



BARNSTEAD BANNER

Good News from a Small Town



IN THIS ISSUE

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

LIBRARY HAPPENINGS

**JEANNIE'S RECIPE
CORNER**

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

TO SUBSCRIBE TO THE ONLINE
ISSUE OF THE BANNER, GO TO
WWW.OSCARFOSS.ORG /THE-
BARNSTEAD-BANNER

Barnstead Community Feast: Growing Together Through Gratitude

by Melissa McKeen

There's something deeply meaningful about sharing a meal. When we gather around a table with neighbors, friends, and even those we haven't met yet, we create more than just a shared moment – we create belonging.

Last year's first Barnstead Community Feast reminded us of that so beautifully. The laughter, the stories, and the simple joy of being together showed what can happen when people choose connection over isolation.

We are delighted to invite you to this year's Barnstead Community Feast, a celebration of community and gratitude, taking place on **November 22 from Noon to 2 p.m. Join us at Barnstead Elementary School** for delicious food and warm company as we come together to celebrate being part of the Barnstead community.

To make this event a true reflection of our town's togetherness, we invite those who are able to contribute a dish. You can find the RSVP and food sign-up list here:

tinyurl.com/barnsteadfeast.

If transportation to the event is a concern, please reach out to Oscar Foss Memorial Library at **603-269-3900**.

This year, we're adding something special – a community photo display to celebrate the many ways we've grown together. If you've captured photos of memorable community moments from this past year (Park & Rec activities, library events, local church gatherings, the police and fire department, Old Home Day, etc.), please send them to mellodale53@gmail.com by **November 9** so we can include them in the display.

And to our generous local business owners – if you'd like to contribute a monetary donation or provide door prize items to support the feast, please contact Melissa McKeen at melcmckeen@gmail.com.

Last year's feast showed what's possible when gratitude turns into action. This year, we look forward to seeing that same spirit shine even brighter. Together, we can continue building a more connected community. We can't wait to celebrate with you – see you there!

Holiday Craft Workshop



OUR YEARLY TRADITION AT
OSCAR FOSS MEMORIAL LIBRARY IS BACK!

11/19 - 11/22

Anytime the library is open!

**Stop by the meeting room to
use free arts and craft supplies
for making holiday gifts.**

**Patrons are welcome to
share/donate their clean
crafting supplies.**



**Donations can be
dropped off at the
library during
open hours
between 11/1 and
11/19.**



CENTER BARNSTEAD
CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Worship Service - Sundays @ 10AM

www.centerbarnsteadcc.org





NOVEMBER LIBRARY HAPPENINGS

Good to Know Info: For **Veteran's Day**, the library will be closed **Tuesday, 11/11**. We are closed for staff training on the second Thursday of every month until 3:00 (11/13). We are also closed **Thursday, 11/27, and Friday, 11/28, for Thanksgiving**.

From **11/1-11/9**, **vote on our Facebook page for your favorite Pets of OFML!** 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!

Holiday Craft Workshop: Our yearly tradition at OFML is back! Starting **Thursday, November 19th, and running through Saturday, the 22nd**: Stop by the meeting room to use free arts and craft supplies for making holiday gifts. Patrons are welcome to share/donate their clean crafting supplies. Donations can be dropped off at the library during open hours between 11/1 and 11/19.

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! On the first (11/4) and third (11/18) 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 **Read the Room Book Club** (formerly Meet and Read) (ages 18+) takes place on the **first Wednesday of the month (11/5), from 6:00-7:30**, in the library. This month's book will be "Project Hail Mary" by Andy Weir. Next month's book will be "Because We Are Bad" by Lily Bailey. Books are available at the library. Bring food, bring thoughts, bring a friend!

Bead Animals & Bracelets is happening Thursday, November 6, from 4:00–5:30. Come make your own bead animals and bracelets at the library. All materials included—just bring your creativity. With the holidays coming up, these make perfect handmade gifts for friends and family. Come hang out, get crafty, and take home your creations!

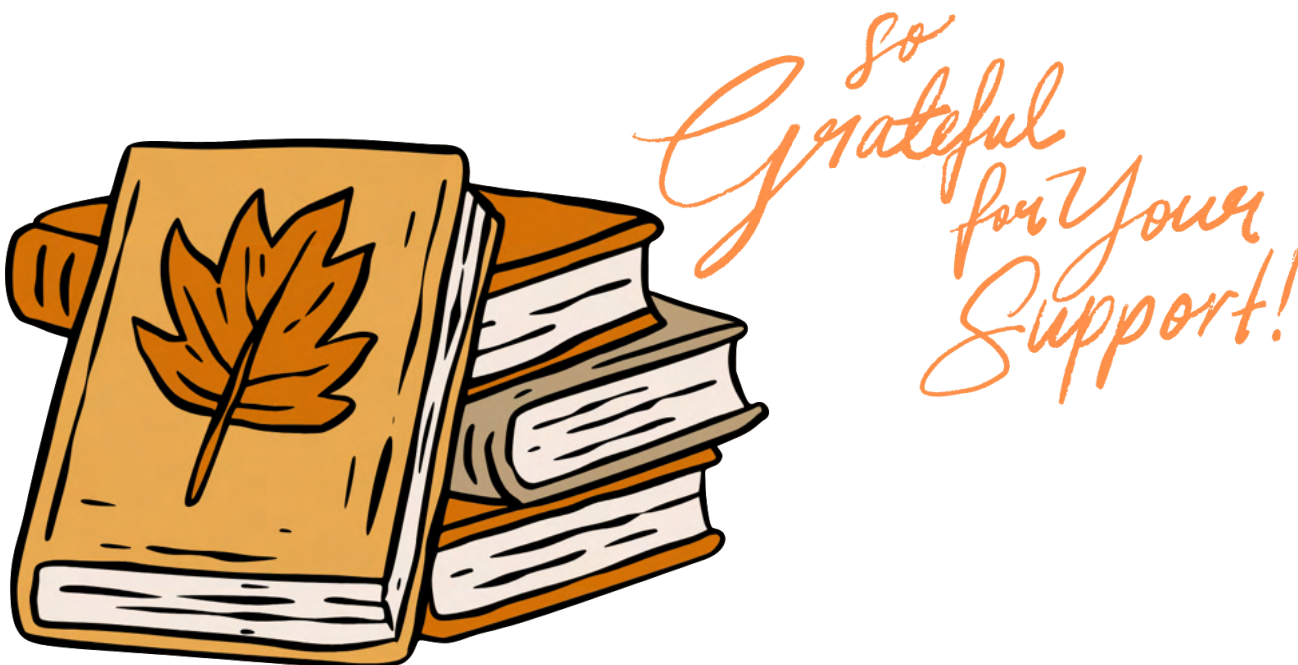
On **Friday, November 14, at 5:30**, we are having another **Teen/Tween Cookie Decorating!** Join us for a sweet and creative workshop by our cookie expert, Leah Whitney—just for teens and tweens. Learn the basics of cookie decorating, then Leah will guide you step-by-step in designing a set of beautifully curated, seasonal sugar cookies. As you can imagine, this program is quite popular, so registration is required.

Family Crafternoon is a family-focused event that happens every **third Friday of the month (11/21), at 3:30**. This month we will be making holiday gifts! Materials will be provided and light refreshments served.

On **Friday, November 21, 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 typically runs from **6:00–7:30 on the last Friday of the month, but is being changed to the third Friday (11/21)** due to Thanksgiving. 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 269-3900 or ofmlstaff@gmail.com to reserve your spot!



Four Corner Antiques ★ Country Christmas ★

Dec 6th & 7th 10am - 5pm

*Antiques
Collectibles
Country
Primitives
Books*



*Tools
Bottles
Linens
Furniture
Home Decor*

**You shopped the mall,
Now relax and buy for yourself!
Christmas Snacks & Beverages!**

204 Estes Rd, Rochester, NH
(603) 332-1522

*Thank You for supporting a small local business
Merry Christmas!*

★ 8TH ANNUAL PMHS ★
★ TEAM 319 BOOSTER CLUB ★

Holiday Craft & Vendor fair

SATURDAY DECEMBER 6, 2025

9AM - 2PM

PROSPECT MOUNTAIN
HIGH SCHOOL
242 SUNCOOK VALLEY
RD
ALTON, NH 03809

EXPLORE A WIDE ARRAY OF
CRAFTS, PRODUCTS, AND
SERVICES FROM OVER 60
BOOTHES. BE SURE TO STOP BY
AND SAY HELLO TO SANTA!

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT
HOLLY @ HOLLY.BOB319@GMAIL.COM

LOCAL

ARTISANS SHOP

NH Handmade goods

OVER 60 AREA ARTISANS - ALL NH MADE PRODUCTS

1009 Upper City Rd, Pittsfield, NH
(Just off Route 28)

603-507-2378

Wed - Sat 10 am - 5 pm

Sun 1 pm - 5 pm

Facebook - page: sugarslocal or visit the Barnstead
Business Uncensored group for updates!

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! We are excited to welcome Joy Street Studio as a new vendor! You may be familiar with Janet Keefe's water color work from LOCAL. She also does fabulous face paintings at Old Home Day as part of the Center Barnstead Christian Church. Her water color cards, prints, wood ornaments will be available for purchase.

Vendors to Date

- Tiede Farms Smokehouse
- Joy Street Studio
- JLF Embroidery
- PMHS Equestrian Team/SJF Creations
- Anne Watson's Beautiful Bows
- Mary Locke's Homemade Goodies
- MJ Michael Photography
- Sew-fly's Unique Boutique
- Barnstead Old Home Day Committee

Be sure to get books from the Barnstead Historical Society. Raffle tickets for a variety of donated items will also be available to be purchased, with the drawing at 12:45.

Business Cards • Forms • Business Checks • Brochures
Color Copies • Stationery • Graphic Design • Magnets
Programs • Raffle Tickets • Rubber Stamps
Wedding Invitations and Accessories • Bookmarks

Full Color: Cards • Brochures • Flyers • Labels • Postcards
Customized Promotional Items • Banners • Yard Signs

GRANITE IMAGE
940 Suncook Valley Hwy • PO Box 683
Epsom, NH 03234 • 603-736-6056
print@granite-image.com • www.granite-image.com

SAT. DEC. 6 • 9-1pm

**Historical Society
CHRISTMAS
SALE**

Parade Fire Station

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 ——

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

Veteran's Day is Tuesday, November 11, 2025. This is a day when we honor and thank all American Veterans for their service to our country.

In recognition of Veterans, below are some benefits Veterans may want to know about and pursue. This list is not meant to be exhaustive, please ask about other programs and discounts that may be available to Veterans.

Many stores and companies offer Veteran discounts. Some of these places include companies like Home Depot, Lowes, Aubuchon Hardware, Apple and Verizon. Ask other companies as well such as contractors, etc. These stores, and other programs, may ask for a copy of a Veteran's DD214 or discharge paperwork. It is always a good idea to have a copy of your DD214. You can request a copy from the National Archives

<https://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records>

211 NH is a hotline to provide the most up-to-date information on community resources. They are open 24 hours, 365 days a year. You can reach them by calling 211 or [1-866-444-4211](tel:1-866-444-4211).

NH Employment Security has a Veterans' Resource Guide which includes information on a number of different resources

<https://www.nhes.nh.gov/forms/documents/nhes-0313.pdf>

Veteran's Count provides information, case management and emergency financial assistance for service members, Veterans and their families. Call to get information and support [603-315-4354](tel:603-315-4354)

Call the Veteran's Administration (VA) in Manchester for more information on medical care benefits, to include medications and possible care in the home or a care setting. [603-624-4366](tel:603-624-4366). The eligibility office extension is 6799.

Area Aging and Disability Resource Center (formerly Servicelink) in Laconia [603-528-6945](tel:603-528-6945) or [1-866-634-9412](tel:1-866-634-9412) provides information, support and referrals for a variety of resources, including those for Veterans. They have Caregiver Programs that Veterans and their families may be eligible for.

Contact the Barnstead Town Hall to discuss eligibility for Veteran discount on your property taxes [603-269-4071](tel:603-269-4071)

BARNSTEAD PARADE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH



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

Barnstead Parks and Recreation

RINK WALL SPONSORSHIP



 GOLD • 8'x2.5' Color Banner to be displayed on the inner rink walls. \$300.00	 SILVER • 4'x2.5' Color Banner to be displayed on the inner rink walls. \$200.00	 BRONZE • 2.5'x2.5' Color Banner to be displayed on the inner rink walls. \$100.00
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- Sponsors can be companies or individuals.
- Sponsors are to provide their own banner design (subject to approval for content and quality).
- All banners will be displayed for a term of 18 months.
- Banners will be placed in high-visibility areas around the inside of the rink.
- Sponsors will be acknowledged on our website, social media, and in community newsletters as contributors to the rink renovation project.
- P&R will be responsible for replacing any banners that are damaged due to rink maintenance prior to the end of the 18mo. term. Banners will not be replaced due to normal wear and tear.
- Sponsors will have the option to renew their banners at the end of the 18mo. term. (Discounts will be available for banner renewal.)
- If you prefer to make a contribution of any amount towards the project; all donations will be gratefully accepted.

Banner Sponsorship Company Name: _____

Contact Name: _____

Phone No.: _____

Banner Selection: ____Gold ____Silver ____Bronze

&/OR a donation in the amount of: \$_____



Contact us:
barnsteadparks@gmail.com
802-332-3799

Email the design to: barnsteadparks@gmail.com, in format: ai, pdf, svg, or eps __

Send check to: Barnstead Parks and Rec PO Box 11 Center Barnstead NH 03225



Beyond Eggs: What It Really Takes to Keep a Farm in Business

Walk into a New England farmers market in July and you'll find tables overflowing with fresh produce. By October, those same tables look sparse, and some visitors leave disappointed. But that's not failure on the farmer's part — it's simply the reality of farming here.

Our growing season in New England is short. Frost comes early, soil cools quickly, and without expensive greenhouses and heating systems, fresh produce becomes impossible this late in the year. At the same time, farmland is shrinking. Between 2001 and 2016, New England lost more than 100,000 acres of agricultural land to development. Projections suggest that by 2040, New England could lose another 267,000 acres of farmland if current trends continue. Every hayfield turned into a subdivision is land that will never graze livestock or grow vegetables again.

Small farmers also face high costs. We pay nearly the same price for grain as consumers do at the feed store, and no one offers us discounts at the butcher. Add in zoning and planning restrictions, certified scale inspections, insurance hikes, and health department requirements, and the challenges stack even higher. Yet farms continue. They continue because we believe good food and open land are worth fighting for. But the truth is, we cannot do it alone. Farming in New England will only survive if communities choose to support it. That means buying local, embracing seasonality, and valuing not just fresh produce, but also meats, baked goods, and even the crafts that help farmers cover costs. It means showing up at town meetings and making sure ordinances support — not hinder — agriculture.

The future of farming here isn't guaranteed. It's a choice. And it belongs to all of us.

(Erin Stone operates The Fox & Crow Farm in Barnstead. She is passionate about farmland preservation, agritourism, and sustaining the future of local agriculture.)



Center Barnstead



Oscar Foss Library



Barnstead Parade

Bandstands of Barnstead

Barnstead is home to multiple bandstands and a gazebo: the Barnstead Parade Bandstand, the Center Barnstead Bandstand, and, as of 2024, a gazebo located behind the Oscar Foss Memorial Library.

Barnstead's oldest bandstand, constructed around 1924, stands about a mile from the town center. Now a century old, this octagonal wooden structure sits on the village green known as the Barnstead Parade. It continues to serve as a community hub, hosting summer concerts, farmers' markets, and other town gatherings. The Parade Bandstand features a low wooden base, paneled sides, sturdy posts, and an octagonal roof. Nearby are the Parade Church, the Post Office, and Fire Station 1.

The later bandstand, built around 1937, is located in Center Barnstead near the Town Hall and Fire Station 2. More elaborate than its predecessor, this octagonal structure rests on a tall concrete base with paneled walls and wooden columns supporting the roof. The base once housed a concession stand that sold hot dogs, popcorn, popcorn balls, and ice cream to concertgoers during community events.

Both bandstands are closely tied to a local band that became active in the 1920s under the leadership of John J. Jenkins, a Barnstead native and rural mail carrier. The Barnstead Historical Society sponsored the repair and refurbishment of the Center Bandstand in 1998, and the Parade Bandstand was renovated in 2022.

As of 2024, the library's gazebo joins this tradition of community gathering spaces. Its missing peak cap is noted—and its return would be much appreciated.

Jeannie's Recipe Corner

Getting Ready for the Holidays!

1. Start early and make a menu for the special day.
2. You'll want to spend more time with your guests and less in the kitchen. Look for recipes that can be made ahead of time.
3. Organize your refrigerator ahead of time so platters, containers, and beverages will fit easily.
4. Crockpot recipes are great for cooking and keeping food warm. If you're short on crockpots, check your local thrift store!
5. Watch for sales in the paper or online and stock up early. This way, you won't have to do one huge shopping trip right before the holidays.
6. Make a checklist.
7. There are so many things you can do ahead of time! Pick out your paper products, platters, serving dishes, and utensils now. Wash and cover them with a clean dish towel so they're ready for the big day.
8. Give the kids a few jobs too—they can dust, vacuum, set the table, take out the trash, help peel veggies, stuff celery, or decorate. After the meal, they can even help clear the table before dessert so the adults can visit!
9. Plan an evening of fun.
10. Take a walk, play a game, or simply enjoy your family and guests.
11. Don't forget the turkey!
12. If you're serving one, give it plenty of time to thaw safely in the refrigerator, and store leftovers properly after your meal.

Jeannie's Crab Dip

Ingredients

- 3 packages (8 oz each) softened cream cheese
- 3 cans drained crabmeat
- 1 onion, diced and sautéed
- Italian seasoning, to taste
- 1-2 serving spoons mayonnaise
- 1 pound shredded cheese (a mix of your favorites)
- Grated Parmesan for topping

Instructions

Mix everything together and spread into a baking dish. Top with grated Parmesan.

Bake at 400°F for about 20 minutes, until bubbly and golden.

Serve with Scoops, crackers, or toasted pita bread.

Delish!!!

Wishing you a wonderful and safe Thanksgiving and Christmas!

Blessings, Jeannie



Community Events

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

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

Town Hall is Closed to the public the third Wednesday of each month.

Barnstead Parade church Annual Cookie Walk is Saturday, December 13 from 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Barnstead School Board Meeting is Wednesday 11/19 at 6:00 PM.

JMA School Board Meeting is Tuesday 11/18 at 6:00 PM.

Planning Board Meeting is 11/6 and 11/20 at 6:00 PM.

Barnstead Community Feast will be at BES on 11/22 at 12:00 PM.

