



BARNSTEAD BANNER

Good News from a Small Town

This Year I Will Shine!

By Kristina Schram

When I was young - a mere few decades years ago - I looked forward to summer vacation with all the passion my little child heart could summon. In Minnesota, we were done before Memorial Day and started back up after Labor Day, meaning we had three whole months free from books (the dull academic kind, of course) as well as all those teachers' dirty looks. By May I was ready to be done with the pressure to get perfect grades, the endless studying, the stifling rules, and those entitled popular kids who wouldn't let me be entitled and popular, too.

But by the second week of August, without fail, I would start getting a little squirrely. Living out in the woods like we did, I missed seeing my peers, entitled snobs or not. Once the restlessness set in, I started fantasizing about how things would be different for me this next year. This would be the year I would shine. I would find love! Or I would excel in basketball! Or I would save someone's life and become a hero! Each new school year I was determined to be recognized for all the right things, and none of the wrong ones. And each year, I would fail in my quest. But I kept on dreaming, as dreamers do.

Part of my getting squirrely was a desperate need for new clothes. My mom could only buy us so much: new underwear and socks, a pair of tennis shoes to last the year, a couple pairs of pants and some new shirts. The basics. I didn't really care about having more until I became a teen and started noticing a wardrobe deficiency compared to all the other kids (well, the entitled ones anyway). So as soon as I legally could I got a summer job, and oh, the power of having my own money! Unfortunately, according to my father, money was for saving, not for spending. But I managed, through some clever maneuvering, to skim a little from each paycheck before I handed my precious money over to him. By the end of the summer, I had enough to buy a few extra pieces of coolness to help people see the new and improved me

Sadly, new clothes weren't enough to change my fate. I didn't find love or excel in basketball or save anybody's life. I didn't shine. Until my senior year, that is. Things happened for me that year. Big things. I didn't find love per se, but I had a boyfriend for two whole months. I finally excelled in basketball, even making a last-second, game-winning 3-pointer against our rival team, and I won some academic awards, too.



In the annual Junior/Senior powder-puff football game, I outran a pair of juniors determined to erase me from this earth before I reached the end zone, so technically I saved a life - my own. Not exactly what I meant by being a hero, but I'll take it.

Despite the struggles of school, I rather miss those days of dreaming and wondering and hoping. I miss the long summers where my biggest problems were boredom and mosquito bites. I miss school shopping and figuring out the perfect outfit to wear my first day back. But I don't miss the entitled popular kids. Or school lunches. Or teachers' dirty looks. Or those bloodthirsty juniors...

September Events at Oscar Foss Memorial Library

Story Hour runs on Wednesdays at 10:30, and sometimes, with all the fun, lasts more than an hour. Join the fabulous Miss Jerissa for stories, crafts, singing, and more!

Our book group, Mead & Read, will be meeting on Wednesday, September 7th, at 6:00 pm at Over the Moon Farmstead in Pittsfield. This month's book is *A History of Wild Places*, a dark psychological thriller by Shea Earnshaw. If discussions get heated, we might just turn the Meadery into a Wild Place of its own! If you can't make this meeting, there will be more, always happening on the first Wednesday of each month.

Rescheduled: We have a unique NH Humanities event coming our way on a rather deep subject: *A Walk Back in Time: The Secret of Cellar Holes*. Presenter Adair Mulligan "explores the rich story to be discovered in what remains behind. See how one town has set out to create an inventory of its cellar holes, piecing together the clues in the landscape." This captivating program will take place at the Town Hall on Thursday, September 8th at 6:00, and is sponsored by The Barnstead Historical Society and OFML.

We are hosting a Homeschool Meet & Greet here at the library on Friday, September 9th at 12:30 pm. Meet up with other local homeschooling families, check out our new resources, and discuss program options and co-op opportunities.

Family Movie Night is Friday, September 9th, at 6:00 pm, and we will be showing *Ratatouille*. FYI: This movie is rated G. Snacks will be provided, but sadly not by Remy, the rat. He has another catering gig that night.

The OFML Kids Club happens on the 3rd Friday of the month (September 16th this month) at 3:30, and is for ages 6-10. Join Miss Jerissa after school at the library for crafting and snacks!

The Nailed It! Cupcake Competition - Teen Version is coming! Try your hand at copying a professionally designed cupcake. Then try your hand at eating it! This sweet event will be Friday, September 16th at 6:00 and is for ages 10-17.

Nature Art Workshops, 9/14 - 9/16, from 5:30 - 7:30 pm. OFML has obtained a group pass to the Wild Wonder Nature Journaling Conference! This annual event gathers together people passionate about nature, art, science, and curiosity to share ideas, learn from each other, support each other, inspire each other, and have fun together. Attendees will meet in the OFML meeting room for the workshops described below, which are run by virtual presenters. All ages and abilities welcome!

Simply Birds: Wednesday, 9/14: Melinda Nakagawa offers a bird drawing class to help you capture birds in your nature journal.

Nature Sketching: Thursday, 9/15: Kate Rutter will show you how to give your journal a boost using a form of visual note taking called sketchnoting.

Make Your Own Paint & Ink: Friday, 9/16: Roseann Hanson will teach you how to make paint and ink from materials gathered in the field.

The Writers Forum is back in business, and will meet up again this September 23rd (Friday) at 6:00. This is a laid-back group with no strong agenda beyond talking about writing and favorite books, sharing your work if you feel comfortable with that, and perhaps finding inspiration to become the writer you've always wanted to be!

The next Teen Advisory Meeting is Friday, September 23rd, at 6:00 pm. On Thursday, September 29th, from 4:00 - 6:00 we are hosting a study group for teens/tweens. This is a dedicated time to get homework and/or projects done. On Friday, September 30th from 3:30 - 5:30 pm we will be holding our first Tween Advisory meeting, for ages 10-14. Our goals for this first meeting are to get a feel for how many people would like to participate, review what types of programming members would like to see going forward, and determine what books they would like to see here at the library. As always, snacks will be provided. Hosted by our new Teen Programming Coordinator Cassie Brown.

There's always something happening at the library!



Historical Society Christmas Sale

Back after a two-year COVID hiatus! The Barnstead Historical Society will be holding its annual Christmas Sale on Saturday, December 3rd, from 9:00 am - 1:00 pm at the Town Hall.

Are you a crafter who finds some of the large sales overwhelming? Then this may be just the event for you! A limited number of 8 foot tables are available on a first-come, first-serve basis at \$10 each. We require no additional contribution; no door prize, raffle or other donation needed. Please call Denise at 269-5876 to reserve your spot in advance. If you missed purchasing any of our six books at Open Farm Day, this is your chance! Copies of the new Tales of Barnstead as Told by George Pitman as well as Barnstead's 250th Birthday Recipe Book will be available at the sale, along with books by Stewart "Twink" Merrill, Malcolm Locke, and Jeremiah Jewett. All make a perfect gift for the history buff in any family.

Shop local this season!



RECIPE CORNER

Apple Hand Pies



Ingredients:

2 tablespoons butter

2 large green apples - peeled, cored, and cut into chunks

2 tablespoons brown sugar

¼ cup white sugar

¼ teaspoon salt

1 ½ teaspoons ground cinnamon, or to taste

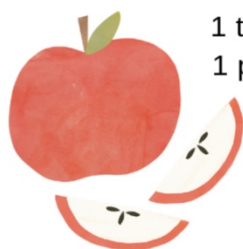
1 teaspoon water, or more if needed (Optional)

1 pound prepared pie dough, cut into 4 pieces

1 egg

2 teaspoons milk

1 teaspoon white sugar, or as needed



Step 1 - Melt butter in a large skillet over medium heat; let butter brown to a light golden color and smell toasted, about 1 minute. Stir apples into hot butter; sprinkle with 1/4 cup white sugar, brown sugar, and salt. Cook and stir apple mixture until apples are softened, about 5 minutes. Mix in cinnamon and water; continue cooking until apples are soft and sticky, 1 to 2 more minutes. Spread apple filling onto a plate to cool.

Step 2 - Preheat the oven to 400 degrees F (200 degrees C). Line a baking sheet with a silicone mat or parchment paper.

Step 3 - Form a dough piece into a ball, place on a floured work surface, and roll into a circle about 8 inches in diameter. Spoon 1/3 to 1/2 cup apple filling in the center. Fold dough over filling, leaving about 1 inch of dough on the bottom side visible below the top side. Gently press dough closed around filling, using your fingertips.

Step 4 - Fold the overhanging bottom part of dough up over the top edge, working your way around the crust, and pinch the overhang tightly to the top part of the crust.

Step 5 - Crimp the edge tightly closed, pinching a little bit of dough with the thumb and forefinger of one hand and using your index finger on the other hand to push a small notch into the pinched dough. Continue pinching and notching all the way around until crust is tightly crimped together. Repeat with remaining dough and filling. Transfer pies onto prepared baking sheet.

Step 6 - Whisk egg with milk in a small bowl until thoroughly combined. Brush top of each hand pie with egg mixture and sprinkle with about 1/4 teaspoon white sugar. Cut 3 small vent holes in the top of each pie.

Step 7 - Bake in the preheated oven until pies are golden brown and filling is bubbling, 25 to 30 minutes. Let cool for at least 15 minutes before serving.

The Barnstead Planning Board is currently requesting letters of interest from residents who would be willing to serve on the Planning Board until March 2023. Requirements include: being a full-time resident of Barnstead, being a registered voter in the town of Barnstead, attending one meeting a month (on the first Thursday) and one work session a month (on the 3rd Thursday) and any other meetings, as needed. No experience necessary, just a willingness to volunteer on a town board. Please mail your letter of interest to the Town of Barnstead, ATTN: Planning Board, PO BOX 11, Ctr Barnstead, NH 03225 or email it to Planningbrd@barnstead.org. We look forward to hearing from you.

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10TH
 11 AM

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 BATTLING AN
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 BRAIN TUMOR

SCAN FOR
 MORE DETAILS!



Back to School

Scramble



Everything was almost ready to start the new school year but the labels for the classroom got jumbled. Can you unscramble the letters to form the names of 24 things you might find in your classroom? Watch out, one of the objects is formed from two words.

IRCAH _____

FGAL _____

BKOENOTO _____

CDLNARAE _____

REEARS _____

LSARTPE _____

EGLU _____

IRFLEAAMR _____

CNLEPI _____

KSED _____

OASOCBEK _____

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