News from the Selectboard
Submitted by John Jordan, Chairperson

The Selectboard has settled on a proposed budget for the current year to be presented to Town Meeting in March. There will be a Hearing for the budget on Monday, February 10th at 7:00 PM in the Barbara Caverly Room downstairs at the Town Office. The proposed operating budget is $2,556,033.00 which is an increase of $80,344.00 over last year. It includes new expenses of $65,959.00 for the new fire truck and $31,742.00 for the new highway ten-wheeler dump truck. This is the first year of payments for these vehicles. There is also an increase of $44,602.00 for road tar to deal with critical needs. After the yearly employee valuations, there have been selective salary increases. The Town has a very good complement of personnel and it is to its benefit to retain them. Providing a good work environment and fair pay is the key in this regard. Reductions have been made throughout the budget to try to mitigate the impact of these increases. There is an estimated impact in the tax rate of $0.52 per thousand for the proposed budget, but the actual number will not be able to be determined until the new tax rate is set with the Department of Revenue Administration in November. The estimated Fund Balance is $443,388.18 which is within our guidelines of 6% to 7% of the gross budget. If there is a surplus in November due to savings in the Town operations or an increase in expected revenues, funds could then be used to reduce the tax rate.

The proposed Conval budget is $50,565,102.85, which an increase of $1,102,909.85 over last year. Due to a reduction in revenues of $764,392.96, the district assessment is projected to increase by $1,867,302.81. Hancock’s assessment is approximately 10% of the district budget which would result in an increase in the tax rate of $0.75.

The fact that we have a very good community was demonstrated on Monday morning, January 20th at the Martin Luther King Day program at the Meetinghouse. The first floor room was filled to capacity with a well-rounded mix of ages from very young children to seniors. It was very pleasing to see so many young families present. The program itself reflected the same well-rounded mix with both oral presentations and singing. This was truly a community event showing great spirit and one it is hoped will continue.

February 11th is the Presidential Primary. Please see page 3 for important information from the Town Clerk’s Office.
HANCOCK HAPPENINGS
February 2020

Hancock Fire & Rescue
Tom Bates, Chief, Hancock Fire Department

How many of you have already broken your New Year’s resolutions? Whatever you do, don’t break your resolution about being fire-safe!! The month of February is dedicated to Burn Awareness. Scald burns (caused by hot liquids, steam or foods) are the most common burn injury among young children and elderly adults.

A few items to remember:

Teach children that hot things can burn.

Use oven mitts/potholders.

Open micro-waved food slowly, away from the face.

Never heat a baby bottle in the microwave.

Never hold a child while you are cooking, drinking a hot liquid, or carrying hot foods or liquids.

Turn pot handles inward.

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

Sometimes our name “Fire Department” is misleading. The truth is we are that and so much more. Emergency Medical Services is a big part of what we do. Our staff is trained to meet NH and National standards for medical care. Fire suppression, prevention, and investigation is right up there with what we do. We respond to motor vehicle accidents, big and small. During a storm our responders are out checking on downed trees and power lines, checking on homeowners, and assisting with traffic control. Sometimes we are called to rescue a lost or injured hiker. Animal rescue is just as important to us as human life. From time to time we have to hike out into the woods for a brush fire. The fire department has been there to pump water out of a flooded basement or check out a business or residence because of an alarm activation. And let us not forget that we also respond with mutual aid to any area department as needed.

We do this day and night because that is who we are. If a citizen of Hancock has any kind of problem or is in need of help you can be rest assured that the Hancock Fire Department is there for you and your family. Duty is our pride. To bring calm to chaos is our goal. I am grateful to the men and women of HFD who are always willing to drop what they are doing or to jump out of bed any time our pagers go off for a call. They spend long hours in meetings and trainings to prepare for what-ever emergency might be thrown their way, and then respond in a calm and professional manner.

The fire department held elections for leadership positions last month. We are lucky to have a great core group of officers and members. Our current roster of officers is:

Fire
Chief Tom Bates,
1st Assistant Chief John Pirkey,
2nd Assistant Chief Mark Thompson
Captains Tom Ball, Paul Towers, and TJ Webster
Fire Warden Nevan Cassidy,
Association President Hunt Dowse,
Secretary Jon GrosJean
Treasurer Molly Webster

Raffle winners for the month:
$40.00 – Natalie Cass
$20.00 – Arthur Bryan
$10.00 – Numael Pulido, Robert Cypher, Pam Hall

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Hancock, NH 03449
Office: (603) 525-4211
Fax: (603) 525-4213
www.themollers.com
e-mail: office@themollers.com

Ken Moller Ann Moller
From the Town Clerk’s Office:
There are 4 elections coming up in 2020. The first one, the presidential primary will be held on February 11th.
• Sample ballots are posted on the bulletin board in the Town Hall, at the Post Office, and in the library.
• Our voting site is in the lower level of the Town Hall, and the polls will be open from 8:00am until 7:00pm.
• Please bring your photo ID.
• In a Primary Election, persons registered as a Democrat must use a Democratic ballot. If you are registered as a Republican, you must use a Republican ballot. Only someone registered as undeclared may choose which ballot they wish to receive. You may not change your party affiliation between now and the election.
• If you aren’t yet registered to vote in Hancock, you can register at the polls on election day. Be sure to bring something showing that you live in Hancock, along with your photo ID.
• If you can’t make it to the polls on election day, you may request an absentee ballot.

We hope to see all of you at the polls on Tuesday, February 11, 2020!
Carolyn and Alisha
Our Lanky Yankee: Neal Cornwell Clark
In January of 2018, Hancock resident Neal Clark passed away leaving behind his voluminous writings, an odd assortment of curiosities he found in his ramblings, and a community richer for his presence among us. One of the last of his kind from the mid-twentieth century school of naturalism, Clark imparted his wit and wisdom through writings, teachings and the manner in which he chose to live his life. The Hancock Historical Society along with members of the community who knew Neal best have worked for the past two years to collect and archive stories, photographs, and artifacts pertaining to Neal, as well as a collection of his writings for future generations to enjoy. In conjunction with the archive we have created an exhibit to highlight this contemporary person in Hancock history.

The last opportunity to view the exhibit will be on Saturday, February 8th, 11am to 2pm.

The final piece of this project is the publication of a book of essays about Neal written by local residents, long-time friends, and family members, along with a sampling of Neal’s own writing. Through these writings we hope to reveal to Hancock residents and visitors, both now and in the future, a glimpse into this “person of interest” who is forevermore part of Hancock’s history. The Hancock Historical Society is proud to present Our Lanky Yankee, Neal Cornwell Clark, Selected Writings and Remembrances.

Copies are now on sale for $10 and may be purchased at Hancock Historical Society, 7 Main St. during office hours, Fridays from 10am to noon. You can also contact us by email history@hancockhistoricalsociety.org or by telephone at 525-9379 to make other arrangements.

Mr. Holmes
Please join us at the Hancock Town Library on February 23rd at 2pm for a movie. Mr. Holmes is the story of an elderly Sherlock Holmes, living in a remote Sussex farmhouse and with one last case to solve. The mystery has haunted him for 50 years, now he must slip out of retirement and pay a secret visit to his past in order to determine the future. A great way to spend a Sunday afternoon!
Hancock Woman’s Club

The Hancock Woman’s Club invites you to our February gathering on Wednesday, the 12th at 2:00pm in the Vestry. A panel of women that were awarded scholarships in the past will share with us how they furthered their education with the help from funds they received from the Woman’s Club. It will be interesting to hear about their successes in their careers and we look forward to welcoming each of them. As always tea, coffee, and homemade delights will be served and all are welcome to join in.

The Hancock Woman’s Club will once again be offering a scholarship to an adult woman who is a resident of Hancock and enrolled in or accepted to an accredited school. Information on the procedure for applying for this assistance will be available in January. Please watch for posters and news articles with details about the application process in the next few weeks.

Submitted by Sara LeFebvre

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WANTED
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If you are a real expert on iPhones, Hancock resident needs a tutor to teach me how to use my new iPhone 10.C.
Only highly qualified iphone users of iphone 8 or above need apply. I am offering $20/hr for the right person.
Call 525-3523 if interested.
Community Supper
The next Community Supper will be Thursday, February 27th hosted by the Renew Church.

Another "Tale From Home" at www.herb-gardner.com
My son, Andy always sort of knew that I was old, but what really made it hit home was when I mentioned that I had played in a band at a party for Super Bowl number one!
Each generation has its way of visualizing time, I guess.

HCS to Host Open House
Home Healthcare, Hospice & Community Services (HCS) will host an Open House on Friday, February 14th from 2pm to 4pm at their new office at 9 Vose Farm Road, Suite 110 in Peterborough. Come and meet the staff and take a tour of the new office. Valentine’s Day refreshments will be served and an HCS nurse will be on hand to offer free blood pressure checks. The public is invited. For more information about services at HCS, call 532-8353. HCS is a Monadnock United Way agency.

To place an ad, email is the best way
happenings@hancocknh.org or call 603.903.0190
Hancock Town Library Events

Amy Markus, Hancock Library Director
http://hancocktownlibrarynh.wordpress.com
Mondays and Wednesdays 2:00 to 6:00pm
Tuesdays and Thursdays 10:00am to 7:00pm
Saturdays 10:00am to 4:00pm

Just a reminder that we offer a lot of services you may not think a small library could provide, mainly thanks to funding from our Friends of the Hancock Town Library group. Here are some of the things you can get at our small-but-mighty library: a multitude of museum passes; downloadable audiobooks, ebooks, digital magazines, and free streaming movies; do-it-yourself interlibrary loan (stop by and we’ll show you how); the ability to renew, reserve, and request books from home (again, stop by and we’ll show you how easy it is); and lots of free programs. If you don’t have a card yet, stop by and get one. If you do but haven’t come in lately, you’ll want to come in soon and check things out!

The 4th Annual Ping Pong Tournament has started! We’ll keep you posted on how the competition goes this year. Too late to join in this year but you can always come and play for fun anytime the Daniels Room is free. Just give us a call: 525-4411.

Yoga at the HTL (there is a fee for these classes)
Mondays 9:00-10:30am with Chris Justice
Fridays 9:00-10:30am with Betsy DiPrima

Monday February 3rd at 6:00pm
Cookbook Book Club
This month’s challenge is to cook a favorite family dish from childhood. Space is limited so please call the library to see if there is room this month. 525-4411.

Tuesdays at 1:00pm – 3:00pm Mah Jongg
Join us as we learn and play Mah Jongg on Tuesdays afternoons. Newcomers welcome but do let us know if you’ll be joining us so that we make sure we have a teacher on hand!

Tuesday February 4th at 7:00pm
Poetry, Pie & The Players
A Peek Behind the Curtain of Robert Frost: This Verse Business. Don’t miss this opportunity to get a behind-the-scenes look here in Hancock at the latest one-man play produced by the Peterborough Players. Plus, pie for all after the show! The perfect marriage between a treasured American poet and a beloved actor, Emmy-winner (NYPD Blue) and Tony-nominee Gordon Clapp returns for an encore performance as Robert Frost in A.M Dolan’s Robert Frost: This Verse Business. Fresh from the Lincoln Center production of The Great Society, Clapp once again breathes life into Frost, poised and waiting for the birth of a new poem. “Why don’t I say some poems to ya I’ve already written...and we’ll see if another one creeps up on me.” Frost’s endless quest to express life through metaphor – and encourage the reader to find their own meaning of life – is beautifully captured through this intimate moment between actor and audience, featuring timeless Frost classics such as Mending Wall, The Road Not Taken and Stopping By Woods on a Snowy Evening.

Robert Frost: This Verse Business features Gordon Clapp (Stella and Lou). He will be on hand at this event to read some Frost poems, discuss the experience of playing Robert Frost, and answer questions. While Mr. Clapp has had an extensive and celebrated career in tv, film, and on Broadway, he is perhaps best known for his Emmy Award-winning turn as Det. Greg Medavoy on NYPD Blue. Many thanks to the Peterborough Players for coming to Hancock to give us a taste of this show! Free and open to all.

Wednesday February 5th at 5:30pm
Learn About Becoming a Census-taker for 2020
Come to this information session about becoming a census-taker in 2020. Temporary census positions offer an opportunity to earn extra income, while at the same time, helping your community. Did you know that the results of the 2020 Census help determine how billions of dollars in federal funding are spent locally for schools, hospitals, roads, and more? So it’s important that everyone is counted! Census takers will interview household residents and update address lists using electronic devices (such as smartphones and tablets) issued by the Census Bureau. Applicants who are hired will attend paid training before beginning work. Prior to the census, census takers will use maps and address lists to determine if the addresses are correct. Later, they will visit households that haven’t responded to the census, speaking with residents and using electronic devices to collect census data. Join Seven Atli as she explains how it all works.

Thursday February 6th at 7:00pm
My Long Walk: Trail Inspired Images and Poems with Larry Chambers
Larry Chambers has always wanted to hike the New Hampshire and Maine section of the AT. On June 10th, he stood in Vermont and walked across the bridge into New Hampshire. He started hiking with the idea that he wanted to see, hear and feel what most people do not see, hear and feel on the trail. It didn’t take long for the poems to start and they came faster the closer he got to Katahdin. Come learn what he saw, heard and felt on the AT!

Larry Chambers started his teaching career in the classroom, but soon discovered Outdoor Education. Larry is known as an innovator and creator of exciting outdoor education programs for students and teachers. Today, _continued to page 8_
Larry works as an Outdoor Education consultant helping schools and organizations create engaging and exciting outdoor education experiences for students of all ages.

**Wednesday February 12th at 7:00pm**

*Game Night for Grownups!*

The days are getting longer bit by bit but the nights are still long so come spend time scoring at Scrabble or getting conned by Cranium. Come relax, have fun, meet new friends and neighbors with an old fave or challenging new-in-the-box board game. Bring a game if you’ve got one, and a snack or drink to share if you like. Every second Wednesday of the month from 7:00-9:00pm.

**Saturday February 15th, 1:00-3:00**

*Third Saturday Crafternoon – Felting!*

This class is currently full but feel free to sign up for the waiting list. If there are cancellations we’ll give you a call!

**Tuesday February 18th  5:30-7:00pm**

*Free-Form-Français*

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

**Thursday February 20th at 12:30pm**

*Books Sandwiched In Book Group*

We’re reading The Sea Around Us by Rachel Carson this month. Books are available at the front desk (you must have a Hancock Town Library card to borrow a book). Feel free to join us anytime (no commitment required!) – we meet once a month on the third Thursday of the month.

**Thursday February 20th at 7:00pm**

*New England’s Long Ago Elephants: Woolly Mammoths & Mastodons*

Discover the long-lost lives of the woolly mammoths and mastodons that once roamed New England with Harris Center naturalist and woolly mammoth lover Susie Spikol! Learn how to tell a mammoth from a mastodon, who these ancient relatives of modern-day elephants were, and what happened to them. Co-sponsored by the Harris Center.

**Thursday February 27th at 7:00pm**

*Curious About CBD?*

Come learn about CBD. What is it? What are the risks? Are the benefits real? While not a formally clinically trained medical provider, Dan Stockwell Jr. is uniquely qualified to speak on this complicated subject as he has a long history and relationship with CBD as a therapeutic plant substance. Dan has an Asperger Syndrome diagnosis and much of his work has been helping hundreds of people from many walks of life to navigate best approaches in dealing with this type of diagnoses as well as his personal use of CBD as one of his chosen treatment options. He will share his personal journey using therapeutic CBD and how it may be able to assist others. CBD is a naturally occurring substance found in the hemp plant. More and more people are using CBD as a daily supplement for well-being and in treating conditions such as sleep, anxiety, pain, seizure disorders, addiction recovery, AD/HD, ASD, colitis, autoimmune disorders, and much more. Although, deemed safe by many reputable doctors, scientists, and organizations both nationally and internationally, CBD is still not FDA approved for the public except for a very expensive CBD oil for rare forms of epilepsy in children. Dan Stockwell lives in Dublin.

**From the Children’s Room**

Karen Dunham, Children’s Librarian

**Tuesday Feb 4th 3:30-4:30pm**

*Lego Club*

Join us for our regular free build session. Build your own creation and then put it on display for everyone to see.

**Monday February 10th and 24th 3:30pm-4:30pm**

*Read with Coffee*

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

**Thursdays at 10:30am**

*Family Storytime*

Every Thursday we will gather in the children’s room for stories, songs, and movement!

**Thursday February 13th 3:30pm-4:30pm**

*Valentine’s Day Crafts*

Drop-in and make some fun Valentine crafts! This program is open to all ages.

**Wednesday February 26th 2pm-4:00pm**

*Movie: Toy Story 4*

Woody, Buzz Lightyear and the rest of the gang embark on a road trip with Bonnie and a new toy named Forky. Popcorn will be served! Rated G. For all ages.
Mother Nature’s Fingerprint on Norway Pond?

Mother nature gave us an ice show on Norway Pond that is rarely seen and much less so captured by photos. Dan Henderson started this ice story with a photo on December 7th showing three dark spots interrupting an otherwise snow-covered pond and asked a question “Are these caused by springs?”. On December 10th I took a photo from the town beach where I saw arcuate-shaped alternating light and dark bands embedded in the ice. Dick Warner observed: the pond icing over, and followed by the dumping of 18 inches of snow; then areas where pond water leaked through the ice, fractured in some places, and converting the white snow into a tannic-colored slush; and finally freezing of the water and slush in place after 1.5 inches of rain followed by a very cold spell. Harry Pollock noted “the ice patterns have been striking”. Woody Huntington also noticed the ring features. So unusual, in his 40 years in Hancock he had never seen anything like them.

Nature’s magic was then documented in photographs taken on two drone flights by Steve Pope. I have included 2 examples, one showing the entire pond from December 11th and a second one from December 16th showing the amazing ring features dominating in the pond ice on December 16th. As a scientist, my question was “How can nature create such remarkable features?” Steve was quick to answer: “Naiads” (I’ll let you look that one up!) or space naiads (they do look like alien crop circles!). With Steve’s out of the box ideas and his photos in hand, I reached into the internet world to see if these rings are common and who knew how they form. What I have learned so far is documentation of lake ice rings is fairly rare; however, researchers I heard back from as close as Vermont; and as far away as Finland, Germany and Russia have reported similar features.

What I have learned to date on how they form? The rings can occur during the early formation of lake ice when a thin layer of ice is established followed by a snowstorm. The weight of the snow causes the ice to sag, especially beneath snow drifts, which in turn creates pathways for water to flow through the ice layer and turn the snow to slush. How the rings are created in the slush is where the story diverges into many “hypotheses”, but common threads are wind, sudden drop in temperature, underlying ice breaking at a leading front, and changes in properties of water as it freezes. My inquiries have raised interest in the scientific community with offers to help. Dr. Matti Lepparanta, professor at Helsinki University, and author of Freezing of Lakes and the Evolution of their Ice Cover has provided his thoughts and wants to use Steve’s photos in his next edition due out in 2021. Bob Dill, an ice expert from Burlington, Vermont, has a blog site (http://lakeice.squarespace.com/) with a section on ice features, many of which we are seeing. Bob and a colleague are planning to sample ice on Norway Pond to try to see how our rings were formed. Dr. Victor Tsai, professor at Brown University who has conducted theoretical research on lake ice features visited Norway Pond on January 11th; and has offered to test the many hypotheses we collect in a theoretical model to see which best fit nature’s puzzle.

We are still looking to identify other “hypotheses” on how mother nature’s fingerprints were formed. Please email me (tcshevenell@gmail.com) with your ideas. Don’t be bashful, all will be accepted.

Naiad’s Advice

In Greek mythology, Naiads are nymphs that preside over bodies of fresh water…like Norway Pond. Whether or not they influence when the waters become ice that forms strange patterns or when the ice again becomes water in the spring is unclear, but they most certainly are likely to know all the answers. They appear as pictured here. If you see our local Naiad feel free to ask her advice – to do so is within the contest’s rules. In any case, be sure to submit your Ice Out guesses before March 15th, the close of this year’s 50/50 contest. Tickets are available ($2 for one; $5 for three) at the Hancock Market, Fiddleheads, and any of the Ice Out Committee members for 2020; fans of Naiads one and all.
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Must have coupon present at time of service

The Golden difference in autocare
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
Swap Shop Winter Hours: Wednesdays: 3 pm - 5 pm & Saturdays: 8.30 am - 4 pm

Please, remember there is a 5 item limit to take from the Swap Shop.

Reminders:
Disposal of metal into the “metal container” is free of charge.
Please, see Ricky or Chester to determine the fee for disposing anything into the “bulky container” and into the “electronics container”.

Only clear clean food-grade glass bottles and jars can be recycled in the “glass container”.

Children’s Dentistry of Dublin
Nilfa Collins, DMD

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for infants through teens and special needs patients

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ART EXHIBITS AT THE LIBRARY

**Jan. 4-Feb. 12**  
A Closer Look: Photographs & Sculpture of Life in the Garden  
Stacy Hannings  
A unique blend of photos inspired by garden flowers, fruits, and farm animals, alongside 3-D constructions created with natural materials.

**February 15 - March 25**  
Images, 2019  
Photographer Lawrence Bickford  
Ansel Adams said it: ‘Twelve significant photographs in any one year is a good crop.’

Making no claim to ‘significant’, but feeling that he might just the same have amassed a ‘good crop’, Lawrence Bickford of Hancock will present some of 2019’s crop at the Hancock Town Library. The exhibit will run from Feb. 15 to March 25. There will be an opening reception in the Daniels Room of the library on Monday, February 17, 6-8 p.m.

Lawrence’s interest in photography began when he was in high school, but the next forty years of teaching in the mathematics classroom left little time for camera work. Now retired, he finds more time to chase the light. As he gathered photos for this exhibit, several themes surfaced. Moving water was one; long exposure was another.

“Consider long exposure. I love that moment when, after a wait of some time - sometimes a long time - the image appears on the back of the camera looking nothing like what I had seen with my eyes.”

Though he may not get out to photograph as much as he’d like, he does get out often enough to reap a respectable crop, and invites you to share the bounty of his experiences and vision.

Lawrence’s work can be viewed at www.500px.com/lawrencebickford and at lbickford.zenfolio.com.

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.
On Saturday, February 1st, at 8pm (doors open at 7:30pm) we'll hold our first Songwriters' Circle of 2020. Once again, we are truly honored to be featuring FOUR super-talented, seasoned singer-songwriters:

**ALLISON ROSE**

Allison is a Rhode Island native singer-songwriter who is turning heads with her pure voice, heartfelt lyrics, and a solid serving of humor and sass. A classically-trained pianist and vocalist, Allison grew up on piano lessons and choir rehearsals, eventually choosing music as her college minor. Her influences are evident in her artistry, as her vocal and songwriting styles have been likened to traditional folk styles of Joan Baez and Joni Mitchell, with a Sara Bareilles vibe. She was one of 4 finalists in the Rhode Island Songwriter Association’s 2015 Performing Songwriter Competition and a top 10 finalist in RISA’s 2017 competition, a top 10 finalist in the Tucson Folk Festival’s 2016 Songwriter Competition, and a top 3 Finalist in the Susquehanna Folk Music Society’s 30th Anniversary Songwriting Contest (2016—honorable mention).

Allison released her debut EP, Hope, in late 2016—a 6-song collection of songs about life, family, and love, produced by Grammy-nominated Jack Gauthier of Lakewest Recording Studio in West Greenwich, RI and Nolan Quartaroli of True Music Studios in Smithfield, RI. Hope can be found on iTunes and most other major digital download sources.

Learn more about Allison and listen to her music here: [http://www.allisonrosemusic.com](http://www.allisonrosemusic.com)

**ETHAN MCBRIEN**

A seasoned singer-songwriter, Ethan is no stranger to the Monadnock region. He has been performing solo and with various groups since 2006, when, along with producer/multi-instrumentalist Rory Hurley, he formed The Youngest Sun, a dynamic group that blends rock, jazz, funk, and experimental genres with a passion for composition and improvisation. Ethan has always had an interest in folk music, and in 2015, he teamed up again with Hurley to create Party of the Sun, an original band with a focus on psych-folk and Americana music. Their first recordings surfaced in summer of 2017 via LA-based independent label Trail- ing Twelve Records, and in November of 2019 Party of the Sun released Trekker, their full-length debut album.

Ethan has shared the stage with numerous acts including William Tyler, Robert Randolph & The Family Band, and The Weight Band. We're super-jazzed to have him share "stripped-down" versions of his songs for this event! Learn more about Ethan and Party of the Sun here: [https://www.facebook.com/partyofthesun](https://www.facebook.com/partyofthesun)

**WENDY KEITH**

A veteran of the New Hampshire (and far beyond!) folk music scene, Wendy covers a wide range of styles and is at home with Americana, original singer-songwriter, blues, gospel, and jazz. She has been playing in greater New England for many years and has opened for Jesse Colin Young, America, and Mark Erelli. She also has won two ASCAP awards for songwriting.

Wendy Keith and Her Alleged Band, featuring Doug Farrell on guitar, Jack Carlton on bass and dobro, and Walden Whitham on flute, saxophone, and harp, are currently completing work on her fourth CD, It's About Time. Folk musician Greg Brown said, "Sounds like an angel," and singer-songwriter Vance Gilbert said, "What a voice! Hubba Hubba!"

**CALEB WETHERBEE**

A favorite at the Depot, Caleb performs songs in a range of styles influenced by traditional and contemporary folk music with intricate bare-finger accompaniment. Audiences can expect a repertoire of sensitive folk ballads, country-blues tunes, plus older songs in the vein of Fats Waller along with many solo guitar favorites. With his controlled baritone voice and six-string stylings, Wetherbee's singing and playing are sure to inspire and entertain! We're thrilled that Caleb will be in the Circle this month!
Thank you to our supporters who makes these programs possible.

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

Feb 6 (Thu) Forest Bathing by Moonlight: Reconnect to Nature
For a full description, see the January issue on page 15, bottom of first column. 7 to 8pm at the Harris Center. For more info or to reserve a pair of snowshoes, contact Susie Spikol at 525-3394 or spikol@harriscenter.org.

Feb 7 (Fri) Easygoing Hike Along the Jaquith Rail Trail
Join Rich Taylor for a moderately easy, 3-mile roundtrip hike along the old Keene to Concord railroad line. The hike will take us from Jaquith Road in Hancock to Jaquith Road in Harrisville and back, with minimal elevation gain. Come prepared with lunch and snowshoes or creepers, and meet at 10am at the gas station at the intersection of Routes 101 and 137 in Dublin to carpool to the trailhead. Back by 2pm. Bad weather date: February 14th. For more info, contact Rich at (603) 827-4105 kayaks100@msn.com.

Feb 8 (Sat) Hiking Through the Decades: The Briggs Preserve (A 50th Event)
The SuperSanctuary is now greater than 33,000 acres, but it wasn't always. In celebration of our 50th Anniversary, we're offering Hiking Through the Decades, a four-hike series that will trace the history of the Harris Center's land protection efforts, starting in the 1980s and continuing through to the present. Join Meade Cadot and Ben Haubrich for the inaugural hike -- a moderately easy outing through the Briggs Preserve, one of the Harris Center's earliest land protection projects. We'll meander along the discontinued section of Old Town Road toward Shadrach and Tenney Ponds, with an eye out for wildlife sign, especially fur-bearers. Rutting season will have started for several species, so they should be on the move. Mode of travel will depend on conditions. (If you sink more than 6 inches, bring snowshoes.) Expect to hike about 3.5 miles round-trip, with no more than 100 feet of elevation gain. Meet at 9am at the Harris Center. Back by about 1pm. For more info, contact Ben at (603) 547-2075 or bph03043@gmail.com.

Feb 12 (Wed) Nature on Tap: Love, Sex, and Wow in the Animal World
Join Harris Center naturalists Brett Amy Thelen, Jenna Spear, and Susie Spikol for a special Valentine’s Day discussion on some of the unusual ways wild animals court and mate. 5:30 to 6:30pm at the Hancock Inn. Drinks on you, conversation on us! Dinner will not be available at the Inn, but they’ll be mixing a special signature drink for the evening, “Love Potion #9.” Try it if you dare. Reservations are required, as space is limited. To reserve a seat, contact Sara LeFebvre at lefebvre@harriscenter.org or 525-3394.

Feb 20 (Thu) New England’s Long Ago Elephants: Woolly Mammoths and Mastodons
Discover the long-lost lives of the woolly mammoths and mastodons that once roamed New England with Harris Center naturalist and woolly mammoth lover Susie Spikol! Learn how to tell a mammoth from a mastodon, who these ancient relatives of modern-day elephants were, and what happened to them. 7 to 8pm at the Hancock Town Library. For more info, contact Susie at 525-3394 or spikol@harriscenter.org.

Feb 24 (Mon) Youth Program: First Day of Winter Adventures Camp
Monday through Wednesday February 24 through 26 (Snow date: February 27) 9am to 3pm at the Harris Center For grades K - 4. $120 for Harris Center supporters $150 for all others
It’s time for Winter Adventures, a three-day winter vacation camp filled with snowshoeing, fort building, animal tracking, nature crafts, games, songs, and more! Campers will also have the chance to get an up-close look at the Harris Center's skull and mount collection as we learn about the wildlife of the Monadnock Region. Space is limited, and registration is required. For more info or to register, contact Sara LeFebvre at 525-3394 or lefebvre@harriscenter.org.

Feb 24 (Mon) Youth Program: Winter Survival Skills for Middle Schoolers
Monday, February 24 (Snow date: Feb 25) 9am to 3pm at the Harris Center For ages 10 through 14. $40 for Harris Center supporters $60 for all others
Join Harris Center naturalist and middle school educator John Benjamin for a day of outdoor adventure and survival skills practice, including hiking, fire making, shelter building, orienteering, making tea from wild edibles, and more! Learn how to hike smart in the winter woods and connect with your inner Yeti. Space is limited, and registration is required. For more info or to register, contact Sara LeFebvre at 525-3394 or lefebvre@harriscenter.org.

Feb 29 (Sat) 3rd Annual Norway Pond Symposium
Join us for a day of talks highlighting recent research, and plans for future study, on the ecology of Norway Pond in Hancock. Topics will include what we learned from our first season of cyanobacteria monitoring in 2019, how pond sediments can help us understand the pond’s evolving ecosystem and historic past, and what we’re learning about the glacial formation of the pond and surrounding terrain 14,500 years ago. We’ll also share our plans for a Norway Pond BioBlitz slated for the summer of 2020. 8:30am to 3pm at the Harris Center. Please bring a bag lunch. Snow date: March 7. Co-sponsored with the Norway Pond Commission. RSVP to Tom Shevenell at tcshevenell@gmail.com.
Friends of the Hancock Town Library

The Friends held their Annual Meeting on Wednesday, January 8th. Here are highlights from the meeting:

Megan Dodge, president, reported on another stellar year and thanked the community for their generosity and support. She stated that the Hancock Town Library is truly the heart of the community. She reported on some of the highlights funded by the Friends last year. These include the Kanopy video streaming services, museum passes, Adult and Children’s programming, a new sound system, a new couch for the Children’s Room, replacing the back door, pruning, outside clean-up, and computer upgrades.

Beth Grosjean, treasurer, reported that the membership drive was the highest we’ve ever had. Thank you everyone! The book sale also brought in needed funds and she thanked Jane Richard Jones and Donna Geer for their work. Total income for 2019 was $14,712 and total expenses were $18,087.

Amy Markus next reported on the work of the Library and thanked the Friends with their help to support programming and building maintenance. She would like to offer more artistic and crafty events as these are very popular. She encouraged everyone to email her with suggestions.

Officers for the upcoming year are:
Hélène Bickford, president
Patty Carrel, vice-president
Beth GrosJean, treasurer
Susie Toumanoff, Secretary

The Friends would like to thank Megan Dodge, past-president and Jenny Green, past-secretary for their hard work and dedication to the Library. They will remain on the Board as Members-at-Large along with Deb Sumway, Jane Richards-Jones, and Donna Geer.

Is there a young pirate in your family?

Music on Norway Pond’s Junior Minstrels is calling for cast members for the May 9th performance of Gilbert & Sullivan’s Pirates of Penzance. Rehearsals start on Tuesday, March 3rd. There are no auditions – the first 25 young singing actors to sign up are in the show! Send an email to Jody Hill Simpson at jhspals@aol.com for more information and to sign up. Aaaarrrrggg!
Winter Events & Programs
Saturday, February 8th - 2nd Annual Snow Families Outdoor Play Day from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00: Join us for a morning of fun for all ages at The Grapevine, 4 Aiken Street. A free, fun morning for kids and families to create snow (man) families, crafts, including Valentine’s Day card making with Pam Berry of Cards by Pam, snowshoeing, sledding and enjoy warm treats. Bring your sled and stay for the Chili Cookoff next door at the Tuttle Library! This event is FREE but if you would like to contribute supplies or help plan, contact the Grapevine.

Saturday, February 15th - Strengthening our Community’s Safety Net: How YOU can help prevent suicide from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.: The Grapevine has partnered with NAMI NH to bring a four hour suicide prevention training program for adults (age 18+) to our community. Participants will learn about the impact of suicide, the effectiveness of prevention efforts, how we can help someone who may be at risk for suicide, connecting someone at risk to key community services, and build knowledge of state and national resources. This training is FREE and pizza lunch will be provided. Let us know if childcare is a need. Register NOW, space is limited. Hosted at our Avenue A Teen Center, 42 Main Street, Antrim.
Special thanks to the NH Charitable Foundation for their support of this program.

WEEKLY through April 13: Free Tax Preparation with Larry Schwartz of PHC Financial

IRS-certified tax preparer Larry Schwartz is providing free tax preparation at The Grapevine on Monday afternoons by appointment from January 20 - April 13. All returns will be filed electronically. Call The Grapevine now to schedule your appointment - slots fill quickly!

For our full program schedule, check out our website at www.grapevinenh.org

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 our center at 4 Aiken Street. Visit us online at www.grapevinenh.org, LIKE us on Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/grapevinenh.org/ and on Instagram: @thegrapevinefrc
Third Annual Norway Pond Symposium

The Norway Pond Commission continued to facilitate scientific research on Norway Pond in 2019 as it works toward meeting its vision that a scientific understanding of how the Norway Pond ecosystem historically functioned and currently operates, is a prerequisite in predicting how the pond’s ecosystem may evolve in the future.

The research conducted in 2019 will be presented at the 3rd Annual Norway Pond Symposium to be held at the Harris Center on Saturday February 29th from 9am to noon. All are welcome to come and learn about Norway Pond. If you want to stay for just one or two talks, that’s okay. In the afternoon will be a workshop where research being conducted in 2020 will be discussed. If you want to be on the emailing list for future information about the symposium, please email me at tcshevenell@gmail.com. If you are planning to attend let me know by February 22nd so we will have a head count.

Symposium Program
8:30 Registration (No fee. Open to the public)
9:00 Opening Remarks: Tom Shevenell
10:15 Break
11:15 Lisa Doner: Keynote Address—How Does Norway Pond’s History Compare with Other Lakes and Ponds in Northern New England?
12:00 Closing Remarks: Tom Shevenell
12:15 End of Program: (For those staying for the Workshop please bring your lunch)
1:15 – 3:00 Workshop: Commissioners, presenters and selected experts to present and discuss current research facilitated by Doug Sutherland, about Words that Hurt and Words that Help as well as their artwork.

On a similar theme, the event was enriched by the artwork from the students at the Antrim Elementary School, Pierce Elementary School in Bennington, and the Great Brook School/Antrim Elementary School Griffins Nest Buddies Program. We thank the eighth grade students at The Well School, Peterborough for their design and execution of a larger than life portrait of Dr. King.

We appreciated the following people who offered resources for advocacy, education and action: Allen Davis, Hancock Public Library and Amy Markus, The League of Women Voters, Leaf Seligman and Restorative Justice and John Willis.

At the event, there was an opportunity for registered Hancock voters to sign a petition asking that the Town of Hancock sponsor the 3rd Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. If you are interested in adding your name to the petition, please contact a member of the Hancock CCOR group at hfckdl@gmail.com.

The Hancock CCOR

The Hancock CCOR (Community Conversations on Race) extends its deep appreciation to the estimated 90 persons who attended the 2nd Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. “Keeping the Dream Alive” event.

At the heart of Dr. King jr, ‘s work was his conviction that the work needing to be done involved every one of us. Deliberately this event was multi generational.

We thank those who read excerpts from a wide selection of Dr. King, Jr.s speeches: Luis Rosa, Steve Schuch, Leaf Seligman and Susie Spikol.

Sharing their own writings were the poets from Avenue A – Abby, Brenna, Corrinne, Paul and Rose. And we thank Jacqueline Roland, Avenue A Director and Melissa Gallagher, Grapevine Executive Director for their support and assistance.

Providing uplifting and empowering messages were a number of the singers from both the Grand Monadnock Youth Choir and the Junior Mints of Music on Norway Pond. We are grateful for the support offered by the choir directors, Esther Holland Rhoades and Jody Simpson and special lyrics by Steve Schuch.

Special thanks to the children and teachers at the Hancock Elementary School for their video-taped conversations,
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

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

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.
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Nameplate by Eleanor Amidon
The Hancock Fire Dept. Association Presents:

1st Winter Spaghetti Dinner

Free of charge but donations are welcome

Saturday Feb. 22nd
4-6:30 pm

40 Bennington Rd, Hancock, NH

Leave the cooking and dishes to us!