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Town of Orange, New Hampshire 2019 Annual Report



2019 ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE OFFICERS
TOWN OF ORANGE,
NEW HAMPSHIRE



*2019 Select Board members Dorothy Heinrichs,
Bob Ells, Tamara Fairbank, and Aaron Allen*

*Town report cover photo taken by Alasdair Dunlap-
Smith at the David and Kathleen Stacy residence.*

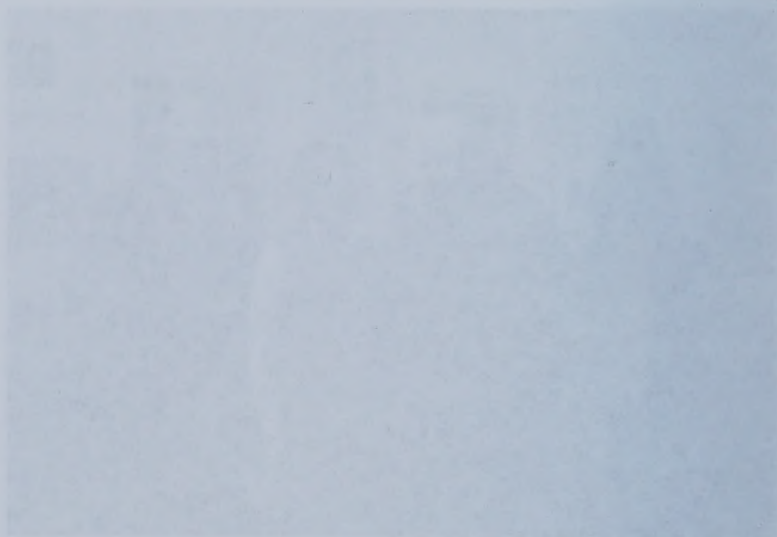
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2019 ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
TOWN OF ORANGE,
NEW HAMPSHIRE



This select board member (Laurie Hines) and
Bob Ellis, Town of Orange, and Susan Allen
Town report cover photo taken by Michael Loring
Smith at the David and Kathleen Stacy residence

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*We dedicated this town report to the
volunteers of Orange;*

*to all those who enabled us to celebrate
our 250th year;*

*to those who answer the call for help with
the daily tasks of maintaining our town;*

*and with deep gratitude, to Bob Proulx
and Bob Ells, each of whom has given
more than 40 years of exemplary service to
the enduring advantage of this community.*

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Officers of the Town of Orange

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Dorothy Behlen Heinrichs, Chair '22
Tamara Fairbank '21 Aaron Allen '20 (appointed)
Robert Ells (resigned)

MODERATOR

Daniel Hazelton

TOWN CLERK

Amy Tirpaeck (appointed)

TREASURER

Trish Weekes

ROAD AGENT

Scott Sanborn

TAX COLLECTOR

Sharon Proulx

DEEDING AGENT

Sharon Proulx

SCHOOL BOARD REPRESENTATIVE

Kathleen Stacy

SCHOOL BUDGET COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVE

Scott Sanborn, Chair '20

WELFARE DIRECTOR

Karen McFarlane

TRUSTEES OF TRUST FUNDS

Pauline Emerson '20 Nathaniel Emerson '21 Sandi Pierson '22

CEMETERY AGENT

Barry Geddis

HEALTH OFFICER

Douglas Weekes

PLANNING BOARD

Scott Sanborn, Chair '22 Judith Lindahl, Vice Chair '20
Hilary Allen, Secretary '20 (appointed) Karen McFarlane '21
Albert Emerson '22 Sal Guadagnino '20
Dorothy Heinrichs, Select Board ex officio
Robert Proulx (resigned)

ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

Beverly Ells, Chair Judith Connelly Richard Jaeger
Aaron Allen, Select Board ex officio

SUPERVISORS OF THE CHECKLIST

Laurie Sanborn '22 Beth DiFrancesco '20 Betsy Coble '24

CEMETERY COMMISSION

Tamara Fairbank '20 Anita Watson '22 (one vacancy)

FOREST FIRE WARDEN

Brent Stevens

DEPUTY WARDENS

Bill Bellion James McAllister

AUDITOR

Ruth Conwell

BUILDING INSPECTOR

Douglas Weekes

DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Brent Stevens Deputy: Douglas Weekes

BUDGET COMMITTEE

David Stacy, Chair '22 Robert Proulx, Clerk '20
Louis Shelzi '20 (appointed) Sophie Seace (resigned)
Tamara Fairbank, Select Board ex officio

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Aaron Allen, Chair David Stacy, Vice Chair
Douglas Weekes Dorothy Heinrichs Jay Heinrichs
Trish Weekes Sandi Pierson Tracy Hutchins Hillary Allen

TOWN HOUSE STUDY COMMITTEE

Doug Weekes Aaron O'Leary Skip Smith Aaron Allen
Sandi Pierson Tamara Fairbank Dave Stacy

*Notary services are available at the
Select Board's office at no charge to
Orange residents and property owners*

State of New Hampshire
Town of Orange
Warrant for 2020 Annual Town Meeting

To the inhabitants of the Town of Orange in the County of Grafton and State of New Hampshire qualified to vote in Town affairs:

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED to meet at the Town House in said Orange on Tuesday, the 10th day of March, 2020 at eleven o'clock a.m. for the election of Town Officers as called for in Article 1. The polls will open at 11 a.m. and close at 7 p.m. for voting on Article 1.

YOU ARE ALSO HEREBY NOTIFIED that the business meeting will be held at the Town House in said Orange at seven o'clock in the evening on Wednesday, the 11th day of March, 2020 to act upon Articles 2 through 11 in this warrant.

ARTICLE 1 (*by official ballot*): To elect the following town officers for the following terms:

1 Moderator: 2-year term, 1 Select Board member: 3-year term, 1 Town Clerk: 1-year term, 1 Treasurer: 1-year term, 1 Tax Collector: 1-year term, 1 Deeding Agent: 1-year term, 1 Road Agent: 1-year term, 1 Budget Committee member: 3-year term, 1 Budget Committee member: 1-year term, 1 Cemetery Trustee: 3-year term, 1 Cemetery Trustee: 1-year term, 1 Trustee of Trust Funds: 3-year term, 2 Planning Board members: 3-year terms, Planning Board member: 1-year terms, 1 Supervisor of the Checklist: 6-year term, and any other officers as required by law.

ARTICLE 2: To see if the Town will authorize the Tax Collector to accept the prepayment of taxes pursuant to RSA 80:52-a. Taxpayers shall be allowed to prepay taxes no more than two years in advance of the due date of the taxes. No interest shall accrue to the taxpayer on any prepayment, nor shall any interest be paid to the taxpayer on any prepayment which is later subject to rebate or refund.

Recommended by the Select Board (3-0)

ARTICLE 3: To see if the Town will vote to adopt the provisions of RSA 72:28-b, the All Veterans' Tax Credit. If adopted, the credit will be available to any resident, or the spouse or surviving spouse of any resident, who served not less than 90 days on active service in the armed forces of the United States and was honorably discharged or an officer honorably separated from services and is not eligible for or receiving a credit under RSA 72:28 or RSA 72:35. If adopted, the credit granted will be \$200, which is the same amount as the optional veterans' tax credit voted by the Town of Orange under RSA 72:28.

Recommended by the Select Board (3-0)

ARTICLE 4: To see if the Town will vote to adopt, pursuant to RSA 72:62, for persons owning real property, a property tax exemption for solar energy systems as defined by RSA 72:61; such exemption to equal 100% of assessed value of the solar system up to the maximum of \$25,000.00.

Recommended by the Select Board (3-0)

ARTICLE 5: To see if the town will vote pursuant to RSA 35:16 to change the purpose and name of the existing Town Road Improvement Capital Reserve Fund established by Article 8 at the 2006 town meeting for the purpose of maintaining town roads, to become the Flood Event of July 11, 2019 Road Repairs Capital Reserve Fund for the purpose of repairing and improving roads damaged by the flood event of July 11, 2019, and to name the Selectmen as the agents to expend. This article requires a 2/3 vote.

Recommended by the Select Board (3-0)

Recommended by the Budget Committee (3-0)

ARTICLE 6: To see if the town will spend \$1,187,000 on road repairs and receive \$890,250 from the federal government if the town is willing, able, and authorized to accept such funds and to pay the balance (up to \$296,750), which Mascoma Bank (through its community banking program), will loan to the town at 2 percent interest with a payback time of up to 7 years.

Recommended by the Select Board 3-0
Recommend by the Budget Committee 3-0

Background to Article 6:

Whereas the Town suffered significant damages to its roadways and roadway infrastructure during the flash flood of July 2019 and;

Whereas a Federal Disaster Declaration resulted in the Town's ability to receive disaster money from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and;

Whereas the cash available from FEMA is presently estimated to be \$890,250 and;

Whereas The Town's ability to receive monies from FEMA is contingent on paying for 25% of the total cost of restoring, repairing, and improving the roads (\$1,187,000);

The town presents this Warrant Article that acknowledges the following:

To facilitate the town's ability to pay FEMA-approved repairs prior to receipt of FEMA funds for such, the town shall open a bank account with a revolving line of credit (for convenience being called a FEMA reimbursement anticipation note or FRAN). Beginning June 1, 2020, the loan of \$900,000 for 1 year, will be used on a revolving basis; funds will be drawn to cover expenditures made to repair and improve roads and then replenished as FEMA funds are received. Interest on that loan is expected to be less than \$2,000, payable from town funds. That loan will have a balance (unknown at this time) at its maturity, on June 1, 2021. The Select Board at that time will need to borrow at 2 percent interest the remainder of that FRAN, up to \$296,750. This is a special interest rate for disaster-related repair financing. The loan will be repaid over a period of up to 7 years. Funds to repay the loan will be generated from an increase to the tax rate to be determined at town meeting in 2021.

ARTICLE 7: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate eight thousand dollars (\$8,000.00) to be paid into the Highway Equipment Capital Reserve Fund.

Recommended by the Select Board (3-0)

Recommended by the Budget Committee (3-0)

ARTICLE 8: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate four thousand dollars (\$4,000.00) to be paid into the Town House Capital Reserve Fund.

Recommended by the Select Board (3-0)

Recommended by the Budget Committee (3-0)

ARTICLE 9: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate four thousand dollars (\$4,000.00) to be paid into the Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund for the purpose of revaluation of real estate. Revaluations of all real estate are required by law every five years.

Recommended by the Select Board (3-0)

Recommended by the Budget Committee (3-0)

ARTICLE 10: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the Budget Committee's recommended sum of **\$228,085.00, not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately,** for the ensuing year for the Town's general operations.

Recommended by the Select Board (3-0)

Recommended by the Budget Committee (3-0)

ARTICLE 11: To hear the reports of agents, auditors, committees and officers and to transact any other business that may legally come before this meeting.

GIVEN UNDER OUR HAND AND SEAL ON THE TWELFTH DAY OF FEBRUARY, IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD, TWO THOUSAND AND TWENTY,

Dorothy Heinrichs, Chair

Tamara Fairbank

Aaron Allen

Selectmen,

Town of Orange, New Hampshire

TOWN BUDGET PURPOSES OF APPROPRIATION

| | Approp. <u>2019</u> | Expended <u>2019</u> | Approp. <u>2020</u> |
|--|------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| <i><u>General Government</u></i> | | | |
| Officers' Salaries | \$27,000.00 | \$29,908.35 | \$30,000.00 |
| Elections & Reg. | \$1,200.00 | \$1,070.00 | \$4,200.00 |
| Financial Admin. | \$100.00 | \$94.60 | \$100.00 |
| Property Reappraisal | \$4,500.00 | \$3,291.61 | \$4,000.00 |
| Legal Expense | \$3,000.00 | \$3,709.79 | \$3,000.00 |
| FICA Payments | \$2,500.00 | \$2,657.16 | \$2,700.00 |
| Planning & Zoning | \$500.00 | \$103.90 | \$300.00 |
| General Gov't. Bldgs. | \$6,500.00 | \$7,185.26 | \$7,000.00 |
| Cemeteries | \$3,500.00 | \$2,762.60 | \$3,000.00 |
| Insurance | \$1,584.00 | \$1,511.73 | \$1,742.00 |
| Memberships | \$1,750.00 | \$1,685.46 | \$1,750.00 |
| Officers' Expenses | \$7,500.00 | \$7,199.08 | \$7,500.00 |
| <i><u>Public Safety</u></i> | | | |
| Canaan Ambulance | \$10,636.00 | \$10,685.69 | \$11,323.00 |
| Canaan Fire Dept. | \$14,296.00 | \$14,296.00 | \$16,331.00 |
| Building Inspection | \$1,500.00 | \$496.74 | \$1,250.00 |
| Emergency Mgmt. | \$300.00 | \$0.00 | \$300.00 |
| <i><u>Highway & Streets</u></i> | | | |
| Highway | \$100,000.00 | \$59,205.89 | \$100,000.00 |
| <i><u>Sanitation</u></i> | | | |
| Trash Collection | \$15,829.00 | \$15,828.41 | \$16,388.00 |
| <i><u>Health</u></i> | | | |
| Health Agencies | \$3,500.00 | \$3,027.12 | \$4,500.00 |
| <i><u>Welfare</u></i> | | | |
| Direct Assistance | \$3,000.00 | \$324.36 | \$3,000.00 |
| <i><u>Culture & Recreation</u></i> | | | |
| Library | \$4,000.00 | \$4,000.00 | \$4,000.00 |
| Other Culture & Rec. | \$200.00 | \$191.47 | \$200.00 |
| <i><u>Conservation</u></i> | | | |
| Conservation Comm. | \$500.00 | \$567.36 | \$500.00 |
| Timber Harvest Mon. | \$1.00 | \$0.00 | \$1.00 |

DEBT SERVICE

Tax Anticipation Note \$3,500.00 \$3,975.57 \$4,000.00

Capital Outlay

Town House \$1,000.00 \$0.00 \$1,000.00

Budget Totals \$217,896.00 \$173,728.15 \$228,085.00

Capital Reserves 2019 Balance 2020 Approp.

Revaluation \$16,756.47 \$4,000.00

Town House \$9,102.56 \$4,000.00

Cemetery \$1,584.73 \$0.00

Highway Equipment \$26,561.53 \$8,000.00

Doc. Preservation \$1,067.92 \$0.00

Legal Expense \$4,200.40 \$0.00

Town Road Improve. \$68,520.64 \$0.00

Land & Conservation \$8,779.32 \$0.00

250th Anniversary \$40.51 \$0.00

SOURCES OF REVENUE

Estimated Actual Estimated
2019 2019 2020

Taxes

Land Use Change Tax \$0.00 \$0.00 \$0.00

Yield Tax \$5,000.00 \$11,872.71 \$1,000.00

Interest & Penalties

Delinquent Taxes \$3,000.00 \$7,686.58 \$7,000.00

Inventory Penalties \$1,500.00 \$1,632.00 \$1,500.00

UCC \$120.00 \$120.00 \$120.00

Motor Vehicles \$60,000.00 \$65,088.50 \$60,000.00

Building Permits \$200.00 \$373.60 \$100.00

Other Lic. & Permits \$700.00 \$482.40 \$200.00

From State

Unanticipated Rev. \$0.00 \$2,147.25 \$0.00

Rooms & Meals Tax \$17,000.00 \$17,043.28 \$17,000.00

Highway Block Grant \$28,000.00 \$29,938.70 \$28,000.00

State/Fed. Forest \$3,000.00 \$3,467.28 \$3,000.00

FEMA \$0.00 \$0.00 \$0.00

(Budget Summary continued)

| <i>Appropriations</i> | <i>2019</i> | <i>2020</i> | <i>Change</i> |
|------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---|
| <i>Operating Budget</i> | <i>\$217,896.00</i> | <i>\$228,085.00</i> | <i>+\$10,189.00</i> |
| <i>Capital Reserve Funds</i> | <i>\$44,000.00</i> | <i>\$16,000.00</i> | <i>-\$28,000.00</i> |
| <i>Total Appropriations</i> | <i>\$261,896.00</i> | <i>\$244,085.00</i> | <i>-17,811.00</i> <i>6.8% decrease</i> |



*The 250th Commemorative Quilt
An amazing accomplishment by an amazing
group of people. Nancy Pike photos*

TAX COLLECTOR'S FINANCIAL REPORT
Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 2019

DEBITS:

| Uncollected Taxes Beg. of Year | <u>2019</u> | <u>2018</u> |
|---|---------------------|--------------------|
| Property Taxes | | \$45,815.78 |
| Yield Taxes | | |
| Betterment Taxes | | |
| Property Tax Credit Balance | (\$168.08) | |
| Taxes Committed This Fiscal Year | | |
| Property Taxes | \$867,314.18 | |
| Land Use Change Tax | \$20.00 | |
| Yield Taxes | \$11,872.71 | |
| Excavation Tax | \$81.24 | |
| Overpayment Refunds | | |
| Interest-Late Tax | \$7.85 | \$2,816.69 |
| TOTAL DEBITS | \$879,127.90 | \$48,632.47 |

CREDITS

| Remitted to Treasurer | <u>2019</u> | <u>2018</u> |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Property Taxes | \$807,188.64 | \$28,422.46 |
| Yield Taxes | \$11,872.71 | |
| Interest | \$7.85 | \$2,370.69 |
| Penalties | | \$446.00 |
| Converted to Liens (Principal only) | | \$17,393.32 |
| Abatements Made | | |
| Property Taxes | \$5,202.25 | |
| Excavation Tax | \$81.24 | |

Uncollected Taxes

| - End of Year | <u>2019</u> | <u>2018</u> |
|--------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| Property Taxes | \$54,812.10 | |
| Land Use Change Taxes | \$20.00 | |
| Property Tax Credit Bal. | (\$56.89) | |
| TOTAL CREDITS | \$879,127.90 | \$48,632.47 |

SUMMARY OF

| <u>DEBITS:</u> | <u>2018</u> | <u>2017</u> | <u>2016</u> |
|-----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Unredeemed Lien | | | |
| Balance beg. of FY | | \$15,079.87 | \$13,655.15 |
| Liens Executed FY | \$19,264.64 | | |
| Interest & Costs | | | |
| Collected | \$172.93 | \$879.86 | \$3,809.25 |
| TOTAL DEBITS | \$19,437.57 | \$15,959.73 | \$17,464.40 |

SUMMARY OF

| <u>CREDITS</u> | <u>2018</u> | <u>2017</u> | <u>2016</u> |
|-----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Redemptions | \$2,776.05 | \$3,884.62 | \$11,376.84 |
| Interest & Costs | | | |
| Collected | \$172.93 | \$879.86 | \$3,809.25 |
| Liens Deeded to | | | |
| Town | \$2,360.08 | \$2,367.13 | \$2,278.31 |
| Unredeemed Liens | | | |
| End of FY | \$14,128.51 | \$8,828.12 | \$0.00 |
| TOTAL LIEN | | | |
| CREDITS | \$19,437.57 | \$15,959.73 | \$17,464.40 |

*Sharon Lee Proulx,
Tax Collector
Town of Orange*

TREASURER'S REPORT 2019

CASH ON HAND 01/01/2018 **\$294,095.85**

RECEIPTS

| | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|
| Bank | \$44.97 |
| Select Board | \$586.00 |
| Tax Collector | \$871,561.58 |
| State of New Hampshire | \$50,449.26 |
| Town Clerk | \$66,712.50 |
| Treasury | \$20.00 |
| Unanticipated revenue from State | \$2,147.25 |
| TOTAL RECEIPTS | \$993,521.56 |

EXPENSES

| | |
|---|-----------------------|
| Payment by order of Selectmen | \$1,012,607.27 |
| Monthly Employee Liability | (\$60.50) |
| Difference between Treasury & Select Board | \$33.50 |
| Monthly liability to State | \$183.70 |
| Transfer to Trust Funds | \$44,000.00 |
| Payment: 250 th Capital Reserve Fund | \$2,000.00 |
| TOTAL EXPENSES | \$1,058,763.97 |

PRINCIPLE BORROWED ON

TAX ANTICIPATION NOTE **\$418,300.00**

Tax Anticipation Note interest \$3,975.57

CASH ON HAND 12/31/2019 **\$228,853.44**

EXPLANATION OF DIFFERENCES \$33.50

Dec. road agent mileage to FEMA expense \$29.58

December bank wire fee \$5.00

Arithmetic error (\$1.08)

Respectfully submitted,
Trish Weekes, Treasurer

*2019 REPORT OF THE
TRUSTEES OF THE TRUST FUNDS*

*COMMON TRUST FUNDS
CEMETERIES*

| | Dec. 31, 2018 | 2019 Int. | Dec. 31, 2019 |
|------------------|---------------|-----------|---------------|
| Hannah M. French | \$1,104.34 | \$23.97 | \$1,128.31 |
| Jennie M. French | 1,431.42 | 31.07 | 1,462.49 |
| Arthur Briggs | 519.81 | 11.29 | 531.10 |
| Clara Huse | 480.04 | 10.33 | 490.37 |
| Asa Hoyt | 493.14 | 10.71 | 503.85 |
| Henry Eastman | 1,344.79 | 29.21 | 1,374.00 |
| Abbie Fellows | 1,513.92 | 32.87 | 1,546.79 |
| Adoniram Ford | 1,544.08 | 33.53 | 1,577.61 |
| Charles Ford | 1,607.01 | 34.88 | 1,641.89 |
| Lyman Batchelder | 491.06 | 10.67 | 501.73 |

(There were no withdrawals from the above cemetery trusts.)

ERNEST KILTON BARNARD MEMORIAL FUND

Dec. 31, 2018 balance: \$12,466.39; Interest: \$270.65; Balance
Dec. 31, 2019: \$12,737.04

CAPITAL RESERVES

- *Highway Equipment:* Dec. 31, 2018: \$20,117.64; deposit per vote at 2019 town meeting: \$6,000.00; interest: \$443.89; Dec. 31, 2019 balance: \$26,561.53
- *Town Road Improvement:* Dec. 31, 2018: \$37,667.27; deposit per vote at 2019 town meeting: \$30,000.00; interest: \$853.37; Dec. 31, 2019 balance: \$68,520.64
- *Revaluation:* Dec. 31, 2018: \$12,480.75; deposit per vote at 2019 town meeting: \$4,000.00; interest: \$275.72; Dec. 31, 2019 balance: \$16,756.47
- *Town House:* Dec. 31, 2018: \$6,968.72; deposit per vote at 2019 town meeting: \$4,000.00; interest: \$115.84; Dec. 31, 2019 balance: \$11,102.56
- *Town Document Preservation:* Dec. 31, 2018: \$1,045.25;

interest: \$22.67; Dec. 31, 2019 balance: \$1,067.92

- *Land & Conservation*: Dec. 31, 2018: \$8,592.77; interest: \$186.55; balance Dec. 31, 2019: \$8,779.32
- *Cemetery Monuments*: Dec. 31, 2018: \$1,551.05; interest: \$33.68; balance Dec. 31, 2019: \$1,584.73
- *Legal Expense*: December 31, 2018: \$4,111.13; interest: \$89.17; balance Dec. 31, 2019: \$4,200.40
- *250th Orange Anniversary*: December 31, 2019: \$2000; interest: \$40.51; withdrawal: \$2000; balance Dec. 31, 2019: \$40.51

Cemeteries \$10,758.14
 Kilton Fund: \$12,737.04
 Capital Reserves: \$138,613.98
GRAND TOTAL: \$162,109.16

| <i>Total interest gained</i> | <i>2016</i> | <i>2017</i> | <i>2018</i> | <i>2019</i> |
|------------------------------|----------------|-----------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| | <i>\$44.38</i> | <i>\$753.01</i> | <i>\$1,737.38</i> | <i>\$2,560.50</i> |

The Trustees welcomed Sandi Pierson as a third member of the Trustees of the Trust Funds. The Trustees deposited \$44,000 into capital reserve accounts as voted on at the 2019 town meeting. As per the Investment Policy on file with the Attorney General’s office, “No funds shall be dispersed or expended except for the stated purpose and with an invoice or written authorization to withdraw said funds by the Select Board of the Town of Orange.”

This year, one disbursement was authorized: \$2000 to the Historical Commission from the 250th Orange Anniversary Capital Reserve. We congratulate the Historical Commission on the many outstanding, celebratory programs they did for our 250th anniversary.

As you can see from the table above, the interest we have gained over the last three years has increased significantly and is very beneficial to the town.

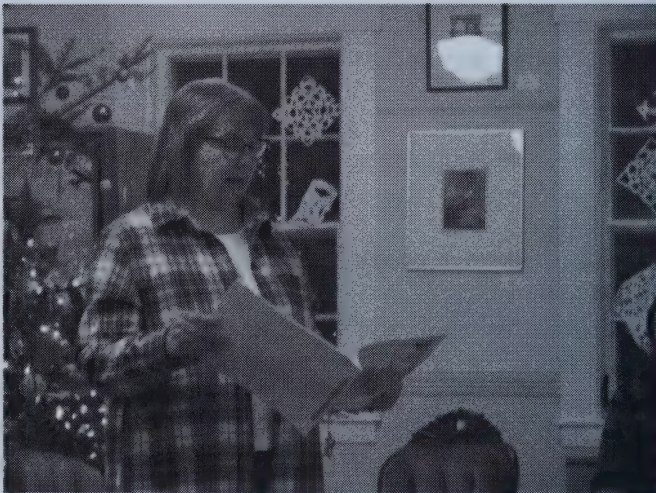
*Respectfully submitted by the Trustees of Trust Funds,
 Nathaniel Emerson, Chair; Pauline Emerson, Sandi Pierson*

*ORANGE TOWN CLERK REPORT
ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2019*

| | |
|--------------------------|--------------------|
| Automobile Registrations | \$66,712.50 |
| Automobile Titles | \$106.00 |
| Municipal Fees | \$1,147.00 |
| Dog Licenses | \$270.50 |
| UCC Fees | \$120.00 |
| Vital Records | \$0.00 |
| Voter List | \$250.00 |
| <i>TOTAL</i> | <i>\$68,606.00</i> |

*Respectfully Submitted,
Amy Tirpaeck,
Orange Town Clerk*

*You can register your vehicle online
at www.Orangenh.us*



Mary Ellen Shelzi reads from the book of poems she created for this year's Christmas Party. Her poems and illustrations captured the incredible year that was both weathered and celebrated by the town. Sandi Pierson photo

2019 PROPERTY TAXES DATA

Town Appropriations: \$261,896
 Less Revenue: (\$133,814)
 Add Overlay per RSA 76:6: \$2,344
 Add War Service Credits: \$1,600
 Total Municipal Tax Effort: \$132,026

Net Local School Apportionment: \$890,923
 Less Education Grant: (\$217,636)
 Less Education Tax (from below): (\$67,811)
 Total School Tax Effort: \$605,476

Education Tax: \$67,811

County Tax: \$61,968

Total Taxes Assessed: \$867,281
 Less War Service Credits: (\$1,600)
Total Property Tax Commitment: \$865,681

TAX RATES PER \$1000 OF VALUATION

| | Town | Mascoma School District | State Education | County | Total Tax Rate |
|------|--------|-------------------------------|--------------------|--------|----------------------|
| 2019 | \$4.03 | \$18.53 | \$2.14 | \$1.90 | \$26.60 |
| 2018 | \$3.80 | \$18.05 | \$2.16 | \$1.86 | \$25.87 |
| 2017 | \$3.88 | \$18.07 | \$2.20 | \$1.77 | \$25.92 |
| 2016 | \$3.71 | \$17.16 | \$2.15 | \$1.73 | \$24.75 |
| 2015 | \$4.45 | \$11.70 | \$2.74 | \$1.54 | \$20.43 |
| 2014 | \$3.07 | \$15.02 | \$2.54 | \$2.00 | \$22.63 |
| 2013 | \$2.50 | \$14.92 | \$2.47 | \$1.66 | \$21.55 |
| 2012 | \$4.10 | \$11.59 | \$2.46 | \$1.62 | \$19.77 |
| 2011 | \$2.00 | \$14.85 | \$2.62 | \$1.50 | \$20.97 |
| 2010 | \$2.21 | \$13.33 | \$2.49 | \$1.49 | \$19.52 |
| 2009 | \$4.05 | \$11.92 | \$2.12 | \$1.44 | \$19.53 |

2019 SUMMARY OF VALUATION

| | <u>ACRES</u> | <u>VALUATION</u> |
|------------------------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| Current Use | 8,713.72 | \$537,235 |
| Residential | 938.0 | \$9,277,300 |
| Commercial | 88.01 | \$215,300 |
| <i>Taxable total acreage</i> | <i>9,739.73</i> | <i>\$10,029,835</i> |
| Non-taxable* | 5,350.13 | \$3,748,600 |

*Town and State properties, including Mt. Cardigan State Forest

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------|
| Residential buildings | \$20,247,700 |
| Manufactured Housing | \$1,168,700 |
| Commercial Buildings | \$428,200 |
| <i>Total Taxable Buildings</i> | <i>\$21,844,600</i> |
| Non-taxable building (Town House) | \$165,100 |
| Utilities: | \$919,100 |

Total valuation before exemptions: \$32,793,535

Less elderly exemption: \$115,000

Net Valuation: \$32,678,535

Town, County, and Mascoma School District taxes are based on the above net valuation.

State Education Tax is based on valuation minus the utilities value of \$919,100. (\$31,759,435)

Current Use Acreage and Values:

Farmland: 158.22 acres - \$51,461

Forest Land: 7,258.51 acres - \$441,562

Forest Land w/ Doc. Stewardship: 1,192.89 acres - \$42,135

Unproductive Land: 42.4 acres - \$786

Wetland: 61.7 - \$1,291

Total: 8,713.72 C.U. acres valued at \$537,235

Other Current Use Statistics:

Receiving 20% recreation adjustment: 4,444.58 acres

Removed from current use in 2019: 0 acres

Total parcels in current use: 138

Total number of current use land owners: 98

2019 SCHEDULE OF TOWN PROPERTY

Properties (assessed values):

- Map 1- Lot 34, Route 4, 0.10 acre (possible site of 1804 municipal toll booth), value: \$1,200
- Map 1- Lot 57, Tuttle Hill Road, 0.65 acre (vacant lot), value: \$18,600
- Map 1 - Lot 56, 200 Tuttle Hill Road (tax-deeded), value: \$87,000
- Map 3- Lot 3-3, Tug Mountain Road, 0.38 acre, Common Cemetery, value: \$16,300
- Map 3 - Lot 11, 8 Town House Road, 2.27 acres, land value: \$41,100, building (Town House): \$142,300
- Map 3- Lot 56, Cardigan Mountain Road, 11.25 acres, "Williams Lot," value: \$40,200
- Map 3- Lot 100, Cardigan Mountain Road, 0.37 acre, French Cemetery, value: \$17,900
- Map 3- Lot 100-1, Cardigan Mountain Road, 0.75 acre, Church Cemetery, value: \$19,400
- Map 7- Lot 3, Firescrew Forest, 8.9 acres on the north flank of Firescrew Mountain, value: \$12,000

Highway Department:

- 2008 Ford 350 Truck: \$10,000
- Fisher XV2 Minute Mount Plow: \$5,000
- Fisher XV Minute Mount Plow: \$1,500
- Fisher Polycast Sander: \$3,500
- 2001 York Rake: \$1,000
- Other equipment: \$900

Other:

- Town house, general contents: \$46,000
- Historical collection: \$5,042
- Art collection: \$7,385
- Set of six display units: \$3,000
- Gary Hamel 23 historical panels: \$7,500
- Standby generator: \$3,500

(Schedule of town properties continued)

| | |
|---------------------|--------------|
| Properties: | \$396,000.00 |
| Highway Department: | \$21,900.00 |
| Other: | \$72,427.00 |

TOTAL: \$490,327.00



*2019 Exploration of the Keyes Mines
Jack Grove, owner; Woody Thompson, USGS geologist;
and Sandi Pierson. Photos courtesy of Deb Clough.*

DETAILED STATEMENT OF 2019 VOUCHERS

4130 Salaries

| | |
|-------------------|-------------|
| Aaron Allen | \$250.00 |
| Amy Tirpaeck | \$1,825.50 |
| David Stacy | \$140.00 |
| Dorothy Heinrichs | \$2,000.00 |
| Kami Stone | \$1,266.20 |
| Nathaniel Emerson | \$115.00 |
| Patricia White | \$401.20 |
| Pauline Emerson | \$100.00 |
| Rebecca Dugan | \$74.80 |
| Robert Ells | \$1,750.00 |
| Robert Proulx | \$140.00 |
| Ruth Conwell | \$500.00 |
| Sandi Pierson | \$11,810.41 |
| Sharon Proulx | \$2,272.00 |
| Sophie Seace | \$2,279.64 |
| Tamara Fairbank | \$2,000.00 |
| Tammy Daley | \$82.00 |
| Trish Weekes | \$2,901.60 |

4140 Elections and Registrations

| | |
|-------------------|----------|
| Anita Garland | \$100.00 |
| Betsy Coble | \$135.00 |
| Daniel Hazelton | \$165.00 |
| Dorothy Heinrichs | \$100.00 |
| Gary Hamel | \$100.00 |
| Gulley Dunlap | \$135.00 |
| Laurie Sanborn | \$135.00 |
| Patricia White | \$100.00 |
| Tamara Fairbank | \$100.00 |

4150 Financial Administration (Deeds)

| | |
|------------------------------|---------|
| Grafton County Reg. Of Deeds | \$94.60 |
|------------------------------|---------|

4152 Revaluation

| | |
|---------------------------|------------|
| Avitar Associates Of N.E. | \$3,291.61 |
|---------------------------|------------|

4153 Legal

| | |
|---|------------|
| Drummond Woodsum | \$3,709.79 |
| (\$195.00 Upton Hatfield invoice paid by private donor) | |

4155 FICA

| | |
|------|------------|
| FICA | \$2,657.15 |
|------|------------|

4191 Planning and Zoning

| | |
|------------------------------------|---------|
| NH Office Of Strategic Initiatives | \$63.00 |
|------------------------------------|---------|

| | |
|-------------|---------|
| Valley News | \$40.90 |
|-------------|---------|

4194 General Government Bldgs.

| | |
|----------------|----------|
| Angel Buckwold | \$220.00 |
|----------------|----------|

| | |
|---------------|----------|
| Brent Stevens | \$148.77 |
|---------------|----------|

| | |
|-----------------|---------|
| Canaan Hardware | \$76.39 |
|-----------------|---------|

| | |
|-----------------------------|------------|
| Consolidated Communications | \$2,311.32 |
|-----------------------------|------------|

| | |
|---------------------------|---------|
| Hampshire Fire Protection | \$35.00 |
|---------------------------|---------|

| | |
|----------------------|----------|
| JBC Septic & Rentals | \$355.00 |
|----------------------|----------|

| | |
|-------------|----------|
| Lyell Smith | \$458.24 |
|-------------|----------|

| | |
|-------------------|----------|
| NH Electric Co-op | \$882.95 |
|-------------------|----------|

| | |
|---------------------|----------|
| Town Of Hanover, NH | \$460.00 |
|---------------------|----------|

| | |
|-----------------|------------|
| Young's Propane | \$2,237.59 |
|-----------------|------------|

4195 Cemeteries

| | |
|--------------|------------|
| Barry Geddis | \$1,494.60 |
|--------------|------------|

| | |
|-----------------|---------|
| Canaan Hardware | \$18.00 |
|-----------------|---------|

| | |
|-----------------|----------|
| Tamara Fairbank | \$500.00 |
|-----------------|----------|

| | |
|------------------|----------|
| Thomas Dunkerton | \$750.00 |
|------------------|----------|

4196 Insurance

| | |
|--------|------------|
| Primex | \$1,511.73 |
|--------|------------|

4197 Memberships

| | |
|---------------------------------------|---------|
| NH Association Of Assessing Officials | \$20.00 |
|---------------------------------------|---------|

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---------|
| NH City & Town Clerks Association | \$20.00 |
|-----------------------------------|---------|

| | |
|--------------------------------|---------|
| NH Health Officers Association | \$35.00 |
|--------------------------------|---------|

| | |
|--------------------------------|---------|
| NH Local Welfare Admin. Assoc. | \$30.00 |
|--------------------------------|---------|

| | |
|--------------------------|------------|
| NH Municipal Association | \$1,071.00 |
|--------------------------|------------|

| | |
|----------------------------|---------|
| NH Public Works Mutual Aid | \$25.00 |
|----------------------------|---------|

| | |
|-----------------------|---------|
| NH Road Agents Assoc. | \$30.00 |
|-----------------------|---------|

| | |
|--|----------|
| Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Reg. Pl. Comm. | \$454.46 |
|--|----------|

4199 Officer Expenses

| | |
|-------------|----------|
| Aaron Allen | \$162.00 |
|-------------|----------|

| | |
|--------------|----------|
| Amy Tirpaeck | \$571.23 |
|--------------|----------|

| | |
|----------------------------|---------|
| Gatekeeper Lock & Safe LLC | \$18.75 |
|----------------------------|---------|

| | |
|-------------|----------|
| Gnomon Copy | \$394.20 |
|-------------|----------|

| | |
|-----|----------|
| IDS | \$166.40 |
|-----|----------|

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|
| Interware Development Co. | \$1,269.00 |
| Intuit Quickbooks | \$530.00 |
| John Daley | \$125.00 |
| Laurie Sanborn | \$799.99 |
| Mascoma Savings Bank | \$25.00 |
| NH City & Town Clerks Association | \$140.00 |
| Patricia White | \$0.45 |
| Robert Proulx | \$133.35 |
| Sandi Pierson | \$867.72 |
| Sharon Proulx | \$135.10 |
| Sophie Seace | \$12.94 |
| Staples | \$828.04 |
| Tammy Daley | \$147.55 |
| Treasurer, State Of NH | \$162.50 |
| Trish Weekes | \$193.53 |
| U.S. Postal Service | \$500.60 |
| Valley News | \$15.73 |
| 4215 Ambulance | |
| Town Of Canaan, NH | \$10,635.69 |
| 4220 Fire | |
| Town Of Canaan, NH | \$14,296.00 |
| 4250 Building Inspection | |
| Donald Pfaefflin | \$228.50 |
| Douglas Weekes | \$268.24 |
| 4290 Emergency Management | \$0.00 |
| 4312 Highway | |
| Dyer's Welding | \$7,646.38 |
| Ferguson Waterworks | \$613.20 |
| Green Oak Realty | \$644.00 |
| Pike Industries | \$479.35 |
| Richard Remacle Construction | \$46,119.00 |
| Scott Sanborn | \$3,170.13 |
| Shaker Valley Auto Parts | \$40.55 |
| Sugar Face | \$493.28 |
| 4323 Solid Waste | |
| Town Of Canaan, NH | \$15,828.41 |

4415 Health

| | |
|---|------------|
| Douglas Weekes | \$265.12 |
| Grafton County Senior Citizens Council | \$400.00 |
| Public Health Council | \$248.00 |
| Tri-County CAP | \$114.00 |
| Upper Valley Humane Society | \$300.00 |
| Visiting Nurse Association Of VT & NH | \$1,300.00 |
| West Central Behavioral Health Services | \$400.00 |

4441 General and Direct Assistance

| | |
|-------------------|----------|
| NH Electric Co-op | \$324.36 |
|-------------------|----------|

4550 Library

| | |
|--------------------|------------|
| Town of Canaan, NH | \$4,000.00 |
|--------------------|------------|

4589 Culture and Recreation

| | |
|------------------|----------|
| Johnson, Marilyn | \$191.47 |
|------------------|----------|

4611 Timber Monitor

\$0.00

4619 Conservation

| | |
|-------------------|----------|
| Dorothy Heinrichs | \$567.36 |
|-------------------|----------|

4723 TAN

| | |
|----------------------|------------|
| Mascoma Savings Bank | \$3,975.57 |
|----------------------|------------|

4903 Buildings Capital Outlay

\$0.00

OTHER PAYMENTS

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Flood Event of July 11 (FEMA Disaster) | \$104,666.18 |
|--|--------------|

| | |
|---|-------------|
| Annual County Payment to Grafton County | \$61,968.00 |
|---|-------------|

| | |
|---|--------------|
| School payments to Mascoma School Dist. | \$673,598.94 |
|---|--------------|

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| TOTAL PAYMENTS | \$1,013,961.26 |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|

The town report can be viewed in full color at
www.Orangenh.us (Thank you, Jay Heinrichs!)



REPORTS

2019 REPORT OF THE SELECT BOARD

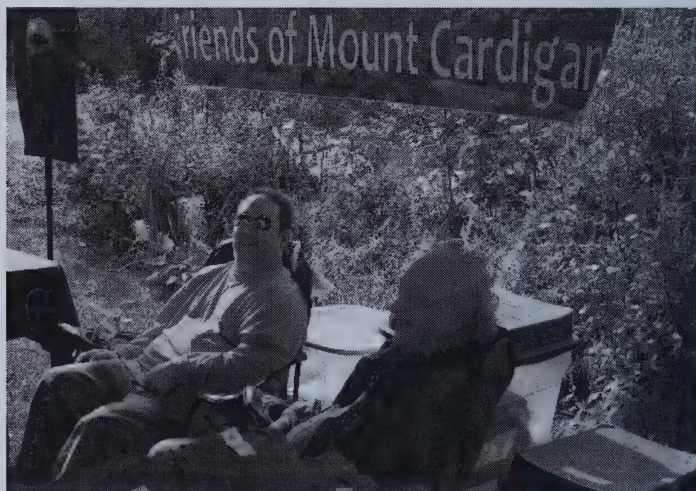
Reflecting on 2019, we could focus on the July evening when historic rains washed away most of the Town roads along with the Cardigan Mountain Road Bridge over Orange Brook. But we choose instead to remember the remarkable way our elected Town officials, state government, the federal government, and our neighbors came together to make certain everyone was safe and had what they needed. Less than 24 hours after the rain stopped, most Town roads were marginally passable, we had been visited by federal disaster officials, and the governor came to assure us that help was on the way. In fact, help was already here. Just about every resident with a backhoe or chainsaw was out clearing up and making way for equipment. Volunteers staffed the Town House to answer questions and offer consolation, information and water. Over the three weeks of major disruption, Town residents welcomed the NH DOT teams like old friends— and the feeling was mutual.



NH DOT representative meets with Governor Chris Sununu and Select Board Chair Dorothy Heinrichs at the site of the Cardigan Mountain Road washout following the July 11 flood.

For the Town's 250th anniversary, we didn't just mark each month with a different celebration, we came together to celebrate our Orangeness: that unique blend of independence, self-reliance, a love for the land, and a desire to keep Orange a great town for all of us.

Town-wide Reval: With 2020 comes a full revaluation of the Town. This assessment of every property in Town every five years is a State requirement for all municipalities and is necessary for accurate and equitable property taxation. Our longstanding assessing firm, Avitar, has always made this five-year requirement as unproblematic and unobtrusive as possible. After the fieldwork is complete, Avitar will send residents a notice by mail of their 2020 assessment. Residents will have the opportunity to meet with an Avitar accessor and discuss their assessment before it is finalized. Even though a resident may have made no changes to his or her property, the value may change to some extent due to the overall equalization rate, which is set annually by the Department of Revenue Administration (DRA).



*Friends of Mount Cardigan
Keoki and Dave Johnson relax at the 2019 Harvest Festival*

Veteran's Tax Credit: On this year's warrant, residents will be asked to vote on expanding the eligibility of the veteran's tax credit of \$200. In years long past, all veterans applying for a credit were approved by the Town. The DRA, during its 5-year audit of our records, brought to our attention that veteran credits are allowed only per NH RSA 72:28, which limits the tax credit to veterans of specific war and conflict periods or those who have been awarded certain medals. Understandably, many veterans who had been receiving the tax credit were displeased to get a notice of disqualification. Recently, the State passed NH RSA 72:28-b, which allows towns to vote to expand the veterans' credit to veterans who have served a minimum of 90 days and were honorably discharged.

Town House: A group of knowledgeable builders in town came together to form the Town House Study Committee. Members are Skip Smith, Aaron Allen, Aaron O'Leary, Doug Weeeks, Dave Stacy, Sandi Pierson, and Tamara Fairbank. Their purpose is to explore improvements that will ensure our one municipal building is in sound condition. After a site evaluation, two projects came to light. First, the third floor comprising the historical museum needs stronger structural support. Second, the wiring in the building's original section needs updating. Sandi and Doug are working on a grant from the Land and Community Heritage Investment Program (LCHIP) to help pay for these two projects. LCHIP grants require matching funds; therefore, other grants are being explored, as well as money available from the Town House Capital Reserve.

Building Ordinance: Recommended changes to our building ordinance were brought before the Board for consideration. Legal counsel reviewed the ordinance in its entirety and brought a number of discrepancies to our attention. These discrepancies do not change the spirit of the ordinance; they are essentially inaccuracies associated with RSA annotations and the amendment approval protocols. We will be working with the Building Inspector to remedy these discrepancies.



Gathering at Schoolhouse #2, Orange Pond School, located at the Jim Collins and Kristin Laine property on Tuttle Hill Road. Historian and former NH Agricultural Commissioner Steve Taylor was present to talk about the history of one-room schoolhouses.

OHRV on Class 6 roads: A reminder that snowmobiles and other off-highway recreation vehicles are not permitted on Class 6 Town-owned roads without special permission by the Select Board. The rule was adopted at a public hearing on June 23, 2010 and later as a warrant article at the 2012 town meeting.

Officer vacancies: 2019 brought an unusual number of resignations, some unexpectedly. We offer our sincere thanks to the following people who stepped up to fill these vacancies:

- Doug Weekes as Building Inspector and Health Officer
- Hilary Allen as Planning Board Secretary
- Louis Shelzi as Budget Committee member
- Aaron Allen as Selectman
- Amy Tirpaeck as Town Clerk
- Ruth Conwell as Town Auditor
- A special thanks to Kami Stone who has assisted in the Town Clerk's office with her terrific reliability and enthusiasm.

And our thanks to those who stepped down after years of service: Don Pfaefflin, Bob Proulx, Bob Ells, Sophie Seace. In particular we would like to thank Bob Proulx as Planning Board member and Bob Ells as Planning Board and Select Board member for their 40+ years of service.

Septic: During the most inconvenient time, last year's town meeting, the Town House's septic system failed. Skip Smith and Brent Stevens dug in (literally) to manage the problem. They oversaw repairs that resulted in a fully working system prior to the following town-wide social event.

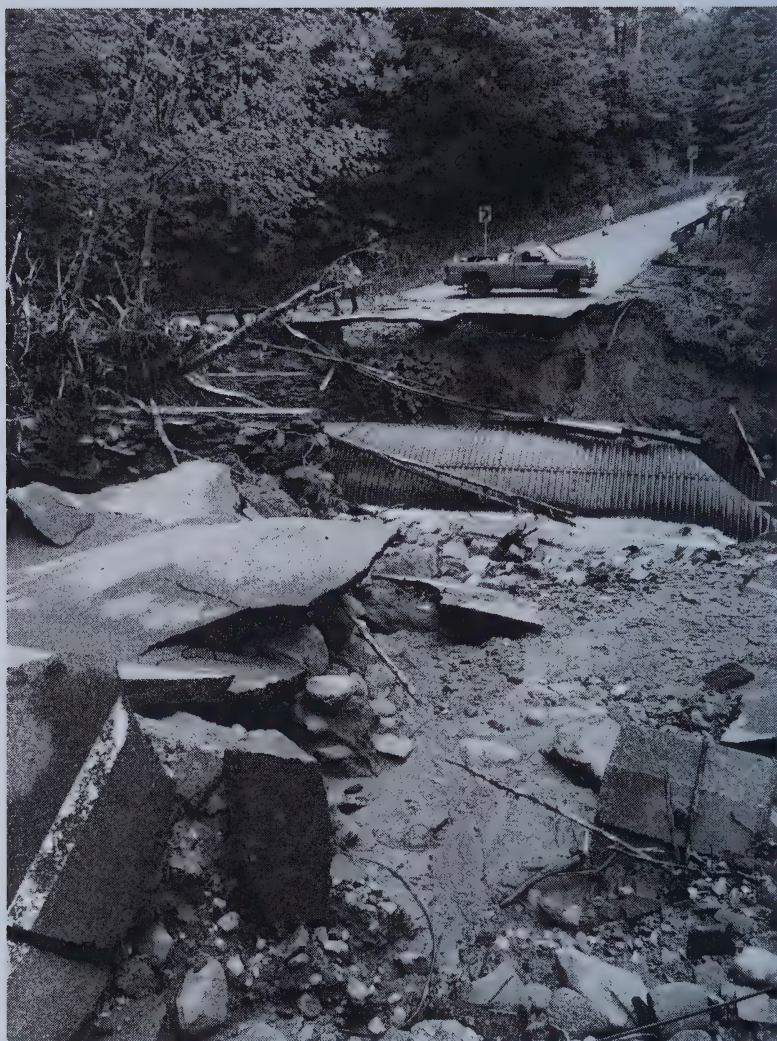
Thanks! Special thanks to the Orange Historical Commission, whose meticulous research, planning, and execution brought celebration after celebration and real pride in our Town's past and hopes for our future.

The Board is again grateful for the support of Sandi Pierson provides us and the people of Orange. Thanks, Sandi, for another great year and another great town report.

Respectfully submitted,
Dorothy Heinrichs, Tamara Fairbank, and Aaron Allen
Select Board, Town of Orange



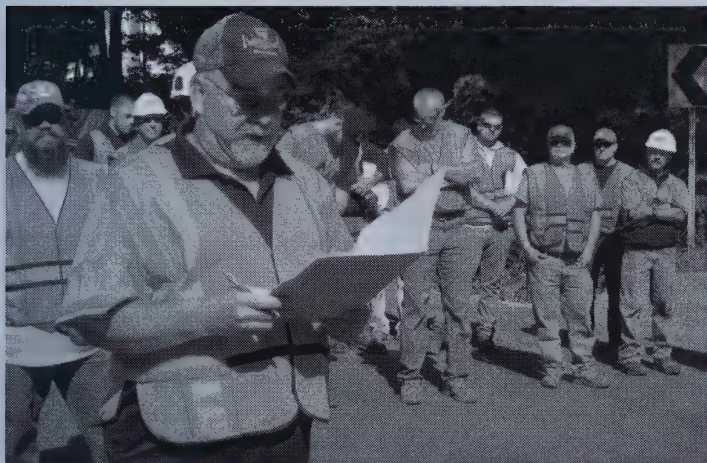
Basin Bridge after reconstruction by NH DOT



The Morning After

The Basin Bridge on Cardigan Mountain Road was completely destroyed by the flood event July 11. The New Hampshire Department of Transportation was on the scene with their manpower, trucks, and equipment at 6 a.m. the following morning to begin reconstruction. Substantial sections of the entire road from Canaan to the State Park were seriously damaged. Photo courtesy of Dorothy Heinrichs

NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION – DISTRICT TWO



To the People of the Town of Orange, NH

We would like to congratulate all of you on the 250th anniversary of your 1769 Charter as a Town. The summer of 2019 has proved to be quite a historic event in itself. The record-breaking rainfall on the evening of July 11, 2019 left deep scars throughout your town on both public and private property.

As NH DOT mobilized personal equipment to restore our damaged infrastructure and perform repairs well into weeks later, our crews have all mentioned how friendly and understanding the people were with the influx of equipment. As we traveled back and forth, moving tens of thousands of tons in and out of Cardigan Mountain Road, our crews were always met with friendly waves—even as the disruption of their daily lives could not help but be impacted by our presence.

The elected officials, volunteers, and residents have been instrumental in our ability to complete our tasks in such a short amount of time. While the scars and repairs from the devastation will long be etched in the history of the Town of Orange, also will the memories of the Town and its people will be etched in all of our employees' minds.

2019 REPORT OF THE PLANNING BOARD

The Orange Planning Board conducted its 2019 business in its usual cooperative and harmonious fashion. Albert Emerson and Scott Sanborn were re-elected to their positions, and Dorothy Heinrichs took over for Bob Ells as the Selectboard's ex-officio member. Scott Sanborn was re-elected as Chair, Judith Lindahl as Vice-Chair, and Bob Proulx as Secretary.

Midway through the year, Bob Proulx resigned from his position on the Board. Bob was a driving force behind the initial establishment of zoning in Orange and has served on the planning board since its establishment – nearly 50 years! His wealth of knowledge and dedication to the town will be sorely missed but we wish him all the best in his “retirement.” The Board appointed Hillary Rogers in August to fill his position for the remainder of 2019, and Hilary also graciously accepted Bob's former role as Secretary.

The Board saw one application submitted this year, for a minor 2 lot subdivision of land on Cardigan Mountain Road. The application was accepted and approved in November.

Otherwise, the board has been working on several long-term projects including development of formal by-laws, procedures and policies, discussion and development of regulations of larger solar arrays, and discussion of “tiny houses” and whether they should be specifically addressed in any fashion within our regulations. In the coming year we plan to review and evaluate the driveway regulations and some of the Planning Board's forms and fee schedule to update if deemed necessary.

The Chairman wishes to thank the members of the Planning Board for their commitment and thoughtful considerations to the planning issues that impact the Town of Orange. Thanks also, to our Board of Selectmen for their dedication to the town, and the town's attorneys at the offices of Gardner, Fulton and Waugh for being ever available to provide insight and legal wisdom. We

also thank the members of the public who have provided input at our meetings and public hearings.

The Planning Board holds its regular meetings on the third Tuesday of every month. Those wishing to be heard formally by the board, whether to discuss a subdivision or boundary adjustment, or any topic of general interest related to planning and zoning may ask to be placed on the agenda by contacting Secretary Hillary Allen at 603-381-4105, or Chairman Scott Sanborn at 603-667-8237. The public is always encouraged to attend our meetings, and the Board is pleased to hear questions or comments whether on the agenda or not. It is recommended to check ahead, as meetings may be cancelled if there is no business requiring the board's attention. As the Chairman, I know I can speak on behalf the entire Board when I say that we look forward to continuing to serve the Town of Orange in the year 2020.

*Respectfully submitted,
Scott Sanborn, Chair*

*In Remembrance
Nathaniel "Albert" Emerson
1954 - 2020*



*A gentleman and a
friend to Orange*

*Planning Board
2013 - 2020*

*Trustee of the Trust
Funds 2014 - 2020*

*Orange Historical
Commission
2016 - 2020*

2019 REPORT OF THE ROAD AGENT

Thank you once again for the privilege of allowing me to serve the Town of Orange as your Road Agent.

2019 will unquestionably be remembered as the year of the flood.

During the evening of July 11, the town of Orange received nearly 7 inches of rain in a 3 hour time span resulting in flash flooding, the likes of which have never been seen or documented in town. The resulting damage included a 20-foot deep by 100-foot wide section of Cardigan Mountain Road washed away at the Orange Basin along with several other impassable washouts on the state road between there and Canaan. The town had about 1½ miles of road completely washed away, leaving canyons as deep as 7-8 feet where the roads used to be, along with significant damage to another 2½ miles of road in the form of shoulder and ditch washouts. Several private properties sustained significant damage as well.

The character of Orange Brook, Number 7 Brook and several smaller tributaries were completely changed as the current scoured vegetation and earth away from the adjacent banks, deposited gravel and other debris in some areas and scoured it out of others. In two locations, the watercourses relocated themselves by up to more than 100 feet into new channels, ponds were filled in with gravel deposits. The National Weather Service classified this as an event with a probability of occurrence only once every 1,000 years. Fortunately, the eastern part of town over the height of land at the State Forest entrance was entirely spared, or else many of us would have been completely stranded.

Hardest hit were New Colony Road, Tug Mountain Road and Williams Road, with Tuttle Hill Road, Cross Road, Eastman Road, and Town House road also sustaining damage. The dollar value of the damages is estimated to run to a little either side of

\$1,000,000. For a town with an annual highway budget of around \$100,000, this is obviously crippling.

The morning after the flooding, some two dozen homes were inaccessible to/from the “outside world” by vehicle. Access to at least half of these was restored by the end of the first day after the flood, and the last of the residences were reached by the end of the fourth day. Nearly all of the repairs made to date are “temporary” in nature, to provide access and allow for winter maintenance. Permanent reconstruction will begin in the coming spring.

Not enough thanks can possibly be extended to all those who assisted in these efforts. Richard Remacle Construction and Bobby Senter’s Razor Hill Construction in Grafton both dropped everything to mobilize their equipment and crews in the effort to restore access. Walter Hammond and Philip Salvail provided additional trucking services. Several individual residents also provided much assistance in the form of clearing brush and trees and gravel debris off roads, checking on stranded residents, shuttling people out and supplies in via ATV. In order that nobody is inadvertently left out, I will refrain from calling out names here, but all who helped, please know that you have the deepest gratitude from myself personally and the town as a whole. Selectboard Chair Dorothy Heinrichs was instrumental in assuring the town house was open and available for residents if needed, and for acting as a liaison between the many emergency responders. And of course, the gratitude also extends to the NHDOT crews who were working seemingly around the clock to repair Cardigan Mountain Road, and to Canaan EMS services who assisted us in numerous ways.

The event was declared a national disaster which cleared the way for us to petition the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for assistance in funding the repairs. During the remainder of the summer, fall and into early winter we have spent hundreds of hours meeting with federal and state representatives, conducting site inspections and filing the paperwork necessary to obtain reimbursement for both

immediate, temporary repairs and for the permanent repairs still pending. However, even with assistance from FEMA, the town will be responsible for up to 25% of the total bill for repairs. The selectboard, your road agent and the budget committee are still working, as of this writing, to develop strategies for how we can manage our portion of the costs without crippling our annual budget. One way or another, we intend to begin undertaking permanent repairs as soon as conditions permit in the spring. It is too soon to project when they might be completed.

Aside from the flooding, there was (thankfully) little else of note. Snowfall during the '18-'19 plowing season was about average, with a bit more than average ice. November-December of 2019 did not give us any heavy snowstorms by Orange standards, but we had numerous small snowfalls which kept us out plowing quite frequently. Mud season was no worse than normal.

Last March in town meeting, we put forth an article in the town warrant looking to finance the paving of our roads through the posting of a bond. Due to the situation we find ourselves in after the flood, we are tabling any thoughts of repaving until the repairs are completed and we know what our financial obligations will be.

Another item I had hoped to address this spring, but have put on hold for the same reason, was replacement of the town truck. As I have stated in previous reports, it gets worked extremely hard in the winter, and then is not used very much during the summer. With no town garage available to keep it in, it is exposed to the elements year-round, and this takes a toll. Annual undercoating has helped to stave off the effects, but it is past the point of even that helping much. Over \$6,000 in repairs was needed this fall in order for it to pass inspection. However, as with the plowing, I feel it is best to put this off for one more year as we focus our immediate financial efforts on the necessary road repairs. We have, however, asked for a little bit of an increase in the amount raised for the Highway Equipment Capital Reserve Fund which we feel will put us in a good position to purchase a pre-owned 3-5 year old 1 to 1½ ton truck similar to the current vehicle with a

relatively modest additional outlay or perhaps short term financing over just a couple of years.

I can be reached by phone at 603-667-8237 or by email at scsanborn@myfairpoint.net at any time with questions, concerns or to report a problem. As most of you probably know, I juggle my duties to the town with my day job so I can't always promise an immediate response except in the case of serious emergencies, but the concerns of the townspeople are important to me and I will continue to do my best to keep our roads safe and well maintained. There is also a much under-utilized service provided to the town by Jay & Dorothy Heinrichs in the form of their community web site www.orangenh.us which includes a discussion page on roads where residents are invited to share their thoughts.

As always, many thanks are due to Richard Remacle and his employees for their top quality work and responsiveness to the town's needs. It continues to be my utmost pleasure to work with him and his crew. Thanks also to the Board of Selectmen for their accessibility, confidence and cooperation, to Sandi Pierson for keeping us all in touch with each other and on track. Much gratitude to the residents of Orange for their support, and particularly for those times when I never even hear about trees blocking the road because one or more of you have simply cranked up your own chain saw to take care of it! Finally, but most certainly not the in the least, thanks to my wife Laurie for putting up with the sometimes crazy hours and the occasional need to bend schedules to the whim of the weather. To anyone I may have overlooked I extend my apologies and gratitude.

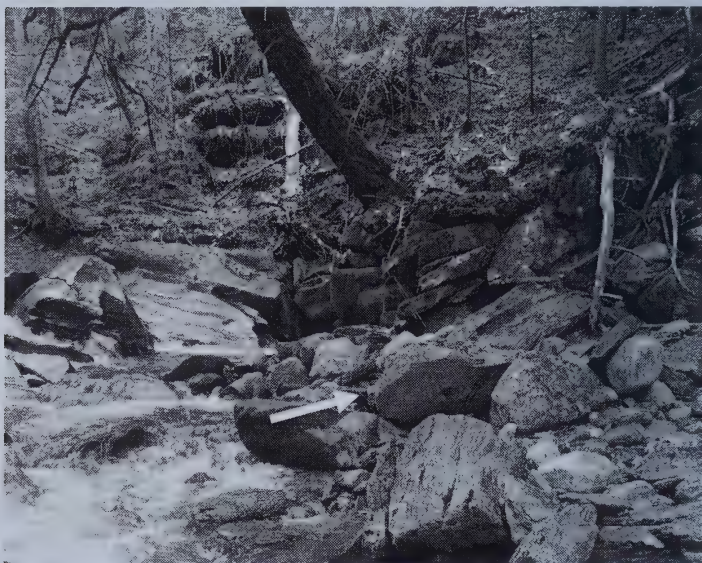
I look forward to hopefully continuing to serve our community in 2020.

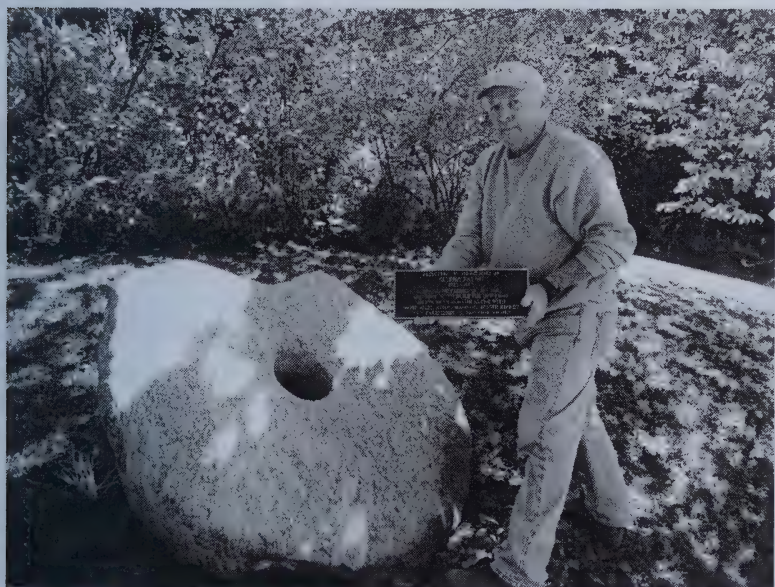
*Respectfully Submitted,
Scott Sanborn, Road Agent*

Moving the Grist Millstone

Elisha Payne's corn mill, circa 1773

Brought down Orange Brook a considerable distance over the years from the mill site above the Basin. It is now displayed at the Town House through the efforts of Aaron Allen.





Dave Stacy prepares to place a historic plaque on the millstone

2019 REPORT OF THE ORANGE HISTORICAL COMMISSION

The year-long celebration of the 250th anniversary of our town charter, granted in 1769, was the primary focus in 2019. All the planning and hard work by many volunteers for the many events and activities made our celebration a memorable success.

At this time, I wish to thank all the great cooks, the cleaning and setup crews, the planners, the quilters, the tee-shirt makers, the banner hangers, the stone and boulder movers, the historical speakers, the program designers, the decorators, the flag makers, the researchers, and the writers.

Our first official event was the Town birthday party at Town Meeting in March. It began with a delicious pot luck supper followed by sharing a birthday cake. Our Moderator, Dan Hazelton, read from the 1769 Town Charter. It was one of the largest gatherings we have had at a town meeting in recent memory.

In early April, our 250th Anniversary banner was hung over the Town House entrance for all to see. Later on April 27th, an Evening of Music was celebrated at the Town House. Gary and Danny had researched the people and places that created a vivid picture of the music scene in Orange over the years. Gary created an attractive back drop with pictures and sheet music for a staging area for the musicians that included the Cardigan Mountain Tradition, the Barney Family Singers, David Wilson, and Dan Hazelton as a ventriloquist. There were sing-a-longs and readings. It was a fun and festive evening.

In May, we began our self-guided cemetery tours with 24 grave sites marked with the important contributions of these early citizens. During the months of July through October, a self-guided tour of 28 historical sites throughout the town was also set up. Many local residents and visitors took advantage of these tours to learn more about the history of Orange.

Gary set up a comprehensive display of our historical artifacts in the library/museum of the Town House. During this time, he did a great deal of exploring of early homestead dumps as well as the flooded banks of Orange Brook. Because the flood

did so much damage, it exposed many artifacts that he retrieved. As a result, he set up displays of pottery shards from the former Lowell property and many artifacts from the French family dump. In an effort to highlight different aspects of life in Orange, he fashioned displays about school life, the family dining table, women's life, maple sugaring, and life in general.

On July 20th, a ceremony was held to dedicate the grist stone from Elijah Payne's mill at Orange Basin. The grist stone was retrieved from the Basin by Aaron Allen using a series of cables and zip lines. The stone turned out to be in great shape, and it was decided to place it on the Town House property with a brass plaque to commemorate its history. A cider toast, a historical talk by Steve Taylor, a pot luck supper, and a slide show of historical and natural photographs were enjoyed by all. Sandi Pierson and Gary Hamel prepared and narrated the slide show. Whitney Payne Lamy, a descendant of Elijah Payne, attended this ceremony.

On August 17th, a large gathering of residents and visitors enjoyed the community barbeque at the home of David and Kathy Stacy on Orange Pond. The food was delicious with many volunteers helping to make the day truly festive. People dined at many different locations on the property, while a band played. A



Nancy Pike photo

community photograph was taken beside Orange Pond with Cardigan Mountain in the background. Later, Steve Taylor gave a talk on Orange's last remaining one-room school house located on Jim Collins and Kristen Laine's property, followed by an ice cream social.

Our celebration of the Waldo family was held on Saturday, September 28th. Everyone was transported from the Town House to the Orange Common Cemetery by Richard Vincent's horse drawn wagon. Gary gave a very informative talk on the Waldo



Hannah and Jack Grove and daughter Evangeline at the Nathan Waldo memorial stone. Hannah and Evangeline are descendants of Waldo, who was a charter member of the town when it was called Cardigan. Photo by Marilyn Johnson

family, their valuable contributions to our town, and the fact that they were buried as paupers without grave markers. The Select Board read a proclamation that absolved the Waldo family of all debts. A large field stone, donated by the Terhune family and moved from their property by David Como, was engraved with the signature of Nathan Waldo. The stone was unveiled and a wreath was laid at the stone by Evangeline Grove, a descendant of Nathan Waldo.

The annual Orange Harvest Festival was held on October 13th and items for the time capsule were collected. We are still collecting appropriate memorabilia for the capsule. If you have something that should be in the capsule, bring it to Town Meeting on March 11th.

Our traditional New England dance with caller David Millstone was held on October 26th. David took us through the history of both square and line dancing. He is a very knowledgeable caller, and was assisted by a talented three-person musical group. The hall was decorated magically with white lights, grape vines, bittersweet, and beech leaves. A dessert buffet was enjoyed throughout the evening.

Veterans' Day was celebrated on November 10th with the dedication of our new veterans' plaque. The names of all Orange veterans from all wars were read by Gary Hamel, and David Stacy served as Master of Ceremonies. Many Orange veterans were in attendance, and each received a commemorative coin to mark the day. Refreshments were served and many interesting conversations were shared.

The historical quilt was a year-long project starting in January. Rosemary Hanness had the vision to create a quilt with 80 historical photographs of life in Orange over the past many years. Volunteers worked on this project, and each person brought their own interests and talents. The team met once or twice a month to work together, but much of the work on the quilted photo squares was done at home. By September 8th, the quilt top was completed and all that remained was to tie and bind the quilt.

Commemorative tee-shirts were also created by the quilting group and sold to create income for the celebration. Everyone



*Rosemary Haness with our 250th anniversary cake at the town-wide barbeque held at the Stacy residence.
Photo by Alasdair Dunlap-Smith*

seemed to enjoy wearing the orange and black shirts to the various events.

The 43rd annual Orange Christmas Party was held on December 8th. A delicious pot luck supper was enjoyed by the large gathering. Rosemary presented the historical quilt to the Town. Thanks to Doug Weekes, it had been hung on the back wall before the party. It was unveiled and revealed for the first time to all in attendance, and it was very well received and appreciated.

Mary Ellen Shelzi had written a wonderful book featuring our year-long 250th Anniversary celebration. It was cleverly written in rhyme and very well received. After she read the book aloud, copies were distributed to each child. Gary made his traditional piñata, singing was led by Scott and Laurie Sanborn, Santa arrived on que, and the gifts were presented to the children. The party ended with the lighting of the candles and the singing of Mary Rickson's special song, as has been the tradition for over 40 years.

Our task seemed monumental in January, but because of so many wonderful volunteers our celebration went smoothly and was a great deal of fun. Neighbors got to know each other better and we all learned a lot about Orange's history.

*Respectfully submitted,
Sharon Proulx, Chair*

2019 REPORT OF THE HEALTH OFFICER

The past year's duties of my job as health officer for the town of Orange involved mostly inspection and clean-up of several incidents of trash or hazardous debris. It was certainly helpful to have a pick-up truck. Properties that are in a state of dereliction or abandonment can present health and safety concerns and I worked to mitigate such concerns.

Last summer I attended a meeting of emergency measure coordinators in Lebanon and made some useful contacts for logistical help and collaboration in the event of a major catastrophe . . . which we hope never happens. The flood of July 11/12, 2019 had its own particular challenges and I was impressed and encouraged by the spontaneous volunteerism and self-sacrificing service manifested by the town's residents.

I hope the coming year is a relatively quiet one on the health and safety front for the town.

*Sincerely,
Doug Weekes
Town of Orange Health Officer*

* * * * *

Important Announcement for all Orange Residents

A special, limited-time price has been negotiated with Endyne, Inc. of Lebanon, a state-approved water testing lab, for all Orange residents to have their well water tested. The discount amounts to 10% off any of three of their regularly offered test groups. (See informational insert for details.)

The discount applies to all tests submitted during the week of Monday, March 16 to March 20.

Test kits can be picked up at Endyne's Lebanon location at 56 Etna Rd., Lebanon, NH *or* pre-ordering from me by using my email: slofoxtrot@yahoo.com by Sunday 9 p.m., March 8 and picked up at the March 10 Selectboard meeting.

Once the participating residents have their test kits they can drop them off at Endyne's location any time during the business week of March 16 *or* drop them off at the Orange Town House on Monday, March 16 between 7 and 9 a.m and they will be delivered to Endyne by me that day.

Testing your well water for hazards (bacteria, heavy metals, radioactivity) will never be easier or less expensive and I recommend it for all households.

If you have questions about the tests themselves call Endyne at 603-678-4891 for advice and information. If you have logistical questions about the test kit deliveries, etc., email me personally.

All test results of your water are private and you will be notified individually. The town will have the meta (overall) data of the testing but each individual test result is not public information.



New Colony Road beaver pond (Orange Cove Trail)

2019 REPORT OF THE ORANGE SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

This is the 27th year offering scholarships to students living in Orange, graduating from high school, and furthering their education. Students graduating in 2020 should have received their applications which were mailed in September, 2019. The application must be completed and returned to the Scholarship Committee by May 1, 2020. High school students living in our town and graduating from schools other than Mascoma Valley Regional High School should contact the committee.

In 2019, we participated in the Town of Orange Harvest Festival and were grateful to receive some of the profits. Thank you to our residents who gave generous donations.

The scholarship recipients for 2019 were: Melissa Ells and Jodiah Stone. We have awarded 42 scholarships since 1995.

We invite anyone to help with our cause, which is promoting and supporting continuing education for our high school students. Please contact anyone on the Scholarship Committee if you would like to help in any way.

Respectfully submitted,

Pauline Emerson, Beth DiFrancesco, Anita Garland, Marilyn Johnson, Rosemary Haness, Nancy Pike, Gloria Stevens, Pat White



Music at the Harvest Festival. This annual event has benefited many efforts in town including the Scholarship Committee, Town House repairs, and the Historical Commission

2019 REPORT OF THE STATE POLICE

I would like to take this opportunity to provide a report to residents of Orange regarding the calls for service that the State Police have responded to in your community during the last year. This will hopefully provide you with a good baseline and understanding of the present law enforcement needs that currently exist within the community, as well as serving as a guide to determine what level of law enforcement resources the community desires based upon the current trends and expectations of the residents as they look forward to the future.

Currently the State Police respond to calls as requested as part of our regular patrol duties, as well as providing troopers to conduct law enforcement patrols specifically dedicated to your community as requested by the town.

During 2019 the State Police responded to and investigated 68 calls for service in the town of Orange:

| | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| Ambulance Assist 1 | Domestic 2 |
| Motorist Assist 5 | Civil Issue 2 |
| Suspicious Vehicle 4 | Assault 1 |
| Automobile Accident 3 | Animals Complaints 1 |
| Road Obstruction 4 | Department Assist 1 |
| Burglar Alarm 15 | Hazardous Operator 1 |
| Theft 1 | Noise Complaint 1 |
| 9-1-1 Hang-up 2 | Criminal Mischief 2 |
| Sex Offender Registration 5 | Suspicious Person 4 |
| Burglary 4 | Sexual Assault 1 |
| Welfare Check 6 | Unattended Death 2 |

It has been our pleasure to serve the residents of Orange during the past year and we look forward to assisting you with your law enforcement requests in 2020.

Respectfully,
Lieutenant Gary A. Prince Commander, Troop F

| <i>Call log</i> | <i>2012</i> | <i>2013</i> | <i>2014</i> | <i>2015</i> | <i>2016</i> | <i>2017</i> | <i>2018</i> | <i>2019</i> |
|-----------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| | 82 | 83 | 66 | 58 | 75 | 57 | 57 | 68 |

2019 REPORT OF THE ORANGE CEMETERY TRUSTEES



This year the most noticed and needed improvement in all of the town cemeteries was the installation of the new cemetery signs. The trustees would like to thank Aaron O'Leary for his donation of setting the posts and installing the signs.

Again in May, flags were placed to honor our Veterans.

As part of our 250th Anniversary celebration in 2019 the Historical Commission created a self-guided cemetery tour. This was very well laid out so residents and visitors alike were able to learn about former residents who had lived in Orange. We also were fortunate to participate in the dedication of the Waldo Memorial Stone in the Orange Common Cemetery in September.

This year the Cemetery Trustees have become members of the New Hampshire Old Grave Yard Society. We will attend the workshops they offer in restoring and maintaining old monuments. They assist towns in learning to do this in an approved and correct manner. There are several monuments that are in need of repair that will be addressed.

Again, a big thank you to Barry Geddis (our Cemetery Agent) for doing a stand up job in maintaining the cemeteries and Town House lawn.

Respectfully Submitted;
Anita Garland, Tamara Fairbank
Orange Cemetery Trustees

2019 REPORT OF THE FOREST FIRE WARDEN AND STATE FOREST RANGER

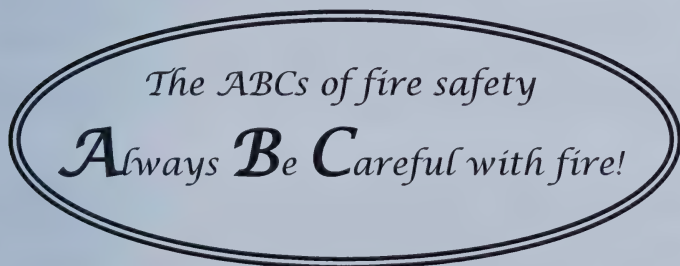
This past year we were fortunate enough to have favorable weather conditions in the spring and summer which limited the amount of wildfire activity throughout the state. Your local fire departments and the Division of Forests & Lands worked throughout the year to protect homes and the forests. The statewide system of 16 fire lookout towers continues to operate on high fire danger days. The towers' fire detection efforts are supplemented by the NH Civil Air Patrol when the fire danger is especially high.

Many homes in New Hampshire are located in the wildland urban interface, which is the area where homes and flammable wildland fuels intermix. Every year New Hampshire sees fires which threaten or destroy structures, a constant reminder that wildfires burn more than just trees. Homeowners should take measures to prevent a wildfire from spreading to their home. Precautions include keeping your roof and gutters clear of leaves and pine needles, and maintaining adequate green space around your home free of flammable materials. Additional information and homeowner recommendations are available at www.firewise.org. Please help Smokey Bear, your local fire department, and the state's Forest Rangers by being fire wise and fire safe!

The Forest Protection Bureau and local fire departments were very busy this year celebrating Smokey Bear's 75th year preventing wildfires. Many events were held at local libraries, in fact, this program was so successful we will be offering it again in 2020. We were fortunate enough to partner with the Northeast Forest Fire Protection Compact and bring the Smokey Hot Air Balloon to Franconia Notch in August. The weather was fantastic and hundreds of people got the chance to ride in the balloon! Smokey's message has always been about personal responsibility – remember his ABC's: **A**lways **B**e **C**areful with fire. If you start a fire, put it out when you are done.

As we prepare for the 2020 fire season, please remember to contact your local Forest Fire Warden or Fire Department to determine if a fire permit is required before doing ANY outside burning. Under State law (RSA 227-L:17) a fire permit is required for all outside burning, unless the ground is completely covered with snow. Fire permits are also available online in most towns and may be obtained by visiting www.NHfirepermit.com. The burning of household waste is prohibited by the Air Resources Division of the Department of Environmental Services (DES). You are encouraged to contact the local fire department or DES at 603-271-3503 or www.des.nh.gov for more information. Safe open burning requires your diligence and responsibility. Thank you for helping us to protect New Hampshire's forest resources. For more information please contact the Division of Forests & Lands at (603) 271-2214, or online at www.nh.gov/nhdf/.

| <i>Year</i> | <i>No. of Fires</i> | <i>Acres burned</i> |
|-------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| 2019 | 15 | 23.5 |
| 2018 | 53 | 46 |
| 2017 | 64 | 107 |
| 2016 | 351 | 1,090 |
| 2015 | 124 | 635 |
| 2014 | 112 | 72 |
| 2013 | 182 | 144 |
| 2012 | 318 | 206 |



*2019 REPORTS OF THE HEALTH AGENCIES
SUPPORTED BY THE TOWN OF ORANGE*

**VISITING NURSE & HOSPICE OF
VERMONT AND NEW HAMPSHIRE**

Visiting Nurse & Hospice clients are of all ages, from all backgrounds, and at all stages in life. The one commonality is a desire to be cared for at home in case of illness and injury. By keeping residents out of emergency rooms and hospitals and reducing the need for relocation to nursing homes, our care offers significant savings in the town's emergency services and other medical expenses.

In Orange, we made 62 homecare visits to 5 residents last year. Services included 62 home visits to 5 residents with short-term medical or physical needs. Additionally, Orange residents made visits to Visiting Nurse & Hospice community wellness clinics for foot care, blood pressure screenings, cholesterol testing and flu shots. This included approximately \$3,220.00 in unreimbursed care to Orange residents.

GRAFTON COUNTY SENIOR CITIZENS COUNCIL

Grafton County Senior Citizens Council is a private nonprofit organization that provides programs and services to support the health and well being of our communities' older citizens. The Council's programs enable elderly individuals to remain independent in their own homes and communities for as long as possible.

During FY 2019, 12 older residents of Orange were served by one or more of the Council's programs offered through the Mascoma Area Senior Center, and 7 Orange residents were assisted by ServiceLink:

- **Older adults from Orange enjoyed 326 balanced meals in the company of friends in the center’s dining room as well as home delivered meals.**
- **Orange residents accessed GCSCC transportation services to access medical care, shopping, or other services, including the Senior Center for meals and activities and participated in 200 activities.**
- **They received assistance with problems, crises or issues of long-term care through 50 visits with a trained outreach worker or contacts with ServiceLink.**
- **Orange citizens volunteered to put their talents and skills to work for a better community through 697 hours of volunteer service.**

The cost to provide Council services for Orange residents in 2018 - 2019 was \$5,098.50.

PUBLIC HEALTH COUNCIL OF THE UPPER VALLEY (MVHI)

As one of the State of New Hampshire’s thirteen regional health networks, Public Health Council of the Upper Valley has quickly become the largest and broadest coalitions of advocates on public health issues in the greater Upper Valley region. The PHC is a dynamic organization with the flexibility to forge solutions that respond to the needs of its grass root members with backing from governmental, philanthropic, and health care institutions. Through regular meetings and ongoing initiatives, the PHC empowers organizations, professionals, and citizens, who together make our communities healthier and better places.

In 2019, PHC staff and partners continued to develop and implement working groups and strategies to address substance misuse, healthy eating, oral health, and other concerns for the region. The PHC supported a number of collaborative initiatives such as:

- Expanding availability of summer meal programs for children in the region.
- Hosting a forum for school personnel and area service providers to better match student needs with resources available in the community.
- Expanding an oral health screening project in New Hampshire communities.
- Hosting five flu vaccine clinics in rural communities across our region, providing over 1,190 free vaccines.

WEST CENTRAL BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

West Central Behavioral Health is the NH designated community mental health center for Orange, as well as Sullivan and Southern Grafton counties. Our mission is “to reduce the burden of mental illness and to improve the quality of life in our community. We commit ourselves to provide services that are safe, effective, client-centered, timely and efficient.”

Our clients suffer from a wide range of disorders and illnesses including psychosis, schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, and all forms of addiction. We also see patients with anxiety, depression, and other impairing but highly treatable conditions. We work with all ages in outpatient clinics, homes, nursing homes, jails, schools and a residential supported living program, and offer a broad variety of counseling, psychiatric services, case management and emergency consultations.

Throughout the region, we assisted close to 2,200 individuals last year and provided over \$500,000 in charitable care.

TRI-COUNTY CAP

Tri-County CAP is a trusted private non-profit that has been serving the 3 most northern counties of New Hampshire for over 50 years. The Grafton County Community Contact Office of the Tri-County Community Action Program provides many essential services to low-income and elderly citizens of Orange and the surrounding New Hampshire towns:

- Weatherization
- (L.I.H.E.A.P.) Fuel Assistance
- New Hampshire Electric Discount Assistance
- Referrals and coordination with other agencies when citizens are in need
- Educational programs and speakers bureau on homelessness and poverty

Last year, Tri-County CAP provided \$7,858.00 in direct services to Orange households; \$5,040.00 in fuel assistance to 5 households, and \$2,818.00 in electric assistance to 6 households.

(Health agency compilation courtesy of Bob Proulx)



Bear over Cardigan. Sandi Pierson photo

CANAAN PUBLIC LIBRARY
2019 REPORT FOR THE TOWN OF ORANGE

COLLECTION

Adult Books: 17,113; Juvenile Books: 9,228; Total: 26,342

Adult Videos: 967; Juvenile Videos: 284; Total: 1,251

Adult Audio: 668; Juvenile Audios: 132; Total: 800

Magazines: 308; Music CDs: 436; Artifacts: 183

Museum Passes: 8

Registered Borrowers from Orange: 167 (4.84% of card holders). Some families share a library card, 171 cards in 2019 is actually 186 users.

Population of Orange: 306 (2017 census estimate from NH Energy and Planning www.nhes.nh.gov). Fifty four percent of Orange residents are Canaan Library card holders.

The Library hosts programs for community members of all ages. The programs include: Summer Reading Program, Meetinghouse Readings, Knitting Club, NH Humanities Council Events, Story Times, Tech Help Nights, Book Clubs, and more.

We hosted and /or took part in 82 programs in 2019. 42 programs for adults and 40 programs for children. 1,439 people attended our adult programs and 374 people attended our children's programs for a total of 1813 attendees at our library programming events.

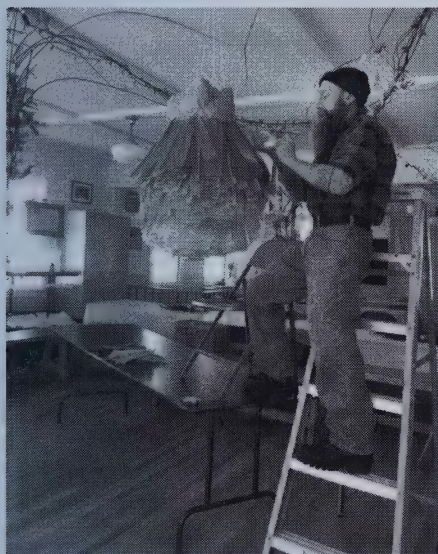
This summer, our library went Overdue Fine Free! That's correct; no longer do we charge overdue material fines. Why the change? The Library Trustees eliminated overdue fines to remove barriers to access and encourage folks to come to the library. We hope that eliminating overdue fines will make it easier for people to visit the library, borrow materials, and use our services. How's this going to work? You will no longer receive a daily late fine on overdue items. You are still responsible for returning your library materials; we do want all items back! The library will still send overdue reminders. Materials that are lost or damaged will be your responsibility to replace. Cost of replacement will be applied to user's account

and may result in a limited use of the library until payment or material returns have been made. Overdue Museum Passes will still accrue fines.

Thanks to the Friends of the Library for continuing to support access to genealogy databases, museum passes, and programming for all ages. This year the Friends of the Library partnered with the library to Give the Gift of Reading during Christmas in Canaan. Approximately 250 children, infant through high school student were able to choose a new book to bring home. We thank the Friends for helping us encourage families to create a love a reading.

Again, we collaborated with the Enfield and Grafton Libraries to bring a program for the families of the Mascoma Region during our Summer Reading Program. The Science Tellers program demonstrates that science is accessible and fun and that it is something anyone can do Each program contains six exciting, visual science experiments that demonstrate concepts in physics and chemistry. The science portion of the

program is designed around various Next Generation Science Standards concepts, so the content of the show corresponds with curriculum in the classroom. For most kids the show will be a healthy mixture of familiar concepts and new material within the fields of physics and chemistry. Attendees at this event (hosted at the Mascoma Valley Regional High School auditorium) enjoyed an evening of self-created music and fun. We are looking forward to



*The Christmas Party Piñata
An annual tradition by Gary Hamel that
began at the first party 44 years ago.
Marilyn Johnson photo*

continuing this partnership with our neighbor libraries.

We continue to offer access to our library catalog, online databases, and downloadable audio books and ebooks . You can access all of this from home or visit the library to use the wifi or public computers.

Some of the programs offered this year included: Mother's Day Tea, An evening with author Saul Lechuk, Book sales, Ice Cream Social, "Pub" Trivia, the Meetinghouse Readings Series, Tech Nights, Summer Reading Programs for kids and adults, Fiber Arts Club, Bullet Journal Meet-Ups, Lego Club, Story time, and Bookends: a Book Group for Kids Grades 4-6. We were also happy to participate in The Canaan Police Department's National Night Out, and of course, Christmas in Canaan.

Thanks are given to our volunteers: Cheryl Stone, Jan Kulig, Ray Kulig, Ashlyn McGowan, Alayna Miller, Samantha Smith, Sue Smith, Peter Thurber, Laurel Saulnier, Alicia Campbell, Jenny Hooker, Joanna Carr, Katherine Scanlon-Pon, Olivia Clifford, Montana Aremburg, Savannah Johnson, and Roy Byington.

Thanks to library staff: Lori Dacier, Jenna McAlister, Nancy Pike, and Pam Wotton for their dedication to the library and their hard work and great ideas that keep the library evolving and fun. Thanks to the Library Trustees for their support and guidance. And thanks to all who donated materials, money, and time to make the library such a great place.

Library hours are: Monday 3pm-8pm, Tuesday 1pm-8pm ,
Wednesday 1pm-8pm, Thursday 1pm-5pm, Friday 9am-12pm,
Saturday 9am-3pm

Find the Library Online at:
www.facebook.com/CanaanTownLibraryNH
www.librarything.com/home/Canaanlibrary
www.canaanlibrary.org

Respectfully submitted,
Amy Thurber, Canaan Librarian

TOWN OF ORANGE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
TOWN MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 13, 2019

Town Meeting was opened at 11:00 AM on March 12, 2019 with the purpose of election of officers. Voting hours end at 7:00 PM, Town Meeting to continue on March 13, 2019 at 7 PM with the remainder of the town warrant articles which will include 2 ballot questions.

March 13, 2019 Town Meeting reopened with Dan Hazelton, Moderator, greeting the residents and sharing the results of Article 1 (election of officers). David Stacy was asked to lead the Pledge of Allegiance. Dan thanked the election crew for their hard work during the election. Town Council, C. Christine Fillmore, of Drummond Woodsum, Attorney at Law, was present.

ARTICLE 1: Election results of town officers on Tuesday March 12, 2019:

Selectman: Dorothy Heinrichs – 3 year term, Town Clerk: Tammy Daley – 1 year term, Treasurer: Trish Weekes – 1 year term, Tax Collector: Sharon Proulx – 1 year term, Deeding Agent: Sharon Proulx – 1 year term, Road Agent: Scott Sanborn – 1 year term, Budget Committee – David Stacy – 3 year term Cemetery Trustee – Anita Watson Garland – 3 year term Trustee of Trust Funds – Sandi Pierson – 3 Year term Planning Board Member (2 openings) – Scott Sanborn, Albert Emerson – 3 year term

ARTICLE 2: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of one hundred, seventy-five thousand dollars (\$175,000.00) for the purpose of repaving town roads and authorize the issuance of not more than one hundred and seventy-five thousand dollars (\$175,000.00) of bonds in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (NH RSA 33) and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to issue

and negotiate such bonds and to determine the rate of interest therein. (2/3 vote required)

Discussion: Scott Sanborn, Road Agent, explained the work to be done, New Colony Road and Peaslee Road need a lot of work, other work would include an apron at the bottom of Cross Road, and where Burnt Hill Road and Cardigan Mtn. Road meet. Other small repairs will be done if money is available. Judith Lindahl questioned, do we need all that? Many people are on a fixed income, we should keep this in mind. She questioned the quality of the asphalt being put on dirt rather than gravel, should we do this. Alexander Smith asked the cost of changing paved roads to gravel. Scott answered, not much, but the maintenance of gravel over time, could be more in time and gravel. Donald MacFarlane asked what the long-term expense would be if we go forward. Should the Town expand the Capital Reserve Fund? Scott said that asphalt road life is typically 20 years, with New Colony Road, asphalt would be cheaper due to gravel consistently washing down the steep hill. Chris Hausfeld said with these road costs we should consider putting more money in the Roads Capital Reserve Fund. Scott said the roads have been level funded for many years. Aaron Allen asked the cost to break up the work and do some yearly? Scott said the cost would be much higher due to the contractor bringing in the equipment yearly, moving equipment is very costly. Town Council said when we vote on this article, the Town needs to wait one hour before being counted, Bob Proulx asked why? Council said the DRA requires 1 hour wait on any appropriations over \$100,000.00, In case a late voter comes in and wants to vote the article. Bob Proulx said that article #12 adds money to the Roads Capital Reserve Fund. Dorothy Heinrichs suggested we vote and wait the hour, we can skip article #12 until after the vote is decided. Judith Lindahl asked Scott if he could do New Colony and Peaslee Roads with \$100,000.00? Bob Proulx asked if the article could be brought up for reconsideration after the vote? Legal Council said it could only be done after 7 days.

Sharon Proulx made an amendment. AMENDMENT: The article wording would stay the same except the amount of money would

be changed from one hundred and seventy-five thousand (\$175,000.00) to ninety- nine thousand (\$99,000.00) Seconded by Judith Lindahl.

Aaron Allen asked if this was the most cost effective? Scott Sanborn said no. Don Pfaefflin asked if we would get the same terms from Mascoma Bank? When would we need the second phase? Scott said the bank terms would be similar to what we have now. The work would need 5 year to finish. Alexander Smith asked if the job would go out to bid, Scott said yes it would. Scott Sanborn moved the question Bob seconded. VOTE ON THE AMENDMENT FAILED.

More comments from the audience regarding how the money should be spent. Scott Sanborn moved the question, Don Pfaefflin seconded. Vote took place on the original article, by ballot: 7:50 pm the vote must be open for one hour per DRA.

ARTICLE 3: To see if the Town will authorize the Tax Collector to accept the prepayment of taxes pursuant to RSA 80:52-a. Taxpayers shall be allowed to prepay taxes no more than two years in advance of the due date of the taxes. No interest shall accrue to the taxpayer on any prepayment, nor shall any interest be paid to the taxpayer on any prepayment which is later subject to rebate or refund. Moved by Dorothy Heinrichs, seconded by Scott Sanborn.

Discussion: Sharon Proulx; Some towns bill twice a year, this would be more costly for our Town. This article allows people to prepay on their tax bill for their convenience.
VOTE: Passed.

ARTICLE 4: To see if the Town will vote to appoint the Board of Selectmen under RSA 35:15-1 as agents to withdraw and spend funds from the Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund only to carry out the purpose for which the fund was established. Said fund was previously established at the 2000 Town Meeting for the purpose of revaluation of real estate. (No agents to expend were included in the original warrant article.)

Moved by Scott Sanborn, seconded by Judith Lindahl. Tamara Fairbank asked that the article be tabled because it was approved at a previous Town Meeting. Second by Judith Lindahl
Vote: Passed.

ARTICLE 5: To see if the Town will vote to appoint the Board of Selectmen under RSA 35:15-1 as agents to withdraw and spend funds from the Town House Capital Reserve Fund only to carry out the purpose for which the fund was established. Said fund was previously established at the 2000 Town Meeting for the purpose of Town House repairs and improvements. (No agents to expend were included in the original warrant article.)
Moved by Scott Sanborn, seconded by Louis Shelzi. Tamara Fairbank asked that the article be tabled because it was approved at a previous Town Meeting. Second by Judith Lindahl
VOTE: Passed.

ARTICLE 6: To see if the Town will vote to appoint the Board of Selectmen under RSA 35:15-1 as agents to withdraw and spend funds from the Town Road Improvement Capital Reserve Fund only to carry out the purpose for which the fund was established. Said fund was previously established at the 2006 Town Meeting for the purpose of maintaining roads. (No agents to expend were included in the original warrant article.)
Moved by Scott Sanborn, seconded by Dorothy Heinrichs
Discussion: Don MacFarlane stated he had a problem with Capital Reserve Funds. The reason we have them is to use for large projects. He feels the Selectmen should come to the Town to expend the funds. Louis Shelzi said it was too tedious for the Selectmen to do this. VOTE: Passed

ARTICLE 7: To see if the Town will vote to appoint the Board of Selectmen under RSA 35:15 (1) as agents to withdraw and spend funds from the Highway Equipment Capital Reserve Fund only to carry out the purpose for which the fund was established. Said fund was previously established at the 2000 Town Meeting for the purpose of high-way related equipment (No agents to expend were included in the original warrant article.)
Moved by Scott Sanborn, seconded by Dorothy Heinrichs.
Tamara Fairbank asked that the article be tabled because it was

approved at a previous Town Meeting. Second by Judith Lindahl
VOTE: Passed.

ARTICLE 8: To see if the Town will vote to change the purpose of the Highway Equipment Capital Reserve Fund previously established at the 2000 Town Meeting to be for the purpose of purchasing highway-related equipment. (The article that established the capital reserve fund was originally for the specific purchase of a new truck, with the financing schedule, to replace the 1988 Town truck. The Town no longer owns the 1988 truck.) This article will authorize appropriations by the Town Meeting to go into a fund set aside for all future highway equipment purchase needs. (2/3 vote required)

Discussion: Chris Hausfeld questioned the need for this. Scott Sanborn said we have a truck now, this would be for a replacement when required. Article moved by Scott Sanborn, seconded by Gary Hamel. Paper Ballot Vote Results: 48 – yes, 4 – no. Article passed.

ARTICLE 9: If the voters approved Article 8, to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate six thousand dollars (\$6,000.00) to be paid into the Highway Equipment Capital Reserve Fund. Moved by Dorothy Heinrichs, seconded by Don Pfaefflin

Discussion: Chris Hausfeld asked when these appropriations would be paid. Dorothy told him it would be included in the November tax bills. Vote: passed

ARTICLE 10: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate four thousand dollars (\$4,000.00) to be paid into the Town House Capital Reserve Fund.

Moved by Scott Sanborn, second by Louis Shelzi. Cecile Williams asked why we need to do this? Dorothy said that we have experienced electrical problems at the Town House recently. This is not a new building and we don't know what we will find when we look into the problem. Vote: passed.

ARTICLE 11: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate four thousand dollars (\$4,000.00) to be paid into the Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund for the purpose of revaluation of real estate. Revaluation of real estate is required by law every five years. Moved by Judith Lindahl, second by Alexander Smith. Bob Proulx reminded the hall that the next revaluation is due in 2020 at the cost of about \$20,000.00
VOTE: passed.

ARTICLE 12: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00) to be paid into the Town Road Improvement Capital Reserve Fund for the purpose of maintaining town roads. Dorothy Heinrichs made a motion to table Article 12 until we count the results of article 2 ballot vote. Seconded by Donald McFarlane.
Vote to table article: passed.

ARTICLE 14: To hear reports of agents, auditors, committees and officers and to transact any other business that may legally come before the meeting.

Dorothy Heinrichs talked about what the Conservation Commission has done over the year. Trish and Doug Weekes walked all Orange water ways to see where the water flows to. Dave Stacy has written about hunting and fishing in Orange. Tracy Hutchins, a new member, has helped in these studies, Sandi Pierson has walked all the trails in Orange and has written a 66 page description. They have made a report "Natural Resource Inventory" which will be available online in the near future.

The Board thanked the Historical Commission for all their work on Orange's 250th birthday this year. Sharon Proulx outlined the plans for the rest of the year of celebration. They include tree planting, music, cemetery tours, history tours, pot luck suppers, a barbeque, ice cream social, contra dance, Orange Veterans Memorial, and finally the Christmas Party. All information dates and times of activities will be posted on the Orange web site calendar.

Gary Hamel said he could not find documentation that the Town had celebrated its centennial or the 150th anniversary. He has created a birthday parchment document for all the townspeople to sign, to document the people that had celebrated our 250th. Dan Hazelton affixed the Town Seal.

A plot plan was submitted by the Parking Issue Committee. Skip Smith, Dave Stacy, Scott Sanborn and George Smith were asked last year to look into a parking area, the goal being to get the cars off the State highway. The Town House sat on ¼ acre plot. The Terhunes donated 2 acres in 2007 to the Town, surrounding the Town House plot, with the stipulation it was to be kept in a natural state. There was a provision that it could be used to benefit the Town. The plan is for 12 parking spaces with a sidewalk to the Town House. Handicap spots would be at the Town House. The project is not very large but feasible to do. A non-binding vote was taken “if we should continue the study” the result of the vote was YES.

Don Pfaefflin took the opportunity to thank the Town for allowing him to serve on many committees over the years.

Dan Hazelton thanked the Town Clerk, Sophie Seace, and the Deputy Town Clerk, Pat White for their service over the past few years. They both are retiring this year. Dan also mentioned Ada Eastman, who was a Town Clerk for many years in Orange, sadly she passed away last year.

VOTE COUNT AT 9:00 PM ON ARTICLE #2: 31 Yes 21 No
Article #2 Failed.

ARTICLE 12: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00) to be paid into the Town Road Improvement Capital Reserve Fund for the purpose of maintaining town roads. This article had been tables previously until after the results of the ballot vote on article #2. Moved by Dorothy Heinrichs, seconded by Scott Sanborn Don MacFarlane said seeing how much money is spent yearly, more money should be put into the fund. Donald [McFarlane] made a motion to increase the amount to thirty thousand dollars,

(\$30,000.00). Aaron Allen seconded
VOTE to accept amended article: Passed. Vote on the amended
article: Passed.

ARTICLE 13: To see if the Town will vote to raise and
appropriate the Budget Committee's recommended sum of
\$217,896.00 not including appropriations by special warrant
articles and other appropriations voted separately, for the
ensuing year for the Town's general operations.
Moved by Dorothy Heinrichs, second by Scott Sanborn
VOTE: Passed.

Swearing in of all elected officers that were present.

Meeting adjourned: 9:30 PM
Minutes Respectfully Submitted'
Patricia White, Orange Deputy Town Clerk



Winter comes to Cardigan. South Peak photo by Debbie Clough

VITAL STATISTICS 2019

Births:

Mia Grace Van Orden, born on June 21, 2019 at Lebanon, NH
Parents: William Van Orden and Renee Van Orden

Matthew William Van Orden, born on June 21, 2019 at Lebanon, NH;
Parents: William Van Orden and Renee Van Orden

Brinley Emma Allen born on December 21, 2019 at Lebanon, NH;
Parents: Aaron Allen and Hilary Allen

Marriages: There were no marriages on record in 2019

Deaths:

Michael White died on May 7, 2019 at Orange, NH
Son of William White and Agnes Emerton

Marie Michelin died on July 8, 2019 at Orange, NH
Daughter of Angers Santerre and Alice Boutin



Annie hikes the South Ridge Trail

Reflections of Wildlife in Orange

By Gary Hamel

I wish that someone had made a list of our wild creatures in the late 1700's or early 1800's for the Town of Orange. I think it would be very interesting to see how much or little things change.

Little moments from our written scraps of history tell of Madison Hayward shooting a wolf from the second story window of the Mountain House (now the Mount Cardigan State Park parking lot) in the mid 1800's. Willard Hicks shot a bobcat somewhere in Orange in the mid 1990's. There are newspaper mentions of the friendly competition between the Eastman and Ford "boys" shooting rats on their farm. (Something like 120 in one day.) And the town reports list the bounty paid for porcupines, hawks, and coyotes killed, as well as money paid to farmers for sheep killed by "coydogs" (coyotes).

In my own lifetime I have seen changes. Orange, in my childhood, was full of rabbits. My mother would give me carrot peelings and lettuce scraps to leave by the trail leading to our outhouse. I would run back inside to watch from the windows as the cottontails ate my offerings. Betsy Jaeger and I watched



Sandi Pierson photo

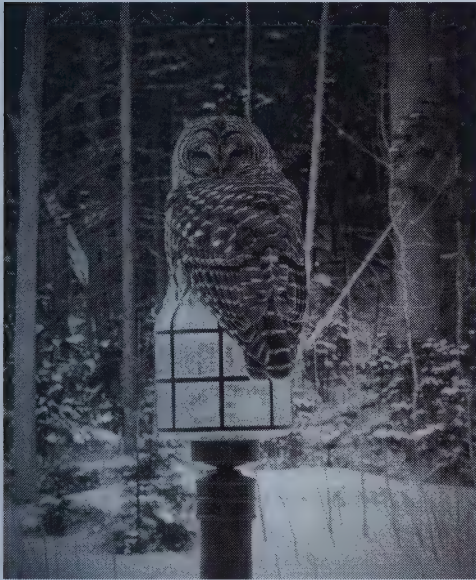
otters playing in Orange Brook on our walk home from the bus stop or at the end of Tuttle Hill Road. (This is the only time in my life I've seen otters. The last rabbit I saw in Orange was in 1976 when

my mother hit one with the car and

we tried to save it.)

There were, of course, no “wild” turkeys. The barns at the Ackil farm were full of pigeons. The neighbors seemed intent on keeping the phoebes from nesting over their porch lights and the “old timers” often spoke of how the Fishercats (Pine Martens) had been introduced to New Hampshire to keep the porcupine population down. It was said that porcupines were “eating rubber tires right off the cars.” The only thing was... “Fishercats don’t like eating porcupines.” Don’t know if any of that is really true, but it makes a tasty nugget of oral history.

I recall seeing ring-necked pheasants several places in town when I was a teenager, but then I was told that there were probably released by the NH Fish and Game Department for the hunters, and that ring-necked pheasants could not survive a New Hampshire winter. A pair of barn swallows returned year after year to a birdhouse my dad built and placed at the end of the vegetable garden. They did not return after he died. My mom scattered my father’s ashes in the orchard here, with no marker of any kind placed to remember him (both of my parents’ wishes). I had a barn swallow tattooed on the left side of my chest in my father’s memory.



Trish Weekes photo

Birds I have seen in Orange: black-capped chickadee, blue jays, tufted titmouse, cardinals, slate-colored juncos, mourning doves, purple finches, and gold finches. In years past I’ve seen indigo buntings, evening grosbeaks, rose-breasted grosbeaks, and pine siskins. The ruffed grouse comes to eat the poplar buds in the treetops in the

spring. I spent forty-five minutes or so last spring watching a funny little woodcock in my vegetable garden. I have seen the red-breasted and white-breasted nuthatches, the hairy, downy, and pileated woodpeckers, and flickers. The past two summers I have heard a whippoorwill calling from across the road at Chuck Baldwin's field. The springtime return of the robin, Canada goose, red-winged blackbird, and hummingbird is always worthy of celebration. I have seen mallard ducks, a great blue heron, and a kingfisher on my hikes when following Orange Brook from the basin to the Eastman Road bridge. I see crows in groups of two or three, and wonder if they are part of the large murder based in Lebanon. Someone at the Montshire Museum told me the crows gather together for the night and scatter all at daybreak. I hear the barred owls asking "who cooks for you" but rarely see them. As I have since childhood, I love watching the red-tailed hawks in flight, and only in the in the past few years have I seen the turkey vultures flying overhead. In the summer I often have a loon flying over my house. This winter (2015), during one of our many storms, I had two cedar waxwings just outside my art studio window eating rosehips.

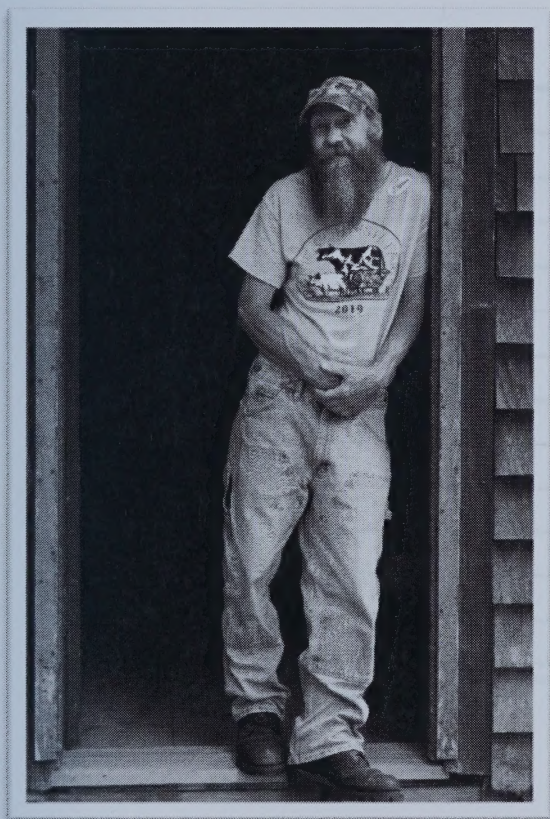
I have chipmunks, red squirrels, gray squirrels, and flying squirrels. There is a porcupine (named Barb S'aqui) in the pine grove near my house and a skunk (named Artemesia Gentileski) living in my shed. Last summer on a rare day off from work, I was in my garden when I spotted a coyote in the sheep pasture. It was very focused on hunting for mice so I decided to watch. Then out of the corner of my eye, came my lone sheep, Gracie, into the picture. I was braced to run to scare off the coyote—but Gracie and the coyote greeted each other by touching noses and then the coyote continued its hunt and Gracie continued to graze. And I thought, "This has been going on for weeks!" Gracie has a secret life. She scares out the mice while eating and the coyote snaps them up. Gracie and the coyote had been only a few yards apart, until the coyote noticed me and bolted. The previous winter a white-tailed deer bedded down just outside the sheep shed, and by the tracks I could tell the deer ate the leftover grain and hay each night.

Many in town have seen the two wolf hybrids, including myself—but not for three or four years. I'm not sure if they are

still around. I have seen raccoons, bears, moose, red fox, beaver, mice, moles, muskrats, fisher cats, and little white ermine. In my youth we never had woodchucks, but now that the fields have been opened up again, the good 'ol groundhogs are back.

I see many possums killed on Route 4 between Canaan and Lebanon and down Route 12-A to Plainfield, but I've never seen one in Orange and wonder if anyone else has. There are many snapping turtles at Riverview Farm. We have been watching them, as they find sandy locations at summer solstice to lay their eggs. I've not seen a snapping turtle in Orange.

Spring peepers, fireflies, and crickets are some of my favorite things!



Gary Hamel

Alasdair Dunlap-Smith photo

New Hampshire State Library



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