



BARNSTEAD BANNER

Good News from a Small Town



CONGRATULATIONS TO BARNSTEAD'S 2026 CITIZEN OF THE YEAR, ANN CARR!

IN THIS ISSUE

HAPPY LABOR DAY!

LIBRARY HAPPENINGS

**HISTORICAL SOCIETY
NEWS**

**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**

PHANTOM OF THE SOAP OPERA

by Kristina Schram

Dramatic things happen around me. Several weeks ago, we had a massive tree at the end of our driveway that needed to come down, and it took the tree folks five visits to take care of it. Unfortunately, they often had to block our driveway to work. Typically we never knew when they were coming, but one of the days they told us they weren't coming until after noon because some wires needed to come down first. I left early to do my grocery shopping so I could put away the groceries and shower for work before they came (I was really booking it because they had to turn off the electricity). I was back by 9:30 and there they were...blocking the driveway. I ended up parking farther down the road, and a worker kindly helped me carry my groceries about 200 yards up "the hill" (it's steep enough to sled on) to our house. It was 80 degrees already, and remember, no electricity, so I had to wash up for work using water from an old milk jug. I don't recommend it...for multiple reasons.

A couple days later my son barrelled downstairs to ask me if I knew what was happening outside. I did not. Of course I was already in my nightgown (these things never happen when I'm decent). So I hid behind the basketball hoop and warily watched as people with large weapons and flak jackets paced back and forth in front of our driveway. On the plus side, they were not facing our house. On the negative side, they had weapons. We didn't know what to do. Should we be sheltering in place? Should we be running? None of us wanted to approach the armed people to ask—we're funny like that—so we never did find out what was going on.

The next day, the tree people came back. I did not know they were coming, and my 84-year-old mother was set to visit. She uses a walker, and no way was she making it up "the hill" so they had to move. When the tree removal was finally, thankfully, done, we ended up with large logs on both sides at the end of the driveway, so I asked my husband if he could move them all to one side so nobody would hit one with their car (our luck being what it was). He started with the biggest one, dropped it on his foot, and ended up bleeding everywhere, leaving the log now sitting in the driveway. He ended up on crutches (I keep a pair handy for him) for several days while the gash, and possibly a broken toe, healed. He did not like being on crutches. I know this because he told me. Many times.

Later that week, while I was stacking wood, I stepped out of the wood crib to grab another armload and spotted Benicio del Bearo about 50 feet away, just strolling past. He looked at me, I looked at him, then I slowly retreated into the wood crib, which is ridiculous because there are no walls in a wood crib. But he wasn't interested in starting anything (probably knows my dangerous rep), and neither was I. So both our reps remain unblemished. My underwear, not so much.

As you read this, many of you are probably thinking: Kristina, this is life. Things happen. And you're right. Things do happen. But experiencing a SWAT team and a bear encounter in the same week? I think we can all agree that isn't normal. I guess I should just be grateful the bear wasn't part of the SWAT team. But maybe that's coming. I feel like I need to start my own TV show and call it "Getting Wild in the Woods" and at least make some money off this. Cause, just between you, me, and the bear, I really could use some new underwear.



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BARNSTEAD PARADE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH



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

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



CENTER BARNSTEAD CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Worship Service - Sundays @ 10AM

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SEPTEMBER LIBRARY HAPPENINGS

Good to Know Info: We are closed for staff training on the second Thursday of every month until 3:00 (Sep. 10). Monday, Sept. 7, is Labor Day!

During the month of September, New Hampshire is running the Granite State Library Card Challenge. As you might already know, we are a small town, but luckily for us, winners are determined by percentage increase, not actual numbers. That being said, we need your help to win that trophy! If you've been thinking about getting a library card, September is the month to do it. Maybe you're sharing a card with a loved one and want your own. And hey, kids aged 6 and up can get their own card! So stop by the library and get a card (or renew it if yours expired - those count), see what services we have to offer (copying, faxing, notary, access to free audiobooks and e-books via Libby, a computer to use, and more!), grab a copy of the Barnstead Banner, and most importantly, check out a book (or a movie or a telescope or a game)!

Home School Group: Run by group members, it 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 Littles 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 (Sep. 2), from 6:00-7:30. This month's book will be "Cabin" by Patrick Hutchison. Next month's book will be "Isola" by Allegra Goodman. Books are available at the library. Bring food, bring thoughts, bring a friend!

Playing a musical instrument alone at home is fun, but it's more fun to make music with others. Adult musicians of all ability levels are invited to join our small group. We meet in Barnstead's library meeting room from 6:00 to 8:00 pm every first (Sep. 1) and third Tuesday (Sep. 15) of the month, and play acoustic (non-amplified) instruments like guitars and ukuleles. Other instruments that might round out our sound would include the harmonica, fiddle, mandolin, etc. (Unfortunately, horns and other instruments that can't be played softly would overpower our softer sounding instruments.) We play various kinds of songs including folk, country, Irish, rock, and more. Sessions are very informal, and the goals are to meet people, share skills, and have fun. Check the calendar on the library website to confirm dates. Please join us!

NEW Calling all Mah Jongg fans - come join us at the library! Players meet the first (Sep. 3) and third (Sep. 17) Thursdays of the month at 1:30. No registration or expertise required.

A Fire Prevention Education and Safety Program is coming your way on Friday, Sep. 4, at 10:30, at the Barnstead Fire-Rescue Department (right across from the library)! This free program, provided by the New Hampshire State Fire Marshal's Office and the Barnstead Fire-Rescue Department, offers fire and life safety tips for all ages. Learn steps to protect your home and family, and help enhance community safety through education.

NEW! We are starting a Chess Club! Beginning this September, join us at the library every 2nd (9/10) and 4th (9/24) Thursday of the month at 6:00. No registration required, this is a drop-in program hosted in the adult fiction area. All ages and skill levels are welcome. Please bring your own board if you have one, or use one of ours!

On Thursday, Sep. 17, at 5:00, join local author, Sybil Bond, for a talk on her new book "Bombs, Bullets, and Me." This book details Sybil's experience as the Associate Director of the China Beach USO Club during the Vietnam War. We will be holding the talk in the library meeting room. Registration is not required.

On Thursday, Sep. 17, starting at 7:00 pm, discover the wonders of the night sky via "Skywatch with the NH Astronomical Society." They will start with a presentation in the library meeting room, then we'll move outdoors. Members of the society will bring telescopes and binoculars and guide us through an evening of stargazing, with opportunities to view planets, stars, the moon, and other celestial objects. Please dress warmly and bring your questions!

OFML is hosting a Fall Photography Contest! Calling all photography lovers: For one month (9/23-10/23), we are asking you to send us your best "Fall in NH" photo! One entry per person, the photo can be digital or physical, but please include your name and contact info. If your photo is in digital form, you can email it to ofmlstaff@gmail.com. After Oct. 23, we will post all the entries on our Facebook page, and in the library for voting, and the best photo will be announced on 10/29/26. The winner will receive a prize basket and their winning photo will be showcased in our display case during the month of November.

On Thursday, Sep. 24 (NEW NIGHT! Last Thursday of the month), from 6:30-8:00, join us for Books & Banter. Read what you want, then come talk about it! Books & Banter is an 18+ book club with no assigned reading. Discuss whatever you've been enjoying lately, whether it's new, old, borrowed, or rediscovered. Share what stood out, hear what others are reading, and find your next great recommendation in good company.

Our "Let's Write a Novel!" writing group is looking for fresh faces (16+) to join our "Hero's Journey" experience. This structured group will help take your MG, YA, NA, or Adult story idea from concept to can-do! This class runs 6:00-7:30 on the last Friday of the month (Sep. 25). No writing experience necessary.

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

Happy
Labor Day

Historical Society Page

Barnstead's Early Mills

Barnstead's rich agricultural history is well documented and remembered. But did you know that various industries, such as mills and tanneries* also played a vital role in the history of the town?

1. Winthrop Colbath, saw mill and iron works, 1790
2. John Tasker, tannery, 1792
3. Eliphalet Nutter, saw mill and iron works, 1810
4. Joseph Bunker, Dodavah Bunker, and John Drew, saw mill, 1792
5. Pitt Lougee, fulling and dyeing mill, 1794
6. Eli Bunker, grist mill, 1783
7. Aaron Yeaton, town mill privilege, 1763; tannery, 1830
8. Moses Dennett, grist mill, 1783
9. Richard Sinkler, saw mill, 1767
10. Joseph Avery, mill rights, 1781
11. Ezekiel Edgerly, tannery, 1829
12. John Tuttle (later Noah Huntress), tannery, 1840
13. Tasker, saw and grist mill, 1819
14. John B. Twombly (later Jeremiah Bodge), saw mill, 1815
15. Samuel Pitman, saw mill, 1806
16. John Clark, grist mill, 1811
17. Unknown owner, grist mill
18. Soloman Davis, grist mill, 1818
19. John M. Nutter, shingle mill, 1835
20. John M. Nutter, saw mill, 1835
21. John M. Nutter, grist mill, 1835
22. Robert S. Webster, starch mill, 1857
23. Richard Sinkler, saw mill and iron works, 1788
24. James Langley, saw mill, 1837
25. Joseph Place, saw mill, 1806
26. Daniel Tuttle, shingle mill, 1859
27. James C. Dame, saw mill and iron works, 1833

*History and Genealogy of the Barnstead Early Families from 1727 to 1970, by Stuart Merrill. Available to purchase from the Barnstead Historical Society.

Jeannie's Recipe Corner

Alnora's Doughnut Muffins

*If you like doughnuts and you like muffins, I think you'll enjoy these
a nice cup of coffee or tea!*

Ingredients

- 1 egg
- 1/3 cup oil
- 1/2 cup milk
- 1 1/2 cups flour
- 2 teaspoons baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon nutmeg
- 1/2 cup sugar

Cinnamon Sugar Topping

- 2 tablespoons sugar
- 1 1/2 teaspoons cinnamon



Directions

1. Preheat oven to 400°F. Grease a 12-cup muffin tin.
2. Beat the egg in a bowl. Add the milk and oil, then beat again until well combined.
3. Sift together the flour, baking powder, salt, nutmeg, and sugar.
4. Stir the dry ingredients into the wet ingredients until just combined.
5. Divide the batter evenly among the prepared muffin cups.
6. Mix together the cinnamon and sugar, then sprinkle over the top of each muffin.
7. Bake for approximately 20 minutes, or until the muffins are lightly golden and baked through.
8. Serve warm.

These are very tasty, easy to make, and have less fat than fried doughnuts.

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 American Legion Post #42 at 1078 Beauty Hill Rd, Barnstead, NH 03218 starting at 7PM

Planning Board Business Session 9/3 at 6PM

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

Capitol Improvement Planning Subcommittee meets every Thursday in September at the Town Hall at 4:00PM

Come to the Fair: Pumpkin 'n Pine

Save **Saturday, September 19th** for a charming country church fair. There will be food, fellowship and treasures at the Congregational Church of North Barnstead. Bring friends and join with others for a delicious lunch in the café.

This annual fair has many favorite features including a silent auction, antiques & collectibles, home goods, bakery, hand-made gifts, holiday items and a new addition this year, tools! A unique offering is the beautiful bags and purses made from tie-dyed fabric from Ghana. The silent auction has choice items to bid on including certificates to local services and restaurants.

Come see for yourself all the fair offers, have a delicious lunch and go home with a treasure. The Pumpkin & Pine Fair will be held between **9 am and 1:30 pm at the Congregational Church of North Barnstead**, located at 504 North Barnstead Road in Barnstead. Just follow the signs!

For more information about Barnstead Events, use the following links:

Community Event Calendar: <https://teamup.com/ksojztyx6jsgmd92n2>

Barnstead Elementary School Calendar: <https://bes.pmsau.org/o/bes/events>

Prospect Mountain High School Calendar: <https://pmhs.pmsau.org/o/pmhs/events>

Barnstead Town Calendar: <https://www.barnstead.org>

