

Canterbury Community Newsletter

Published for the community by the Canterbury United Community Church ~ July 2024

~ This Month ~

Saturday, July 6: TOWN FIREWORKS at CES. *Page 4.*

Saturday, July 6: Shaker Hand Pie baking for the fair. *Page 3.*

Sunday, July 7: The Jordan Tirrell-Wysocki Trio kicks off the Music on the Green series at Shaker Village. *Page 6.*

Thursday, July 18: Learn to cast and fish with NH Fish and Game. *Page 10.*

Sunday, July 21: Canterbury Community Blueberry Pick-nic. *Page 7.*

Tuesday, July 23: Author Ty Gagne discusses *The Last Traverse* at the library. *Page 10.*

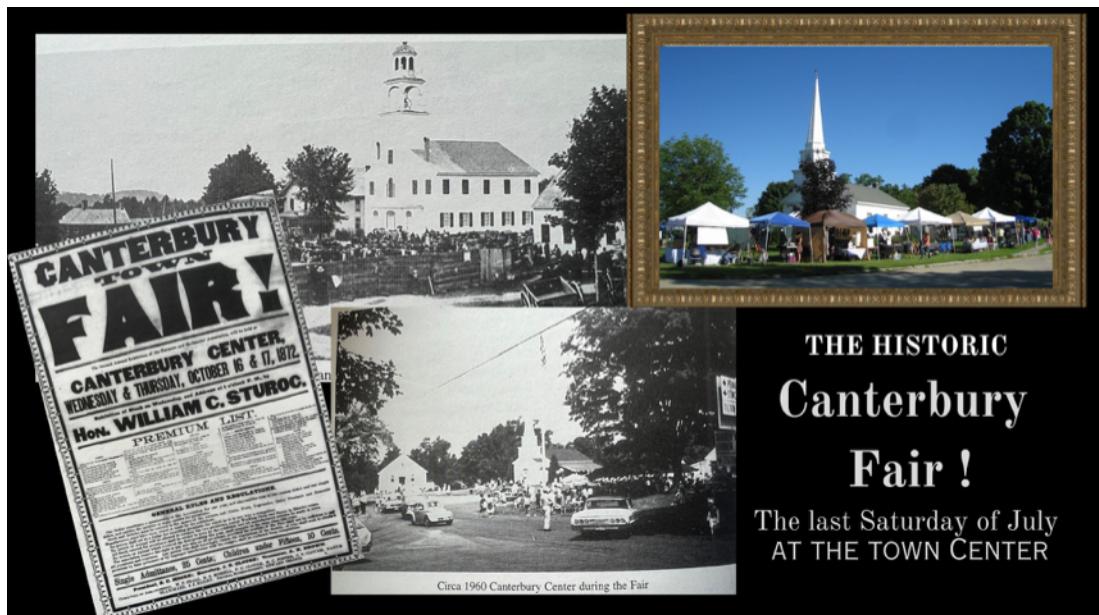
Congrats, graduates!

Our belated congratulations and best wishes to **Caroline Cress**, who graduated with Honors from Belmont High School on Friday, June 7. Caroline's name was inadvertently omitted from the original list of BHS graduates we published in the June newsletter.

And hats off as well to these Canterbury students who graduated from Bishop Brady High School in June:

- Boden Gendron
- Helen Gendron
- Megan Noel

Well done, everyone!



See you at our awesome fair on July 27!

As always, this year's Canterbury Fair begins at 9 am with the ringing of the church bells on the last Saturday in July — the 27th this year. The 5K Woodchuck Classic and 2k Chipmunk Scramble start the day on the right foot. *Ready, set, GO!*

And that's just the start. The fair features children's games, the usual great used book sale, a display of operating antique machinery, demonstrations of traditional handicrafts, canoe polo on the fire pond, and the familiar but always amazing What-Not sale at the elementary school. Music will also fill the center for most of the day!

Come hungry! There'll be sausages, burgers, dogs and more for your lunch with options to wash it all down with an ice-cold lemonade or one of those delicious frappes from the Frappe Bar under the shade trees. Baked goods and Shaker Hand Pies are a great purchase for breakfast, your dessert, a special treat, or to take home! Purchase your ticket early for the famous BBQ Chicken Dinner. Eat it in the Parish House or take it home for an evening meal at the end of your wonderful day at the fair.

The Canterbury Historical Society's displays will be open throughout the day at

The fair needs you!

This amazing community tradition is the work of many willing hands and hearts, and it's a great way to make new friends and get to know your neighbors. *Learn more on Page 5!*

the Houser Museum, the one-room schoolhouse adjacent to the library, and at the old Elkins Memorial Building.

Did you know? The fair as we know it today began in 1958 when the Canterbury Ladies Benevolent Society added a chicken barbecue to the "Canterbury Country Fair and Bazaar" it had been sponsoring for several years. Proceeds from the early fairs were used primarily to furnish a new community building which replaced one that had been destroyed by a fire, along with most of the town center, in 1943. Proceeds from the fair today benefit the Canterbury Fund, which aids local families in need, and the community service programs of the Canterbury United Community Church.

See you at the fair!

Local Folks, Here to Serve You ...

THISTLE BE QUILTED: longarm quilt finishing service. Hand-guided free motion and edge-to-edge designs. Contact Kristin Amero for more details at thistlebequilted@gmail.com or (203) 819-2407.

SUMMER ART WITH JAYNE: Tuesdays and Thursdays in August at the Town Meeting House. Sessions: Watercolor Fun, Art with Nature, Black and White. 7-8 year olds, \$60/two day session, 9 to 11:30. 9-12 year olds, \$120/two day session, 9 to 2; bring a lunch. Early registration begins June 1. For details and registration:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4BAAAE2EA7FDC25-49226333-summer>

CLOUGH TAVERN FARM: For sale: registered Teeswater Sheep (breeding and spinner's), fleece, roving, yarn, hats, skins. Twin Sisters' Garlic dried blends, dip and rub. cloughtavernfarm.com. 603-731-5574.

PETALS IN THE PINES: Affordable, local and educational for all ages – come explore! Season passes; Flower bouquets, Fridays-Sundays and by request. "Tale Trail"; 2+ miles of walking trails; 2 labyrinths. \$7 admission. Self-service shopping: Leaf Stones, Swedish Almond Cakes, local products. Open Wed-Sun., 9-6; CLOSED Mondays & Tuesdays. Please NO pets. 603-783-0220; 126 Baptist Road; petalsinthepines.com.

CANTERBURY WHOLE CHILD CENTER is accepting waitlist applications for children 3-12 yrs to nature/art based preschool & before/after school care. 603-783-4370 or CanterburyWholeChildCenter@gmail.com for more information.

BROOKFORD FARM: Farm store is open daily from 7 am to 7 pm. Pre-order for pickup Tuesday-Sunday. CSA subscriptions and bulk meat orders available too. Organic vegetables, krauts, aged meats, 100 percent grass-fed beef and dairy, pastured chicken, eggs, pork and lamb. brookfordfarm.com.

JOEL'S OIL: Our goal is to keep you warm at an affordable price! Compare and save at newenglandoil.com. Current price is \$3.25 per gallon. Call or text 603-892-5505.

ALISON'S SEPTIC: Timely, dependable, and tidy service. Licensed in NH. Experience top-notch quality and excellent customer service. Worry and stress-free! Call Alison Witschonke, 603-513-8783.

NORTH FAMILY FARM'S organic maple syrup is available at local stores, the Canterbury Farmers Market or by appointment at the farm. We are sorry but our firewood is already sold out for the 2024 season! Thank you for your business! Check our website for more information: www.northfamilyfarm.com or call Jill or Tim at 783-4712.

MAQ DESIGN: quality custom upholstery, slipcovers, and window coverings — curtains, valances, shades, and blinds. Fabric, foam, and upholstery supplies. 603-783-9640, maryann@maqdesign.net, maqdesign.net.

Happy Fourth!

You bet we have your Fourth of July covered!



- Specialty bar-ba-que sauces and rubs
- Classic take-out salads
- Pie, ice cream sandwiches and no-dye popsicles
- Shaker Baked Beans
- ICE! (Plus cold drinks, beer, and wine.)
- and visit our art show in the Feed Loft ... a tribute to flags through Sept. 8

CANTERBURY COUNTRY STORE



~ Groceries, coffee, bakery and eatery ~

Hours: Mon-Sat, 7-6, Sunday 9-4

canterburycountrystore.com

3 Center Road ~ 603-783-9933 ~ canterburynhcs@gmail.com

BACON ELECTRIC, LLC: Residential electrician serving Canterbury and surrounding areas. New construction, remodeling, or any other electrical service needs. Licensed and fully insured. Call Zack Bacon, 603-631-4325, or find us at facebook.com/baconelectricllc.

COLD GARDEN SPIRITS: Tastings and sales. Summer hours, 1 to 4:30 or by appointment. Text 603-491-4400. May 25 & 26; June 8 & 9, 22 & 23; July 6 & 7, 20 & 21; Aug. 10 & 11, 24 & 25. New releases: High Rye, High Proof Straight Bourbon and 5-year-aged Pommeau.

GULF BROOK RENOVATIONS: "When Ordinary Just Won't Do." Bathrooms, kitchens, additions, decks and more. Jaime Higgins. 603-496-2414. Gulfbrookrenovations.com

REIKI, CRANIOSACRAL THERAPY and HYPNOTHERAPY with experienced therapists in Canterbury. Susan LeClair (603-724-7145) for Reiki, Inner Child healing, communication with departed loved ones and CST. Alan Berman (603-387-3611) for depression, anxiety, habit control, Inner Child healing or Past Life journeying. Our websites: www.ReclaimingHarmony.services, www.wellnessintegration.org

KDD PAINTING, LLC: Reliable experienced Paint Contractor specializing in commercial and residential painting, interior and exterior, and Pressure Washing. Fully insured and EPA Lead Certified. Keith and Craig D'Alessandro. 603-451-1260. Kddpainting.com.

Let's Not Forget to Take Time for Stillness

This morning, just as I was just finishing up my morning meditation and prayer, I opened my eyes to see a turkey head slowly floating through the long grass outside the glass basement door. I was sitting on the floor, and the bird was walking up the hill, so for a minute or two, we were eye to eye. I have no idea if she could see me through the glass, but she filled my field of vision! And the strangest thing was, she was only a head and a bit of wrinkly neck (it was time to mow again). She was taking her time, not rushing, and so was I. She was no doubt scoping out some nourishment, and frankly, so was I! She was wrinkly and bright-eyed, and I was — well ... let's just leave it right there.



Pastor Becky

But this turkey (I'm guessing a hen) reminds me as she wanders alone, taking her time, moving slowly through summer heat, and staying alive 'til she feels the urge to join a flock. So I resolve to drive more slowly on our country roads, and also to wander more through my own summer days. So often I define myself by what I accomplish and what I need to do next, but that's just one facet of our life — alone or in a flock. So many of us are eagerly striving to strengthen the ties that bind — through the Farmers Market, and the Canterbury Fair, through 4-H and the Canterbury Benevolent Society, through shared worship and service at CUCC and among friends and



Call today for a quote

603-660-7345

nwright603@gmail.com
jennwright603@gmail.com

FIFE BRUSH HOGGING LLC



- Field Mowing
- Brush hogging
- Roadside Mowing

Call us ... 603-648-2449 • 603-344-0677

Call us for your mowing needs! Or reach us at fife4@tds.net.

Summer at the Canterbury Church

Worship, every Sunday, 10 to 11 am. Please join us!

Community fellowship offering following. Coffee, snacks and friendly conversation in the Parish House.

Strength and Stretch classes, Mondays and Thursdays, 8:30 am in the Parish House. Ongoing and free. New folks always welcome!

Shaker Hand Pie baking, Parish House kitchen, Saturday, July 6, 8 am. Come bake with others for the Canterbury Fair!

neighbors. Yet, we also need to slow down and be still. To wander and roost! In today's accelerated culture, we can use an occasional reminder to be still and know that God is God! So let's take a little more time this summer, in our gardens, on our walks, and even in meditation and prayer, to heal and ready ourselves for the fall and the friends we will make as we shape our shared community.

~ In Peace,
Pastor Becky



Edwards CPA Group, P.C.

"Experience The Difference"

Friendly, Knowledgeable Full-Service CPA Firm
Specializing in Small Business & Rental Properties

See our 5 STAR reviews on Google!
Business & Personal consulting & tax planning
Business Start Up specialists
Complex situations
IRS Tax Resolution specialists
Financial Statements, Non-Profits, Estates

If you want efficient, knowledgeable & professional treatment, give Canterbury's Kim Edwards a call!

See our reviews on Google!

Find us on Facebook & LinkedIn

Visit edwardscpagroup.com

Call 603-286-8000

Interested in joining these local advertisers in the newsletter? Contact Samantha Murch at newslettercanterbury@gmail.com.

News From and About the Town



More plastics are now recyclable!

Good news for the people of Canterbury! With the purchase of the new baler, we can now recycle more plastic at the Transfer Station. With a few exceptions, all plastics with recycle numbers 1-7 can now be recycled. Exceptions are "clamshell" containers and black plastic (the optics can't see them on black conveyor belts.)

If you have any question whether what you bring is recyclable, please ask an attendant. There is a visual poster that clearly shows what can and cannot be recycled. It's on the town website.

Help us reduce what we send to the incinerator! Recycle what you can!! Also, please put only paper that can be torn into the paper trailer and refrain from putting in tissues or paper towels/cups/plates and any other household waste.

~ Emily Burr, for the Canterbury Solid Waste Committee

Fireworks show set for CES on July 6

The annual fireworks show will be held at Canterbury Elementary School on Saturday, July 6. JPI Pyrotechnics has promised another great show with several new fireworks!

The Town Office and Town Clerk/Tax Collectors Office will be closed on Thursday, July 4.

Mowing on the town roadsides will begin the first of July.

Summer paving will include the paved section of Ayers Road (reclaim and pave), Mountain View Drive (top coat), two separate sections of Morrill Road (one section to be reclaimed and paved and the other a top coat). The library parking lot will also receive a top coat this year. We don't have a timeline yet but will post any road closures on the town website.



Selectmen's meetings will be held Monday, July 1 and July 15.

The Town Clerk/Tax Collectors Office will be closed on July 8 for vacation.

As a reminder, tax bills are due July 1 and dogs need to be registered also.

The town sponsored two Right to Know seminars for town boards, committees and staff. The seminar was given by town counsel from Upton and Hatfield, LLP. The seminar covered information on NH RSA 91:A and how to respond to any requests.

The town held a Community Meeting for discussion of the issues with Lyford Pond Dam. The meeting was well attended by abutters to the pond, interested residents, representatives from NH Department of Environmental Services and Canterbury Shaker Village. A short slide presentation was provided by NH DES, which is on the town website. The selectmen are hopeful that the interested parties can move forward with a way to make needed repairs to the dam.

The Board of Selectmen met with the Northfield Board of Selectmen and signed an updated Ayers Road Agreement. The agreement specifies maintenance responsibilities of Ayers Road by both towns. ~ Ken Folsom, Town Administrator



Pick-Your-Own Blueberries
Opening mid-July.

Hours: Daily 7am to dusk unless closed for ripening (always check Facebook)

Payment: Cash, check or Venmo

143 Clough Hill Road
Loudon, NH 03307
603-783-5690

www.GrandpasFarmNH.com
 GrandpasFarmNH

You can register to vote on July 15!

The Supervisors of the Checklist will be in session at the Meeting House from 4:30 pm to 5 pm on Monday, July 15, to make additions and corrections to the checklist in addition to registering new voters. No change in party affiliation will be accepted at this time.

~ Brenda Murray, for the Supervisors of the Checklist

With a Fair ~ and a Farmers Market ~ We're Blessed

You too can contribute to the fair!

If you'd like to help at this year's Canterbury Fair on Saturday, July 27 — or donate items for sale! — there's still time to jump in. Please contact Rick Crockford at rick.crockford044@gmail.com if you'd like to help out. Or reach out directly to the Book Sale and What Not folks named below!

The What Not Sale will be held again at the Canterbury Elementary School. Help is needed setting up, moving items from storage, sorting, pricing, and on Fair Day. Here's when and how to pitch in.

- **Sunday, July 14:** move tables, 10:15 to 11:30 am (after church)
- **Tuesday, July 16:** move items from barn, 5-7 pm
- **Saturday and Sunday, July 20-21:** sorting/pricing/item drop off, 12 to 5 pm
- **Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, July 22-24:** sorting/pricing/item drop off 4-7 pm
- **Thursday, July 25:** Last day for drop off/sorting/pricing, 4-7 pm
- **Saturday, July 27:** Fair Day help! 7 am to 6 pm
- **Sunday, July 28:** Break down/clean-up, 10 am noon

Questions? Contact Sally at (603) 848-6408 or sfh1957@msn.com.

The Book Sale is looking for books, media, and volunteers!

To donate: Books, DVDs or CDs with audiobooks, film/TV shows, can be dropped off at the barn on 24 Ayers Road from June 15-July 13 on Saturday and Sunday afternoons only, from 1-6 pm. They can also be dropped off at the Canterbury Town Hall on the following dates and times, when we'll be sorting and organizing books:

- Mondays, July 15 and 22, 2 to 5 pm.
- Wednesdays, July 17 and 24, 2 to 5 pm.
- Thursdays, July 18 and 25, 2 to 5 pm.

Please don't drop off encyclopedias, textbooks, magazines, or damaged materials; we cannot sell them. They can go to the Transfer Station.

To volunteer: You can help with sorting and organizing materials and setting up tables at the Town Hall on any of the dates above, with final set up, if needed, on Friday, July 26, and with helping buyers, keeping book tables filled, and managing sales on fair day. If you have questions or want to volunteer, contact Stephanie Jackson at 603-783-0495 or sfjackson130@comcast.net or come by the Town Hall while we're sorting!

Join us Wednesdays at the Farmers Market!

Please join us on Wednesday afternoons from 4 to 6:30 in the meadow and parking area next to Elkins Public Library for the Canterbury Farmers Market. We'll be there for you with our wonderful vendors, musicians, and good company — summer weather permitting, that is. Check our FB and Instagram pages or canterburyfarmersmarket.com for updates. Here's the plan for July!



- **July 3:** Dudley & Friends with Claire Pettit Natusch, plus a kids' activity
- **July 10:** Katie Dobbins, plus the Master Gardeners
- **July 17:** Mike Morris, plus the Sandwich Slam
- **July 24:** Teen Guest Night, plus Mary Ellen's Basket
- **July 31:** Cara Ensemble and Leanne Tigert, plus the Super Market!



Experience BROOKFORD!

We here at Brookford Farm have spent the last 18 years devoting all our energy to developing the most wholesome line of farm-made products possible.

We will spend the next 18 years creating the most genuine farm experiences imaginable ...

* **Hideaway Circus:** 3 shows!
Saturday, July 13, and Sunday, July 14.



* **Sunflower Soiree:** Saturday, Aug. 10, through Sunday, Aug. 18.

* **Pumpkins and Puppets:** Saturday, Oct. 12, through Monday, Oct. 14.

* **Christmas with the Cows:** Saturday, Nov. 30, and Sunday, Dec. 1.

Here's What's New at the Shaker Village



Look who's performing again!

On Sunday, July 7, at 4 pm, the Jordan Tirrell-Wysocki Trio will kick off Music on the Green, an annual concert music series hosted by the Canterbury Shaker Village. You may know Jordan, a fiddler, guitarist and singer who grew up and lives in town. His Town Hall performance at the Elkins Library's Irish Pub Night packed the house. At the village, he'll be joined by Matt Jensen on guitar and Chris Noyes on upright bass.

Music on the Green features various types of music for all ages. It's held outside at the village and will run on Sundays July 7, July 21, Aug. 4, Aug. 18, and Aug. 25.

Admission is free with a suggested donation of \$20. Pre-registration is encouraged but not required.

Village tours are available before performances. You're also encouraged to explore the trail system on the village's nearly 700-acre property. For more information, visit shakers.org.

Experienced project leader named new board chair, calls 2024 "a pivotal year"

David Katz, an experienced project and construction manager who has also held leadership positions on municipal boards, has been elected board chair of the Canterbury Shaker Village. Katz has served as a village trustee since January 2022.

"2024 will be a pivotal year for the village," he said. "We are committed to funding and supporting the preservation of eight buildings most in need of attention, improvements to the visitor experience, and adding key staff members to turn the vision into reality."



According to Katz, the Board of Trustees is working to implement a plan that includes collection preservation, building improvement, staff development, visitor experience enhancement, and sustaining financial support.

"We are searching for a new executive director, a position we hope to fill by early fall," he added.

In 2025, he said the village will focus on the preservation of the 1792 Meeting House, its oldest structure.

~ Robert Levey



**Residential
Construction
& Remodeling**

Alex Young
Canterbury, NH

603-229-7970 ~ youngy2005@aol.com



Your Heating & A/C Specialist

(603) 520-4194
www.northcountryhvacllc.com

North Country HVAC, LLC, whose ad is above, was founded by James and Mickey Chandler, longtime residents of Canterbury!

Contribute, Learn ~ and Pick Blueberries!

Please join us for the Canterbury Community Blueberry Pick-nic

Bring your lunch and join neighbors for a community PICK-nic at Hackleboro Orchard on Sunday, July 21, at 11 am. Meet for a picnic up front by the farm animals, and then enjoy blueberry picking at the far berry patch.

Sponsored by the Canterbury United Community Church as part of our ongoing efforts to support community connections. No strings attached!

Questions? Contact Becca Plue at rebeccaturturro@gmail.com.



Two experts to lead presentation on watersheds ~ and mitigating cyanobacteria

On Saturday, July 20, at 10 am at the home of Glen and Kitty Rodgers on the shores of Hot Hole Pond (7505 School Street, Loudon), the Friends of Hot Hole Pond will host a program titled, "Protecting Our Ponds: Understanding Watersheds and Cyanobacteria."

The speakers are Nisa Marks, NH Department of Environmental Services, and Gloria Norcross of NH Lakes. Residents of our pond will talk about their continuing pond-friendly efforts to make their properties "LakeSmart."

We all live in a watershed, whether we are on a lake or pond or not. Protecting these areas is very important to us all. The state of New Hampshire's efforts to mitigate the effects of cyanobacteria will be discussed. Breakfast treats will be served.

Call Glen and Kitty at (603) 227-9090 for more information.

NOW OFFERING NEW SERVICES!



Canterbury, NH
603-447-2323

- EV charging stations
- Service upgrades
- Lighting upgrades
- Generator installation & service
- Residential and commercial projects

Proud to be a 2018-19 Solarize Canterbury build partner!

Food Pantry raffling off donated bench

We're raffling off a bench donated to the Loudon Food Pantry by Sheran's Concrete. Ticket prices and packages range from \$1 for 1 ticket up to \$200 for 280 tickets. You can purchase tickets at loudonfoodpantry.org or at the pantry (Huckleberry Business Park, Unit D, 30 Chichester Road in Loudon) on Tuesdays from 9 to 6, Wednesday from 9 to 1 and Thursdays from 9 to 4. Raffle runs from July 1 through July 3. Winner will be contacted on Aug. 1.

Our numbers: In May the pantry gave out enough food to 296 individuals for them to prepare 7,414 meals. Of these people, 141 were aged 60 and older (48%), 63 were aged 18 or under (21%), and 92 were between those ages (31%).

Canterbury Fair: We will have a booth set up at the Canterbury Fair on Saturday, July 27. Come by and see us and find out more about the pantry and what we do. We will be accepting food donations as well! See you there!

Do you need food? One phone call is all it takes. The process is simple and if you have all your paperwork, you'll receive food the same day as your appointment! To see if you qualify, go to LoudonFoodPantry.org and click on Need Help? or call Sue at (603) 724-9731.



AUTO • HOME
LIFE • BUSINESS • FARM

MICHAEL BERTOLONE

AGENT

1 Fisher Ave
Boscawen, NH 03303
O: 603.223.6686 C: 603.344.6686
Mike_Bertolone@american-national.com

Representing American National Insurance Company, Galveston, Texas,
Farm Family Casualty Insurance Company, Glenmont, New York.

21-010-03-459717.V.01.2021

A Reflection on Aging ... Along with Poetic Good Humor

Smoothing life's road

It's no news that the road can get more bumpy as we get older. Life's often a pretty bumpy road anyway these days. Ignoring the bumps has become more challenging.

The beauty of the natural world around us can provide a distraction, less so for me at 81 now that I have to pay increasingly more attention to my walking or driving.

Recently Anne and I have created two easier trail sections for our use – more level, fewer rocks, one more conducive to sitting down and contemplating an active beaver pond.

Of course we have less control over the bumps that continue to surprise us, coming along unexpectedly in our daily lives. Is it that there are fewer smooth sections or that we just notice the rough stretches more? I definitely have to make more of an effort to keep my mind in the more pleasant places.

It helps that I believe the spirit world is all encompassing. I think it is the total world and that we're all part of it and it is us. "Heaven" is where our minds can be if we make it a habit to practice going there.

We used to go to the mountains; no longer possible. But we went enough so the mountains are now part of us. Patterns made by wind-blown grass in hard-drifted snow. The silence of a mountaintop when you're the only one up there. The song of a stream singing beside the trail.

When I was writing trail walk pieces people sometimes told me, "I love reading your trail tales, but I'll never hike them." I'd reply, "Well, a mental walk can be as good as a physical one."

Happy Trails.

~ *Dave Emerson, Old Ways Traditions*

A change in the newsletter printing schedule, and a welcome to our new website volunteer

In years past we've given ourselves a summer break by doing a combined July-August issue. But this year we're switching it up. You've got the July issue in your hands, and we'll see you again soon with a combined August-September issue. We'll return to our regular monthly routine with the October issue.

We're also excited to share that Skye Savageux has joined our small but faithful team of newsletter volunteers to help with weekly updates to our newsletter website, canterburynewsletter.org. Welcome, Skye!

Black Pickup Truck (BPT)

Every Saturday morning I make the six mile trip to the dump and village where I get paid for an hour to be a town character. I sit on the steps with the other geezers and we count the black pickup trucks coming and going. The other day, coming in, there was a BPT in front of me, one in back, three at the dump and three at the PO

Later on the fifteen mile trip to Concord I count forty seven BPTs, including a large BPT towing a trailer with three new BPTs on it.

What's going on? It's a conspiracy.

We are surrounded. Neighbors

on both sides of me have one

Keep track of them at night

as they whiz by, women or girls driving

add three points

Better be careful, they are out to

get us. Look out the window,

you probably will see one.

Maybe two.



~ *Dudley Laufman, dance caller, musician, poet*

MAGOON

TREE
603-496-6835

**Serving Canterbury
with tree removal since 2008.**

**Fully insured.
Now offering Remote Control
Tree Removal.**

AND NOW HIRING!

Brian Magoon ~ magoontree.com

Here's the Story Behind This Cemetery's Unusual Name

The **Shell Meetinghouse Cemetery** is located near the intersection of Hackleboro Road with Baptist Hill Road and is also on the corner of an old Class VI road known by various names including, "Shell Meetinghouse Road," "Horse & Sleigh Road," or "Horse & Carriage Road." This old road was named after the Shell Meetinghouse Church which once stood where the cemetery is today and for the horses pulling carriages or sleighs bringing meeting goers to religious services or town meetings held in the church.

In the late 1700s, new settlers were arriving in Canterbury and building homes away from the fort and the town's center. The lack of roads made it challenging for settlers living on the east side of Canterbury to attend church services or town meetings being held in the town center. These residents protested that although they were being taxed to support preaching, they received little benefit from it because of the distance they were from the services and the difficulty in getting to them, especially in winter. East side residents petitioned the town to build another meeting house in the northeast part of town at a town meeting in 1789, but the vote failed to gather a majority. Perhaps in a spirit of compromise in 1790, the town voted to hold a meeting for preaching in the east part of the town on every fourth Sunday, likely to be held in a private home. In 1791 the town voted to build a meeting house in the east part of the town and to set it "at the crossroads to the south of Samuel Jackson's house." The structure was to be, "the same bigness ... of the old meeting house and a little higher."

This new meeting house was raised, boarded, and the roof shingled within a year. The 1792 Town Meeting was then held in this newly constructed building. At that meeting it was further voted to sell pews on the first floor of the meetinghouse, and to build a porch entryway onto the front of it. The porch was to be constructed so that interior stairs to the upper-level loft gallery would be contained inside this entrance vestibule. Efforts were made to finish the church but for years the town struggled to raise the funds to complete the desired work. In 1808 a vote was proposed to hold half of all town meetings in this new meeting house. The vote however was defeated probably by the majority of residents who lived closer to the town center.

Completion of the dual-purpose public meeting house and church was never fully realized. Final siding, interior finish work, construction of pews, and the exterior entrance vestibule never came to fruition. Only the basic 'shell' of the structure was ever built, leading to the unusual moniker of "The Shell Meetinghouse." Despite construction not being finished, religious services were held in the shell of the building for several years. A small cemetery was established behind the Church for the interment of parishioners. Town meetings were also occasionally held in the building. Lyford's *History of Canterbury* tells the story of an elderly woman describing her youthful recollection of attending a function in this meetinghouse with a vivid memory of an old man using a cane and thumping across the unfinished and loose floorboards which clumped and rattled as the old man hobbled to his seat.



The Canterbury Cemetery Trustees wish to express their appreciation to Jeff Leidinger for his commitment and superb craftsmanship in returning a long missing gate at the Shell Meetinghouse Cemetery.

In 1793, despite the unfinished condition of the building, the Free Will Baptists asked permission of the town to use this shell of a building for their religious services. The town voted not to grant the Baptists permission to bring their minister into this meeting house. Six years later the Baptists asked a second time and were denied once again, leading them to construct their own church building on the corner of what today we call Baptist Road and Baptist Hill Road.

The unfinished shell of the Shell Meetinghouse had apparently fallen into disrepair by 1815 as the town appointed a committee to study the building and make recommendations of what to do with it. The committee recommended that the town hold a public auction and sell off what remained of it. Legend says that before it could be auctioned off, the structure was blown down during a strong windstorm. The framework and salvageable boards were then used for the construction of horse sheds that were once attached to the Town Hall. These horse sheds burned in the great fire that consumed much of the town center in 1943 and the last known remnants of the old Shell Meetinghouse were gone. The small cemetery behind the old meeting house church remained and was expanded to include the spot on which the Shell Church had once stood, leaving no trace of the old building.

Exactly how many years the Shell Meetinghouse provided an enclosed shelter for church services and town meetings is unknown, as is the year of the building collapse. The cemetery continued to be actively used up until the early 1900s. In 2023 the Cemetery Trustees resumed the interment of remains there.

Make plans to visit this cemetery at the crossroads and imagine the horses pulling carriages bringing parishioners to the shell of the church meeting house that once stood here.

~ Mark Stevens

Indoors or Out, It's All About Adventure at the Library

The next meeting of Elkins Public Library Board of Trustees is on Monday, July 15, at 6 pm.

The library is closed on July 4 for Independence Day.

Summer at Elkins Public Library means our focus is summer reading for all ages. This year, our summer reading program is going to look a little different. Join us as we adventure with the outdoors!

Summer Reading Program for July

Tuesday, July 2, 10 am: The **Mariposa Museum** will be at the library with their program, Recycled Sounds from Around the World.

Tuesday, July 9, 10 am: Join us for a special Story Time with **Smokey Bear and Forest Ranger Nate Blanchard**, a chance to see a forestry truck and UTV up close, and a time of celebration for Smokey Bear's 80th birthday!

Thursday, July 11, 10 am: Story Time

Tuesday, July 16, 10 am: Messy Art! Come prepared to get messy as we create masterpieces outdoors.

Thursday, July 18, from 10 am to noon: Learn to cast and catch at **Backyard Bass** with NH Fish and Game. This is perfect for the youngest anglers and beginners. From 1 to 3 pm, join Fish and Game for **Reel Fishing** at Kimball Pond, and learn how to cast and catch for real and how to put worms on your hook. This is perfect for all levels of our under 16 anglers and a great next step for our morning anglers.

Tuesday, July 23, from 10 am to noon: Hike to Oak Hill. Miss Cheryl and Mr. Caswell will be at the Oak Hill fire tower. Hike at your own pace and join us for a chance to climb the steps and see what a fire tower lookout does. (Rain date: Thursday, July 25.)

Thursday, July 25, 10 am: Story Time ... unless it's the Oak Hill rain date.

Tweens/Teens

Thursday, July 11, at 2 pm: Paracord craft

Thursday, July 25, 2 pm: Marshmallow Day. Build your own marshmallow shooter and participate in our Marshmallow Games

Teens: We know summer can be pretty busy, but we're hoping you can make it to some of our scheduled activities. Any time you stop in to the library through the month of July, make sure to grab a scratch ticket. You can win an instant prize or put a "non-winning" ticket into the raffle for a chance to win tickets to an Escape Room with all your friends!

Author Ty Gagne to pay a summer visit

Author Ty Gagne will present his book, *The Last*

Traverse, at the Elkins Library on Tuesday, July 23, at 6 pm in what amounts to a special meeting of multiple book clubs as well as a highlight in the Elkins Speaker Series.

The Last Traverse is Gagne's account of the events leading up to "an epic and legendary rescue attempt in severe and dangerous winter conditions" along Franconia Ridge in the White Mountains.

Save these dates!

Thursday, Aug. 15, at 6 pm: Around the World with Jim and Isobel: A Travelog.

Wednesday, Aug. 21, at 6 pm: Film screening of *The Quiet Epidemic*, a documentary film about Lyme and tick-borne diseases with Lyme ecologist Kathie Fife and Lyme and tick-borne disease specialist Dr. Lynn Durand. (Note: this is a change of date.)

Tuesday, Aug. 27: The History of Quilts with Pamela Weeks. A collaboration with the Canterbury Country Store, and brought to the library through a special gift.

Nature Journaling: This class will be held on Tuesdays at 4 pm starting July 2, with the last class on July 23. We will be starting at the library's Rita Braskie Memorial Garden and will visit different places each week. Class size is limited so please sign up for this class.

Summer breaks

The Old Man Boring Book Club will resume in September on the first Thursday of the month at 6 pm.

Murder, Mayhem and Misadventure: This summer we are all reading *The Last Traverse* by Ty Gagne, who will be at the library on July 23 at 6. MMM will meet again on Sept. 24 at 2:30.

Evening Book Group: Our summer of adventure also culminates in the visit with Ty Gagne. Our next meeting will be Wednesday, Sept. 18, at 6 pm.

Free Tech Help: Kal will be back to offer free technical help in September. This is one of our most popular programs and all because Kal volunteers her time to help us. Thank you, Kal.

Canterbury United Community Church

How to reach us: By phone, 783-9365. By email, mycanterburychurch@gmail.com

Parish House rental: By phone, 783-9365. By email, mycanterburychurch@gmail.com

Online: canterburychurch.org
facebook.com/
MyCanterburyChurch

Newsletter: Deadline is 16th of month before publication.

Editors: Mark and Brenda Travis, newslettercanterbury@gmail.com

Canterbury Fair:
twitter.com/CanterburyFair
facebook.com/CanterburyFair

Town Email List

Kal McKay manages the Canterbury Town Email List. Join or submit by emailing canterburytownemail@gmail.com

Post Office

Hours: Mon.-Fri., 10 am to 5 pm (closed 12:30 to 1:30 pm); Sat., 8:30 am to noon; 783-4158

Elkins Public Library

Hours: Mondays and Tuesdays, 9-5, Wednesdays and Thursdays, 9 to 7, Saturdays 9 to 12. 603-783-4386. Online at elkinspubliclibrary.org.

Stores

Canterbury Country Store: Mon.-Sat., 7 am to 6 pm; Sun., 9 am to 4 pm; 783-9933

Brookford Farm Store: 7 am to 7 pm daily; 783-4084

Loudon Food Pantry

Hours: Open for donations and volunteers Tues. 10-6, Wed. 10-1, Thurs. 10-4.

Service: By appointment only at same hours as above.

Location: Huckleberry Business Park, Unit D, 30 Chichester Road, Loudon.

Contact: 603-724-9731, on Facebook at LoudonFP, or on our website: loudonfoodpantry.org.

Town offices and organizations

EMERGENCY? Dial 911

Police Department: Call 783-0433 for non-emergencies. Merrimack County Sheriff's Office dispatch: 228-1010 for non-emergencies.

Fire Department: Call 783-4798 for non-emergencies. Email chief at canterburyfire@canterburynh.gov

Town website:
canterbury-nh.org

Transfer Station: Tue. and Wed., 4 to 6:45 pm; Sat., 8 am to 5:45 pm. Call 783-9980 or email transferstation@canterburynh.gov

Town Clerk/Tax Collector:
783-0153. Mon. and Wed., 9 to 3; Tue. and Thur. 12 to 7.
Email: spapps@canterburynh.gov

Selectmen's Office, Town Administrator, and Assessor's Office: 783-9955. Mon. and Wed., 9 to 1; Thur. 10 to 2. Emails: selectmen@canterburynh.gov assessing@canterburynh.gov kfolsom@canterburynh.gov

Building Inspector: 783-9033 buildinginspector@canterburynh.gov

Highway Dept: 783-4123 canterburyhighway@canterburynh.gov

Planning Board: 848-2059 planningboard@canterburynh.gov

Monthly Meetings (Check town website for details.)

- **Planning Board:** 2nd Tue., 7 pm; 4th Tue. as needed

- **Conservation Commission:** 2nd Thurs., 7 pm

- **Historic District**

Commission: 3rd Wed., 7 pm

- **Selectmen:** 1st and 3rd Mon., 6 pm

- **Solid Waste Committee:**

Monthly on 2nd Monday, 3:30 pm, Library, or as needed.

- **Zoning Board:** As needed.

- **Energy Committee:** 1st Mon., 7 pm

It's warm now ~ but what about this winter?

Save money and enjoy a warmer home this winter by keeping the heat in and the cold out with lightweight interior window inserts. These low cost yet high quality insulating inserts will pay for themselves in two heating seasons. One third of them will be free or discounted to be sure anyone who wants them can have them.

Requests for inserts will be taken through July, but order soon to be sure you will get them, since we will only be making 200 windows in November at the Community Build at the Town Hall. Window cost is kept low by using volunteers and having those getting inserts also volunteer.

WindowDressers is a 15-year-old nonprofit that has been supplying the expertise to communities who want to help their residents save energy, lower heating bills and have warmer homes. Our local Merrimack Valley WindowDressers Build is an initiative of the Canterbury Energy Committee in collaboration with the Loudon and Henniker Lions Clubs, and is supported by the Loudon Energy Committee. For more information see the website, WindowDressers.org, or call Ruth Heath, 603-724-4343, or Claudia Leidinger, 603-568-4713. You can also email us at MerrimackValleyWD@gmail.com.



MFY Maid For You
It's all in the details
603.574.4878

Published by:
Canterbury United Community Church
5 Center Road
PO Box 216
Canterbury, NH 03224

Carrier Route Pre-Sort Canterbury, NH 03224

Non-Profit Org.
US Postage Paid
Permit No. 1
Canterbury, NH
03224

Canterbury's Abiel Foster: an American Founding Father

Abiel Foster was born in Andover, Massachusetts, on Aug. 8, 1735. His father was Captain Asa Foster, an early owner of substantial land holdings in Canterbury. Abiel came to Canterbury after graduation from Harvard in 1756. Studying for the ministry, he was called to Canterbury soon after his ordination. He remained a minister here until he stepped down in January of 1779. He stayed in Canterbury, however, and took no other pastorate.

Abiel Foster was an ardent patriot through the American Revolution. He was chosen to be a deputy to the Provincial Congress called to meet in Exeter in 1775. For the years 1779, 1781 and 1782, he represented Canterbury in the General Court, and in 1783, 1784 and 1785, he was chosen to participate in the Continental Congress, assembled to write a charter for the new nation after it achieved its independence from Great Britain.

After adoption of the Federal Constitution, Foster was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in the first, fourth, fifth, sixth and seventh Congresses as a Federalist, retiring from the last in 1803 on account of ill health. He also served several terms in the N.H. Senate from 1791 to 1794, in the years in between his service to the U.S. House, and he was president of that body in 1793. He was also a member of one of the conventions called to form a constitution for the state of New Hampshire. For four years, he was also a judge for the Court of Common Pleas in Rockingham County.

Abiel Foster was present at Annapolis when President Washington resigned his commission to Congress in December, 1783, the only member from New Hampshire, and



he is shown in John Trumbull's painting of this event, which hangs in the rotunda of the Capitol in Washington, D.C. (See above.) Foster is seated directly in front of Washington with his arm on the back of a chair. He must have had a good personal relationship with Washington since Washington gave him a miniature portrait of himself painted by a European artist.

In the words of Canterbury's historian, James Otis Lyford, upon whose work this essay is largely attributable, "The public career of Abiel Foster was the longest and most distinguished that any citizen of Canterbury ever obtained." Lyford wrote those words in 1912. Over 100 years later, they still hold true. There is no close second.

~ Harry Kinter, Canterbury Historical Society Trustee

Community Power benefits climb over \$270,000; look for new rates soon

We're pleased to announce that through the end of March, customers of Canterbury Community Power (CCP) have benefited from \$184,000 in rate savings (compared to Unil, Eversource and NHEC default energy rates), and an additional \$86,000 in Canterbury's allocated share of Coalition Joint Reserves (our share of equity in the Community Power Coalition of New Hampshire's net assets). This amounts to \$270,000+ of accumulated Community Benefits since the program launched in June

2023. Since March 31, that total will have risen further!

Meanwhile, new electric energy rates for CCP customers will be set at the end of June, effective Aug. 1. Look for more details on rates, your options, and a status report on the unresolved dispute with our delivery utilities over net metering rates in the digital version of the newsletter, the August print issue, and the town email.

~ Howard Moffett and Ellen Scarponi