News from the Selectboard
Submitted by John Jordan, Chairperson

The different departments have now submitted their budgets and it is now time for the Selectboard to take a deep dive into them. There are some increases over which we have no control. One is the first payment on the ten year note for the new fire truck. Others are a potential increase of 1.7% in the cost of employee benefits and an increase in the cost per ton for the hauling of our waste. The increase in employee benefits is called the guaranteed maximum rate. In some prior years, this figure was often higher than the final rate by a couple of percent. In recent years, it has been very close to the actual. The cost per ton of hauling of our waste has not increased in the past five years. The new figure quoted by our current hauler is still much lower than any alternatives and they have been providing excellent service. The Town has a very good rate of recycling and this is critical in controlling the costs of the Dump/Transfer Station. Also, the changes in the sorting of recycled material has helped to maximize the income from that material. This is an area where everyone can help to keep costs down. There is also a Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) this year of 1.6%. The Town does not do a blanket increase of all wages. The Federal COLA is based on a base wage, therefore the COLA for the Town is based on the living wage of a single person in Hillsborough County. This results in a single hourly increase which is applied to all salaries. There will also be an individual performance review of all employees and some adjustments may be made based on these reviews. The Selectboard will be looking at any changes that may be made to help balance out any increases.

The Selectboard will be looking to minimize the amounts requested in Warrant Articles. Some of the requests to date are for a new salt shed for the DPW and a replacement of one of the police vehicles. The salt shed at the DPW is literally falling down. There is also a need to rebuild the Bridge Capital Reserve and a possible change in the Meetinghouse Capital Reserve.

Recently, The Town received a check for additional Municipal Aid in the amount of $11,318. This money was voted to be placed into the general fund to provide a small reduction in property taxes. The Towns in New Hampshire still do not receive all of the revenue that the State should provide such as under Rooms and Meals, but every bit helps.

The Selectboard recently adopted two new policies. The first is The Guidelines for the Maintenance of Gravel Roads. The need for this policy developed out of issues regarding some proposed work on Old Dublin Road. A Road Committee was formed and worked with the DPW to clearly define the work that is appropriate for safety concerns and the preservation of the roads. The second is an adjustment to the Fund Balance Policy which deals with our Unassigned Fund Balance. Basically, this is the cash reserve for the General Fund. Increases in the School Budget in recent years has resulted in some cash flow issues that needed to be addressed. The School District starts billing the Town for its new budget in July. The Town does not receive any increased revenue to fund the higher payments until the new Tax Rate is set at the end of the year.
Hancock Fire & Rescue
Tom Bates, Chief, Hancock Fire Department

We are fast approaching the season of the year many of us truly enjoy. Now you may be thinking it is the winter season when we can get out there for skiing and snow shoeing, but I am talking about eating. In the weeks to come we will be sitting down to Thanksgiving dinner and the many weekend get togethers. The Fire Service knows that Thanksgiving is the peak day for home cooking fires in the U.S. Here is a reminder about what you can do to stay safe. Remember, stay in the kitchen while you are frying, grilling, boiling or broiling food. If you are simmering, baking or roasting food, check it regularly, remain in the kitchen while food is cooking, and use a timer to remind you that you are cooking. Keep anything that can catch fire such as oven mitts, wooden utensils, food packaging, towels or curtains away from your stovetop. Stay alert! To prevent cooking fires, you have to be alert. You won’t be if you are sleepy, have been drinking alcohol, or have taken medicine that makes you drowsy. You probably don’t want the Hancock Fire Department stopping by as uninvited guests. We’ll try not to make a mess. Just remember, when the smoke detector alarm goes off dinners ready.

November is Carbon Monoxide Awareness & Safety Month. Carbon monoxide, also known as CO, is called the “Invisible Killer” because it is a colorless, odorless, poisonous gas. Carbon monoxide poisoning can result from faulty furnaces or other heating appliances, portable generators, water heaters, clothes dryers, or cars left running in garages. Clear all debris including any snow build-up from dryer, furnace, stove, and fireplace vents. At its worst, carbon monoxide can cause severe side effects or even death. CO alarms should be installed outside each sleeping area and on every level of the home. Test both CO and smoke alarms each month. If your CO alarm should activate, leave your house immediately. Do not open the windows and doors because we then cannot find the source.

The Hancock Fire Department Auxiliary is a great asset to the fire department. This group helps out by donating emergency equipment, providing loaner medical equipment to local families, and being there when we need support at a major fire or rescue operation. One of the Auxiliary activities is delivering poinsettias to the elderly and shut-ins in town and former residents who are now in assisted living facilities, nursing homes, etc. They are updating their list of recipients. If you know anyone who would enjoy a short visit and a poinsettia, please contact Maryanne Bates at mtbates86@comcast.net or at 525.3789. Lastly, they are always looking for new members. If you would like to support your local Fire Department, please contact Maryanne.

Life is a journey my friends. Travel it well and travel it safe.

Raffle winners for the month:
$40.00 – Lois Hixson
$20.00 – Ann McManus
$10.00 – Russell Nylander, Pete Toumanoff, & Howard Mansfield
THE DIRT:

DITCH MAINTENANCE

by the Hancock DPW and the Road Committee

Did you know it’s illegal to rake or blow leaves into roadside ditches, even if the ditch is in front of your house? Clean, debris-free ditches (along with road crowning) keep water off the road. Standing water creates potholes on both paved and gravel roads and accelerates the loss of road material. Not only is it illegal to put leaves in roadside ditches, but it costs the town money to routinely clean out ditches.

What can Hancock residents do to help keep taxes down? First and foremost, don’t rake or blow leaves into your ditches. Second, periodically rake or pull leaves and debris out of your ditches. This takes less time than you’d think. If you have any culverts, pull leaves and dirt out of the culvert. The whole goal is to keep water flowing and off the road.

One other note: the DPW uses grades stakes to hold erosion/silt socks in place. Some Hancock residents have been removing these stakes for their personal use as snow plow markers on their property. Please don’t remove the stakes as without them, the erosion socks wash away.

Many thanks!

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 Hours as of November:
Wednesdays: 3 pm - 5 pm Saturdays: 8.30 am - 4 pm
Please, remember there is a 5 item limit in the Swap Shop.

Disposal of metal into the “metal container” is free of charge.
Please, see Ricky or Chester before disposing anything into the “bulky container” to determine the fee.
Only clear clean food-grade glass bottles and jars can be recycled in the “glass container” all lids, caps and corks removed.

Please, separate newsprint and magazines from mixed paper.
The effort to separate this way results in considerable savings to the taxpayer in the course of the year.

NOT recyclable are:
Wrapping paper; tissue paper; pizza boxes; waxed food-containers both for liquids and frozen food; beer cartons. These cannot be recycled and should be disposed of into the “trash-compactor”.

Please, be mindful and cautious driving and parking.

Please, see attendants for questions
HANCOCK HAPPENINGS

November 2019

News from the Hancock Congregational Church
Rev. Judy Copeland, Pastor

Journey to Bethlehem
This year’s Journey to Bethlehem experience will take place on Sunday, December 8th from 2-4pm. Once again, Hancock’s Main Street will be transformed into Bethlehem and guided tours, led by costumed Magi, will lead visitors through an approximately 30 minute telling of the Christmas Story. You’ll meet the Innkeeper with an all-too-full Inn, the fearsome Herod, shepherds keeping watch over their flock, a host of young angels, and of course, the Holy Family—not to mention local musicians and a variety of animals.

Although organized by the Hancock Congregational Church in cooperation with The Hancock Inn, participation is by no means limited to members or friends of the Church. We invite all who would like to take part to join in our 2019 Journey to Bethlehem. If you would like to be one of the storytellers, help tend sheep at the shepherd’s encampment, provide music as a singing troubadour, or work behind the scenes with costumes, we’d love to have your help! There are roles for both children and adults. Please email us at hancockcongregationalchurch@gmail.com if you would like to participate. Rehearsals have been scheduled for Tuesday, November 19th at 4:00pm, Tuesday, December 3rd at 4:00pm, and Saturday, December 7th at 2:00pm, with other times to be scheduled as needed for those who can’t make it on these days.

Tempting Tastes
Elsewhere in this issue of Hancock Happenings you will find notice of our Tempting Tastes to be held on November 10th beginning at 4 pm. Veterans will enjoy tastes for free, and we hope there will be a good turnout for this important fundraiser. We have some major expenses coming up, and it is important for us to be able to meet them so that we can keep the Vestry and Meetinghouse Sanctuary open and available to the wider community.

Interfaith Thanksgiving Service
People of all faith traditions are invited to attend an Interfaith Thanksgiving Service on Tuesday, November 26th at the Unitarian Universalist Church in Peterborough. Sponsored by the Greater Peterborough Interfaith Council, of which the Hancock Church is a part, the service will begin at 7:00 pm and be followed by a pie reception. If you would like to sing in the Interfaith Choir that night, please come at 5:30 pm.

Activities for Kids in the Vestry
Following up on our pumpkin painting party in October, we have another activity for children scheduled for Monday, November 18th. We will meet in the Vestry from 3:30 to 4:30 pm to try out hand at paper marbling. Please contact Kathy Anderson at hancock.andersons@gmail.com to sign up or if you have any questions.

Hancock Historical Society
News and Upcoming Events

On Wednesday, November 6th at 7 pm, noted New Hampshire historian Steve Taylor will speak about “The Sheep Boom: How it Played Out in New Hampshire – and Hancock.” This program will be in the Daniels Room at the Hancock Town Library and is co-sponsored by the Library and the Hancock Historical Society.

The first half of the 19th century brought a brief period of true agricultural prosperity to New Hampshire, built on sheep and the wool they produced. Hancock was one of the leading towns in southern New Hampshire for wool production. When this boom time ended, it left behind legacies of countless miles of stonewalls, fine architecture—and profound social impacts. Please join us to learn more about this fascinating local topic!

Our exhibit celebrating the life and work of Neal Clark, late resident of Hancock, will be open Sundays 2-4 pm through the end of the month.

We hope to see you at the Historical Society this month!
Friends of Willard Pond

In conjunction with New Hampshire Audubon, the “Friends of Willard Pond” have met several times this spring and summer. The “Friends” have instituted a number of projects to help support the natural environment at Willard Pond. At the next meeting on November 14, we will review what has been done this year, report on how things have gone, and plan for future projects. If you care about helping to keep the pond a peaceful and restorative place, please feel free to attend the meeting whether or not you have attended before.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, November 14th at the Harris Center in Hancock at 7pm. If you are interested, but cannot attend, or if you would like more information about the group, please contact Anitra Sorensen (anitrasorensen@gmail.com or 603-731-9764).

Submitted by Anitra Sorensen

21 Views

"21 Views" exhibition inspired by the Monadnock region featuring Edith Tuttle and Cathleen Calmer at Fry Fine Art in Peterborough. Also exhibiting Carolyn Edwards, Kin Schilling, Phil Bean, Chris Reid and Monique Sakellarious. Opening is Friday, November 1st with a reception from 5pm-7pm that evening. Frye Fine Art, at 36 Grove Street, is open from 11am-5pm Wednesday through Sunday. “21 Views” will be on display from November 1st through January 2020.

Submitted by Cathleen Calmer
HANCOCK HAPPENINGS
November 2019

Community Supper

The Community Supper will not take place in November due to the Thanksgiving holiday.

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

Sometime in the 1950’s the Engineers at the Chrysler Corporation decided that it made logical sense to make the lug nuts holding the wheels on one side of their cars use a left-handed thread, thus reversing the directions of loosening and tightening them. I’m sure they pointed this out in the manual, but most of us discovered this feature during lengthy rainy night attempts to change a flat tire on some lonely country road.

Hospice at HCS Offers Poinsettias to Support Care in Our Region

The Poinsettia Sale to benefit Hospice at HCS will be taking place in November, Hospice Month. This annual event, now in its 24th year, benefits hospice care in 52 communities in southwestern New Hampshire. Hospice care focuses on living life to the fullest while experiencing a life limiting illness. It is a holistic approach to care with the goal of comfort and dignity at the end of life. Proceeds from the annual Poinsettia sale help to provide care for patients and support for family caregivers. Care is provided wherever the person calls home; in their own home, in an assisted living facility, or in a nursing home.

Plants will be available by preorder at the Keene and Peterborough Offices of HCS. The poinsettias are local – grown right here in New Hampshire!

Poinsettias are available in red, pink, and white and in three sizes: a single stem plant in a 6” pot with 6 to 8 blooms ($12); a double stem plant in a 7” pot with 12 to 15 blooms ($20); and a triple stem plant with 20 to 25 blooms ($30).

Order forms must be received by Thursday, November 21st. For details on delivery dates and pick-up options, or to print an order form, visit www.HCSservices.org. To request an order form be mailed or for more information, email poinsettias@HCSservices.org or call 352-2253 ext 4294.

HCS is a Monadnock United Way agency.

Tammy Garre - REALTOR®
Serving the greater Monadnock area
Direct: 603-630-2185
Email: tammy.garre@beangroup.com

I am looking for new listings and buyers

The Hancock Congregational Church will be having a papermarbling for children event on Monday, November 18th from 3:30-4:30 pm and constructing graham cracker gingerbread houses on Monday, December 9th. We could use donations of the following supplies for these two events:

cans of white foam shaving cream
small candies of all sorts
graham crackers

Please contact Kathy Anderson at Hancock.andersons@gmail.com if you have items to donate, would like to help on either of those dates, or would like to sign a child up.
HANCOCK HAPPENINGS

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

The Library will be closed
Monday, November 11th for Veteran’s Day

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

Monday November 4th at 6:00pm
Hancockers Cookbook Book Club
Are you up to the challenge? Drop into our cookbook book club anytime! This month’s assignment doesn’t include just one cookbook. We’re asking you to make an Italian dish without pasta or red sauce. Go forth and research! Do let us know if you will be joining us, however, by calling the library (525-4411) or stopping by. Always a fun and delicious way to spend a Monday evening.

Mah Jongg Tuesdays at the HTL!
Tuesdays at 1:00pm – 3:00pm Mah Jongg
Join us as we learn and play Mah Jongg on Tuesdays afternoons. Newcomers welcome! We’ll teach the basics to get you started in this fun and challenging game. Every Tuesday from 1 – 3 in the Daniels Room. Do let us know if you are brand new to Mah Jongg so we can ensure that an experienced teacher is present. 525-4411.

Tuesdays November 5th & 12th at 6:30pm
Mah Jongg for Beginners
For those of you who prefer or need evening hours, we will continue the beginning Mah Jongg class through November 12th. Stop in or call us at 525-4411 to let us know if you wish to join this class!

Wednesday November 6th 3pm-5pm
Cricut Paper Crafts
Join us for a fun afternoon of specialized paper crafting using the Library’s Cricut machine. We will have some designs precut for those who wish to focus on creating hand-made greeting cards. Scrapbookers and greeting card makers are welcome! Open to the public for Teens & Adults!

Wednesday November 6th at 7:00pm
The Great Sheep Boom: How It Played Out in New Hampshire—and Hancock with Steve Taylor
The first half of the 19th century brought the only period of true agricultural prosperity to New Hampshire; it was built on sheep and the wool they produced, and fed the development of the state’s "mill town" culture. Much of the landscape was cleared of forests to provide pasture and fields for hay production to feed the animals and sheep numbers would exceed a half million in the peak year of 1834. Hancock was one of the leading towns in southern New Hampshire for wool production. When this boom period ended it left behind legacies of countless miles of stonewalls and fine architecture, and profound social impacts as well. Steve Taylor will explore this topic drawing on historical research as well as the oral tradition. Steve Taylor is a lifelong scholar of New Hampshire's rural culture. He is a farmer, writer and, for 25 years, was the state's commissioner of agriculture. With his family he has been involved in sheep, dairy and maple ventures for more than 50 years and he writes and speaks frequently on agricultural subjects throughout New Hampshire and other New England states. He lives in the Meriden Village section of Plainfield. Co-sponsored with the Hancock Historical Society.

Thursday November 7th at 7:00pm
The Future of Transportation in New Hampshire Q&A with Dan Pickering
State Rep for Hillsborough District 3 (Bennington, Greenfield, & Hancock)
Find out what is happening in the NH legislature:
· Passenger Rail service to Boston (really?)
· Self-driving Cars (should we be worried?)
· Drones (fun or nuisance?)
· Electric Bicycles (where can you ride them?)

Bipartisan discussion! Everyone is welcome!

Wednesday, November 13th at 7:00pm
Game Night for Grownups
Time for an evening out for fun. Whether word games, board games, story games, games of wit, mind-benders or just plain out-and-out entertainment — everything is on the table. Meet up with friends and neighbors over a trusty favorite or challenging new-in-the-box game (board not required!). 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.

Seven Maples Campground
Seven Maples General Store will be filling LP tanks through the winter.
Stop by or call ahead... 525.3321
Thank you!

24 Longview Rd.
Hancock, NH 03449
www.sevenmaples.com
Thursday November 14th at 7:00pm
Celibacy, A Love Story with Mimi Bull

Born in the 1930s, a time when unmarried pregnant women were whisked off in secrecy and their babies given away, Mimi Bull grew up believing she’d been adopted by two women, a mother and daughter. Not until she was a mother herself did she learn that those adoptive parents were her blood relatives—her grandmother and her mother. It would be another dozen-plus years before she discovered the identity of her father: the Catholic priest she’d known as a close family friend. The stories she’d been told in childhood had been concocted to hide her biological father’s broken vow of celibacy and shield her mother from the disgrace of unwed pregnancy. In this moving memoir, Bull writes lovingly of her parents and of their extraordinary efforts to forge a life as a family while keeping these enormous secrets. Yet she also reveals the toll that secrecy took on her—evidenced in large part by her lifelong struggle with depression and a yearning to understand who she was and where she belonged. Mimi Bull, a native New Englander, raised her three children as a headmaster’s wife at schools in Istanbul; Vienna; Sedona, Arizona; and San Antonio, Texas. Her professional life included arts administration; and research assistance to scholar diplomat, George Kennan, and architect and environmental planner, Victor Gruen. In her fifties she received a master’s degree in counseling, with a concentration in geriatrics. She makes her home in the Monadnock region of southern NH.

Tuesday November 19th from 5:30-7:00pm
Free-Form Francais

The popular French conversation group hosted by the Hancock Town Library meets on the third Tuesday of every month. The setting is very informal and will be open from 5:30 to 7:00. Arrive and leave at your leisure. All levels welcome. Modeled on the Manchester Franco-American Centre’s “Prêt-à-Parler,” the sessions will be free flowing and with your help, fun. Hélène Laliberté Bikford, French first-language speaker (“mais tres rouillé”), will help to keep the conversations going. “Venez tous!” This month the group will meet in the main library instead of the Daniels Room.

Tuesday November 19th at 7:00pm
From the Midway: Unfolding Stories of Redemption and Belonging with Leaf Seligman

This richly researched collection of linked short stories transports readers to the midway of a carnival traveling through the Jim Crow South where we meet the carnival owners, a carousel operator, the geek, dancing girls, several performers displayed as oddities and the African American laborers charged with tending them. The final story crosses the ocean, underscoring the power and mystery of unexpected connections. Lyrical descriptions of the physical environs and the emotional landscape of each character function like a funhouse mirror, providing just enough distance and distortion to see ourselves more clearly. The sharply striated world of a century ago aptly reflects the tensions, divisions, and perennial shared yearning for redemption and belonging that mark us as human. Leaf Seligman began writing during her Tennessee childhood where she encountered the midway, tent revivals, and the Civil Rights movement. She has taught writing in colleges, jails, prisons, and community settings since 1985 and worked as a minister, a jail chaplain, a youth services caseworker, and a restorative justice practitioner. Her current projects include a novel, a memoir, and a series of death row monologues, all attuned to redemption and belonging.

Wednesday November 20th 2pm-7pm
Escape Room: The Secret Agent!

Can you solve the puzzle in time? Sign up for a 1-hour slot with your team and see if you have what it takes to get out in time. This is an easier level of escape room than the Space Station. Open to the general public. Recommend group size is 3-5, but that is entirely up to you. Stop by or call (525-4411) to sign up to reserve your time slot. Teens and adults welcome!

Thursday November 21st at 12:30pm
Books Sandwiched In

Join our monthly book club at the Hancock Town Library! Feel free to drop in in whenever it fits your schedule. We meet on the third Thursday of the month at 12:30 in the Daniels Room. This month’s book is The Angle of Repose by Wallace Stegner. Books are provided at the front desk. You must have a Hancock Town Library card to participate so if you don’t have a card yet, come on in!

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

Note from Miss Jenn

I hope you all are having a fabulous fall season. We have lots of great programs planned through the end of the year, stop by for a calendar or check out our Facebook page for updates.

We have two seasonal boards that will be up at the library for November. We will have a board by the front desk for people to write what they are thankful for this season. Pick your shape, write your message and then stick it up on the board. There is also a new felt board in the children’s area. This board will have some Thanksgiving and harvest pieces for children to play with.

The time has come for me to start my next adventure. I wanted to let you all know how much I have loved being a member of this community and working with you all. I will be leaving the Hancock Library sometime in December. The last four years have meant so much to me and I am grateful for the time I had with you all.

In early 2020, I will be moving to Japan to start my new job in a Japanese preschool. I will be working with 2-6yr olds teaching English and assisting Japanese teachers. I am very excited to begin this new adventure, but I am sad to leave you all. I'll be in touch via Social Media to keep you updated on my adventures in Japan!

With much affection,
Jenn
Tuesday November 5th 3:30-4:30pm
Lego Club
Join us for our regular free build session. Build your own creation and then put it out on display for everyone to see.

Wednesday November 6th 3pm-5pm
Cricut Paper Crafts
Join us for a fun afternoon of specialized paper crafting using the Library’s Cricut machine. We will have some designs precut for those who wish to focus on creating hand-made greeting cards. Scrapbookers and greeting card makers are welcome! Open to the public for Teens & Adults!

Wednesday November 13th 3pm-5pm
Robots!
Join in as we bring out our robots Dash and Dot along with our coding mice! There are many levels of coding and play available with these robots. Learn sequencing skills, code using scratch, or use simple path making. This program is open to the public and available to ages 5 years and up. There will be separate zones set up for the more advanced coding.

Wednesday November 20th 2pm-7pm
Escape Room: The Secret Agent!
Can you solve the puzzle in time? Sign up for a 1-hour slot with your team and see if you have what it takes to get out in time. This is an easier level of escape room than the Space Station.

Open to the general public. Recommend group size is 3-5, but that is entirely up to you. Stop by or call (525-4411) to sign up to reserve your time slot.

Monday November 25th 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!

DECEMBER!!!

December 3rd 3:30-4:30pm
Lego Club
Join us for our regular free build session. Build your own creation and then put it out on display for everyone to see.

I SPY winter edition!
I SPY with snowflakes and the elf on the shelf will begin starting Dec 2nd and continue through Dec 31st. They will change places every Monday.
Haleys Service Center
Your Car Care Specialists Call us at 525-8024

FREE TIRE DISPOSAL IN NOVEMBER
With the purchase of new tires
We have competitive pricing and next day availability on most tires
Call or stop in to get a free tire check and quote
Luna would love to visit with you!
(Except Wed afternoon and Fri she is at daycare with her friends sorry)

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haleysservicecenter@live.com
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HANCOCK HAPPENINGS
November 2019

STOP being cold in your own home!

Ice dams?
Comfort issues?
Frozen pipes?
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Let a professional building scientist help you.

50% instant rebate on fixed state prices on improvements, and $450 energy audit for only $100 if your home qualifies.

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**A Cut-Your-Own Tree Farm**
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Along with TROOP 2 BOY SCOUT WREATHS FOR SALE

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**CASA**
-34 Main-

**2019 HOLIDAY EVENT!**
Featuring artisan-made jewelry, textiles, art, clothing & more! Shop local this holiday season and share unique gifts with everyone on your list!

**Black Friday, Nov. 29th: 5:30-7:30pm & Saturday, Nov. 30th: 9am-2pm**
34 Main Street, Hancock, NH inside The Party Barn in back

Facebook & Instagram: @CASA34Main

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**Nevan Cassidy Woodworking**
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All Aspects of Residential Construction
25 years experience • Fully Insured nevancassidy@comcast.net
525-4786

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**Fiddleheads Cafe and Catering**
Hancock New Hampshire
Hot Soups • Sandwiches • Pizza
All Natural Deli Meats
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Gluten-free Selections
Catering

Café Seating & Carry Out Cuisine
28 Main St., Hancock • (603) 525-4432 • www.fiddleheadscatering.net
Mon-Fri 6:30am-7pm • Sat 8am-7pm • Sun 8am-3pm
The Hancock Guild
The Guild has had a busy fall raising money for our Scholarship Fund for Graduating Hancock Seniors. Our semi-annual clothing sale and the upcoming November Holiday Craft Fair are two of our biggest fund raisers. The proceeds from these events help us continue to support our local youth as they seek higher education as well as contribute to our local community.

In October, we invited community members to meet our new Town Administrator, Jon Coyne. He was open to discussing what a Town Administrator’s duties were, as well as having the community get to know him. It was a friendly and informative evening shared by community.

On November 2nd, our Annual Holiday Craft Fair will be held at the Vestry and the Meetinghouse from 9:00-2:00. Homemade soups are also available for purchase for lunch, so stop by, do some shopping, visit with the local vendors, enjoy a delicious lunch, and get a start on your Holiday list.

Also coming in November, we are welcoming local author Richard Roy of Lyndeborough and local artist and Guild member, Melody Zahn Russell of Hancock who illustrated his book “Mrs. Binnacle”. They will be joining us for a free to the public program on Weds., November 20th at 7:00pm at the Vestry. See notice for more information.

If you think you’d like to get more involved in your community, more involved in helping others, more involved with others who also like to get together and support their community in ways both big and small, join us for a meeting following one of our programs. Be a part of something bigger, something local, something satisfying and fun.

We always welcome new members.

Submitted by, Darlene Tarr, Hancock Guild President
ART EXHIBITS AT THE LIBRARY

Outstanding in Many Fields

Hank Huber of Hancock will exhibit his photography along with artwork in several other mediums at the Hancock Town Library Oct. 19th to Nov. 27th. Hank has spent decades seeking out beauty both in nature and in populated environments. Always ready with his camera to find and document interesting landscapes, he also shoots close up and intimate objects and textures in nature and cities.

Hank has presented several slide shows at the Hancock Library, including one of his ascent of Mt. Whitney in California (at 14,500 feet, the highest peak in the lower 48 states), his climb up Mt. Kilimanjaro in Africa, and his trek to Machu Picchu along the Inca Trail in Peru.

In his spare time, he has pursued all kinds of design and art projects, including silk screen printing, hand-built ceramics, furniture, and encaustic painting. His working career has spanned several fields, including energy-efficient architectural design, engineering consulting, and experimental physics. This exhibit will include a wide range of photos from winter and summer mountain scenes to abstract prints and large-scale photo montages. There will also be photos of his many climbs on Mt. Monadnock in all seasons, where he is a Park Volunteer, helping to maintain the extensive hiking trail network.

Hank lives with his wife Joan in their super insulated solar home in Hancock. They have two grown sons.

The exhibit can be viewed during regular library hours: Mon. and Wed., 2-6 pm; Tues. and Thu. 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.

Coming in December!

‘Creating with Fire’ – Artist Michelle Russell
Dec. 7th - Jan. 15th
Opening Reception: Sunday Dec. 8th, 2-4 p.m.
On Saturday, November 2nd, we are truly honored to be featuring FOUR super-talented, seasoned singer-songwriters:

**Tara Greenblatt**
Tara Greenblatt is a skillful vocalist and impressive percussionist. Her music and energy emanate wildness, a love affair with nature – its reflections and creative power imbuing her with the same. She writes beautifully crafted contemporary folk originals laced with stunning strings and jazzy harmony arrangements. Rolling, infectious rhythms, and a soulful, soaring voice create an inseparable pairing of voice and drum that are the very essence of Tara’s wild, rooted, earthy power. Tara has performed throughout New England and beyond for more than fifteen years. Learn more about Tara: [https://www.drumtara.com](https://www.drumtara.com)

**Russell Turnquist**
Based in Arlington, MA, Russell Turnquist's songs draw on folk, classic rock, and "alt country/Americana rock" inspirations. Russell started his professional music career in San Francisco and spent his first few years as a performer playing out acoustically in solo and duo formats. Since 2013, Russell and his band, The Rusted Bucket Band, have played shows throughout New England and graced many stages of the preeminent music clubs in the greater Boston area. If you’re a fan of Wilco, Tom Petty, The Band, or any of the iterations born from that type of creative space, you’ll truly dig listening to Russell! Learn more about Russell and his music here: [https://www.facebook.com/RustedBucketMusic/](https://www.facebook.com/RustedBucketMusic/)

**Tyler Allgood**
Tyler Allgood is a singer-songwriter from New Hampshire's Monadnock Region. Influenced by numerous genres, his songs weave beautiful lyrics into meaningful stories set against a unique blend of raw writing with a rock 'n' roll bent that collide to create grooves inside a folk alternative setting. Jazzy intros and luscious outros connect effortlessly with catchy choruses you can’t help but sing along with. In addition to performing solo, Tyler has worked with several popular southern New Hampshire bands, including the Barnowls (2010-2014) and BandBand (2015-2018). Learn more about Tyler and his new band, The Extra Friendlys, here: [https://www.facebook.com/tyallgood88/](https://www.facebook.com/tyallgood88/)

**Helen Hummel**
Singer/songwriter Helen Hummel hails from the green mountains of Vermont. Her music reflects the rural landscape of her upbringing and explores the styles of Folk, Americana, and Indie, among many others. Through classic and original songs, Helen fills out the limits of her vocal range, accompanying herself on bright and playful guitar. In 2016, ready to record a full length album but missing the natural surroundings of her upbringing, Helen moved back to New England and for the next nine months exchanging farm work for recording time. This organic route led to Helen recording her first full-length album. Now officially released, she takes Many Waters on the road throughout Vermont and greater New England. Check out Helen's Web site: [https://www.helenhummel.com/](https://www.helenhummel.com/)

**ABOUT THE VENUE**
The show begins 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!).

Sponsored by the Hancock Depot Association and the Keene Music Festival and hosted by Crazy Cowz, the Hancock Depot Cabaret is a music, arts, and function venue located in the old Hancock Train Station/Depot on Depot Road. If you are interested in performing as a feature performer, want to sign up for an open mic spot, rent the Depot for an event, or simply want more information: -- E-mail: hancockdepotcabaret@yahoo.com -- Phone: 508-641-0076

Like us on Facebook and receive automatic notifications about upcoming shows: [www.facebook.com/hancockdepotcabaret](http://www.facebook.com/hancockdepotcabaret)

**UPCOMING FEATURE ACTS**
- December 7 – The Lied To’s – Don’t miss them …. Just don’t.
- January 4 – Open Mic ALL NIGHT!

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**The Mollers, Inc.**
27 Main Street
P.O. Box 154
Hancock, NH 03449

Office: (603) 525-4211
Fax: (603) 525-4213

www.themollers.com

[Ken Moller][1] [Ann Moller][2]
Nov 2 (Sat) Following the Footsteps of John Kulish on Willard and Robb Mountains
Join Stan Smith and Vic Starzynski for a 5-mile roundtrip hike following the trail from the dam at Robb Reservoir to the top of Willard Mountain. From there it’s a steep descent off Willard with a bushwhack to Robb Mountain. Expect a strenuous 5-hour hike with 1,625 feet of elevation gain. Bring lunch, and meet at 9am at the pulloff at the intersection of Routes 9 and 123 South in Stoddard to carpool to the dam. Back by 2pm. For more info, contact Stan at srsantq@yahoo.com.

Nov 2 (Sat) Family Program: Babies in Backdrops and Toddlers in Tow
Saturday, November 2 • Fremont Field in Peterborough
10 to 11am • Free of charge
Being active outside with your children is a great way to spend the morning, and to awaken your children’s senses. On these walks, which are specially geared towards babies, toddlers, and their caregivers, we’ll meander and look for what treasures the natural world has to offer. Meet other families who like to be outside and discover some beautiful, family-friendly trails to visit again and again! Directions to the meeting locations can be found at harriscenter.org. For more info, contact Susie Spikol at 525-3394 or spikol@harriscenter.org.

Nov 10 (Sun) Harris Center Big Year of Birding:
Waterfowl Migration
What better way to celebrate 50 years of land protection and environmental education than by spending the year cataloguing all the birds that now make the SuperSanctuary their home? Eric Masterson, Harris Center Land Program Coordinator and birder extraordinaire, will lead this series of seasonal birding outings to Harris Center protected lands. Though many land birds have moved on, late waterfowl are moving south through the Monadnock Region in November. On this second field trip of the Big Year series, we’ll focus on birding the area’s lakes and ponds by car to see what we can find. Meet at 8am at the Harris Center. Back by noon. For more info, contact Eric at 525-3394 or masterson@harriscenter.org.

Nov 12 (Tue) ESI Course: Forest Bathing/Shinrin-yoku
Tuesday, November 12 (Full Moon) • 7 to 8:15pm at Shieling Forest in Peterborough
$5 per class for Harris Center donors / $10 for all others
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, led by certified yoga instructor Marilyn Wyzga and Harris Center naturalist Susie Spikol, will wake up your senses and give you a chance to reconnect to the natural world and to yourself. No registration necessary! Come to one or all three, and dress for the weather. For more info, contact Susie Spikol at 525-3394 or spikol@harriscenter.org.

Nov 15 (Fri) Bobcats Before Breakfast: Remembering Naturalist John Kulish, His Book, and His Legacy
Join writer Mark Reynolds and Harris Center naturalist Susie Spikol for an evening honoring the Harris Center’s first naturalist, John Kulish. Dig deeper into the life of this charismatic trapper-turned-conservationist, and hear about his long-lasting legacy. In celebration of the Harris Center’s 50th Anniversary, Stackpole Books has re-published Kulish’s classic book, Bobcats Before Breakfast, which will be available for purchase at this event. 7 to 8pm at the Harris Center. For more info, contact Susie at 525-3394 or spikol@harriscenter.org.

Nov 16 (Sat) First-Ever Monadnock Region Natural History Conference
This one-day conference will feature presentations on a diversity of natural history topics, with a focus on conservation research, ecological restoration, and natural resource management in the Monadnock Region. Learn about conservation science directly from local researchers and land managers, and think collaboratively about what’s next for the scientific and conservation community in southwest New Hampshire! 8:30am to 4:30pm at Keene State College. Registration fee: $15 in advance; $20 at the door. (Students with valid school ID: $5 in advance; $10 at the door.) Co-sponsored with Keene State College, Antioch University New England, Franklin Pierce University, and the UNH Cooperative Extension. For full details and to register, visit harriscenter.org. For more info, contact Brett Amy Thelen at (603) 358-2065 or thelen@harriscenter.org.

Nov 21 (Thu) Hubbard Brook Experimental Forest: Groundbreaking Discoveries in the Whites
How are the scientists at Hubbard Brook Experimental Forest in the White Mountains helping us solve practical problems? Come find out at an evening program given by Sarah Thorne, Educator with the Hubbard Brook Research Foundation. Sarah will discuss how long-term ecological monitoring at Hubbard Brook has led to groundbreaking discoveries, including the impacts of acid rain, bird habitat change, timber harvesting, and climate change. Hubbard Brook Experimental Forest occupies a 7,800-acre watershed within the White Mountain National Forest and is one of the oldest research forests in the nation. 7 to 8:30pm at the Harris Center. For more info, contact Eric Masterson at masterson@harriscenter.org or 525.3394.

Nov 24 (Sun) Hiking the Hedgehog Ridge Trail
Join Ben Haubrich and Mike Thomas for a moderately strenuous, 5.5-mile roundtrip hike along Hedgehog Ridge and Wilson Hill in Deering. Expect mostly moderate elevation gain after an initial 400-foot climb from the trailhead. Bring lunch and enjoy excellent views of the SuperSanctuary! Meet at 9:30am at Crotched Mountain Golf Club, 740 2nd New Hampshire Turnpike, Francestown, for the short carpool to the trail. Back by 2:30pm. For more info, contact Ben at (603) 547-2075 or bph03043@gmail.com.
MUSIC ON NORWAY POND ANNOUNCES ITS 2019 – 2020 SEASON

The season is upon us!

We are excited to host the Merz Trio on November 24 as our first guests of the 2019 – 2020 season. From New York City, they won the 2019 Concert Artists Guild Competition and garnered the First Prize at the 2019 Fischoff Competition as well as the First Prize and Audience Prize at the 2018 Chesapeake Competition. Come hear them in Hancock!

The Norway Pond Festival Singers and Junior Minstrels are both energetically rehearsing for the Saturday, December 21st annual Hancock Family Christmas Concert. Special guests this year include mezzo-soprano Jazimina MacNeil and Hancock’s own singer/songwriter/award-winning fiddler Steve Schuch. Get there early…

We kick off 2020 on Sunday, January 12 with the Labyrinth Choir, Boston’s professional ensemble, with their program “On Broadway and at the Movies!” featuring ensemble selections from Les Misérables, Dear Evan Hansen, Hamilton, Sister Act, and A Star Is Born, and solos from West Side Story, The Music Man, Hairspray, Sweeney Todd and so much more.

Our major choral concert will be highlighted by Gabriel Fauré’s beloved Requiem on February 16th, featuring our own Norway Pond Festival singers mixed chorus and organist Mary Ann Fleming, joined by harpist Maria Rindenello. The baritone soloist is Philip Stoddard, an award-winning singing actor and recent graduate of the Marcus Institute for Vocal Arts at The Juilliard School. He is joined by spellbinding treble soloist Litha Ashworth, a New England Conservatory undergraduate from California.

Get ready for spring on March 29 with the return of Choro Bastardo’s amazing jazz pianist and composer Henrique Eisenmann. Henrique muses “To what degree can I challenge your perception of melody, of tonality, of pulse? Maybe the joy of art is exactly to focus on these less expected pathways, these new directions filled with surprise and excitement.”

April will be busy! The new ensemble Byron’s Daughter, a 5-piece, all-female musical collective blending jazz, folk, and free improvisation will regale us on April 19. And you won’t want to miss our annual Fundraising Fête on April 25 at Cold Comfort Farm with the energetic ragtime ensemble Petite Feet.

Finally, save time on your calendars for the Junior Mints’ spring show on Saturday, May 16. There’s really nothing like young people performing the classic Gilbert and Sullivan operetta Pirates of Penzance.

All concerts are held at the First Congregational Church in Hancock, begin at 4:00pm and are one hour (or a wee bit more) with no intermission. Tickets are available on www.musiconnorwaypond.org and at the door. Contributions to support the season, including the Junior Mints, can be made on the web site.

The renowned Merz Trio on Sunday, November 24

The season kicks off on Sunday, November 24 with the renowned Merz Trio, a bold new creative ensemble composed of players hailed as “impressive” (NY Times), “impeccable” (Fanfare Magazine), and praised for “a sense of joyful virtuosity” (South Florida Classical Review).

Highlights of their 2018-2019 season include performances in New York, Boston, Chicago, Washington D.C.’s Kennedy Center, a feature on London’s BBC Radio 3, and two residencies at Snape Maltings in Aldeburgh, UK.

The one-hour concert will be presented at the First Congregational Church at 4:00pm on Sunday, November 24. Tickets are available at the door or www.musiconnorwaypond.org, and students are always welcomed for free.
November Programs and Events

**Better Beginnings for Babies and Their Caregivers**
Becoming the parent of a newborn/infant can be a daunting experience. Often new parents feel overwhelmed with responsibility, isolated in their experiences, and inundated with advice. Within the structure of the Better Beginnings for Babies program, parents and/or caregivers have the time and space to talk about their hopes, concerns, and individual resources. They can play with and observe their children, informally talk about parenting topics and concerns, share ideas and visit. The gift parents and/or caregivers receive is being listened to and heard. The circle embraces each parent/caregiver for where they are in their own journey. Parents who have attended in the past say that the group brought them new information and lasting friends: “What I like most about the baby groups is that they bring parents together and build a community. The baby groups offer a space for parents to give voice to their experiences of parenting the young child—the good, the challenges and the day to day.” The group is facilitated and guided by Nancy Macalaster, M.A. and Infant/Parent Mental Health Clinician. Special speakers sometimes join the group to share information on particular topics.

The Better Beginnings for Babies group meets each **Wednesday from 10:00 to 11:30am** and offers a space where parents, infants and toddlers up to eighteen months of age can feel safe and held in the circle of community.

**2019 Grapevine Online Auction!**
Bidding NOV 1-30! Visit https://www.32auctions.com/grapevinenh on November 1st to join in on the shopping fun!

**Youth Programs at Avenue A Teen + Community Center, 42 Main Street Antrim**
- **Friday Night Open Hours** for Teens 13-18; 6:30-9pm
- **Tabletop Game Club** for teens in 7th grade and up - Mondays 5:30-8pm
- **High School Creative Writing Club** - Tuesdays 6-8pm
- **Ave A Club for Middle School Students:** For grades 5-8, Wednesdays 2:15-4:15 pm; starting in October.

For our full Fall Schedule visit us at Facebook.com/AvenueATeenCenter

**Ongoing Programs & Resources**

**Grandparents Parenting Grandchildren**
If you are parenting your grandchildren or a family member, you are not alone. “Grandparents (Kinparents)

**Melissa Gallagher, Executive Director**
4 Aiken Street, PO Box 637, Antrim 603-588-2620
www.grapevinenh.org

Parenting Grandchildren” meets monthly and is free. Call 588-2620 and ask for Carol for more information, and to let us know you’re coming and if you will need childcare.

**Strong Living Wellness and Exercise Group**
Join seniors from your community in this twice weekly light weight exercise program held at the Grapevine. Meet and become part of a supportive, lively group who together strengthen mind and body! Held on Tuesdays and Fridays at the Grapevine from 1:30 – 2:30. Call the Grapevine for more information.

**Other Programs and Services at The Grapevine:**
- **Home Visiting:** One to one support for families. Call us for more information.
- **Information & Referral:** Information and assistance accessing area resources for housing, financial assistance, food, childcare, legal assistance, clothing, health and dental care, and other needs.
- **Community Wood Bank:** An emergency resource for those who use wood to heat their home. Call if you need wood, if you have wood to donate, or to volunteer for the 2019 season.
- **Community Tool Lending Shed:** Borrow tools and light equipment. Email: toolshed@grapevinenh.org

**ALBERTO’S Italian Cuisine**
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www.albertosnh.com
Res/Take Out Bennington, NH (603)588-6512 Open Daily 5 p.m.
The Hancock Woman’s Club November meeting is just around the corner. We invite you to join us for this interesting program on November 13th, at 2:00 in the Vestry. Our presentation this month is on **Glass Blowing** and will be presented by **Jim Hassinger** of Peterborough, NH. Jim has studied under Jordana Korson for many years at the Hot Glass Art Center in Marlborough, NH. As a hobby, Jim specializes in glass garden art and we look forward to his telling us all about the process of glass blowing. As always, a tea will be served following Jim’s presentation. Please know that all are welcome for this fun and interesting program.

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**Telecommunications Committee**

The Town of Hancock has issued a Request for Proposal for improved broadband internet coverage to the town’s “unserved” locations as defined by New Hampshire legislation and the Federal Trade Commission. The definition specifies such locations as those with less than 25 Mbps download and 3 Mbps upload speeds. The deadline for RFP submissions is November 26, 2019.

Hancock has very uneven access to broadband availability and speeds. About 26% of addresses do not have at least minimum speeds.

The Hancock Select Board established a Telecommunications Committee in July 2018 to research and report on technologies and infrastructure improvements to bring a “high standard” of internet and cellphone service throughout the community at competitive costs, and to “allow each resident the opportunity to fully participate in these state-of-the-art utilities.”

The Selectboard noted that broadband has become a public utility like electricity, power, water, roads and other public services. Adequate speed is needed for students doing homework and for residents with home-based businesses, and it will make homes more attractive to potential buyers. Better speeds will also bring the additional benefit for families of improved entertainment and communications possibilities.

The Hancock RFP solicits wired technologies only and provides the town the option of forming a partnership with one or more providers.

Hancock may also pursue the option of funding the upgrades via a bond, which would enable the town to enter into a public-private partnership.

Early on the Telecommunications Committee contacted providers serving Hancock and nearby towns for their views on the feasibility of improved service and possible ways to achieve it.

The committee has collected extensive information about internet service coverage in Hancock over the past year and has conducted two surveys of Hancock residents.

The committee reached out to surrounding towns and the Southwest Region Planning Commission (SWRPC) to understand their activities and interest in broadband internet improvement. It became clear that adequate broadband service could improve both internet and cellphone usage, since smartphones, now in common usage, can make and receive calls via the internet.

After the Select Board along with the Telecommunications Committee makes its decision on the RFP replies, final approval including means of financing will be required at Town Meeting in mid-March 2020.

The complete RFP can be viewed at [www.hancocknh.org/selectboard/pages/requests-for-proposals](http://www.hancocknh.org/selectboard/pages/requests-for-proposals).
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
Advisory Committee – as noticed, Town Office
Conservation Commission – 1st Tuesday at 7:00pm, Barbara E Caverly Meeting Room
Historic District Commission – 4th Tuesday at 7:00pm, Barbara E Caverly Meeting Room
Hancock Library Trustees – 4th Tuesday at 5:00pm in the Daniels Room
Recreation Committee – 3rd Wednesday, 6:30pm, Hancock Inn
Town Archives Committee – as noticed, Town Office Archives Room
Water Commissioners – 4th Wednesday at 4:30pm, Town Office Main Floor
Dump Committee – 3rd Tuesday at 4:00pm, DPW
Trustees of Trust Funds – as needed, Town Office
Cemetery Trustees – 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.
Distribution– Hope Pettegrew, Sandy Brooks, Josephine & Richard Warner, Marcia Coffin and Rod Perry
Printing by Gem Graphics, Keene, NH
Monthly issues are placed at the Hancock Market, Post Office, Fiddleheads, Library, Dump and distributed to the students at Hancock Elementary School during the school year. Current and past issues can be found online on the Town website hancocknh.org and at the Hancock Historical Society
Nameplate by Eleanor Amidon
SAVE THE DATE

TEMPTING TASTES

Sun., Nov. 10, 4-6 pm
Hancock Vestry

Tickets for Tastes • Fun Auction
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