hancock, Bennington, Francetown, Hillsborough, Deering and nearby towns. The Grapevine exists because of charitable contributions from people like you. Tax deductible contributions are gratefully accepted at PO Box 637, Antrim, NH 03602. Visit us online at www.GrapevineNH.org and LIKE us on Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/grapevinenh.org/

Melissa Gallagher, Executive Director
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 9:00am
                       Wednesday 3:00 to 6:00pm
Town Dump and Demolition Hours – Wednesday 3:00 to 7:00pm; Saturday 8:00am to 5:00pm;
Selectboard – First three Mondays at 4:00pm; Fourth Monday at 7:00 pm, Barbara E Caverly Meeting Room
Planning Board - On the 1st Wednesday of every month at 7:00pm: may hold working sessions for planning purposes. On the 3rd Wednesday of every month at 7:00pm: meets to process subdivisions, site plans and other applications which may legally come before the Board. Appointments can be made by calling the Town Office at 525.4441. Applications must be received prior to the end of the preceding month to be included in the schedule and satisfy notification requirements. Barbara E Caverly Meeting Room
Zoning Board – 2nd and 4th Wednesdays as needed at 7:00pm, Barbara E Caverly Meeting Room, meetings will be noticed;
Advisory Committee – as noticed, Town Office
Conservation Commission – 1st Tuesday at 7:00pm, Barbara E Caverly Meeting Room
Historic District Commission – 4th Tuesday at 7:00pm, Barbara E Caverly Meeting Room
Hancock Library Trustees – 4th Tuesday at 5:00pm in the Daniels Room
Recreation Committee – 3rd Wednesday, 6:30pm., Hancock Inn
Town Archives Committee – as noticed, Town Office Archives Room;
Water Commissioners – 4th Wednesday at 4:30pm, Town Office Main Floor
Dump Committee – 3rd Tuesday at 4:00pm, DPW
Trustees of Trust Funds – as needed, Town Office
Cemetery Trustees – as needed, Town Office
Common Commission – every other 3rd Thursday of the month at 7:00pm, Town Office Main Floor
School Board – 1st & 3rd Tuesday, Board Room

Publishing Information

Editor and Publisher: Jaime Donovan
Submit articles to Editor at happenings@hancocknh.org or call 903.0190 for information and rates.
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.

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

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We’re focused on Bringing People Home.
Hancock Historical Society 2018 MEMBERSHIP

The Hancock Historical Society is run entirely by volunteers. Member supported since its founding in 1903, the Society has been a center of local history and learning, preserving Hancock’s past in order to illuminate its future.

Your support is vital to the Society’s mission: preserving the museum and collection, and providing research opportunities, programs, exhibits, and social events.

Membership Benefits Include:
- The Historical Oracle, our quarterly newsletter.
- Invitations to member-only events.
- Advance notice of special programs and exhibits.

☐ $25 Family Membership  ☐ $15 Individual Membership
☐ $250 Lifetime (per person)

☐ I wish to make an additional tax deductible contribution in the amount of $ __________

Membership through December 2018.
Please send dues by March 1, 2018 in order to continue receiving the newsletter.

Name __________________________________________

Address __________________________________________

__________________________________________ Telephone __________________________

Email __________________________________________
(For notice of upcoming events. Please print clearly.)

Send your check payable to: Hancock Historical Society, PO Box 138, Hancock, NH 03449
Hancock Historical Society is a not-for-profit organization under 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.