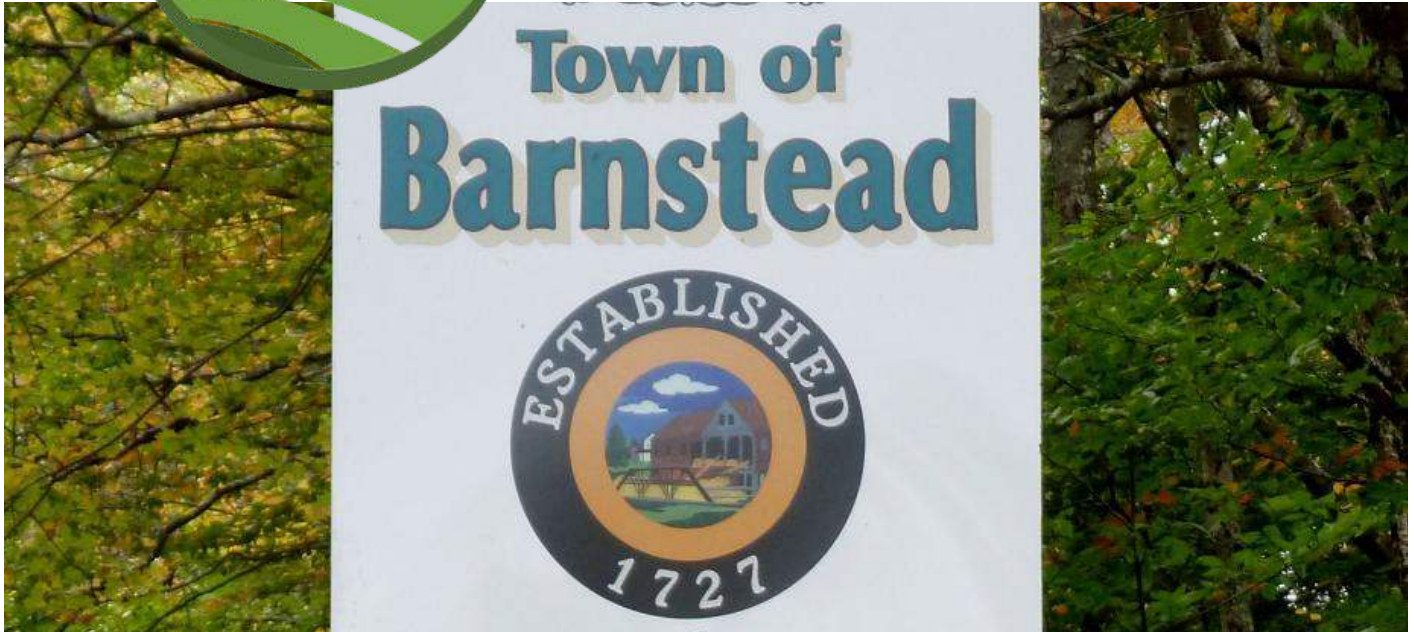




BARNSTEAD BANNER

Good News from a Small Town



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HAPPY OLD HOME DAY!

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IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SUBMIT
AN EVENT OR CLASSIFIED FOR
THE BARNSTEAD BANNER,
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BARNSTEAD-BANNER

NOT SO TRUE-ISMS

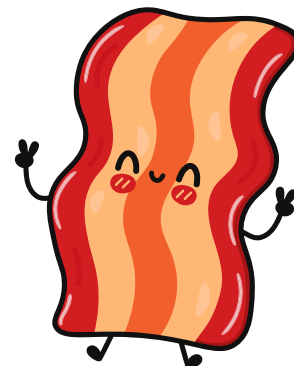
by Kristina Schram

There are a lot of sayings out there whose veracity I feel I must challenge...

- “Money can’t buy happiness.” Sure it can. It’s called chocolate and movie popcorn. And I can tell you for certain, they ain’t free.
- “Everything happens for a reason.” Like when the driver in front of me goes 25MPH in a 50MPH zone, but because I’m going so painfully slow, I end up missing being in a car accident further down the road. (Though, technically, my road rage might actually incite a car crash when I nudge the slow driver into the ditch.) But what if the “reason” things happen is simply to annoy me? Like non-human animals eating my garden/trees/house. How am I benefitting from that? I’m not. And neither is my bank account. So it’s being done just to annoy me, and I don’t accept annoying me as a good enough reason. (Though others might.)

- “Good things come to those who wait.” No, they don’t. They come to those who pursue. Because if you’re just standing there waiting for something good to come to you (like a hot fudge sundae), I’m going to jump in front of you and take it for myself.
- “Patience is a virtue.” Unless you’re waiting for a hot fudge sundae. Because, like I said, I will take it from you and you and your virtue will have lost out on heaven in a bowl.
- “You can do anything you put your mind to.” Really? So you can perform brain surgery with knitting needles? Well, technically, yes, but only if you’re doing a lobotomy in a 19th century asylum. Fine, then you can enter your neighbor’s house and take their Doritos because you ran out? Well, again, technically you can do that. Just not legally. I learned this the hard way.
- “Just believe in yourself.” Okay, sure. It never hurts to have confidence in yourself, but just believing in myself isn’t going to pay the mortgage. Or grow wings on my back. Or get me my chocolate and movie popcorn.
- “If it ain’t broke, don’t fix it.” Says no inventor ever. And really, we have so many things in this world that could use improvement. Why do we still have cars that crash and harm people? Can’t we make traveling bouncy balls a thing? And why am I still using that awful cranky tool to get caulk out? Why do we even need caulk? Can we at least find a better and easier-to-spell word for it? You want to know why we can’t figure out better ways to do things? Because of this truism, that’s why.
- .“Better safe than sorry.” If you’re being held up at gunpoint, I suppose. Otherwise, if you always think this way, you will never leave your house. Sadly, your house isn’t safe either. In fact, far more people die from falling down the stairs than in plane crashes. The outdoors isn’t any better. 150 people a year die from—I kid you not—falling coconuts. You can’t win, so you might as well take your chances with the coconuts.
- “Sticks and stones may break my bones but words will never hurt me.” So you won’t mind if I call you a dumb, dumb poopy butt? My sister used to call me that, and trust me, it hurts.
- And finally, many truisms downright cancel each other out, like “Seek and ye shall find,” but “Curiosity killed the cat.” Maybe this works... “Seek and ye shall find a dead cat.”

There is one truism by Francis Bacon that I can get behind: “In charity [and in the partaking of bacon] there is no excess.” If you agree with Mr. Bacon, then I wouldn’t mind if you delivered unto me a plate of bacon and a hot fudge sundae asap. Just be sure to take your bouncy ball car and watch out for falling coconuts!



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Worship Service - Sundays @ 10AM

www.centerbarnsteadcc.org



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Fight for the powerless.

Share earthy and spiritual resources.

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ccnorthbarnstead.com

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

BARNSTEAD PARADE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH



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



Books, Bagginises, and a Bit of Nonsense



AUGUST 15TH 10AM - 3PM

A celebration of books, community and
all things fantastical!

Join us for:

Vendors

Books and Authors

Games and Activities

Live Music

Dancing

A Costume Contest and more!

AUGUST LIBRARY HAPPENINGS

We will be closed Saturday, Aug. 8, for Old Home Day (9-3), and Saturday, Aug. 15, for Shirefest (10-3). BES Back-to-School night is Thursday, Aug. 27, and PMHS freshmen orientation is Friday, Aug. 28. The first day of school for BES and PMHS is Monday, Aug. 31. Just a head's up, we are looking to start a Chess Club in September, tentatively set for Thursday evenings!

Home School Group: Run by group members and takes place at the library meeting room on Fridays from 10:30-12:30. Involves 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 the group's Facebook page (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 Little's Love to Learn! Join us on Tuesdays at 10:30 for an interactive storytime filled with group singing, dancing, imaginative play, crafts, and stories, all designed specifically for babies and 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.

Our **Read the Room Book Club** (ages 18+) takes place on the first Wednesday of the month (Aug. 5), from 6:00-7:30. This month's book will be "How the Penguins Saved Veronica" by Hazel Prior. Next month's book will be "Cabin" by Patrick Hutchison. Books are available at the library. Bring food, bring thoughts, bring a friend!

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 (Aug. 4) and third (Aug. 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!

We are hosting **Bikini Bottom Bingo** on Thursday, Aug. 6, at 6:30! Who lives at the library and loves shouting "BINGO!"? Maybe you do! Dive into an evening of laugh-out-loud fun, friendly competition, and chances to win fin-tastic prizes. No scuba gear required—just bring your lucky streak and get ready for a shell of a good time!

Shirefest—our SRP finale—is Saturday, Aug. 15, from 10:00-3:00. Fellow adventurers, hobbits, wizards, and elves: Gather your cloaks, your curiosity, and perhaps your second breakfast for Shirefest at the Oscar Foss Memorial Library! A day of whimsy awaits with tasty food and drink, hands-on activities, magical discoveries, and plenty of unexpected delights. You can craft your own sword and shield, weave a flower crown, and enjoy face painting fit for any wandering hero. Along the way, you'll also find local herb-lore, a StoryWalk, trinket trading, a scavenger hunt, a costume contest, musical performances, and local vendors offering unique treasures. We will also be featuring contradancing at 10:00 a.m.! Keep watch on this page: <https://www.oscarfoss.org/shirefest> and the library's Facebook page for updates, announcements, and fresh bits of Shire-worthy news.

On Thursday, Aug. 20, at 12:30, OFML brings you the following presentation: **Exploring Forgetfulness As We Age.** All of us have probably experienced occasional episodes of forgetfulness; however, there are differences between typical age-related forgetfulness and dementia-related illness. Learn how to keep your brain and your memory in shape with Granite VNA Community Health Educator Brooke Noonan. This program is free. Registration is required.

On Friday, Aug. 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.

Join THRIVE Fitness at OFML on Thursday, Aug. 27, at 6:30, for a 60-minute **POPilates class**. This program is free to the public and is limited to 10 participants, so be sure to call the library and register.

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 (Aug. 28). 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!

Calling all incoming BES Kindergarteners and their adults! Come join us Saturday, Aug. 29, at 10:30, here at the library where we will be hosting a **Kindergarten Meet and Greet**. This is a great opportunity for your child to get to know their new classmates before classes start. We will be serving ice cream snacks and there will be a storytime and crafts!

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



WMUR Meteorologist, Kevin Skarupa
paid the library a visit in July!

Historical Society Page



Barnstead's Churches

Source: *History of Barnstead, New Hampshire*, by Jeremiah P. Jewett, M.D.

The **Barnstead Parade Congregational Church** was erected c. 1788, the first framed church in town on land donated by Eli Bunker. About ten years later, it was wholly furnished by voluntary contributions of the Parade people. (Image 2)

The **Congregational Church of North Barnstead, UCC**, was erected in 1820 by the Congregational Society of Barnstead, and dedicated in 1827. (Image 1)

The **Center Barnstead Christian Church** was erected in 1840.

Higher Ground Ministries now calls the former South Barnstead School home. (Image 4)

Originally erected c. 1820 as a Free Will Baptist Church, the **South Barnstead Congregational Church** no longer holds services. (Image 3)

Jeannie's Recipe Corner

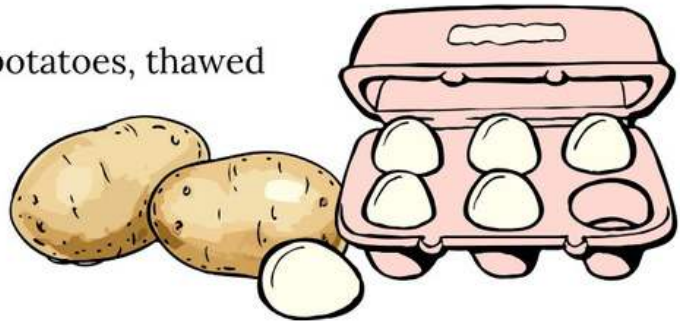
Amish Breakfast Casserole

Enjoy a hearty breakfast? Try this!

This Amish Breakfast Casserole is warm, cheesy, filling, and perfect for feeding a crowd. Serve it with bagels or toast and fresh fruit for an easy Sunday breakfast or brunch!

Ingredients

- 1 lb. sliced bacon, diced
- 1 medium sweet onion, chopped
- 6 large eggs
- 4 cups frozen shredded hash brown potatoes, thawed
- 2 cups shredded cheddar cheese
- 1½ cups 4% cottage cheese
- 1¼ cups shredded Swiss cheese



Directions

1. Preheat oven to 350°F.
2. In a large skillet, cook the bacon and onion over medium heat until the bacon is crisp. Drain.
3. In a large bowl, combine the eggs, hash browns, cheddar cheese, cottage cheese, and Swiss cheese. Stir in the cooked bacon and onion mixture.
4. Transfer to a greased 13 x 9-inch baking dish.
5. Bake uncovered for 35–40 minutes, or until a knife inserted into the center comes out clean.
6. Let stand for 10 minutes before cutting and serving.

Prep Time: 15 minutes

Bake Time: 35–40 minutes + 10 minutes standing

Makes: 12 servings

Summer is going fast, so enjoy the month of August! And don't forget the concerts and Old Home Day!

Enjoy!

♥ 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.

Planning Board Meeting 8/20 at 6PM

Barnstead Old Home Day is 8/8 starting at 9AM

The Barnstead Parks and Recreation Summer Concert series is underway! The concerts are in the Barnstead Parade Circle and start at 6PM on Saturday evenings:

- 8/8 The Puffin and Loon - Folk, Americana, Country, Bluegrass, Gospel & Blues
- 8/15 Bel Airs - Golden Era of Doo Wop and Oldies
- 8/22 Windham Community Band - Selections from Broadway shows, movies, patriotic themes, marches & other popular band pieces.

Suncook Valley Farmer's Market is Saturdays at 10AM by Barnstead Elementary School

Historical Society meets on 8/27 at 7PM at the Oscar Foss Memorial Library.

Back to School Night at BES is on 8/27. Contact the school for more details.



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