News from the Selectboard
Submitted by Laurie Bryan, Chairperson

A couple of weeks ago this is not what I expected to be writing but the Covid-19 virus has changed the way we’re living in a very short period of time. Town officials are following state and CDC recommendations to stay current with rapidly changing events and adjust town operations accordingly. For updates go to the town website: www.hancocknh.org. As of March 22nd the status of town services is as follows:

**Town Office** allows access by appointment only. Staff is available by phone, email or appointment. Many transactions can be completed by email or online. Call the office to discuss the best way to proceed. Phone: 525- 4441, email: office@hancocknh.org

**Town Clerk** transactions are by appointment during Clerk hours: Mondays 5-8pm and Wednesdays 3-6pm. PLEASE RENEW AUTO REGISTRATIONS BY MAIL. To see if other transactions can be completed by email or online please call 525-4441 or email: clerk@hancocknh.org.

**Tax Collector** is available by phone during regular tax collector hours. Payments may be made online or by mail. For questions call 525-4441 or email: tax@hancocknh.org.

**Highway Department** building is closed to the public. Please contact DPW by phone: 525-4087 or email: hwydept@hancocknh.org

**Police Department building** is closed to the public. For information call 525- 4102 or email: hancockpd@hancocknh.org. For emergencies call 911.

**Fire Department** will continue routine operations.

**Library** is closed to the public and public programs cancelled. Patrons can reserve items online at Hancock.biblionix.com and/or call 525-4411 during regular library hours to request materials. Items requested will be placed in the entryway for pickup. Home delivery is also available. If you don’t have internet access, call to set up a one hour appointment to use the public computers/wifi.

**Transfer Station** is continuing regular hours but the Swap Shop is closed.

**Resources:**
- For assistance and information call Linda Coughlan at the Town Office: 525-4441 or email: office@hancocknh.org. She has numerous resources including a list of volunteers and agencies ready to support those who may be homebound, in need of supplies or benefit from other types of assistance.
- Fiddleheads provides takeout food and will deliver. Call 525- 4432
- Hancock Market is open and will make home deliveries. Call 525-4433
- Library will deliver books or DVDs to your home. Call 525-4411
- The Harris Center for Conservation Education Facebook page offers fun activities you can do with your kids. Harris Center building is closed but trails are open.

We appreciate your patience and cooperation during these challenging times and thank our town employees and volunteers for keeping the town running smoothly.
The situation created by COVID-19, the disease caused by the novel coronavirus, is an all-hands-on-deck moment for our community. As the Hancock Fire Dept continues to monitor, assess, and respond to the presence of the virus in Hancock, we know how important strong local relationships are to successfully responding to virus outbreaks such as COVID-19. As we have done for many years, our department trains for all types of emergencies. Help us to help you and be diligent in your everyday life.

We all know walking is great exercise and can be particularly enjoyable but walking in rural areas requires special care. Unpaved surfaces may provide uneven footing. Often the vehicles on rural roads travel at higher speeds than walkers are used to, and drivers won’t expect to see someone walking on or near the side of the road. With that in mind we have the following safety tips for those who want to enjoy a walk in the country:

• Always walk facing oncoming traffic.
• Look for a smooth, stable surface alongside the road.
• Be sure drivers can see you. Wear light or brightly colored clothing.
• If you walk during low-light hours, at dusk or dawn, be sure you have reflective material on your jacket or walking shoes and carry a flashlight.
• Be careful when crossing the road. Look left, right, and left again before crossing. Don’t assume drivers will stop.
• Wearing headphones and using a mobile device will reduce your awareness of what is happening around you – keep your attention on the road.
• Take along a cell phone and an ID, especially if walking alone.
• Be sure to wear sturdy shoes that give you proper footing.

Sure, these words of wisdom are just plain old common sense, but it seems that common sense flew out the window some time ago. I have been asked to bring you this message because some drivers have been taken by surprise with walkers that could not be seen. I know because the same has happened to me. Never assume a driver has seen you! Please, be safe out there.

The scenario is all too familiar. Just as you sit down to dinner, the phone rings and the caller asks for a donation. The cause sounds worthy: Please support your local firefighters (or police officers), the caller implores. And soon, you say, sure, why not? Not so fast. That well-intentioned donation could miss its target - by a lot. Chances are the caller is not an off-duty firefighter but a paid solicitor or even a crook pretending to be affiliated with firefighters or police.

Much of your donation, or even all of it, could end up in the caller’s pocket rather than helping those responsible for your town’s public safety. So, what should you do when you get a call asking for a donation to a cause you care about? Kindly inform the caller that you support your local departments through direct donation. The caller might keep asking but stand your ground and remember you can always hang up. Ironically, we seldom, if ever, receive any benefits from these groups. We thank you for your support.

The Fire Department recently held its’ annual dinner and awards night. Our notable award of the year was presented that evening. This year we recognized both Meghan Bedard and Paul Towers as our Hancock Firefighter of the Year. A change with dual recipients on our part but well deserved. Also present at the dinner were members of the Fire Department Auxiliary, retired members of the Fire Department, members of the Hancock Police Department, and the Hancock Town Administration. Thanks to the Northern Lodge staff at Sargent Center for another good meal. The Fire Department Auxiliary also was active the next day at the Town Meeting. They served coffee, tea, water, cookies, brownies, munchkins and more for the attendees. The donations they received will be used to purchase additional rescue equipment.

Two important items for everyone:

Stay off thin ice and

Brush burning permits required.

Raffle winners for the month:

$40.00 – Kathleen Robbins
$20.00 – T.J. Mackey
$10.00 – Rick Gervin, Robert Sharpe, Sue MacKillop
News from the Hancock Congregational Church
Rev. Judy Copeland, Pastor

Please help us get the word out that the Hancock Helping Hands Fund (now administered by the Church) may be able to provide assistance to those suffering from the economic impact of COVID-19. Please call the Rev. Judy Copeland at 525-8037 or 264-7110 if you live in Hancock and need help. All requests are (of course) entirely confidential.

In keeping with the recommended health protocols, we are not holding religious services in the building at this time. We had hoped to resume Sunday Morning worship in time for Easter, but that is looking less and less likely as of this writing. The Church Council is meeting weekly via Zoom and we will announce the resumption of public worship (and use of Vestry space) as soon as it is safe to do that. In the meantime, we have set up a Hancock Congregational Church YouTube Channel (just make sure you include the “Congregational” when you Google it—the "Hancock Church" moniker was already taken). Each Sunday our Pastor will be posting a brief spiritual message there. Also, we encourage you to sign-up for our electronic newsletter which also offers both practical and spiritual content. Just send an email to the church at Hancockcongregationalchurch@gmail.com and let us know that you want to receive it.

You may have noticed a red cooler in front of the Church. That’s the temporary collection point for boxes of cereal for End 68 Hours of Hunger. Children in our school district need uninterrupted food assistance during this time, so we are continuing to collect cereal for distribution and will be emptying the cooler daily. Thank you for your continued support of this project.

Finally, please know that the Church continues to pray for and wishes to express our gratitude to all those on the front lines of the COVID-19 crisis—healthcare workers at every level, educators who are working overtime to get up to speed with virtual learning, town officials and employees who are keeping the infrastructure going, postal workers, firefighters, police officers, and so many others. We also remember in our prayers those whose significant celebrations (births, birthdays, graduations, etc.) are being altered and overshadowed by the current crisis.
Hancock Elementary School Update
Amy Janoch, Principal

On Friday March 13th, Hancock Elementary School celebrated the end of our Circus Residency with a wonderful Circus Showcase. Thanks to the Daniels’ trust fund and the Hancock Inn, Troy Wunderle from Big Top Adventures spent a week with the HES students teaching them various circus tricks including riding a unicycle, walking on stilts, juggling, and clowning. It was a wonderful distraction as we approached an unprecedented event in our lives. Friday, March 13th was the last day that our HES children were together as a community until April 6th.

Last Wednesday started HES’ adventure with remote learning. Between Friday, March 13th and Tuesday, March 17th, HES staff worked furiously to create learning menus and prepare resources for students to learn in their homes. Staff quickly learned how to conduct Google Meetings and Zooms in order to connect with colleagues, children and families remotely. By Friday, students were participating in virtual morning or lunch meetings with their teacher and classmates.

Learning now looks quite different for HES students. All students are asked to participate in 30 - 40 minutes of reading, math and writing per day. Activities include online math and literacy instruction through Zearn, Lexia, and Razz Kids as well as dice games, and board games that incorporate math and literacy skills. Teachers share morning messages daily that include writing prompts or questions of the day that can be discussed during remote lunch meetings. Wellness, music, and art teachers have shared ideas for staying healthy, active, and creative. HES has flipped along with the world and will land on its feet.

I am in awe of the HES staff and families. In 4 days, adults in our children’s lives were asked to adjust their mindset and schedules to accommodate remote learning. Teachers became secretaries, scheduling weekly meetings with families and students. Parents became managers figuring out who would supervise their child’s learning while the other is at work (in the next room!). All family members became teachers, supervising each child’s learning both inside and outside the home.

Thank you all for ensuring that our children land on their feet following this difficult and unsettling time.
To place an ad, email is the best way happenings@hancocknh.org or call 603.903.0190
The re will be no Community Supper in April.

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

When the inevitable lady came up to complain about the volume and demand that we turn down the amplifiers, rather than explaining that the system wasn’t yet turned on we just went over to the dormant amp and turned some knobs.

She said that was much better.
Literary Peep Dioramas 2020 continue! While all other programs have been cancelled and the library is closed, the Literary Peeps Dioramas of 2020 will go on! Drop off your diorama in the entryway of the library (there’s a table there) OR just take a good photo or two and email us at hancocklibrary@comcast.net by April 6th. Here are some of our 2020 entries so far (thank you Elena and Anthony Spinale!):

![Image of a diorama]

The library will be closed at least until April 6th, and perhaps longer than that. However, we are continuing to do entryway pickups or home deliveries. You can reserve items online at hancock.biblionix.com or give us a call at 525-4411. The sign in is the same for all of our digital offerings – if you don’t know how just give us a call and we’ll get you up to speed in no time.

Remember that you can access downloadable ebooks, audiobooks and magazines at https://nh.overdrive.com/

Free streaming movies via Kanopy (5 per month per patron thanks to the Friends of the Library):
https://hancocknh.kanopy.com/

You can find more information on our Facebook and Instagram pages, or our website:
https://hancocktownlibrarynh.wordpress.com/
HANCOCK RECREATION SUMMER PROGRAM

We are excited to confirm that the Hancock Recreation Summer Program is on again for this 2020 summer! We anticipate the start date to be July 6th and will run through August 7th. This year we have opened up the camp for ages 4 to 13. We hope to have several of the staff returning from last year to transition easily into summer fun. There are likely to be some new faces as well. As always, we plan to spend time at the pond, in our town library and with some community members in learning and in play. Our counselors will be creating and planning new ideas, activities, team building games, and general summer camp antics.

Currently, applications are available online and can be completed and emailed to townadmin@hancocknh.org If you prefer, you can print the application and mail the form to the town hall. The address is on the application. Due to these unprecedented times, please hold your payment until the first day of camp! We just need the applications to be sure we hire enough staff and can plan for all our activities. Check us out online - Town of Hancock web site under the recreation committee. Please direct any questions you might have to Deb Coyne - coind5@aol.com or Jen Booth at booth14@juno.com.

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Haley Mathewson Wins 2020 Ice Out Contest

Local resident Haley Mathewson won the 2020 Ice Out contest with a guess of March 21, 2020 at 12:45 PM. Missing the actual ice out time of 12:58 PM by only 13 minutes, Haley’s guess was the closest of only six who picked that date.

In fact, Mother Nature, and perhaps our local Naiad, fooled many of the participants in this year’s contest. As shown below, 90.9% of the 519 guesses this year predicted a later ice out date and time. The money collected totaled $1,068 so Haley, as well as the Meeting House and Vestry maintenance fund, can both anticipate checks for $534 (likely to be mailed given the Covid 19 situation).

By the way, there were no names suggested for our local Naiad so she will remain nameless for at least another season.

The 2020 Ice Out Committee sincerely thanks the management and staff of Fiddleheads, The Hancock Market, and The Hancock Inn for handling most of the ticket sales, and all who participated in this, the eighth, contest year.

*Ice Out Committee 2020*

**Brimstone Hollow Farm**

46 Middle Road, Hancock
Farm Stand – 2nd Season
Opening in April – watch for the Open Signs!

Coming Soon – Variety of Salad Greens, Spinach, Kale, Radishes

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Ken Moller  Ann Moller

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Phone: 603-491-4092
Email: Thomas.Villeneuve@me.com

To place an ad, email is the best way
happenings@hancocknh.org or call 603.903.0190
Dear Hancock Happenings Family,

It saddens me to let you know that Music on Norway Pond is suspending our entire spring season. This includes our remaining Series concerts with jazz pianist Henrique Eisenmann on March 29, the five-woman ensemble “Byron’s Daughter” from our affiliation with the New England Conservatory of Music on April 16, our Fundraising Gala with the New Orleans ragtime group “Petite Feet” on April 25, our Junior Minstrels performance on May 9, and the Norway Pond Festival Singers concert on May 21.

My colleague Josh Jacobson has written “The effects of this virus are not only medical. They are emotional, social, and spiritual.” For me, it is especially hard to give up working with the Junior Mints. We had gathered a small but talented and energetic crew – and we will again next fall!

This is a challenging time for many, including musicians who are part of the “gig” economy; they earn their income when crowds gather to hear them. Our generous Board of Trustees has decided to pay the entire fees for all our spring commitments. When we let Henrique know, he answered “I am in awe that you are paying all the artists. This is so incredibly wonderful, so helpful and mindful. It truly touches my heart. Many of us artists have had dozens of concerts cancelled, with significant financial losses…”

The most important thing is that we support one another, as we look for silver linings and opportunities to help, connect and grow.

With deep gratitude and until next season,

Jody
Music on Norway Pond
www.musiconnorwaypond.org
CLASSIFIEDS

From the Dump Committee

Recycling in the Town of Hancock is mandatory
A dump sticker is required on your vehicle in order to use the recycling center and visit the Swap Shop.

Recycling Center Hours: Wednesdays: 3pm - 7 pm & Saturdays: 8 am - 5 pm

THE SWAP-SHOP IS CLOSED until further notice

Please, donate used motor oil to the Transfer station. It is used to heat the place.

Reminders:

METAL CONTAINER: Disposal of metal into the “metal container” is free of charge.

BULKY CONTAINER: Please, see Ricky or Chester to determine the fee for disposing anything into the “bulky container”

ELECTRONICS CONTAINER: As of January 1st: new charges for the disposal of TV’s; Flat screens; computer monitors, etc. Please, see Ricky or Chester.

GLASS CONTAINER: Only clear clean food-grade glass bottles and jars can be recycled into the “glass container” - all lids, caps and corks removed.

NO LIGHT BULBS or FLUORESCENT LIGHTS
A contaminated load costs 5x as much to the town!

CARDBOARD: Please, fold or breakdown all cardboard boxes

NOT recyclable are:

Wrapping paper; tissue paper; pizza boxes; waxed food-containers both for liquids and frozen food; beer cartons. These cannot be recycled and are considered trash.

SALVATION ARMY BIN

Please, bag and tie everything for the Salvation Army bin to prevent soiling and spoiling.

Please, see attendants for questions
ART EXHIBITS AT THE LIBRARY

_EarthSong Artists_
March 27th – May 6th

Nine local artists, who are members of the EarthSong Artists group, will showcase their recent paintings in the Daniels Room of the Hancock Library March 27th through May 6th.

The exhibit will include new works, featuring creative expressions of individual connections with nature, including landscape, floral and animal subjects. Work in this exhibit has been painted in a studio environment during the winter.

Local participating artists are Tamara Benaquist, Barbara Danser, Carol Doleac, Bill Gill, Mary Kirk, Ilona Kwiecien, Arlene Laurenitis, Christina Meinke, and Anne Marie Warren.

_Chester_ by Mary Kirk
_Rose Hips_ by Christine Meinke
_After the Snow_ by Bill Gill

_The whole world is pending_, but the plan is for the exhibit can be viewed during regular library hours: Mon. and Wed. 2-6 pm; Tues. and Thur. 10 am-7 pm; and Sat. 10 am-4 pm. Call the library (525-4411) before your visit to ensure no special events are scheduled at that time.

_Landscape Maintenance_

_Outdoor Services_

Yard Clean-up
Trees & Brush cut, chipped or hauled away
Plant Beds redefined & edged
Mulching/composting available
Dethatch lawns & overseed
Weekly mowing & trimming

Quinn Tucker, Hancock 603-525-3177 Home 603-562-8927 Cell
News from the Depot

Unfortunately, due to the COVID-19 virus, we will be cancelling the April 4th Depot Cabaret. Instead, we will be hosting some online performances and supporting many of our regular performers by posting links to online shows, including Green Heron, originally scheduled to be our feature on April 4th. PLEASE NOTE: Green Heron will be one of our key features at the Five-Year Anniversary Show on August 22nd, so despite the delay, you’ll still get to hear this amazing duo then!

For more information, visit their Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/greenheronmusic/

UPCOMING FEATURE ACTS
* May 2nd: Tara Greenblat Band – Luscious harmonies, decadent strings, groovy hand drumming, & poignant lyrics … and more!

* June 6th: Mark Mandeville & Raianne Richards – Blending distinctive voices and a wide range of accompaniment (guitar, harmonica, ukulele, clarinet, penny whistle, electric bass, mandolin and banjo) Mark & Raianne's songs have been well-received by audiences around the eastern United States and Canada since 2010. Don’t miss this dynamic duo!

RAISE THE ROOF!
In the meantime, as many of you already know, we have an immediate and significant concern: The Depot needs a new roof! So, we're calling our 2020 fundraising campaign Raise the Roof!

We have obtained estimates from several contractors, and the new roof will cost $10,000 to $12,000. Along with funds raised from Depot-related events and the plea letter we mailed to all Hancock residents in January, we're asking all our friends and patrons for your generous support.

Please consider becoming a Hancock Depot Association member at either the Conductor or Engineer level. A membership at any level makes a huge difference:

- $50 – Conductor – Come to cabarets or any event; no need to make contributions at events.
- $150 – Engineer – As an Engineer, you’re entitled to host a private event (party, big family dinner, etc.) at the Hancock Depot. First come, first served for scheduling!

100% of your money goes to maintain and support the Depot; we are 100% a non-profit. Any dollar amount or in-kind donation will be greatly appreciated. Please address checks to the "Hancock Depot Association."

Finally, in addition to financial donations, we’re also asking for volunteers to swing hammers, carry bundles of shingles, or help with cleanup as we raise the new roof. If you’re interested in participating, please let us know, and we’ll keep you in the loop!

ABOUT THE VENUE
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.

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: hancockdepotebaret@yahoo.com
--> Phone: 508-641-0076
Like us on Facebook and receive automatic notifications about upcoming shows: www.facebook.com/hancockdepotebaret

MONTHLY ASSOCIATION MEETINGS
Interested in joining the Hancock Depot Association? If you’d like to help out with planning, events, cleanup days, etc., feel free to join us! We meet up at the Depot on the third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. For information about our next meeting, give David Young a call at 603-525-3085 or send him a note via Facebook.

RENT THE DEPOT!
Have a birthday party or other significant event coming up? Consider hosting your event at the Hancock Depot! The venue is available for parties, meetings, celebrations, concerts, and other special events. To learn more, call David Young at 603-525-3085 or Sean Sweeney at 603-381-1351.

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This is a challenging time for event planning, so our print calendar is taking a spring break. Please check harriscenter.org for the latest event announcements (including cancellations and postponements).

FIND SOLACE OUTDOORS

We need nature now more than ever. Our trails are open, and we encourage you to explore them. In light of the need for social distancing, please hike only with members of your own household, and maintain at least six feet between you and other hikers at all times.

— The staff and volunteers of the Harris Center for Conservation Education
From the Town Moderator Richard Haskins,

As promised at our Annual Town Meeting on Saturday March 14th, here is the full Maple Syrup Report that I received this year from Mark Thompson:

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Maple Syrup Report 2020, as received from Mark Thompson:

It’s year two without Bill (Eva), and his guidance was missed very much last year. We tried to do things like before, but somehow it was not the same. However, I’d like to think I learned a lot more than sugaring from him. For instance, he was always trying new ideas. So, we made some minor changes and survived our first year. This year we are continuing where we left off.

Weather is always the biggest factor when it comes to sugaring. Sixty degrees in January was a little more than the normal January thaw. Combined with lower than normal snow cover in the woods and little frost in the ground, the stage was set for an earlier season.

We tapped the first weekend in February, probably two weeks after the “sweetest sap run” (again). Oh well, we weren’t ready anyway. We’ve spent many days looking for leaks and repairing our sap lines. Squirrels, deer, coyotes and bear create all sorts of problems.

There have been many sunny days, with bright blue skies overhead and bearable temperatures making working in the woods very enjoyable. Even with temps in the low 20’s in February, the sun felt warm.

Our first boil was February 24th this year (3-1/2 weeks earlier than last year) and we have collected and boiled a number of times since. So far, our total is about 220 gallons of syrup. By comparison, last year we totaled 260 gallons. Sap sugar content has been below 2% since the first run. Fairly low, but consistent with what other sugar makers are saying. Most say they’ve made between half and 2/3’s of their average crop, although Bascom’s (the state’s largest producer) is reporting a little over a third of their normal crop (17,000 gallons made so far).

Without the help of friends and family, making maple syrup would be difficult and a lot less fun. We have achieved most of the goals we set for ourselves this year. The support and help from my brother-in-law Don Eva, friend John Pirkey, and my wife have again made this year possible. Others stop by to lend a hand, and community support over the past year has been heartwarming.

We are now about 3-weeks into our “official” sugaring season. Old timers say the season usually runs about 6 weeks. I’m keeping an eye on the tell-tale signs--buds swelling and the presence of moths are said to be signs that the season is winding down. Moths have been out for a couple of weeks now and some birds (like red-winged blackbirds) have been near my feeders earlier than I can remember. Bud’s on the lilacs are just starting to show signs of expanding, but fortunately the maples don’t seem to be changing yet.

Meteorologists are predicting conditions favorable to sap runs this weekend and into next week, so I’m optimistic we’ll be making a fair amount more syrup. The season has been good so far, and even if we just make a few more gallons I’m proud of our effort and syrup produced and will call this year another success.
Dear Friends,

As of this writing, the Grapevine’s programs and facilities are closed through April 5th in response to the latest public health recommendations regarding the COVID 19 virus. Though we are scheduled to re-open on April 6th, this may be subject to change. Please check our Facebook page for the latest updates at: www.facebook.com/grapevinenh.org.

The Grapevine is a drop off site for anyone who is able to make knit face mask covers for Monadnock Community Hospital. Hospital approved instructions and illustrations can be found on our Facebook page. If you would like these emailed to you, please contact me at melissag@grapevinenh.org. You can drop your mask donations in our back play yard inside our covered playhouse – you will see a marked bin.

Do you know of a homebound person or family in need of assistance? Are you able to help out with needs during this time such as making phone call check ins, deliveries of groceries and needed supplies, etc.? Send an email to melissag@grapevinenh.org as we try to match needs with offers of help.

Our Annual Spring Walk for Families is still planned. We realize that a gathering of this size and type may not be possible, so we’ll just have to wait and see what the next few weeks hold. As for now… please SAVE THE DATE for our 16th Annual Spring Walk for Families on Saturday, May 9th! We have moved to a shorter, more family friendly one-mile route. Stay tuned for more details! www.grapevinenh.org.

Please do not hesitate to reach out with ideas, concerns and questions. This is an unprecedented time for us all. Our community is stronger when we reach out and support one another.

Thank you!

The Grapevine is a nonprofit service organization located behind the Tuttle Library and serving residents in Antrim, Hancock, Bennington, Franconia, Hillsborough, Deering and nearby towns. The Grapevine exists because of charitable contributions from people like you. Tax deductible contributions are gratefully accepted at PO Box 637, Antrim, or drop by the center at 4 Aiken Street (behind the library). Visit us online at www.GrapevineNH.org and LIKE us on Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/grapevinenh.org/
Friends of Willard Pond

Near Hancock (but actually in Antrim) is Willard Pond. Although the pond is owned by the State of NH, nearly all the land around it (nearly 1,700 acres) is protected and managed by New Hampshire Audubon. The shoreline is devoid of houses or other structures with the exception of a canoe rack and a kiosk which is maintained by NH Fish & Game. It is a place that is “wild” and supports loons, an abundance of other birds, bobcats, moose, deer, porcupines, and lots of other wildlife. The pond is stocked by Fish & Game for fly fishing, which is the only type of fishing allowed there. No petroleum boats are permitted, but there is peaceful space for people to kayak and canoe. We are lucky that NH Audubon has preserved this sanctuary area and allowed all of us to use it for relaxation and rejuvenation.

A group of about 30 people has been meeting for the past year to develop strategies to help care for this valuable resource. Along with NH Audubon, the Antrim Conservation Commission, the Antrim Police Department, the Antrim Select Board, NH Fish & Game, and others this group has taken on several initiatives.

Volunteers have done trail maintenance work and people have helped with trash removal. The parking situation has been studied and possible solutions for over-crowded parking and overuse of the pond discussed. In order to allow safe passage of emergency vehicles, the Antrim Select Board passed an ordinance to prohibit parking along the road. The Antrim Police Department provided a radar monitor to remind people to keep their speed down to the posted limit of 25 miles per hour.

The Friends of Willard Pond will start meeting again in the spring. The first meeting will be a work morning for trail maintenance on Sunday, April 19th at 9 am. There will be a brief check-in meeting in the parking lot before the work begins. Priorities for this year will be established. If you are unable to stay for the trail work, come just for the brief meeting. Anyone is welcome to attend the meetings. If you would like more information about the group or want to be put on the mailing list, please contact Anitra Sorensen (anitrasorensen@gmail.com) or 603-731-9764.

Submitted by Anita Sorensen

Monadnock RSVP Volunteer Center Receives Grant

Monadnock RSVP Volunteer Center has been awarded a $86,913 grant to support volunteer activities from the Corporation of National and Community Service (CNCS). These funds were awarded as part of a competitive grant process for RSVP, one of three Senior Corps programs administered by CNCS.

Monadnock RSVP mobilizes more than 180 older adults in meaningful service opportunities at 40 non-profit and public organizations and in RSVP signature programs which include: America Reads, a national literacy program that pairs RSVP volunteers with students in grades K-3 to help them become proficient readers by the end of third grade; and Neighbors-In-Deed, their independent living program that helps seniors, adults with disabilities and veterans and military families remain in their homes as long as possible. Through community partnerships and RSVP programs, RSVP works to improve social living conditions and create long-term change that produces healthy, well-educated and financially stable individuals and families in our community. Monadnock RSVP is sponsored by Monadnock Family Services.

This grant is one of 176 RSVP awards provided to volunteer organizations across the country to support volunteer activities in areas including Education, Economic Opportunity, Healthy Futures, Veterans and Military Families, Disaster Services, and Environmental Stewardship.
When the World Gets Back to Normal (For now see page 1):
Hancock Hours and Meetings

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

Tax Collector - Thursday 9:00am to 4:30pm

Town Clerk – Monday 5:00 to 8:00pm
   Wednesday 3:00 to 6:00pm
   Closed on Federal Holidays

Town Dump and Demolition Hours – Wednesday 3:00 to 7:00pm; Saturday 8:00am to 5:00pm

Selectboard – First three Mondays at 3:00pm; 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, meetings will be noticed; Barbara E Caverly Meeting Room

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 – as noticed

Town Archives Committee – as noticed, Town Office Archives Room

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

Trustees of Trust Funds – as needed, Town Office

Cemetery Trustees – 1st Wednesday of the month, 10:00am, 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

Dump Committee—3rd Tuesday at 1:00, Transfer Station

Publishing Information

Editor and Publisher: Jaime Donovan
Submit articles to Editor at happenings@hancocknh.org or call 903.0190 for information and rates.
Deadline for submissions, advertising and payment for advertising: 5pm on the 22nd of each month. Checks should be payable to Town of Hancock (memo line “Hancock Happenings”) and mailed to the Town at PO Box 6, Hancock, NH 03449.
Distribution– Hope Pettegrew, Sandy Brooks, Josephine & Richard Warner, Marcia Coffin and Rod Perry
Printing by Gem Graphics, Keene, NH
Monthly issues are placed at the Hancock Market, Post Office, Fiddleheads, Library, Dump and distributed to the students at Hancock Elementary School during the school year. Current and past issues can be found online on the Town website hancocknh.org and at the Hancock Historical Society
Nameplate by Eleanor Amidon
SCHOLARSHIP
A Scholarship for Adult Women

The Hancock Woman’s Club’s Annual Scholarship is once again being offered.

To qualify, an applicant must be:
- An adult woman in mid-career. OR
- An adult woman who plans to either begin, change or return to a career after years of family rearing or other responsibilities.
- A current Hancock resident who’s lived here for 2+ years.
- Applicant must provide official confirmation of acceptance or enrollment at an accredited school, such as a college, university, technical or other training school.

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

Deadlines
- Applications must be received no later than April 6, 2020
- Awards will be announced in May.