



BARNSTEAD BANNER

Good News from a Small Town

The Whole Month Off!



by Kristina Schram

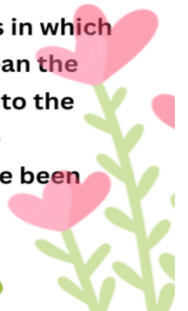
Guess what? March is Women's History Month! Woohoo! Wait, what? I don't get the whole month off? But I'm a woman! (I was going to say I'm a woman with history, but I'm not sure that sounds quite right.) I deserve a break, don't I? Sigh. Ah, well, it's still a great month. Personally, I wouldn't mind if we made the next few decades about women to make up for centuries of oppression, but for now I'll take what I can get. When I become Supreme Ruler of the Universe, this will change, of course, and we will have ALL the days! Ha, ha, ha!

But I digress. So, here are a few women in my family I would like to honor: My great-great grandmother, who was shot during an Indian attack in Minnesota. While she probably didn't want to be shot, she did not blame the Indians for trying to defend their lands and remained sympathetic to their cause. My grandma B., who worked while her husband was laid up recovering from heart attacks (after surviving four of them, he eventually succumbed to the final one at age 52) to support four girls during a time when women weren't paid well at all. My own mother, who raised 5 children (at least one of whom is, by all accounts, incredibly awesome), on a very limited budget, and managed to find a way to make sure our birthdays and Christmas were special, often making our gifts herself. At 82, she still has a "never quit" attitude, and a generous soul, and I would be less than who I am today without her guidance.

Women not related to me that I admire: So many! Here are a few: Jane Austen, an early 19th century author who wrote books about society and human nature, using a clever sense of humor that women just weren't supposed to have. She not only did have one, she made money off it. She was also considered a success in her own time, not an easy task when women were considered to be merely property and also kind of brainless. Frida Kahlo, a painter who fought lifelong physical and emotional pain to create brilliant masterpieces. Katherine Johnson, Dorothy Vaughan, and Mary Jackson, who had to overcome both sexism and racism to help us reach for the stars and get to the moon. Queen Elizabeth I, who, despite constant pressure, managed to stay unmarried for the entire 44 years of her reign because she knew if she tied the knot she'd have to give up her power, and who wants to give up their power? (Spoiler: Not me or 99.9% of the world.) And finally, Sarah Foss, the woman who donated the building that made our local library possible. While it might be called Oscar Foss Memorial Library, it was actually Oscar's wife who made it happen.

Maybe, if you feel so inclined, you could honor the women in your life this month. The ones who make your life easier in ways in which you have no idea. (And who could make your life harder in ways in which you don't want to know about. Ha, ha!) Buy them flowers or chocolate or chocolate flowers. Clean the toilets for a month. Pick up after yourself. Buy me a car. Whatever you do, a thoughtful gesture to the women of the world would go a long way. And, as a bonus, when I become Supreme Ruler of the Universe, I will be sure to acknowledge your efforts in the same manner as women's efforts have been acknowledged for centuries.

HELLO
SPRING





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Bait & Tackle  @fishtails1

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Forgive often. **Reject racism.**
Fight for the powerless.
Share earthy and spiritual resources.
Embrace diversity. Love God. Enjoy this life.*

**CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
OF NORTH BARNSTEAD - UCC**

504 N. Barnstead Rd. Center. Barnstead, NH
ccnorthbarnstead.com

**Worship with us in-person
or join on Zoom at 10am**

March Library Happenings

Good to Know Info: We are closed for staff training on the second Thursday of every month until 3:00. Election Day is Tuesday, Mar. 12. We will be closed two Saturdays in a row for the Barnstead Town Meeting (3/16) and the Barnstead School Meeting (3/23). Both meetings start at 9:00 a.m. and are held at the elementary school. These meetings are for residents to vote on important town and school matters, along with their budgets.

March is Women's History Month. Here at the library we will have a display of books about and/or written by amazing and incredible women for you to view and check out. Stop by and jot down a sentence or two about the women who inspire you!

Every Wednesday at 10:30, Children's Storytime is the main event here at the library! Come experience the gift of adventurous stories, hearty sing-alongs, and creative crafting. It's a great way to meet new friends and learn new skills. If you want to stick around, our children's area is filled with comfy bean bag chairs, puppets, Legos, trains, tons of children's books, and more. If you have a little one, the library can be a lot of fun!

Start your week off with Yoga Monday! Gentle Hatha-Flow runs from 10:15-11:40, Senior/Beginner/Chair Yoga is 12:00-1:00, and Intermediate Hatha-Flow lasts from 5:30-6:50. Classes are by donation (suggested \$8). All are welcome and encouraged to attend, regardless of ability to donate.

It's a Percy Jackson Watch Party, and it's happening Friday Mar. 1, from 3:00-7:30! It's mid-winter break, folks, so come join us here at the library to watch Percy Jackson from Disney+. We'll start at the beginning of the series and get through as many episodes as we can. We'll have light snacks and refreshments, too.

The Peeps are back in town! Between Mar. 1 and Mar. 19, enter your most creative Peeps diorama based on a book. Entries should be roughly the size of a shoebox, all characters should be made from Peeps, and limit one entry per person or family/team. Be sure to put your age (or "adult") and name on entries. Dioramas will be on display for public voting from Mar. 20-Mar. 31, and prizes will be awarded on Apr. 2.

Mar. 6-10 is Read Across America Week: Celebrating Dr. Seuss' Birthday! Join us in celebrating Dr. Seuss' Birthday at OFML. Find your child's favorite book, discover a new author, and spend quality time reading to your child at the library. We will also have games, activities, and crafts to do all week during library hours.

Our Meet and Read Book Club (ages 18+) happens on the first Wednesday of the month (Mar. 6, from 6:00-7:30), and takes place in the library's Meeting Room. (Feel free to bring food for yourself and/or to share.) This month's book will be *Murder on the Orient Express* by Agatha Christie. Be sure to pick up a copy here at the library, then join fellow bibliophiles to 'express' your opinions about murder (most foul!), trains, the great author herself, or whatever comes to mind. Next month's book is *Anil's Ghost* by Michael Ondaantje.

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Thursday, Mar. 7, from 5:00-7:00 we are holding our first annual Adult Repair Fair. Repair, reuse, recycle! Bring your small household items, clothes, or technology in need of repair or mending to the library and we will help you fix it or try to put you in touch with someone who can.

From Tuesday, Mar. 12 to Saturday, Mar. 16, we are featuring Leprechauns in the Library! What does that mean? Well, for those 5 days before St. Patrick's Day, the little guys will be hiding their gold in the childrens' area. If you find a piece of treasure, bring it to the front desk to exchange it for a prize. It should be a good craic, to be sure!

Thursday Mar. 14 (3.14). It's Pi Day! To celebrate, we are holding a pie tasting contest. So if you're feeling full of piety, bring in a pie to share and/or be judged. We don't open until 3:00 that day, so please drop off your savory, sweet, filled with numbers—it's all good—pie between 3:00 and 4:00 on that day. Entries need a name, contact info, and the type of pie. Our staff will most piously be doing the judging. We'll have a prize for the best pie and prizes for anyone who can recite a few pi digits.

Family Crafternoon - where everybody can be an artist! - happens every third Friday of the month and runs from 4:00-5:00. This month (Mar. 15), we are featuring Spring Art Painting. Release your inner artist, and join us for an afternoon of creating spring-inspired art. We will provide the materials, but supplies are limited so please call or email the library to reserve a spot! We will be offering light snacks for your munching pleasure.

Mar. 19: Spring Equinox. Spring is springing on this first day of spring, which makes me happy! And which also means it's time to start thinking about planting season. To help our patrons with that task, the library will be giving out free seed packets while supplies last. (FYI: Mar. 20, also sometimes the Spring Equinox, is Alien Abduction Day, but we can't help you with that.)

NEW! The OFML Sewcial Club will meet the 3rd (3/20) and 4th (3/27) Wednesday of the month from 12:30-3:30. Guests can bring any sewing or quilting project they are working on (along with their sewing machines and supplies) to the library to socialize and share tips while they sew.

Teen/Tween Guided Paint Night: Jellyfish. On Friday, Mar. 22, from 5:00-7:00, we'll be following a real-time guided painting tutorial to create a majestic jellyfish. Explore different techniques and blending to bring your underwater creature to life. This is a teen/tween event. Registration is required.

Writers Forum - a group created and run by fellow writers to help you in your writing process, wherever that might be. Meets the last Thursday of the month (this month it will be 3/28), from 6:00-7:30, in the library Meeting Room. For ages 14+ and all levels of writing experience/expertise. Have you always wanted to be a writer? Maybe even a published author? Well, it's time to do something to make that dream come true. So march on in here and make it happen!

For events that require registration, please contact us at 269-3900 or ofmlstaff@gmail.com to reserve your spot!

Barnstead Parks & Recreation Highlights

ICE RINK

We hope that the weather will allow for a continued skating season. If it gets too warm, we may need to close the rink until the temperature drops again or close it for the season. We will update the Facebook page if there is a change in the rink status. If and when we have to close, we also put the chain and closed sign across the openings. P&R has figure skates and hockey skates in all sizes to lend, reach out to us if you need to borrow a pair for the season.

ICE FISHING JAMBOREE

On Saturday, March 2nd from 9 am to noon, we will hold our annual Ice Fishing Jamboree at Varney Beach (weather permitting). This is a free event that is enjoyed not only by the kids but by many adults also. Kids 15 and younger can use the provided equipment and will not need a fishing license. Concessions will be available and random prizes will be awarded. A link for RSVPs can be found on the FB event page.

EASTER EGG HUNT

Saturday, March 23 RD from 2 pm-4 pm. Come to the Two Rivers Trail, behind the ice rink, for our annual Easter Egg Hunt. There will be toy-filled eggs for the children to find, games, coloring pages, and even treat-filled goody bags. Keep an eye on our FB page to see if the Easter Bunny will be paying a visit.

COMMISSION MEMBER OPENINGS

The time requirement is minimal and the satisfaction/enjoyment of seeing the community and kids enjoy our events is priceless! Being a part of the commission is a great way to be more involved in creating, planning, and hosting activities or programs for our community. There are various openings on the commission with different levels of involvement and time commitments. Give us a call or send us an email if you would like to find out more.

Please watch our website (barnsteadnhparks-rec.com) and Facebook page (@barnsteadparks) for additional details, date changes, cancellations, and pop-up events. We can also be reached at 802-332-3799 and barnsteadparks@gmail.com if you have any questions.



Barnstead Historical Society

FROM THE TOWN REPORT OF FEBRUARY 15, 1900 REPORT OF THE LIBRARIAN

Fellow Townsman:

I herewith submit my report for the year ending Feb 15,1900. Unless you have closely observed the progress of our public library you can hardly realize its great importance. It is well known that our library contains many valuable works, and it is only by giving a fare [sic] share of time to them that our young people can obtain that knowledge which is required to give strength and support to all.

I feel we should be as liberal in our appropriation as the financial condition of our town will warrant.

Books—

Number of books in the library, not including public documents - 1162

Accessions [sic], by purchase - 207

By gift, including public documents - 16

Circulation, number of persons who have taken books - 374

Receipts, amount received from fines and cards - \$4.99

Classification. Class of books most in use, fiction, 2nd books for your people. 3rd- travels, 4th- history, 5th- biography

The books should be catalogued.

The library will be open for delivery of books on Tuesday and Saturday afternoons and evenings, (except legal holidays) from 2 to 5 o'clock and from 7 to 9 o'clock.

JOHN GEORGE LIBRARIAN

JOHN D. NUTTER

H O DOWNS

JOHN GEORGE

Board of Library Trustees

REPORTS OF TREASURER OF LIBRARY

In treasury Feb. 1899	\$64.04	
Received from town	\$80.00	
Received from John George		
-fines and cards	\$4.99	
Received of town of Strafford		
for books	\$2.50	
Received of R L Nutter,		
books	\$2.00	
Paid DeWolf Fisk, & Co		
for books	\$40.85	
	Jorden Marsh & Co	\$32.58
	Lee & Sheppard, for books	\$27.45
	DeWolf Fisk & Co for books	\$29.15
	E R Coburn, for books	\$4.50
	A H Dairymple, for books.	\$1.85
	J A Glines, express on books	\$.65
	J A Glines freight on books	\$.25
	For mucilage,	\$.20
	For stamps etc	\$.42
	John George ,treasurer	\$25.00
	\$153.53	\$162.90

Balance due treasurer, \$9.37
JOHN D NUTTER, Treasurer





NEW PASTOR AT CCNB

The Congregational Church of North Barnstead has a wonderful new pastor, Rev. Kate Kennedy. Pastor Kate started in Advent, the first Sunday in December, and together with her new congregation prepared for the beautiful Christmas season celebrating the birth of Jesus. It was a particularly blessed Christmas Eve worship service this year. After the carols and lessons, the church was darkened, and the candlelight moved around the room while parishioners sang Silent Night. It was a hearty Joy to the World at the close of the service. The church is excited to begin to plan 2024 together and to welcome new families, and new ideas and together find new ways to serve. Pastor Kate served for the past 5 years as the Associate Pastor of the Congregational Church of Amherst. Before returning to NH, Kate received her Master of Divinity from Boston University and was an intern at Old South Church in Boston. She then moved to North Carolina, where she served at the Durham Veterans Affairs Medical Center and completed a Chaplain Residency at UNC Hospitals. Kate is married to Rufy Kennedy and they have a young son, Callum. They share their home in Lee with 2 cats. The Congregational Church of North Barnstead (CCNB) is both an old and new church in town. It was established over 200 years ago and after almost 90 years as a summer church, became a year-round church in 2000. It is affiliated with the United Church of Christ. CCNB is an inclusive congregation and the building is fully accessible. They love the “joyful noise” of children in worship, Bible study and meditation, and lots of fellowship and service to the community, country, and in Ghana. For more information, please go to our website at ccnorthbarnstead.org; or call Pastor Kate at 603-868-1457 or join us Sunday mornings at 10 am in person at 504 North Barnstead Road or join us on Zoom. This is a church where you can come as you are and feel welcomed.

WHAT IS BARNSTEAD WELFARE?

New Hampshire law (RSA 165) says that every town and city in the state must have a welfare program to help people who are struggling financially and need help. Barnstead has an elected Welfare Officer, Elaine Swinford, helps people needing assistance. Elaine was first elected to this position 16 years ago. In the same year, she was also elected state representative and was completing her studies for a Master’s in Social Work. With Elaine’s years of experience, our Welfare Officer is a good source of information about other resources, both public and private, as well as having a budget to assist town folks. Elaine works to make things better, wherever she is. Elaine Swinford can be reached by calling 603-235-1895.

Town News

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

Tuesday, March 12th - Town Elections

Saturday, March 16th at 9 am - Town Meeting

Saturday, March 23rd at 9 am - School District Meeting

Friday, March 29th

Good Friday Service, 6pm - 7pm at Center Barnstead Christian Church

Worship with us as we reflect on Jesus Christ's great sacrifice.

Sunday, March 31st

Easter Worship Service, 10am – 11am at Center Barnstead Christian Church

Join us as we celebrate our Savior's resurrection!



RECIPE CORNER

SWISS VEGETABLE CASSEROLE

1 can (10 3/4 oz.) Campbell's Cream of Mushroom Soup

2/3 cup sour cream

1/4 tsp ground black pepper

2 bags frozen vegetable combo, thawed
(broccoli, cauliflower, carrots)

1 1/2 can French's Fried Onions

1 cup shredded Swiss Cheese

In a bowl, stir mushroom soup, sour cream, pepper, vegetables, 2/3 cup fried onions and 1/2 cup of cheese together and pour into a 9"x 13" dish and cover.

Bake at 350 degrees for 35 to 40 minutes or until the veggies are tender.

Sprinkle the remaining onions and cheese over the veggie mixture.

Bake for an additional 5 minutes. Makes about 8 servings.

This would go well with your Easter Ham Dinner (March 31st)

Enjoy, Jeannie

(submitted by Jeannie Terry)