



The NHCHF Halcyon Seekers. Seated (l-r): Jane Martin, Diane Benson, Natalie Lively, Judy Perreault. Standing (l-r): Shirley Currier, Marcia Strout, Irene McKinley, Geri Putney. Missing: Rose Tilton. Photo by Charlie Darling

New Hampshire Circle Of Home And Family

By Judy Perreault
NH Circle of Home and Family

The New Hampshire Circle of Home and Family met on Monday, January 16 at the home of Shirley Currier and enjoyed a delicious lunch of soup. We sampled six varieties of soup from different categories: cold soup, cream soup, bisque, chowder, and two foreign soups – borsh and wonton. It was accompanied by an assortment of breads, crackers, and muffins.

Following lunch, Judy Perreault presented the program on soup. We learned

about the history of soup, types of soup, soup tips, and recipes for the different categories of soup. We topped off the day with teas, coffee, and dessert.

The group has decided on a name: "Halcyon Seekers."

The next meeting will be held at the home of Irene Perreault McKinley in Bristol. The program will be about New Hampshire Women. Members will bring a sandwich to share.

If you are interested in joining this group or starting a group in your area, call Judy Perreault at 735-5493.

Andover Service Club News

Our next meeting will be held at the Masonic Hall in Potter Place on Wednesday, February 8 at 10 AM. We will be reviewing the book *Memoirs of a Geisha*. Our guest leader for this book discussion is Ray Mitchell. If you are not yet a member but are interested in attending this meeting, please contact Diane Rice, our program chair, at 735-5365.

Thrift Shop
By Gisela Darling and Judy Evans
Thrift Shop Co-Chairs

For the month of February, the Thrift Shop will be selling all donated items that are any shade of red at 50% off the colored ticket price. Come to find your Valentine a great gift at our February Red Sale.

The Thrift Shop would like to thank all its customers who, throughout the year, support the Andover Service Club by visiting the store. This is the major fundraiser for the club, and the money raised supports the many projects of the Service Club in Andover and the wider community.

We would also like to thank our consignors and donors for bringing their clean and saleable items to us. Without you, we would not be able to offer so many nice clothing items to our customers.

If you have never been in, come to shop and visit! We look forward to seeing you there. We are located right next to the Andover Elementary/Middle School and the police station. We pride ourselves with selling good quality,

clean clothing for the family.

Our regular hours are Tuesday from 10 AM to 2 PM, Wednesday from 3 PM to 7 PM, Thursday from 10 AM to 4 PM, and Saturday from 10 AM to 2 PM.

Raffle Committee
By Grace Stetson

Watch for Andover Service Club members selling raffle tickets over the next couple of months. This year we have several items so there will be quite a few winners.

Time To Apply For Scholarships

By Lois Magenau
ASC Scholarship Committee

The Andover Service Club is beginning work on its annual scholarship program, which awards scholarships to residents of Andover on an annual basis. Last year, the Club awarded 15 scholarships totaling \$15,000.

If you are an Andover resident, a child of an Andover resident, or a child or grandchild of a current Andover Service Club member and would like to apply, please pick up an application at the Andover Thrift Shop, the Proctor Academy Guidance Office, or the Merrimack Valley High School Guidance Office.

Completed applications are due on May 1. If you have any questions about the process, please feel free to call Committee Co-Chair Lois Magenau at 735-5637. This is a program the Club is very proud of and we welcome your participation.

Franklin Food Pantry Serves Area

By Heather Makechnie
For the Beacon

Because Andover does not have its own food pantry, the majority of the residents in town who need a helping hand find it at Twin Rivers Interfaith Food Pantry in Franklin.

During the month of December 2005, the Pantry served 13,503 meals and placed food and commodities into 211 households in Andover, Salisbury, Franklin, Hill, Tilton, Northfield, and Sanbornton. Of the 625 people who were aided, 112 are elderly and 224 are children. That is amazing.

More amazing still - the food and commodities were donated by local residents and the work was done by volunteers!

Started many years ago by the Catholic church in Franklin, the organization has become an interfaith effort supported by churches in all seven communities. This support comes in many forms. Donations of money, non-perishable foods, and commodities are high on the list, but hundreds of volunteer hours are logged as well.

Truck runs to Manchester, repackaging bulk items, keeping the account books, welcoming clients and processing their paperwork, loading boxes into waiting vehicles...many hands make light work.

Teenagers take time off from high school classes to put in community service hours. Grandmothers sort vegetables. Busy fathers take time out from earning wages to help their neighbors.

Twin Rivers Interfaith Food Pantry is located in Franklin, out of the old St. Jude's Church on Central Street (the brown building across the street from the Franklin Public Library). It is open every Tuesday and Thursday from 9 AM to 11 AM and every Wednesday from 5 PM to 7 PM. On Saturdays there is an independent Bread Program that gives away bakery products to anyone who walks in. The hours for that program are 1 PM to 3 PM.

Reverend Scheri explains that a large percentage of the food that the Pantry gives away comes from the New

Hampshire Food Bank in Manchester. This food bank is affiliated with Second Harvest and is the primary source for charitable pantries throughout the state. The Pantry purchases bulk items from New Hampshire Food Bank at 18 cents a pound. Volunteers pick up these items by truck.

The next largest source is the US Department of Agriculture, which gives a variety of free items. These must also be picked up by truck in Concord.

Hannaford's supermarket donates fruits, vegetables, and bakery items that are nearing the end of their shelf life. All other items, including fresh meat and dairy, are purchased at retail, generally from Hannaford.

Obviously, this all takes a great deal of money. And it all has to come in dollar by dollar. If you would like to donate money to the Pantry, make your check payable to Twin Rivers Interfaith Food Pantry and mail it to PO Box 184, Franklin 03235. If you would like to deliver non-perishable foods or commodities, bring them in during regular business hours.

If you would like to volunteer in any capacity, contact the director of day-to-day operations, Carlene Dowers, at 934-4308, or call the Pantry during open hours at 934-2662. Drivers are in special demand.

Reverend Randall Scheri, director of the Pantry, indicated that the wolf may howl at anyone's door. If, for whatever reason, you feel that you need help, here's what to do.

Come to the Pantry during operating hours with a picture ID and/or a utility bill (telephone, electric, fuel oil, or water). If you need transportation a volunteer will pick you up – call 934-4308.

The first time you come in you will be required by federal law to fill out a one-page intake form. If you meet the federal financial guidelines for income, you will go home with enough food and commodities (based on the number of people in your family) for seven days of meals – that's one week's worth of food and personal care items per month. You will not have to fill out a form the next month.

How is your view...



of a real estate agent?

If it's like me, it's probably one step above a used car salesman. That is why I have decided to enter the real estate profession, to try to change that view.

Those of you who know me, know I am no "salesman". My background is in civil engineering, so I am very familiar with land and buildings. I do not pressure people. I will explain the decisions to be made so you can be as informed as you want to be.

If you are interested in working with a real estate professional who puts your interests first, explains to you all of your options, and helps to educate you in the process, then give me a call. Let me show you how good the view can be.



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