



A History Mystery

This month's History Mystery is a photo that Suzy Norris of the Andover Historical Society borrowed from Frances Huntoon and her daughter, Betty Huntoon Duff. Frances is the holder of the *Boston Post Cane* as Andover's oldest citizen.

On the back of the photo it says "Mrs.

Sanborn and Cilleyville kids," and that's all that's known about the photo.

What clues do you see in the photo? Can you identify any of the people...the date...the setting? Send your thoughts or reminiscences to the *Beacon*, and let's see if we can piece together the story of this month's History Mystery.

CONSERVATION CORNER

By Tina Cotton

Andover Conservation Commission

Last year the Andover Conservation Commission published results of our conservation survey in the *Beacon*. [Every issue of the *Beacon* is available online at AndoverBeacon.com/online.asp. The survey results are on page 5 of the February 2005 issue.]

We have been following up on those results by working on conservation priorities and our section of the Master Plan. Among other things, we have been learning about federal, state, and private organization grant programs that may help individuals realize conservation easement goals.

If you are curious about conserving your land, the Conservation Commission has copies of the 2005 edition of *Conserving Your Land – Options for*

New Hampshire Landowners available for loan at the Town Hall. If you would like your own copy to circulate among family members, the booklet may be purchased for \$5. Several scenarios are presented and one may appeal to you.

Cemetery Corner

In a meeting with State Representative Jim Danforth and Town Administrator Mark Stetson, we learned that further improvements are planned for Route 11 in East Andover this year, most notably easing the abrupt Cemetery Corner. By extending the corner into the field, the Lakeside Cemetery will be able to expand into the present road area.

Scenic Road

The Conservation Commission has endorsed a privately proposed warrant article to designate Chase Hill Road from Route 11 to Flaghole Road as a scenic road.

Contact The Conservation Comm.

If you would like to talk with someone about a conservation matter – easement, dredge and fill application, etc., please call the chairman, Gerry Hersey at 735-5593.

SOO-NIPI AUDUBON

Please join Ted Keene, local birding enthusiast who travels to birding hot spots, at the Soo-Nipi Audubon Chapter program on Friday, March 10, at 7:30 PM at Tracy Memorial Library, Main Street, New London, for his slide presentation, "Birding Panama From Canopy Tower." This program is open to the public and refreshments will be served. For more information please call Ruth White at 763-4893.

On Sunday, March 12, the Soo-Nipi Audubon Chapter will sponsor a birding trip to the Connecticut River to observe over-wintering eagles. Please meet leader Robin Gray at Warner Park and Ride at Exit 9 on I-89 at 8 AM. Bring lunch, beverage, binoculars, and a scope if you have one. For details call Robin at 927-4127.

Ski Free At Pine Hill Ski Club

Pine Hill Ski Club invites Andover residents to its free "Try Our Nordic Trails" ski days on Sunday, March 5 and Sunday, March 12. Try our 20 kilometers of great ski and snowshoe trails.

On Saturday, March 11, bring your pooch and enjoy a three-mile x-c ski trek on flat terrain. Leash must be on hand. "Ski Dog Social" starts at 1 PM.

For directions, call 735-5000 or visit PineHillSkiClub.com.

Friends of the Northern Line Rail Trail

By Myra Mayman

Friends of the Northern Rail Trail in Merrimack County

The advent of spring brings thoughts of completing the trail work started in September. Since the fall's torrential rains flooded the Proctor road near the Keniston Covered Bridge on Bridge Street, work on the trail ground, or sloshed, to a halt. A decision was made to postpone laying new ledge pack on the rail trail between Bridge Street and the bridge off Depot Street in Potter Place until the spring or summer of 2006.

In December the National Park Service awarded FNRT-MC a grant from their Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program: the assistance of Lelia Mellen of the Woodstock, Vermont National Park Service office. She will give us one day a week to help create programs that will enhance the community's appreciation of the rail trail and its surroundings, and provide technical assistance, including advice on grants.

Lelia's first assignment is to chair a committee to plan an "Artists on the Trail" event next fall. Artists will be invited to create works of art in any medium whose subjects are relevant to the Northern Rail Trail. The culminating event will be an exhibition and auction of artworks, combined with activities that will involve children in appreciating the beauty of the trail's landscape. More to follow as plans evolve.

FNRT-MC requested and has been given status as a "consulting party" on New Hampshire Department of Transportation's proposed repair or replacement of the Routes 4 and 11 bridge at Potter Place. Our interest is in decisions and planning about bridge work in so far as it affects the rail trail running underneath it. For

example, we would oppose replacing the bridge with an at-grade crossing that would intersect auto traffic with snowmobile, cross country ski, bike, jogging, horseback riding, and wheelchair traffic.

On January 20 we submitted an application for \$30,000 from the Recreational Trails Program of New Hampshire's Department of Resources and Economic Development. If received, the funds will go toward extending the rail trail from Blackwater Park at Lawrence Street to Switch Road or perhaps as far as Plains Road.

Thanks to Charles Martin of New London and Jim Lerner of Meredith, our Web page is now available at FNRT.org. This site contains information about the rail trail and our plans, photographs, a map, and information about how to contribute to the cause.

For more information, come to our table at Town Meeting on March 14.

See Forever Locked At Sportsman's Show

The Ninth Annual Sportsman's Show will take place March 11 and 12 at the Franklin Middle School, 200 Sanborn Street, in Franklin. Visit FranklinNHChamber.com to learn about seminars offered at the show.

The 17th Annual Big Game Trophy Show will be there, as will the *Forever Locked* exhibit of two trophy moose locked by their antlers. Show proceeds will help maintain a multi-use trail along the Winnepesaukee River.

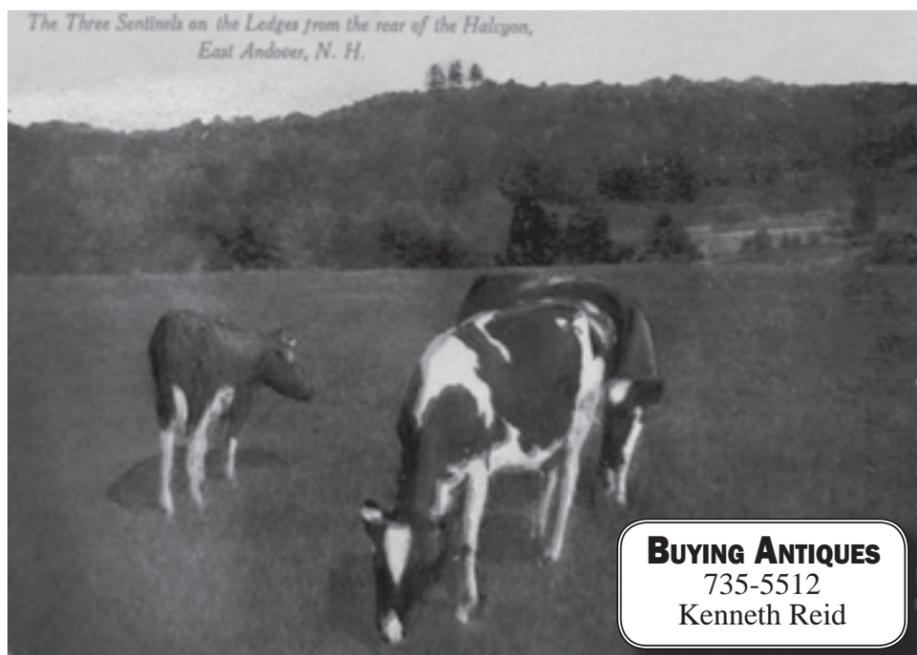
Hours are Saturday 9 AM to 5 PM and Sunday 9 AM to 3 PM. Admission is \$7 for adults; children under 12 with paying adults get in free. For more information, call Kathy at 934-2111.

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