News from the Selectboard

*Submitted by John Jordan, Chairperson*

The Town seems to be besieged by an infestation of potholes. The ground is too wet to do the final Spring grading, but the Highway Department will have the grader out every day to smooth the roads as well as possible. This will also serve to prepare them for Spring grading. Once things dry out a bit, this will be the first priority. It used to be that we had Mud Season. With the improvements on the gravel roads over the last decade, there seems to be less mud to be replaced by potholes. I remember when I first moved here over thirty years ago, in the Spring my road would just be a sea of mud and ruts. It may be that we will need to rename this period from Mud Season to Pothole Season although that does not seem to have the same ring to it. Despite the late start, Spring seems to be here. I have been seeing, and swatting, black flies. So it appears we are about to go from Mud (Pothole) Season to Black Fly Season.

We still have a number of vacancies in the Town. There are openings for a Town Treasurer and a Sexton for the cemeteries. These are both stipend positions. We have some interest in the Treasurer’s position, but no definite commitment as yet. Since there was no candidate for the position and no result from the write-in votes, the Board of Selectmen can appoint a person to serve until the next election. The Cemetery Trustees appoint their Sexton. There is a need for volunteers to serve on the Road Committee and Old Home Day Committee. Anyone interested in any of these positions should contact Johnathon Coyne at the Town Office.

We have had some applicants for the Public Works Director’s position. The application period ends this month and we expect to start interviews early in May. There are also some other job openings for work with the Town. We are looking for a year-round part-time person to work with Buildings and Grounds. The position is primarily for grounds care in season and snow removal in the Winter. The Recreation Committee will have seasonal positions for lifeguards at Norway Pond and for the Summer Rec Programs. Applications are available at the Town Office.

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**Hancock Happenings**

**Mission Statement**

*Hancock Happenings* is the monthly newsletter of the Town of Hancock, established in 1999 for the purpose of publishing news articles by Town Departments and local organizations. The publication is self-supported through the sale of block and classified 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.
Did you know the Hancock Fire Department was formed in 1907? We also placed in service our current Engine 2 in 2007, 100 years later. While members formed the department to fight fire, they quickly learned that they would be asked to respond to a variety of alarms. We have continued that tradition such as rescuing a cow stuck in the mud to searching for lost hikers. Last year we responded to over 200 calls for help with more than half being medical emergencies. Of the many fire calls, the majority were automatic fire alarms, most of which were accidental activations and many carbon monoxide detector alarms, caused mostly by low or defective batteries. There were also numerous calls for power line issues, brush fires, fallen trees and limbs, and motor vehicle accidents. Most of our calls do not involve a serious fire condition, yet we train for the worst case and even the unusual scenarios. Regardless of the nature of the call or the time of day or night, the members of the Hancock Fire Department will respond to your call for help.

In the event of a medical emergency, responding medical personnel need to know as much as possible about the patient’s medical history, including allergies to medications, current medications, past medical history (respiratory or heart problems, diabetes, etc.), and family to be contacted. This information should be readily available at the time of the emergency and is needed by Emergency Room personnel before treatment can be given. Without this information, treatment will be delayed. One way to accomplish this is with a File of Life. This medical information can also be attached to the refrigerator in your kitchen, where first responders can easily spot it. Plan ahead and have this information available before you need it and remember to keep it up to date.

Smoke detectors save lives, yet thousands of people die each year in homes without smoke detectors. Install smoke detectors in your home - at least one on each floor, and preferably one outside each bedroom. Since smoke and deadly gasses rise, detectors should be placed on the ceiling at least 4” from the nearest wall. This 4” minimum is to keep detectors out of possible “dead air” spaces. Do not install near a window since smoke might be detoured out the window instead of into a detector. Check the unit each month and replace the battery annually. Replace detectors every ten years to assure maximum protection. Nearly 25% of homes equipped with smoke alarms have alarms that do not work! Smoke detectors can save lives, but they need your help.

The Hancock Volunteer Fire Department is always in need of more members. The hours can be long, the work can be dirty and occasionally dangerous, and the pay is nil. But if you want the satisfaction of coming to the aid of your neighbors and sometimes even saving lives, contact any member or leave us a message at the fire station for information about membership. The Hancock Fire Department Auxiliary is also looking for brave souls to support our operations. They are our local supporters of the File of Life program!

Raffle winners for the month:
$40.00 Heidi Mack
$20.00 Ernest Adams
$10.00 Rachal Podgurski, Hon. Samuel Lessey, Jr., Nancy Ranson
Memorial Day Committee:

Activities prior to and on Memorial Day

- Saturday, May 18th, 10am to 1pm. Plant new flags and plant geraniums at graves of veterans starting at Pine Ridge, then to Norway Plains and Hillside Cemeteries. Volunteers welcomed. Bring a trowel.

- Sunday, May 26th at 12 noon. Brief ceremony to honor veterans at Hillside Cemetery. Reading of the Gettysburg Address.

- Monday, May 27th Memorial Day 1:30. Parade assembles on School Street and marches to the Town Common. The parade commander will be Jonathan Coyne. The Conval Band will play under the direction of Jim Wickham. Rev. Judy Copeland of the Hancock Congregational Church will offer prayers.

To request a ride or for more information call:

Hank Drury 525-3375. Jonathan Coyne 525-4441

In the event of inclement weather a ceremony will take place in the Town Meeting House across the road from the Common.
Hancock Woman’s Club

We are fast approaching our final meeting which culminates with a luncheon at the Hancock Inn on Wednesday, May 8th at 12:30pm. A paid reservation is required to attend and can be purchased for $20 from Sonja Mucha. She can be reached at 525-4970 or email sonjamucha@hotmail.com. Marcia and Jarvis always host a wonderful luncheon and make us feel so welcome.

The introduction of officers and committee members will take place as well as a very hearty “thank you” to our outgoing president, Joyce Perry.

Please stay tuned for a possible Woman’s Club “outing” this summer or fall. An announcement of this event will be posted in the Hancock Happenings as well as by email to all members. All are welcome and encouraged to participate in these outings. We always look forward to welcoming new members!!

Respectfully submitted by Sara LeFebvre

Norway Pond Ice Out Contest Becomes International

Shirley Sykes of Pocklington, East Yorkshire, England (Photo) won the Norway Pond Ice Out Contest of 2019 with a guess of Thursday, April 11, 2019 at 1:46pm. Missing by one minute only (The ice went out at 1:47pm) Ms. Sykes is the first international winner. She was thrilled by the news of course, and with the winning purse of $480.00 (368.05 Pounds Sterling).

Ms. Sykes’s connection to Hancock? She is a cousin to Josie Warner who lives on Depot Road.

Many thanks to all who supported the Ice Out effort in 2019: Ticket sellers, and ticket purchasers alike.

Ice Out Committee for 2019

Hancock Historical Society

Annual Plant Sale - a perennial favorite!

Saturday, May 18th, 8am - noon

Mark your calendars! Spring is finally here and that means the Historical Society’s Annual Plant Sale is coming up. This is a wonderful time to find new additions for your garden, courtesy of other local gardeners.

This year’s plant sale, will be accompanied with a silent auction. There will be a variety of locally donated items available for bidding during the event, and you don’t need to be present to win. The silent auction will begin at 8am and close at 11:30am on the day of the sale. As always, we will also be offering delicious baked good for sale as well.

Please join us for a fun morning of shopping for plants and enjoying tasty snacks – with the fun of a silent auction as well.

If you are getting ready to divide some of your overgrown perennials this spring, we would be delighted to take those extras from your garden bed and find them a good home at the sale. (To ensure their success, we always appreciate a label with the plant’s name and any special needs, e.g., ‘hosta,’ ‘partial sun’ or ‘shade.’) We also gladly accept culinary contributions (baked goods, jam, maple syrup, etc.) for the sale. Contributions may be dropped off at the Historical Society on Friday, May 17th from 1-3pm.

We truly appreciate all contributions, as this sale helps the Historical Society offer programs and events throughout the year.
UPCOMING TOURS

John Paul Jones Museum & Lobsterbake
our NH history not to be forgotten
July 30th

Patriots Hall of Fame & Lunch
Lets celebrate our Super Bowl winners
July 27th

Louise Penny Mystery Lovers
Weekend
featuring Canada’s “Three Pines” village
Sept. 20-22nd

Costa Rica: A World of Nature
if you love nature, this tour is for you
February 18 – 29, 2020

Taste of Vietnam
an exotic cultural experience
March 20 – April 2, 2020

Shades of Ireland
featuring a castle stay
April 22 – May 1, 2020

For information or reservations call
Banner Tours in Hancock
603-785-2088
Email: bannertoursandtravel@gmail.com
Community Supper

The next Community Supper will be Thursday, May 23rd hosted by Renew Church.

Potluck celebration of Pat Soucy's life at the Harris Center on Sunday, April 28th at noon

Let’s visit and share memories of Pat Soucy, former postmaster of Hancock and Frantecostown. Pat loved good times with friends and deeply cared about community. If you cook, consider bringing your favorite dish to serve ten. If not, bring your appetite. We’ll enjoy a seated potluck with non-alcoholic beverages. Lunch will be preceded by a simple grace in a circle, and will be followed by sharing stories. Feel free to bring flowers, if you like. Please RSVP: 933-1117 or paul@alwaysonthemove.net. The Harris Center is at 83 King’s Highway in Hancock, NH.

Old Home Day Committee Seeks more members, volunteers, and ideas!

Spring has sprung and summer will soon be upon us! This means the Old Home Day Committee will be starting to meet soon. We will meet Mondays at 4:30pm---May 13th and 27th, and then every week in June going forward, in the Daniels Room at the Library. We need more Committee Members and/or Volunteers for specific projects. Do you have an idea for Old Home Day? If so, step on up and organize your idea! There's always more space for creativity, frivolity, old and new traditions..... so dream away and join the fun!

To be in touch, email Sarah at mainstcheese@gmail.com or call 525-3300.

Mark your calendars--August 16th, 17th, and 18th!!!

Yard Sale

Donations Needed...Spring cleaning?

We are in need of clean, sellable items to be donated to the Hancock Elementary School PTO. Books, toys, housewares, bric-a-brac... All proceeds from the sale of these items will directly benefit HES children.

Please call or text Karie @ 960.882.9315 to arrange drop off or a small pickup. Items can be dropped off between April 6th and May 3rd.

Your continued support is greatly appreciated!

The sale will take place Saturday, May 4th at the Union Congregational Church, 33 Concord Street, Peterborough at Kiwanis Club Spring Yard Sale.

All unsold items will be donated to the Kiwanis Club.
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

Literary Peeps Dioramas: We had a record 31 Peeps Dioramas come in this year! As of this writing we are still voting on the Peeple’s Choice in the Adult and Children’s Divisions. Stop by to see who won or check us out on Facebook and/or Instagram!

Friends! Thanks to all who have responded to our annual Friends of the Hancock Town Library membership appeal. If you haven’t yet, we urge you donate generously to the Friends. They provide much of our budget for things like streaming movies, downloadable audiobooks and ebooks, DVDs, audiobooks (yes, we still buy old fashioned CDs), our subscriptions to genealogy databases, the many museum passes, our new sound system so that speakers can now be heard in the back of the room, the comfy chairs in the periodical section, and much more. They add so much to our services – we could never provide all that we do without their funding. Which, of course, comes from you. So thank you, again, for your support!

Ping Pong Tournament: As of this writing it is still going in the Intermediate and Advanced Over 60 divisions (Peter Andersen won the Advanced Under 60 Division again this year). We’ll keep you posted!

Yoga at the HTL
Mondays 9:00-10:30am with Chris Justice
Fridays 9:00-10:30am with Betsy DiPrima

Thursday May 2nd at 7:00pm
Living with Bears with Mark Ellingwood
Join us as Mark Ellingwood teaches us about bear biology and management in NH. His focus will be on the challenges of bear management in NH, with particular attention paid to the issue of bear cultural carrying capacity and bear / human conflict avoidance and management. Mark is a Hancock resident who serves as Chief of Wildlife for the NH Fish and Game Department. Mark has an M.S. degree in Wildlife Management from West Virginia University and is a Certified Wildlife Biologist and Fellow with The Wildlife Society. In addition to his 25 years with Fish and Game, Mark has worked as a wildlife biologist for 14 years in New York and Connecticut.

Monday May 6th at 6:00pm
Cookbook Book Club
This month’s cookbook is by Yotam Ottolenghi. Give us a call at 525-4411 if you’d like to join in this month. We often have one or two slots open! Cookbooks are available at the front desk.

Wednesday May 8th at 7:00pm
Game Night for Grown-Ups!
It’s the lively month of May and the last time to play before Game Night pauses for the summer. Squeak in one more round of your favorite board game, card game, word game, or challenging new-in-the-box-still-reading-the-rule-sheet game (board not required!). You bring it, we play it. If you like, bring along a snack or beverage to share. Every second Wednesday of the month from 7:00-9:00pm (except for the summer).

Friday May 10th at 7:00pm
An Evening with Charles Coe
Please welcome back poet Charles Coe, a Hancock favorite, as he reads from "Memento Mori," his just released third volume of poetry. "Memento Mori" observes our human condition through a poetic kaleidoscope, with glimpses of irony and humor that offer a refreshing contrast to the more difficult moments. "Reading these poems we are left more open, perhaps more willing to brave the possibility that the world might in fact be more heartbreaking, absurd, challenging, promising, and even more joyful than we let ourselves believe." - Richard Hoffman, author of "Noon until Night." Charles will also sing an a cappella song or two (something you don't want to miss). Signed copies of "Memento Mori" will be available for purchase.

—continued to page 8
Thursday May 16th 8:30am-3:30pm
Youth Mental Health First Aid Training
You are more likely to encounter someone – friend, family member, student, neighbor – in an emotional or mental crisis than someone having a heart attack. YMHFA teaches a 5-step action plan to offer initial help to young people showing signs of a mental illness or in crisis, and connect them with the appropriate professional, peer, social or self-help care. Anyone can take the 6.5-hour course, but it is ideally designed for people age 18 and older who interact regularly with young people, ages 12-18. Registration details: Please email Robin Gregg rgregg@conval.edu by May 8th.

Thursday May 16th at 7:00pm
The Story Project with Martha Schaefer
Join us as we explore the power of storytelling. We all have stories to tell: stories that have a moral, stories that entertain, and perhaps stories that enlighten and educate. But we don’t always know how or where to begin. Martha will help get us started on our own stories with questions and prompts designed to help focus and flesh out the stories of our lives. Ms. Schaefer is a hospice and palliative care giver, a passionate lover of storytelling and the author of *Therapeutic Misadventures*. Ms. Schaefer takes our fascination with stories, blends it with a love of elder care, shares the stories with family, and when appropriate, the community.

Tuesday May 21st at 5:30pm Free Form Français
Free Form Français returns to its usual date and time. Meeting from 5:30 to 7:00, the setting is very informal. Arrive and leave at your leisure. All levels are welcome! Modeled on the Manchester Franco-American Centre's "Prêt-a-Parler," the sessions are free flowing and with your help, fun. Marj Klar, Hancock resident, retired language professor, and "francophone extraordinare" will facilitate this month.

Thursday May 23rd 7 pm AT THE HARRIS CENTER
Town by Town, Watershed by Watershed: Native Americans in New Hampshire
Every town and watershed in the Granite State has ancient and continuing Native American history – from the late 20th century explosion of local Native populations back to the era of early settlement and the colonial wars. Join John and Donna Moody of the Winter Center for Indigenous Traditions for an engaging exploration of the history of New Hampshire’s Abenaki and Penacook peoples, with a focus on our local area. 7 to 8:30pm at the Harris Center. Co-sponsored by the Harris Center for Conservation Education, the Hancock Town Library, and NH Humanities.
Tuesday May 28th at 7:00pm
Monadnock Writers Group: Submit or Submerge?
Join us as three editors from the Monadnock Writers Group speak on the current status of submission letters in today's publication world. Rodger Martin, co-editor of The Granite State Poetry Series; Kate McIntyre, Managing Editor for The Worcester Review (also for The Missouri Review), and novelist/journalist Eric Poor will guide you through the ins and outs of getting your writing published.

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

A Note from Miss Jenn
Hello everyone! I am hoping to acquire a small number of mason jars for crafts we will be doing over the next few months. If anyone has an overabundance of jars I would love to take them off your hands. No lids necessary, but gladly accepted.

Tuesday May 7th 3:30-4:30pm Final Lego Club
Don’t miss out on the last Lego club of the school year! Free build with Legos. Each participant gets one base to build on. At the end of the one-hour build time we put all our creations up on display! This program is open to all Lego fans and builders, all ages welcome.

Monday May 13th 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!

Wednesday May 15th 3:30pm
Mosaic Glass Vase or Keepsake Jar
We will have a few glass jars available. Feel free to bring your own small mason jar or clean washed out glass jar of your own. We will be using tissue paper and watered down glue to create colorful jars that can be used as vases, banks, or keepsake jars.

Thursdays at 10:30am Family Storytime
Every Thursday we will gather in the children’s room for stories, songs, and movement!

COMING IN JUNE!
Friday June 7th 3:30pm at Hancock Elem School
Traveling Planetarium from the McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center
We are very happy to announce that the HES PTO and The Hancock Town Library have joined forces to bring a fascinating science program to Hancock. The Discovery Center staff will present a program focused on the constellations in the night sky. All HES students will have the opportunity to participate during their school day on June 7th. At 3:30pm the Discovery Center staff will offer a show that is open to all other Hancock children. This portable, inflatable planetarium can accommodate 25-30 children depending on size. Please arrive a little before 3:30 to allow staff time to get everyone settled before the show starts. Admittance into the planetarium may not be possible once the show starts. Join us!
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Bucks and Does
All disbudded (no horns)
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Lake Host Positions Available

Spend your summer at the Hancock Town Landing
Enjoy and protect the beauty of the lake, checking watercraft for Aquatic Invasive Species
Contact: alisonrossiter@myfairpoint.net for more information

Employment Opportunity

The Town of Hancock is looking for 2019 summer Lifeguards and a Water Safety Instructor

Applicants must be dependable, enjoy working with youth and families and have good communication and problem solving skills. All applicants must have (or ability to attain by the start of the season) current Red Cross Lifeguard training, First Aid, and CPR training. Water Safety Instructor must also have current WSI Certification in addition to current Lifeguard Certification. Prior experience is desired.

☐ Must be At least 16 years of age or older

☐ All applicants 18 years of age or older will be required to pass a Criminal Background Check

☐ Applicants under 18 must submit 2 letters from non-related adults attesting the applicant ability to safely work with children

Work Hours: Available to work Monday – Saturday, 10:00 am – 5:00 pm, starting Monday, July 1 through Saturday, August 17, 2019

To Apply: Applications are available at the Town Office, Town of Hancock, 50 Main Street, Hancock, NH, Monday – Friday 8:30 am to 4:30 pm, and on the Town website at www.hancocknh.org.

Closing Date: Applications will be accepted until positions are filled and should be submitted to: Town Administrator, Town of Hancock, PO Box 6.
ART EXHIBITS AT THE LIBRARY

From Houses and Ladders to Gallery Walls

Jerome Varnum of Bennington will be exhibiting his artwork in the Daniels Room at the Hancock Library May 11th through June 19th. There will be an opening reception with refreshments Sunday May 12th, noon to 3:00pm.

Jerome’s acrylic paintings are generally realistic and colorful, covering a wide variety of subjects including wildlife, landscapes, and people. A house painter by day, Jerome became interested in doing more with paint when he took a painting class. Since then, he has been painting most anything that captures his eye or evokes pleasant memories and has had many successful art shows over the last ten years.

Exhibits can be viewed during regular library hours: Mon. and Wed., 2-6pm; Tues. and Thur., 10am-7pm; and Sat. 10am-4pm. Please call the library (525-4411) before your visit to ensure no special events are scheduled at that time.
News from the Depot

On May 4th, we are excited to welcome Tom Smith back to the Depot! Tom’s songs are in turns humorous, touching, thought provoking, and inspiring. Deeply rooted in the old-school folk tradition, his timeless stories are told with a voice that is honest and sincere with melodies that you will remember forever. In the words of noted WUMB-FM Boston radio DJ, Dave Palmeter, “Contrary to what a lot of people think, folk music is still a living tradition. It’s a living tradition that feeds on new songs that speak of people’s wants, people’s needs, people’s struggles and people’s triumphs. Tom Smith is more out of the tradition of say Pete Seeger and Tom Paxton than Jackson Browne or Connor Oberst. He’s a man who writes songs that seem like they’ve always been there. There are very few songwriters working today that I would call folk singers, but I would call Tom Smith a true folksinger.” Learn more about Tom and listen to his music at https://www.tomsmithmusic.com/.

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.

All shows begin at 8:00; doors open at 7:30 if you want to sign up to play at one of several open mic spots. In addition to the music, visitors will enjoy snacks, veggies, and drinks (BYOB!).

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
- June 1: Mark Mandeville & Raianne Richards return to the Depot! Don’t miss this dynamic duo!
- July 5: Songwriters’ Circle featuring Tyler Allgood, Jane Ross Fallon, Justin Lang, and Kirsten Manville. Please note: This event will be on FRIDAY, not Saturday (the Hancock Fireworks are on Saturday, July 6!)

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! For information about our next meeting, give David Young a call at 525-3085.

Rent the Depot for Your Special Event!
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 525-3085 or Nancy Adams at 525-4176.

Haleys Service Center
Your Car Care Specialists Call us at 525-8024

Minor/Major repairs – computer diagnostics engine – tune ups- transmissions – brakes- exhaust and emissions- scheduled maintenance and so much more.

4 Forest Rd Hancock NH
haleyservicecenter.com
haleyservicecenter@live.com
Also look for us on Facebook

The Golden difference in autocare

Solarize Monadnock comes to Hancock!
Two opportunities for you to learn more and get involved:

Solar Trivia Night at the Hancock Inn
Wednesday, May 15th from 6-8pm

Solar Open House at the Pollock’s
Thursday, May 23rd from 6-7:30pm
20 Tombstone Territory, Hancock
May 2 (Thu) First Session of ESI Course: Water and Us
Thursdays, May 2, 9, 16, and 23 - 2 to 3:15pm in the River-Mead Auditorium in Peterborough/ $50 for RiverMead residents and wait-list members / $60 for all others
Join author and journalist Jim Rousmaniere to explore water’s impact on humans and humans’ impact on water since the beginning of the industrial revolution. A central theme is that our connections to water have not been constant — our uses of water have changed over the decades, and our ideas about the causes and control of floods have evolved. We’ll explore topics such as the costs and occasionally contentious requirements of watershed protection, the expanding role of technology in the water sector, the causes of (and struggles over) aquatic invasive species, and the role of citizen action in the recovery of rivers, lakes, and streams. Co-sponsored with Keene State College’s CALL program and RiverMead. Jim Rousmaniere is a journalist and writer based in Roxbury, NH. During the last six years, he has been researching Americans’ changing relationship to freshwater, with a particular focus on New England, for a book due out from Bauthan Publishing in 2019. Jim is also the current president of the Historical Society of Cheshire County. Registration is required. RiverMead residents and affiliates can register by contacting Kim Mansfield at (603) 924-0033 or kmansfield@rivermead.org. All others, register by contacting Keene State College’s Office of Continuing Education at (603) 358-2290 or continuing-ed@keene.edu. For more info, contact Susie Spikol at spikol@harriscenter.org or 525-3394.

May 9 (Thu) Secrets of Bumblebees Film
This award-winning documentary follows a year in the life of a wild bumblebee, including stunning “bee’s-eye view” footage that will leave you in awe of these fuzzy harbingers of spring. Following the film, Harris Center naturalist and entomologist Jenna Spear will be on hand for questions, along with an assortment of bee specimens from the Harris Center’s natural history collection. 7 to 8:30pm in the Putnam Theater at Keene State College. Co-sponsored with the Monadnock Conservancy and the Keene State College Film Society. For more info, contact Brett Amy Thelen at (603) 358-2065 or thelen@harriscenter.org.

Saturday, May 11 Family Program:
Babies in Backpacks and Toddlers in Tow at the Fremont Field in Peterboro
(meet at the Fremont Land trailhead on Old Jaffrey Road, 0.5 miles from Route 202 at Noone Falls, just before mailbox #100 on the right)
Come out, come out, babes in arms, into the fair spring air! Join us for these gentle morning rambles around local protected lands, specially designed for babies, toddlers, and their caregivers. Babies in frontpacks, backpacks, wraps, and slings – help us search for birds that sing. Toddlers and tots – help us seek out butterflies, frogs, and salamanders under rocks. Come to one or to all! For more info, contact Susie spikol@harriscenter.org.

May 15 (Wed) Nature on Tap: Intoxication in the Animal Kingdom
Join Harris Center Science Director and drunk-animal enthusiast Brett Amy Thelen for stories of intoxication from the animal kingdom. From boozy bears to wasted waxwings, we’ll separate fact from fiction in this light-hearted happy hour (what else?) conversation. 5:30 to 6:30pm at Post & Beam Brewing, 40 Grove Street, Peterborough. Drinks on you, conversation on us! For more info, contact Brett at (603) 358-2065 or thelen@harriscenter.org.

May 16 (Thu) Shinrin-Yoku: A Forest Bathing Experience
Shinrin-Yoku, also known as Forest Bathing, is gaining popularity in the U.S. after being practiced in Japan for decades. Through yoga poses, deep breathing, and quiet sensory observations, our revitalizing Shinrin-Yoku sessions will help you slow down, catch your breath, and find solace in nature. These gentle rambles will wake up your senses and give you a chance to reconnect to the natural world and to yourself. 11am to 12:30pm at the Fremont Field in Peterborough. Meet at the Fremont Land trailhead on Old Jaffrey Road, 0.5 miles from Route 202 at Noone Falls, just before mailbox #100 on the right. For more info, contact Susie spikol@harriscenter.org or 525-3394.

May 18 (Sat) Youth Program: Young Birders Club Takes Flight 9 to 11 am at the Harris Center
The Young Birders Club is ready to take wing again after a brief hiatus! We’re looking for old members to rejoin and new members to come on board. This club, led by expert birder Phil Brown and naturalist Susie Spikol, is dedicated to helping young naturalists discover the world of birds and birding. Come check it out and find out what we’ve got planned for the year. The club is designed for ages 11 through 17, but we’ll welcome all youth for this morning in the field. No experience necessary. Bring a favorite pair of binoculars and a field guide or borrow ours Registration is required. For more info and to register, contact Sara LeFebvre at 525-3394 or lefebvre@harriscenter.org.

May 23 (Thu) Family Program: Babies in Backpacks and Toddlers in Tow at the Harris Center (See May 11.)
May 23 (Thu) Town by Town, Watershed by Watershed: Native Americans in New Hampshire
Every town and watershed in the Granite State has ancient and continuing Native American history – from the late 20th century explosion of local Native populations back to the era of early settlement and the colonial wars. Join John and Donna Moody of the Winter Center for Indigenous Traditions for an engaging exploration of the history of New Hampshire's Abenaki and Penacook peoples, with a focus on our local area. 7 to 8:30pm at the Harris Center. Co-sponsored with the Hancock Town Library and NH Humanities. For more info, contact Susie Spikol at 525-3394 or spikol@harriscenter.org.

May 30 (Thu) Family Program: Babies in Backpacks and Toddlers in Tow on the Jaugth Trail in Hancock (See May 11.)
THE NORWAY POND JUNIOR MINSTRELS
PROUDLY PRESENT

SATURDAY MAY 11th
4PM
HANCOCK MEETING HOUSE

Admission is free with much-needed and gratefully-received donations at the door

Suggested donation: $20 per family

Honk! JR. is a heartwarming celebration of being different that is sure to delight audiences of all ages. It is witty and hilarious, but also deeply moving. Ugly looks quite a bit different from his darling duckling brothers and sisters. The other animals on the farm are quick to notice and point this out, despite his mother's protective flapping, so he finds himself on an adventure of self-discovery, all the while unknowingly outwitting a very hungry Cat. Along the way, Ugly meets a whole flock of unique characters and finds out being different is not a bad thing to be.

Recycling is Mandatory in Hancock

Please check the Town website for the updated Transfer Station/Recycling Center Ordinance. You may view a copy in the Swap Shop.

It is critically important that all residents follow the requirements for recycled materials and all other provisions of the ordinance. A little extra care on the part of all of us will help tremendously in saving taxpayer money. The cost to the town for contaminated recyclables is astonishing. Please ask an attendant for clarification. Also, as you enter the area please ask the attendant where to dispose of large items.

Metal is to be placed in the metal dumpster and is free of charge. There are charges for bulky & construction items. Also ask the attendant about the free disposal of electric items.

Regarding the Swap Shop:

Activities of the Swap Shop are also impacted by the Town Ordinance and the ever changing world of recycling. The attendants are all volunteers under the supervision of the Select Board and Dump Committee.

The volunteers are tasked with acceptance, organization and ultimate disposal of items left at the Swap Shop. Such items become property of the town.

Many items accepted in the past are no longer permitted by ordinance. Space is limited and outdoor storage is prohibited as the dumpster for metals and the dumpster for demolition & construction debris and bulky items must be easily accessible – no parking except for loading the dumpsters.

Inventory is displayed as efficiently as possible. Items that do not “move” are most often sent to the Salvation Army and other organizations. Unfortunately some items are destined for the compactor.

While it is true that one man’s trash is another’s treasure, dirty and broken items rarely find new owners. Moldy, vermin infested, tattered items must be refused. Please try to ensure that games and puzzles are complete. After all, who wants to play a game or try to complete a puzzle with missing parts, read a book with missing or scribbled pages?

Submitted by the Dump Committee
SAVE THE DATE for our 15th Annual Spring Walk for Families, Saturday, May 11th!
This year we have a planned a shorter, more family friendly route in Antrim. You can find our pledge sheet at our website: www.grapevinenh.org

SPRING CLEANING? Donate your new or gently used items NOW for our Learning Vine yard sale fundraiser to be held in June. Call Carol to arrange your donation at 588-2620.

Open registration for our weekly Parent-Child Programs! Please call Carol at 588-2620 to register for programs, or for more information.

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, 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, 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 Instagram: @thegrapevinefrc.

Melissa Gallagher, Executive Director
IMPACT ON CVTC DRIVERS
Since 2008, CVTC has been providing no-fee transportation to people that do not have access to transportation because of their age, ability, income, and/or life circumstance. Our trip purposes are to non-emergency medical appointments & support services, social service appointments and programs, and purchasing basic needs like food and medicine. We serve the 34 towns that make up the Monadnock Region in southwest NH.

2018 Outputs
We provided 4,849 trips to 306 individuals (riding once or many times). 88 (up 8 from 2017) Volunteer Drivers logged in 102,582 miles and donated 5,789 hours of service. We offer mileage reimbursement at $0.41 per mile.

2018 Outcomes = IMPACT
Survey results include:

Satisfaction with CVTC service:
Drivers: 100% I get all the information I need when providing a trip in a timely fashion.

Life Circumstance:
Drivers: 91% I feel more connected to people

Healthy Living:
Drivers: 96% I make a difference in someone’s life.

If you’d like a ride, give us a call. If you’d like to become a Volunteer Driver the number follows:
For more information call 1-877-428-2882, ext. 5.
CVTC is a Monadnock United Way Partner Agency.

Monadnock RSVP Volunteer Center In Need of Volunteers
Are you looking for a way to make a difference in your community? By volunteering just one to two hours a week with Monadnock RSVP Volunteer Center’s Neighbors-In-Deed program, you can have a direct impact on the life of one of your fellow community members who is struggling to remain living independently in their home.

Neighbors-In-Deed matches volunteers one-on-one to seniors, adults with disabilities, or veterans to provide ongoing companionship and support. Volunteers may help their care recipient go to the grocery store or pick up a prescription, go out for coffee, sit and chat over a puzzle or, perhaps, go for a scenic drive. Matches are made based upon shared interests and/or life experiences, proximity between people’s homes and expectations.

If an ongoing volunteer role doesn’t fit what you’re looking for, but you would like to help a neighbor remain in their home, consider an episodic opportunity being a volunteer driver or handyman.

To learn more about the Neighbors-In-Deed program or the other volunteer roles, call or email Jazmin Belcoure at 603-357-6893 or jbelcoure@mfs.org.

Free Smoke Alarms and Home Safety Check
The New Hampshire and Vermont Red Cross currently has a program funded by a grant to install free smoke alarms plus give a free home safety check. It is not dependent of the income level of the owner. If you are interested:
call: 1-800-464-6692 or visit the website: redcross.org/nhvt/in-home-smoke-alarm
The home safety check among other suggestions will help you to plan an escape in the event of a fire.

In a home fire, you and your family should be able to escape in 2 minutes. This may sound extreme, but with modern building materials and home furnishings, fires spread much more rapidly than they did in the past. The temperatures are much higher and the gasses produced by the fire are much more deadly.
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 1:00pm; 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 6:30pm 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 – 1st Wednesday of the month 11am, 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.

Distribution – Hope Pettegrew, Sandy Brooks, Josephine & Richard Warner, Marcia Coffin and Rod Perry
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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
Hopefully spring will arrive soon!
The Road Crew is looking forward to the next challenges our seasons will bring. Since winter arrived so early, the usual fall clean-up was not completed (ditch cleaning, leaf removal). We are asking for help from property owners to make sure the ends of your driveway culverts are cleaned out regularly which will help with some of the drainage issues on our roads. Please see the Driveway Culvert Maintenance check list. Your help is greatly needed and appreciated!

**REMEmBER:** per RSA 236:13
Inspecting and maintaining driveway culverts are the property owner’s responsibility

The commissioner of transportation or planning board shall retain continuing jurisdiction over the adequacy and safety of existing driveway, entrance, exits, and approach to a highway, whether or not such access was constructed or installed pursuant to a permit under this section and unless the access is a public highway the owners property to which the access is appurtenant shall have continuing responsibility for the adequacy of the access and any grades, culverts, or other structure pertaining to such access whether or not located within the public right of way.

**ROUTINE SEASONAL CULVERT MAINTENANCE**

**SPRING**
Inspect the inside as well as the ends of the pipe. Remove any blocking (trash, brush, leaven, etc.)

**SUMMER**
Clean and flush the length of the pipe. Repair, improve or install headwalls at the ends of the pipe ends. Trim and remove brush at pipe ends mow grass and keep down weeds. Cut and remove trees and limbs that threaten to fall and block upstream and downstream ditches.

**FALL**
Inspect the inside as well as the ends of the pipe. Remove any blocking (trash, brush, leaven, etc).

**DO NOT BLOW LEAVES INTO ROADSIDE DITCHES.**
Mark head walls or pipe ends for snowplow operators.

Driveway culverts should be inspected at least once a year. After the inspection, prioritize the repair and maintenance needed.

Maintenance work should be scheduled throughout the spring, summer and fall.

Poorly working culverts can cause flooding during heavy rains and significant damage to roads. Even during normal wet weather, a crushed or plugged culvert that allows water to back up in the road and side ditches will contribute to the deterioration of the road as the standing water prevents further drainage from the road base.

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