Upcoming Events – Mark Your Calendar

Woodlands Trip: Thursday, April 25, 1:00 pm Departure
Did you ever wonder what happens to our trash and other recyclable articles after we deposit them in the trash room? At the Rutland County Solid Waste District we can learn all about recycling A–Z. What goes where—hazardous waste, electronic waste, yard waste, compost, etc. The April trip will be on Thursday, April 25, leaving the Woodlands at 1:00 pm and returning by 4:15 pm. Don’t WASTE our future and don’t WASTE this opportunity to learn more about this important topic.

Concert: Sunday, April 28, 3:30 pm in the Great Room
Will Ögmundson is a classically trained pianist, an EMMY-nominated composer, and an award-winning lyricist. This native of New Hampshire began performing at the age of five and has performed at many North American and European venues. He has recorded six CDs, and written numerous musical scores for television and the stage. Will resides in New London with his wife and three children.

5th Monday Speaker: Monday, April 29, 3:30 pm in the Great Room
Jennifer Vogel is a retired corporate executive from the airline and energy industries. Since retiring in 2010, Ms. Vogel has focused on her passions for conservation and travel. She is a member of the National Council of the World Wildlife Fund, which is an advisory group to the Board of the World Wildlife Fund (WWF)—the world’s leading conservation organization that works to conserve nature and reduce the most pressing threats to the diversity of life on Earth.
Events ... continued

The WWF works in 100 countries and is supported by more than one million members in the United States and close to five million globally.

Ms. Vogel’s presentation, World Wildlife Fund: Protecting species, places and communities for over 60 years: a photographic journey across the globe, reviews her experiences with the WWF from Namibia to the Galapagos, Mexico to Zambia, and the Amazon to our own Northern Great Plains.

Jennifer is the stepdaughter of Ken Kalb and Nance Driscoll. She graduated from the University of Iowa and received her J.D. from the University of Texas. She resides in Houston, Texas, with her family.

Nance Driscoll’s Artworks on Display during April and May

Showing at a hospital near you. Check out Nance Driscoll’s work at the Matthews-Fuller Heath Science Library on the 5th floor of Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center. Need more information? Get in touch with Nance here at The Woodlands or visit her website for more information:

http://www.artbynaire.com

The Peepers are coming!

Peeeep, peeeep, peeeep all night long. What is it? Spring Peepers, small (1 inch long) tan frogs with a brown X on their backs. As soon as the snow melts these are the first frogs to come out of hibernation and gather at small ponds in the forest. There the males call with increased enthusiasm with increasing temperatures, hopefully to attract a female. If successful, the pair will deposit small eggs that will hatch in three or four days. The tadpoles require about three months to develop into frogs, and only a small percentage of these tads reach adulthood to peep next spring. For a young frog it is a tough life out there.

—Bill Duellman

What’s this?

It’s a lockbox located in Trash Room A (right next to the elevator) on the 1st floor. You can dispose of all your sensitive documents into the locked box (and most of us have a bunch of these at this time of the year). A commercial shredding company picks up the contents of the box monthly and destroys it. No need to wear out your personal shredder.
April seems to be eclipsed by both the secular and the religious celebrations of Easter which raises some awkward question. Does the name of the month have anything to do with Easter? It derives its name from the Romans and traces its roots to one of two words, either *aperire*, meaning “to open,” or *Aphrilis*, from the name of the Greek goddess Aphrodite (Aphros) to which *Venus* was the Roman equivalent. *Aperire* might allude to the month being the season when trees and flowers begin to “open.” The connection to *Venus* is more tenuous, but it is based on the belief that April was sacred to the goddess; hence, her *Veneralia* were held on the first day. The Anglo-Saxons called April *ēastre-monab* in reference to *Eostra*, their goddess of spring and fertility. Feasts were held in her honor on the Vernal Equinox, and *Eostra’s* symbol is a rabbit because of the animal’s high reproduction rate. Do you see where this is going?

For years I wondered what Easter had to do with bunnies, and now I have an answer. But what about the Easter eggs? The egg, I am told, is a symbol of new life and is linked to pagan festivals celebrating spring. With the arrival of the Christians, the pagan Easter egg was converted into a symbol of Jesus’ emergence from the tomb and resurrection. So, we end up with Easter bunnies, Easter eggs, and a few chickens thrown in for good measure because those eggs had to come from somewhere.

Decorating Easter eggs originated in the 13th century in pre-Christian Germany. The Easter egg and the Easter bunny (who, of course, laid the egg) made their appearance in America in the 1700s with the Pennsylvania Dutch. Hallmark Cards and confectioners are forever in their debt.

What about April Fool’s Day? It dates to France in 1582, when the country switched from the Julian calendar to the Gregorian calendar. Anyone who failed to realize that the start of the new year had moved from April 1 to January 1 was the butt of jokes and hoaxes, most commonly having a paper fish pinned to their back to signify their gullibility and ignorance.

For the foodies, I remind you that April celebrates National Beer Day (7th), Grilled Cheese Sandwich Day (12th), and bananas (15th), garlic (19th), and pretzels (26th). And if you have an April birthday, you will be celebrating with an all-star cast: William Harvey (1st), Hans Christian Anderson (2nd), Thomas Hobbes (5th), Oskar Straus (6th), William Wordsworth (7th), Thomas Jefferson (13th), Leonardo da Vinci (15th), Wilbur Wright (16th), J. Pierpont Morgan (17th), Queen Elizabeth (21st), William Shakespeare (23rd), and James Monroe (28th).

Oh, and lest you forget—National Tax Day on April 15! —L.T.
Our Trips Leader provided a wonderful visit in March to the newly renovated Hood Museum, which is spectacular. We are fortunate to have such a cultural delight here in the Upper Valley. I have no artistic talents—at least, none that I have discovered or cultivated. I admire the talents of others and, to the best of my limited exposure, I appreciate what strikes my eye aesthetically. Sometimes I find a work of art interesting or inviting for no reason at all except that I like it.

I’m not comparing the hallways of The Woodlands to the corridors of The Hood. However, there is artistry here in our hallways, and in the nooks and alcoves. Some items are on loan; others have been donated to The Woodlands by residents. We have hidden treasures among the potted plants and our resident orange tree. We may never know the family history behind most pieces or where they once were lovingly placed in a home, but we can imagine the pleasure they brought somebody at one time.

Let’s take a stroll down the halls and find some objects d’art. Each floor offers distinctive character and I leave it to you to decide which display draws your attention. Our Art Display Team keeps busy rearranging and surprising us when they place and replace pieces that belong to residents or are part of a collection that was assembled when The Woodlands opened in 2010.

We have a fine collection of Thai rubbings on the 2nd floor. The large rubbing overlooking the 2nd-floor stairway is beautiful. We have a fabulous display of sculpture at The Woodlands. Exquisite bronze works can be found here and there to treat your eye. On loan are: A girl draped with a towel as she overlooks the pool; a harpist in the Great Room; a violinist on the fourth floor; a boy with a kite; an equestrian and a sitting boy near the second-floor elevator. You may find more as you walk the halls or step into some of the common rooms. A bronze “Sprite” is a
favorite conversation piece in the courtyard garden. Formerly, this family heirloom was a garden fountain.

We can boast about our art gallery. On the walls is a variety of paintings. Do you prefer oils, watercolors, pastel hues, charcoal? There are several self-portraits, abstracts for you to interpret, and drawings created by our talented residents. There are many prized photographs taken by residents. Equally interesting are some of the frames which have been carefully selected. Nestled here and there are small landscapes and other favorite subjects.

Most every resident downsizes when they move here and that benefits us. We acquire art that comes from homes that were sold or handed down to the next generation. One resident artist shares her paintings before and after gallery showings. How lucky we are to enjoy such talent.

As you walk along, let your imagination transport you to Africa, Thailand, Mexico, China or New Guinea. Have you seen the metal wall hanging of Kokopelli from our Native American culture? Incidentally, what is a fertility god doing hanging around the halls of a senior community? Speaking of imagination, who is the carved icon dominating the wall next to the Activity Room? He is tall—very TALL!

You will find other metal sculptures and wall hangings along the way. Did you notice the multi-dimensional tree near the post office station? A framed hologram catches your attention as you walk toward the lobby. There’s a downhill skier made of metal, near apartment 219. Here and there, you may find a bit of whimsy created to amuse you.

On the fourth floor is an exquisite model of a resident’s family home. It was built by her son who was one of the architects who designed The Woodlands. Take time to read the interesting information beside it.

I hope that I have engendered some interest in visiting your very own Woodlands Gallery. We certainly have in-house talent to brag about. If you feel the need for refreshment after your journey, stop by apartment 220 where, as the sign suggests, “Help yourself.”

—J.K.

Your Feedback is Requested

The editorial team of The Woodlands Scene would like to hear from you. We are striving to make the Scene as reader friendly, informative, and interesting as possible. Is the type large enough for you to read with ease? Do you like the double-column format? Are there any topical features that you would like to see included? Please tell us: Jack DeGange, Charles Russell, Cynthia Thompson, Joanne Keyler, or Linda Trueb. Drop any one of us a note.
Earth Day 2019 is coming up, on Monday, April 22nd. How shall we mark the day? Is there something to celebrate? Is remorse in order? What’s the action agenda this year? Will we just let the day pass like any other Monday?

My recollections of the first Earth Day in April of 1970 include a feeling that I should be picking up gum wrappers and other debris along woodland trails—piddling stuff from the viewpoint of this spring’s 49th Earth Day. But then I also remember books like Paul Ehrlich’s *The Population Bomb* and *The Limits to Growth* by the Upper Valley’s Donella and Denis Meadows. The first triggered my 5th grade memory that the earth’s human population was 2.5 billion in 1946 (it had grown to 3.7 b. by 1970; now, in 2019, it’s approaching 8 b.). Both books taught me something about the meaning of exponential growth—e.g. grain fields and rice paddies don’t multiply as fast as populations do.

It’s no surprise to any of us elders that the “earth” in Earth Day is no longer the hospitable place it used to be—for us human beings, for the other animals, for plants. For those of us who trust the vast preponderance of credible climate scientists, we now know there are grave threats to life of all sorts, some in plain view before our eyes, others in prospect for the generations who will follow us. We understand the mantra of Governor Jay Inslee of Washington: “We are the first generation to feel the sting of climate change, and we are the last that can do something about it.”

It’s also a well-known fact that our government’s executive and legislative branches have not only failed to act to counter these clear and present threats but in some cases they are very deliberately acting to make things worse. If these facts are a surprise to any of us, we need to pay attention to the school-striking teenagers—led by girls in their early teens—who are raising the roof about these failures. One of these girls, Alexandria Villasenor (13), has been sitting in “school strike mode” in front of the UN building in New York. Another, Nobel nominee Greta Thunberg (an autistic Swedish girl of 16), has been calling for school strikes in front of the parliament building in Stockholm, and has taken her vigils to the so-called “movers and shakers” gathered (via their “1500 private jets”) at the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland. Her message: “We have done our homework—you adults need to act!”

In Theodor Geisel’s *The Lorax*, the Once-ler greedily cuts down all the Truffula trees—and then, at the end, remorseful for his greed, he warns his readers “Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot,
nothing’s going to get better. It’s not.” For anyone seriously concerned about addressing climate change and ready to get out of the bleachers and onto the playing field, one option is to connect with the Citizens Climate Lobby. Getting into the game need not require going to meetings or taking to the streets with the teenagers—we can participate from our desks or dining room tables by writing letters to Congress or to the newspaper, or by sending money. To connect with the local chapter, email cclupper-valley@gmail.com or call 802-432-8494. There is, of course, an informative CCL national website. Either way, remember Barney Google and Snuffy Smith—“Great balls o’fire, time’s a-wastin’!!”

—Contributed by Bob Schultz

Talking Trash ...

Several residents have gotten in touch with Brenda Schwab (brendaschwab@comcast.net) with inquiries about what is, and what is not, recyclable. She, in turn, submits questions to Marc Morgan, who is the manager of Lebanon’s Solid Waste Facility. Read on for some useful information.

• After all this time, I still don’t know what to do with paperboard—cereal boxes, beer six-pack containers, Kleenex boxes, etc. It tears, so according to Marc’s definition, it’s paper, right? In the paper receptacle? Or, kept separate on shelves in trash room from both paper and corrugated stuff?

Every program has a different definition for materials. Here in Lebanon, beer paper packaging, cereal boxes, Kleenex boxes and shoe boxes are considered cardboard. Yes, it does rip; however, that explanation was to weed out items like Tyvek that looks like paper.

• I have long puzzled over whether aerosol cans are candidates for trash or recycle. Given items such as hair spray and household cleaning products, these account for a significant part of our refuse.

This is a great question. It addresses our change in culture and the need to change it even more.

The Western world is heavily focused on convenience and leisure time. This has implications on our society and the created world.

Each one of us has the ability to make a change. We can reuse grocery bags; not use single-use ones. We can buy in bulk to reduce packaging. We can shop locally to reduce transportation impacts. Last, we can recycle what is left.
Listed below in Part I is a selection of titles from our new acquisitions with a brief characterization for each listing. Here is our list of 10 selected by our library crew. Please note that they are displayed on the left side of the counter to the right as you enter the library. (Unless, of course, they have been checked out.) The titles are arranged in alphabetical order by author’s name.

Residents are invited to write reviews as they feel the urge from time to time (without limiting these reviews to new acquisitions). Charles Russell selected or wrote the characterizations below.

I. New Acquisitions

A. Fiction


The Circle by Dave Egers, 2013. From the book jacket: “What begins as the captivating story of one woman’s ambition and idealism soon becomes a heart-racing novel of suspense, raising questions about memory, history, privacy, democracy, and the limits of human knowledge.”

If Not for You by Debbie Macomber, 2017. Set in Portland, Oregon this story develops around a love affair between Beth and Sam, a tattooed auto mechanic who doesn't measure up to Beth's mother's expectations. Oh what a tale of family love in conflict with other love!

My Sister's Keeper by Jodi Picoult, 2004. From the book jacket: “My Sister's Keeper examines what it means to be a good parent, a good sister, a good person. Is it morally correct to do whatever it takes to save a child's life, even if it means infringing upon the rights of another? Is it worth trying to discover who you really are, if that quest makes you like yourself less? Should you follow your own heart, or let others lead you? Once again, in My Sister's Keeper, Jodi Picoult tackles a controversial real-life subject with grace, wisdom, and sensitivity.”

Identical by Scott Turow, 2013. From the New York Times on the book jacket: “A fast and absorbing ride … Turow's intimate understanding of his characters and his authoritative knowledge of the legal world inject the narrative with emotional fuel ...
Rusty’s second trial proves to be just as suspenseful and gripping as his first.”

B. Non-Fiction

The Italians—A Full Length Portrait Featuring Their Manners and Morals by Luigi Barzini, 1964. From The New Yorker on the book’s back cover: “Searching into every corner of Italian life and scrutinizing every cliché concerning it, from the charm of the people (an illustration, he maintains) to the consolations of la dolce vita (another one), Mr. Barzini has written an invaluable and astringent guidebook to his country.”

Hot, Flat, and Crowded—Why We Need a Green Revolution—And How it Can Renew America by Thomas L. Friedman, 2008. Here’s the last paragraph of the book: “We are all pilgrims again. We are all sailing on the Mayflower anew. We have not been to this shore before. If we fail to recognize that, we will, indeed, become just one more endangered species. But if we rise to this challenge, and truly become the Re-Generation—redefining green and rediscovering, reviving, and regenerating America—we, and the world, will not only survive but thrive in an age that is hot, flat, and crowded.”

A Year in Provence by Peter Mayle, 1989. From the book's back cover: “In this witty and warm-hearted account, Peter Mayle tells what it is like to realize a long-cherished dream and actually move into a 200-year-old farmhouse in the remote country of the Luberon with his wife and two large dogs …”

Sea Power—The History and Geopolitics of the World’s Oceans by Admiral James Stavridis, 2017. From Robert M. Gates (former Secretary of Defense) on the book jacket: “Admiral Jim Stavridis served as combatant commander for nearly seven years, as NATO Supreme Allied Commander for four years, and knows the world well. In Sea Power, he turns his intellect to helping us understand the maritime world in clear, sharp strokes—vital analysis in this turbulent century.”

Rhapsody in Schmaltz—Yiddish Food and Why We Can't Stop Eating It by Michael Wex, 2016. From Leah Koenig, author on the book jacket: “Rhapsody in Schmaltz is a masterful work, one I’ll turn to over and over for both historical reference and a hearty chuckle.”

II. Location, Location, Location

A wonderful collection of movies on DVD discs is available for all to borrow. The DVDs are located in the "Theater Room" (officially "Conference/Lecture") on the first floor in the west wing. The collection is in the closet just as you enter the second entry door.

Some of these DVDs were previously stored in a cabinet in the Great Room; others are a gift from Jean Guthrie.

Contact Jane DeGange, Apt. 316 if you have any questions.
The Arts & Crafts Room Redux

There’s a **pantry**. Feel free to borrow the odd muffin tin, bunt cake pan, or stock pot. Just sign out the item(s) you’re borrowing on the convenient sign-out sheet and note the date that you return the item.

Do you have some alterations or repairs that are needed on your clothes? There’s a **sewing machine** available for your use. The contact person for instruction on the machine’s use is **Gini White, Apt. 302**.

Here’s the **darkroom** where Jack Barrett does his work. This room is reserved for darkroom use only. Get in touch with Jack (Apt. 403) if you would like to use it.

There’s a **library** of “how to” and art-and-craft themed books for your use. Other art books are located in the courtyard foyer on the 1st floor.

**What’s this?**

Come to the art and craft room on the 1st floor and find out.

A Request from Our Director!

Cindy Jerome would like to hear your comments about the services and associated personnel of the **APD Multi-Specialty Clinic** prior to her meeting with various Lifecare administrators. If you wish to respond, please do so as soon as possible. Stop in her office, drop her a note, or send her an email.

The Woodlands Scene is an internal newsletter published periodically by The Woodlands Residents Association, 30 Alice Peck Day Drive, Lebanon, NH 03766-2903.

**The Newsletter Team:** Jack DeGange (J.D.); Joanne Keyler (J.K.); Charles Russell (C.R., Chair); Cynthia Thompson (CST); and Linda Trueb (L.T.)

**Cynthia Thompson** is the editor for the upcoming May Scene.
So much has happened since 1961 when Bob Norman and a few friends founded the Hanover Conservation Council and got to work protecting places people loved. Today, the Council is known as the Hanover Conservancy, and is active in many ways—land protection, of course, but also environmental education for all ages. Then there is caring for the nearly 9 miles of trails and nearly 500 acres the Conservancy now owns, all open to the public. We’ll take you on an armchair tour of these special places and bring you along on some adventures. Please join us! Refreshments will be served.

*Presented by Adair Mulligan, Executive Director, and Courtney Dragiff, Program Coordinator*