



# BARNSTEAD BANNER

Good News from a Small Town



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CORNER**

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SUBMIT  
AN EVENT OR CLASSIFIED FOR  
THE BARNSTEAD BANNER,  
PLEASE EMAIL  
DANIELLE@OSCARFOSS.ORG  
WITH THE DETAILS.**

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BARNSTEAD-BANNER**

## **The Right to Be Wrong (and Still Be Revered)**

by Kristina Schram

The older I get, the more I feel a need to express my opinions on any topic, whether I know anything about it or not. My attitude is: I don't care if I'm wrong; I have a mouth and I'm going to use it. I have spent too long muffling my voice, keeping my thoughts to myself, biting my tongue. No more! I am human, hear me roar! And there will be no dull roars, either. Not for this gal.

Wow! This newfound attitude toward self-expression is very empowering. Well, it could be. The problem is, no one wants to hear my opinions. Not my children, not my husband, not my mother or my siblings. Not the packers at the grocery store or strangers on social media. Not a one! Because, guess what?—and this is quite nervy of them—they have their own opinions! And they're trying to share those opinions at the same time I'm trying to share mine. RUDE. I don't want to hear their thoughts. No, I only want to be heard. I want my opinion to be the defining word on the subject, end of discussion.

Doesn't that sound grand? Because seriously, who doesn't want to be known as an expert? I mean, ignorance doesn't feel very good (except when it does, then it's bliss). Knowledge is power and power feels great. So I've decided that now is the time for me to seize that power! Even if I don't know something, I can just make it up (first lie wins!). This sort of jiggery-pokery is *de rigueur*, you know, and, trust me, when you get to create a whole new reality, it makes you feel like you're on top of the world. But if you decide to follow my example, I'll ask that you don't compete with me and my experting. Cause there's no way you're ever going to know more than I do about all of the stuff, bless your heart for even thinking you could.

A person used to be able to trust TV news stations and newspapers as reliable sources and arbiters of the truth; photographs and videos, too. (The National Enquirer was, of course, the exception to this.) Now one needs to view everything with a jaundiced eye. The internet isn't reliable, either. It once served as a means for humans to learn new things, but now you can't trust its offerings as far as you can throw them. And now there's a new poser trying to pass as the great all-knowing. Goes by the initials A.I. – you know who I'm talking about. Were you aware that when AI doesn't know something it just makes stuff up? Apparently it doesn't like looking ignorant, either. And there are times when it's just plain wrong. In fact, AI doesn't stand for Artificial Intelligence; it stands for Awesomely Ignorant. Because when AI is wrong, it does it with flair. If you try to correct it, it will thank you with enthusiasm, then promptly go back to saying the wrong thing until you start to doubt yourself. (I'm postulating a foreign government is involved, and I'm absolutely sure I'm right on this.)

So how do you know who to trust? No one person can know all things, yet there are people who claim to have the power of omniscience. They're called politicians. Ha, ha. Well, guess what, I'm one of those people now. I'm a literal Know-It-All. Bow before me! Ha, ha, ha! The power! But I digress. Back to my very important point: What's a regular joe, like the rest of you poor, misinformed folks, supposed to do to find truth in this world of information overload, rampant inaccuracies, and pompous clever clogs who can post anything about anything, with zero real knowledge or experience?

Wait, you're asking me? Heck, how should I know?

## MODELS WANTED!

Oscar Foss Memorial Library is looking for..

Stylish pets who love the camera (and books) for  
the 2026 "Pets of OFML" calendar!

Submit a photo of your furry, feathered or scaled friend posing with their favorite book to [ofmlstaff@gmail.com](mailto:ofmlstaff@gmail.com) by 10/31/2025. Please include pet name, "likes" and "dislikes" and owner's name and contact info.

We will put the photos on our Facebook page the first week of November for voting, and the winners will be featured in our 2026 calendar (and their owner will receive a free copy!) Calendars will be available for purchase late November, just in time for the holidays!



## BE THE CHURCH

*Protect the environment. Care for the poor.*

**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](http://ccnorthbarnstead.com)

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

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### CENTER BARNSTEAD CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Worship Service - Sundays @ 10AM

[www.centerbarnsteadcc.org](http://www.centerbarnsteadcc.org)



## BARNSTEAD PARADE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH



**Worship Service 9:00 A.M.**  
**Rev. Sandy Pierson—483-2846**



## LOCAL

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Facebook - page: [sugarslocal](#) or visit the Barnstead  
Business Uncensored group for updates!





## OCTOBER LIBRARY HAPPENINGS

Good to Know Info: We are closed for staff training on the second Thursday of every month until 3:00 (10/9). Banned Books week runs from October 5-11.

We're having a **pumpkin decorating contest!** The catch is that it has to be book-themed. The other catch is that you can't carve it. You can draw on your pumpkin, paste things on it, dress it up, whatever floats your gourd. So put your literacy skills to the test, and see what you can create. Drop off your masterpiece at the library between 10/1-10/15. Voting will be from 10/16-10/31, here at the library and on Facebook.

We are looking for stylish pets who love the camera (and books) for the **2026 "Pets of OFML" calendar!** Please submit a photo of your furry, feathered, or scaled friend posing with their favorite book to [ofmlstaff@gmail.com](mailto:ofmlstaff@gmail.com) by 10/31/2025. Include the pet's name, "likes" and "dislikes," and the owner's name and contact info. We will put the photos on our Facebook page the first week of November for voting, and the winners will be featured in our 2026 calendar (and their owners will receive a free copy!). Calendars will be available for purchase in late November, just in time for the holidays!

**Home School Group:** Join us Fridays from 10:30-12:00 for a mix of stories, simple science/learning activities, and a creative art/craft activity that all go along with a theme for the week. The activities are geared towards kids ages 4 and up, and younger siblings are welcome to come along. There will be an event posted ahead of time on their Facebook group (Barnstead NH Library Homeschool Group) for each weekly meet-up, so you'll always know what to expect and if you need to bring anything.

**Music and Movement Storytime**, aka Littles Love to Learn! Join us on Tuesdays at 10:30 for an interactive storytime filled with stories, songs, and loads of sensory play designed specifically for toddlers.

Every Wednesday at 10:30 is **Children's Storytime**. Visit us at the library for stories, crafts, and singing. Then experience the cozy ambience in the children's area, which has all sorts of neat things to do. Make new friends. Set up playdates. Check out books, movies, and games, play with the trains, Legos, and puppets. Come for the learning, stay for the 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.

**Jamming Tuesdays at OFML:** 6:00-8:00 (ages 18+). Do you play a string instrument? Well then, dust it off and come make music with us! Starting in October, on the first (10/7) and third (10/21) Tuesdays of the month, join us for jam nights at the library (in the meeting room). No need to be an expert—just bring your instrument and a love of music. Share a few tunes, trade chords, get feedback (if you'd like), and most of all, have fun!

Our **Meet and Read Book Club** (ages 18+) takes place on the first Wednesday of the month (10/1), from 6:00–7:30, in the library. This month's book will be "Our Missing Hearts" by Celeste Ng. Next month's book will be "Project Hail Mary" by Andy Weir. Books are available at the library. Bring food, bring thoughts, bring a friend!

**Family Crafternoon** is a family-focused event that happens every third Friday of the month (10/17), at 3:30. Join us this month as we paint pumpkins on canvas with acrylics—perfect for fall and Halloween! Materials will be provided and light refreshments served.

Come join us Thursday, October 23, at 6:30, at the Barnstead Parade fire station for a grave presentation: **A Beginner's Guide to Cemetery Sleuthing**. "Your local cemetery is a time capsule. Each headstone is plastered with clues about the deceased, those who once walked where you're walking now. A simple step through the hallowed gates can bring you on an adventure to explore symbolism, workmanship, and local history. Join Erin E. Moulton as we learn the meaning behind cemetery iconography, abbreviations, epitaphs and more. Erin's latest book, *The Beginner's Guide to Cemetery Sleuthing: Scavenger Hunt and Workbook* will be available for purchase at the end of this program."

On Friday, October 24, from 7:00–9:00, creep up to T.L. Storer for a horrifying experience! Step into the dark woods for a terrifying **Haunted Walk** where shadows lurk and screams echo through the trees. Bring a flashlight and your courage—once you enter, there's no turning back. Free admission. The woods are waiting...

Wednesday, October 29, at 10/29 at 10:30, join us for a **Storytime Halloween Parade**. Come in costume for a morning of spooky stories, songs, dancing, and trick-or-treating around the library. Seniors, feel free to join us to hand out candy!

On Thursday, October 30, from 6:30–8:00, join us for **Books & Banter**. This lively book club is open to everyone and invites you to share and explore a wide range of genres. Come ready to discuss up to three books you've recently read, giving a brief synopsis to spark conversation. Don't miss out on the fun—come share your thoughts, learn about new books, and enjoy a cozy evening of discussion.

**Let's Write a Novel!** Join us in the library's meeting room for a series of structured classes on the how-to's of writing a book. This class runs from 6:00–7:30 on the last Friday of the month (10/31). Budding writers, 16 and older, ignite your passion for storytelling, discover how to build your hero's journey, and take your novel from concept to can-do!

For events that require registration, please contact us at (603) 269-3900 or [ofmlstaff@gmail.com](mailto:ofmlstaff@gmail.com) to reserve your spot!



# Jeannie's Recipe Corner

## Quick & Easy Suppers After the Game

Sports nights can be hectic—but with a little prep the night before or over the weekend, you can have a warm meal waiting when you get home.

Get your crockpot and oven ready and try these family-friendly favorites!

### Easy Mac & Cheese

#### Ingredients

- Your favorite mac & cheese recipe
- ½ cup crushed Ritz crackers
- 2 Tbsp melted butter

#### Directions

- Prepare mac & cheese and place in crockpot.
- Sprinkle with crushed crackers and drizzle with melted butter.
- Set crockpot to low or medium before leaving. Dinner will be warm and ready when you return!

### Impossible Cheeseburger Pie

Prep Time: 13 minutes

Bake Time: 25 minutes

Servings: 8

#### Ingredients

- 1 ½ lbs ground beef
- 1 cup chopped onion
- ½ tsp salt
- 1 cup shredded cheddar cheese
- 1 cup milk
- ½ cup Bisquick baking mix
- 2 eggs

#### Directions

- Preheat oven to 400°F.
- Cook ground beef and onion in a skillet; drain. Spread into a greased deep-dish 9" pie plate. Sprinkle with cheese.
- In a bowl, stir milk, Bisquick, and eggs with a fork until blended. Pour over beef mixture.
- Bake 25 minutes, or until a knife inserted in the center comes out clean.

### Crockpot Meatball Subs

#### Ingredients

- 1 pkg frozen meatballs (turkey, beef, or Italian)
- 1 jar marinara sauce
- 1 pkg sub or hoagie rolls

#### Directions

- Add meatballs and marinara sauce to crockpot before leaving for the game.
- Set to low; they'll be ready when you get home.
- Serve on rolls with a side salad and chips.



**🍂 Wishing you a safe, happy sports season—enjoy the games and the beautiful fall colors!**

**Jeannie**



**Barnstead Parks & Recreation Highlights**

Motto "*Bringing Community Together by Doing Fun Stuff!*"

**Trunk or Treat**

We are excited to see all the trunks and humans dressed up for this year's Trunk or Treat. It will be held on Saturday, October 25th. Additional details can be found on our website and social media pages.

**Rink Wall Sponsorship and Rebuild**

Keep an eye out for information on sponsorship banners and the rebuilding of the rink walls. The rink and court look amazing with new asphalt, but we will need help with the rebuilding of the wall to get the rink ready for winter.

**Christmas Event / Tree Lighting**

Last years Tree Lighting had a great turnout, and we are happy to be holding it again this year. The details are still being worked out so stay tuned for more information.

**Commission Member Openings**

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 many different levels of involvement and time commitments. We have various openings on the commission, and we are excited to welcome new members. Contact Gail McCullough if you would like more information.

**Barnstead Garden Club**

We thrive off of community volunteers and donations, so please reach out to us through our Facebook page, Barnstead Garden Club, or [barnsteadgc@yahoo.com](mailto:barnsteadgc@yahoo.com) if you can lend a hand! We appreciate any help and support and hope you join our team!

**Thank You!**

It has been a fabulous summer and we would like to thank everyone who participated in our summer events and programs. The Saturday concerts were a huge hit with a wide variety of music. The summer fishing jamboree was a great opportunity for parents and kids to hang out and spend some quality time outside together. Swimming lessons were a lot of fun and it was amazing to see how the kids progressed in just two-weeks. Game nights are always fun with a little bit of competitiveness. We are finishing up Archery this month and look forward to seeing all our archers next spring.

Please watch our website ([barnsteadnhparks-rec.com](http://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](mailto:barnsteadparks@gmail.com) if you have any questions.

## Community Events

**Board of Selectmen Meeting** is weekly on Tuesdays starting at 6PM.

**Alcoholics Anonymous meetings** are held Tuesday and Sunday evenings at 7 PM at the Center Barnstead Christian Church.

**CCNB Craft Meetup** is held weekly on Thursdays at the Oscar Foss Memorial Library from 10AM to 1PM.

**Barnstead School Board Meeting** is Wednesday 10/15 at 6PM.

**Public Administration Subcommittee** meets at Town Hall on 10/8 and 10/22 at 6PM.

**JMA School Board Meeting** is 10/21 at 6PM at Prospect Mountain High School.

**Trunk or Treat** will be held on 10/25. Contact Barnstead Parks and Rec for more information.

**Town Hall is closed** the third Wednesday of the month (9/17).

### It's Never Too Early to Think Christmas!

The Barnstead Historical Society's annual Christmas Sale is scheduled for **Saturday, December 6 from 9am-1pm**. We have moved this event to the Parade Fire Station at 305 Parade Road to accommodate the Board of Selectmen. Perennial favorites will be returning!

Be sure to stop in for your breakfast sandwich from Tiede Farms Smokehouse, or your copy of one of six books available from the Historical Society. Did you miss your Old Home Day swag? No worries, t-shirts and mugs will be available. Wrap it all up with a beautiful holiday bow from Anne Watson! As always, we look forward to seeing you.