

BANKENOTES

STRAWBERY BANKE MUSEUM

ISSUE 5 2021



Letter from the President and CEO

AS 2021 DRAWS TO A CLOSE, I find myself reflecting on the many opportunities that have arisen in response to the challenges of the past 20 months. Strawberry Banke pivoted many existing programs and created new initiatives to meet the needs of the community. One of these programs of which I am particularly proud of is the Museum's 3D Remote Field Trips and accompanying live virtual component.

Thanks to new technologies, educators and students in a variety of classroom situations and locations can explore Strawberry Banke in 3D, engage in conversations with costumed roleplayers, and learn directly from Museum professionals and educators all without leaving a remote classroom setting.

The response has been tremendously positive. Additionally, the virtual platform has allowed the Museum to expand to new audiences with a school as far away as California recently participating and interacting with New England history.

As winter approaches, staff's attention turns to preparing for the eighth season of outdoor ice skating at Labrie Family Skate at Puddle Dock Pond and the 42nd year of Candlelight Stroll. Once more, this year's event is fully outside and "Under the Stars."

The sights and sounds of the Strawberry Banke during the month of December are truly magical. I hope you'll be able to take advantage by skating, attending Candlelight Stroll Under the Stars Member Preview Night or the main event, and simply enjoying the grounds on a winter walk.

Thank you, friends, for your continued support. I look forward to seeing you at the Museum soon or in the New Year.

Sincerely,

Lawrence J. Yerdon
President and CEO



CANDLELIGHT STROLL

Under the Stars

Photos, including cover, courtesy of David J. Murray/ClearEyePhoto.com



MEMBER PREVIEW NIGHT

Friday, December 3, 2021, 6–8 PM
Free for members. Admission required.

SOLD OUT

Members are invited to experience “Candlelight Stroll Under the Stars” one night before the event opens to the general public. In addition to a first look, members enjoy complimentary admission tickets and skate rentals to Labrie Family Skate at Puddle Dock Pond*; a commemorative member gift. Masks required and COVID-19 protocols followed. Tickets are limited and are on a first-come, first-served basis.

Saturdays: December 4, 11, 18, 2021, 5–9 PM
Sundays: December 5, 12, 19, 2021, 4–8 PM

An outdoor-only experience to be held in rain, snow, or starlight.

For the second year, Strawberry Banke presents “Candlelight Stroll Under the Stars,” focusing on the lights, wreaths, roleplayers, and magic on the exteriors of the museum’s historic buildings. Stroll along candlelit pathways amongst the historic house exteriors adorned with handmade decorations. Call on the many Puddle Dock families preparing for the holidays and be greeted by costumed roleplayers and performers.

times in the evening at Labrie Family Skate at Puddle Dock Pond, and the grove of holiday trees decorated by community members.

Masks required and COVID-19 protocols followed. Tickets are limited and are only available online.

Adults: \$20 Children (ages 5-17): \$10
Children (under 5): free, ticket required

**Strawberry Banke Members receive free or discounted tickets based on membership level.*

Enjoy performances by Ice Dance International’s Vintage Skaters at various



PISCATAQUA DENTAL PARTNERS • BOTTOMLINE TECHNOLOGIES • PISCATAQUA SAVINGS BANK



Outdoor ice-skating at Labrie Family Skate at Puddle Dock Pond

DECEMBER–FEBRUARY

- Daily public skating
- Private parties
- Skating lessons
- Adaptive ice time

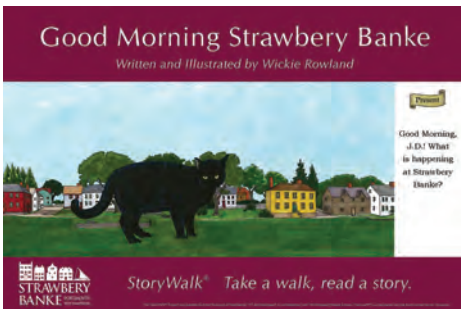
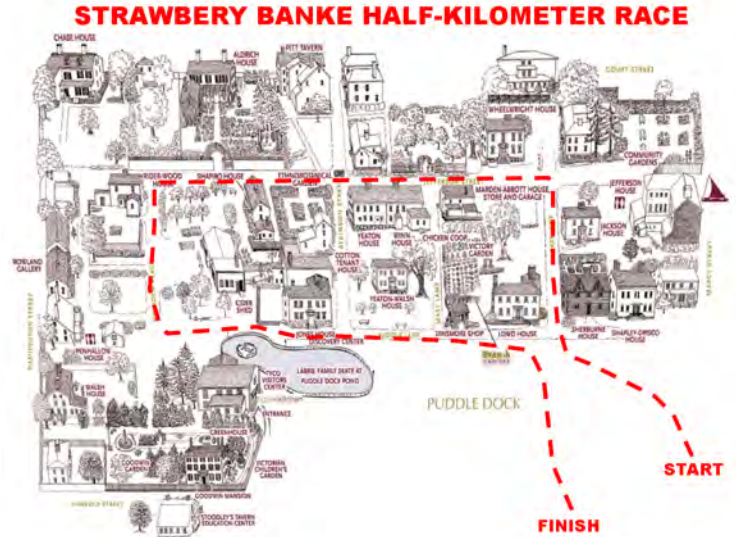
Like and follow Labrie Family Skate at Puddle Dock Pond for the most up-to-date schedule, closings, and changes.

2021–2022 Admission Rates: Members (ages 5+): \$6
Rentals: \$6 Nonmembers (ages 5+): \$12 Sharpening: \$7



Save the Date! “Run Through History” Half Kilometer at Strawberry Banke

Strawbery Banke is holding a “Run Through History” Half Kilometer race on Saturday, January 15 as part of the citywide effort to embrace the cold and Portsmouth as a winter city. A Half K race? Not a typo! Enjoy 260 years of architectural heritage in one loop of the historic campus, a distance achievable by all! Begin near 1695 Sherburne House and end at a festive finish line is at the 1955 interpretation of the Shapley Drisco House. Proceeds from the run benefit the Museum's History Within Reach program, providing experiential-learning workshops accessible to economically underserved schools in New Hampshire, Maine, and Massachusetts that would otherwise not be able to afford school trips.



StoryWalk installed at Strawberry Banke

Launched as part of National Children’s Book Week (Nov 8-14), the StoryWalk® at Strawberry Banke reproduced pages from the children’s book “Good Morning, Strawberry Banke”, written and illustrated by Wickie Rowland, on weather-resistant signs located around the grounds of Strawberry Banke. Children, adults, and families are invited to read “Good Morning, Strawberry Banke”, page-by-page, while walking the grounds of the Museum, free of charge, through April 2022. Signs will temporarily be removed for Candlelight Stroll Under the Stars and reinstated on December 27, 2021.

Thank You, ARP!

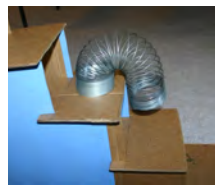
Strawbery Banke Museum recently received an American Recovery Plan Grant from the New Hampshire State Council on the Arts & the National Endowment for the Arts. The Museum is deeply grateful for this support!



New Hampshire State Council on the Arts

History Science Fusion Virtual Homeschool Program

Tuesdays, January 4-25, 2022, 9-10 AM; Online via Zoom



What do history and science have in common? Asking questions and using evidence to get the answer! Participants will learn the surprising history of some famous and fun inventions and then use those inventions to develop experiments that they can really try. Geared towards ages 7-11. Kits with all experiment materials are available for purchase for \$6 plus \$9 shipping.

History Science Fusion is included in the price of a Homeschool Subscription, which allows access to all homeschool programs through May 2022 for one low cost. Or pay per program. Members: \$40; Nonmembers: \$50. For more information and to register, visit StrawberyBanke.org/school/homeschool.cfm

Holiday Decor Tips from the Horticulture Department



A holiday wreath at the Rider Wood House. Made with Native American flint corn, boxwood, and bay leaf.

Brighten up spaces at home with holiday decor tips from the Strawberry Banke Museum. The Horticulture Department volunteers, led by Erik Wochholz, Curator of Historic Landscapes, create the hundreds of handmade wreaths, swags, and decorations for Candlelight Stroll Under the Stars.

When envisioning wreath designs, consider bulky and textured materials for the base of the design. Some common designs incorporate evergreen foliage such as balsam or white pine, unique grasses, and seed heads. For an extra pop of color, consider using colorful Red Twig Dogwood stems.

For more tips and tricks, visit “The Gardens at Strawberry Banke Museum” blog via Strawberybankegardens.wordpress.com/

THE PAST AS A PRESENT: A Gift of Membership to Strawberry Banke Museum

Membership Benefits Include: ■ Free museum admission; ■ Free or discounted admission to Signature Events; ■ Discounted admission to Labrie Family Skate at Puddle Dock Pond; ■ Discounts to unique talks and educational programs; ■ Exclusive offers from local shops, services, and restaurants; ■ So much more!



StrawberyBanke.org/Join.cfm

Support the Strawberry Banke Fund

The COVID-19 pandemic continues to impact the Museum's ability to hold signature events such as Baby Animals: Heritage Breeds at the Banke and An American Celebration, including the fourth of July Naturalization Ceremony. The pandemic has adversely affected the Museum's revenue and in fiscal years 2020 and 2021, the Museum experienced a \$575,000 decrease in admission and event income.

Strawbery Banke needs your help in achieving a \$405,000 annual goal for operational support. Gifts to the Strawberry Banke Fund help minimize operational losses and help keep the physical and virtual doors to the Museum open. As Strawberry Banke continues to adapt and safely reinstate onsite programs, while maintaining digital offerings, the Museum relies on the support of the community to make history accessible to all. Use the enclosed envelope to make a tax-deductible gift to the Strawberry Banke Fund or visit StrawberyBanke.org/Fund.cfm. Thank you for your continued support!

End of Year Guide to Giving

Tax law changes in 2021 allow some added tax benefits for those donating to charity. Here are four expanded benefits and ways to support Strawberry Banke Museum.

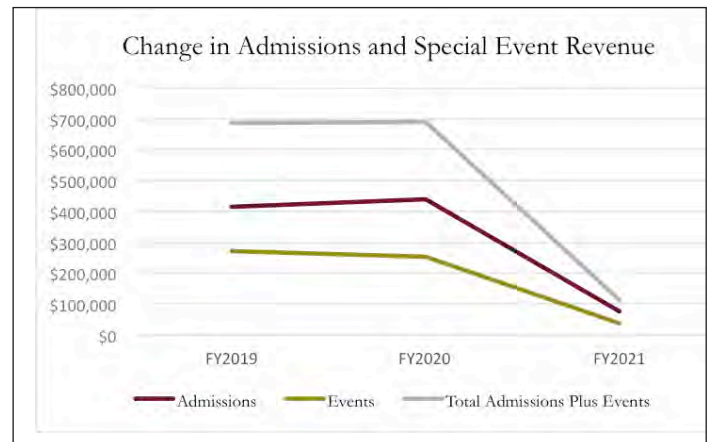
1. Non-itemizers get an expanded benefit. The 2017 Tax Act increased the Standard Deduction such that nearly 90% of taxpayers no longer itemize. For 2020, a \$300 deduction was allowed as an adjustment to income on all tax returns for cash donations (non-cash donations do not qualify). For 2021, married couples can claim \$600 for cash donations with \$300 still applying for those single taxpayers. Cash donations mean debit or credit card, check, cash, or unreimbursed out-of-pocket expenses to a qualifying charitable organization.

2. Higher donation limits for those who itemize. Donations to qualifying charitable organizations are usually limited to 20% to 60% of Adjusted Gross Income (AGI). For 2021, these limits are increased to 100% of AGI. One needs to make an election on the 2021 tax return for the higher limits.

3. Increased C Corporation limits. The normal limit for C Corps is 10% of taxable income, but for 2021 this is increased to 25%. Like the individual limits, an election(s) must be made on the 2021 tax return.

4. Rollover your Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) directly to Strawberry Banke Museum. If you are age 70 ½ or older, a qualified charitable distribution (QCD) from a traditional IRA can satisfy your RMD for the year AND reduce your income taxes but only if your charitable contribution is made directly from the IRA custodian or trustee to charity. QCDs are limited to no more than \$100,000 annually and can only be made from an IRA or a simple employee pension plan and simple IRAs only when the plan has not received an employer contribution for the plan year.

For questions, contact Joe April, Director of Development via japril@sbmuseum.org or 603.422.7551



Victorian Ribbon Maze

A ribbon maze is a fun Victorian Christmas tradition that you can do at home! Choose one color of ribbon for each family member. Attach one end of each ribbon to the Christmas tree, then crisscross them around each other to spots all over the room. Attach small gifts to each ribbon along the way. In the morning, family members will follow their ribbon through the maze you've created, finding their gifts as they go!



Mrs. Shapiro's Latke Recipe

3 - 4 Potatoes	2 tablespoons matzo meal
½ medium onion	Kosher Salt
Potato Starch (opt)	Black Pepper
1 egg	Oil for frying

Grate the potatoes. Remove as much moisture from the potato and onion mixture as you can by either pressing the potato shreds against a colander or squeezing the mixture

in a cheesecloth. Collect the liquid (potato starch) in a bowl. Dice or grate the onion. Add onion, egg, matzo meal, salt, and potato starch to the grated potato and mix well. Add salt and pepper to taste.



Heat oil in a frying pan, then add dollops of the batter into the pan.

You'll know your pan is hot enough if the mixture sizzles. Using a spatula, flatten the batter into a patty and cook until completely browned on each side. Serve with applesauce and/or sour cream.

Welcome, New Staff



Jenn McCann, Finance Manager — Jennifer McCann joins Strawberry Banke with over seven years of experience in non-profit administrative and financial management. She holds a Bachelor of Arts from Rutgers University and a Certificate in HR Management from the University of New Hampshire. When not at work, Jennifer enjoys hiking with her family (human and furry), researching her ancestry, and working in her ever-expanding flower gardens.



Rachel Novack, Assistant to the President — Rachel Novack joined Strawberry Banke in the summer of 2021 as the Development Department Virtual Marketing Intern. Promoted to Administrative Assistant to the President at the end of summer 2021, she provides comprehensive administrative support to the President as well operational support for a variety of museum programs and events. Rachel obtained a Bachelor of Arts degree in Cultural Anthropology with a minor in Art History from Boston University in 2020.

Harrison Paradis-Collins, Landscape Maintenance Associate — Harrison Paradis-Collins joined Strawberry Banke in September 2021. He received a Bachelor of Science degree in Sustainable Agriculture and Food Systems and worked previously as an undergraduate research assistant in the UNH cucurbit breeding program. Most recently, Harrison worked at Prescott Park conducting landscape maintenance and garden design.



Katie Raynes, Roleplaying Coordinator — Katie Raynes joined Strawberry Banke in 2016 as a roleplayer and interpreter. Since then, she has also worked as a site manager, Museum teacher, hearth cook, weaver, and in program development. After

being promoted to Roleplaying Coordinator in 2021, she is now responsible for the training and enrichment of adult roleplayers, the Junior Roleplayer program, summer roleplaying camps, and the maintenance of the Museum's costume collection. Katie has a BA in English with a minor in history and an MA in English Literature from the University of New Hampshire. She has published several best-selling novels in LGBTQA+ fiction.

Thank you, Facilities Volunteers!

Strawberry Banke extends its continued appreciation and gratitude to the efforts of Tom Hand and Peter "Gus" Gustafson. Recently, Tom and Gus spent a total of 419 hours rebuilding and repainting the Webster House fence, which was in desperate need of repair.

IN MEMORIAM

Robert Rhett Austell Jr. Former Strawberry Banke Trustee, Robert Rhett Austell Jr., 96, passed away at his home in York, Maine in August.

Carol Clark Former Strawberry Banke staff member, Carol Clark, 74, died on August 20.

John B. Schorsch National Council Member and longtime Museum supporter, John B. Schorsch, 93, died on August 30.

Thank You & Well-Wishes!

Diane Parisien, Finance Manager — Diane Parisien spent over six years acting as the Museum's Finance Manager until her retirement in early October. With years of Museum finance experience, she has been invaluable to the Department. Diane was responsible for processing payroll, accounts payable and always helping out with anything else that needed to be done. Her dedication, hard work, depth of knowledge, and always positive attitude will be greatly missed. The Museum thanks Diane for her time and talents and wishes her all the best in her retirement.



John Schnitzler, Master Carpenter — John Schnitzler announced his retirement from the Strawberry Banke staff earlier this fall but will continue his work at Strawberry Banke on several projects as a contractor. John joined the Carpentry Department at Strawberry Banke 44 years ago and has worked tirelessly on all 32 museum buildings and led the complete preservation and restoration of 15 structures while at the museum. As the lead carpenter for the Heritage House Program, the museum's innovative preservation-to-exhibition & leased-space initiative, he has rehabilitated dozens of office and apartment spaces while creating new interpretive spaces for Strawberry Banke. In 2019, John was honored by Portsmouth Advocates with the Arthur J. Gerrier Memorial Award, recognizing "an individual committed to serving Portsmouth's historic community."

WANTED: STROLL EVENT VOLUNTEERS

Volunteer during "Candlelight Stroll Under the Stars!" Opportunities include lighting candle lanterns, greeting and directing visitors, handing out scavenger hunt maps and prizes, monitoring the parking lot and assisting with directions, collecting tickets, pouring cider, and more. Volunteers must be 18 but children are welcome to accompany their parents. For more information and to sign-up, visit StrawberryBanke.org/people/volunteers.cfm



Make a Plan for Giving — Join the Puddle Dock Society!

With a planned gift, make a significant and long-lasting impact on Strawberry Banke Museum and the museum's programs and services for years to come. Make a planned gift through a will or living trust, retirement account, life insurance policy, or a more sophisticated estate planning vehicle. Those who make planned giving arrangements as a part of their legacy become members of the Museum's Puddle Dock Society and are recognized:

- In the annual Honor Roll of Donors
- With special event invitations
- With annual updates from Lawrence J. Yerdon, President and CEO

To learn more about supporting Strawberry Banke Museum with a planned gift, please contact Joe April, Director of Development at japril@smbmuseum.org or 603.422.7551



14 Hancock Street
Portsmouth, NH 03801



The 8th Season of Outdoor Ice Skating at Labrie Family Skate at Puddle Dock Pond! For updates on rink opening, Learn-To-Skate sign-ups, ice schedule, and ice conditions, visit StrawberyBanke.org/skate.cfm AND like and follow Labrie Family Skate at Puddle Dock Pond on Facebook.

Yeaton-Walsh House Update

Work on the c. 1803 Yeaton-Walsh House continues. The simple two over two house retains many original details, including decorative mouldings and fireplace surrounds, windows, and flooring which will be retained during rehabilitation. Paint analysis revealed the existing clapboards date from the early twentieth century and were painted ocher

(a yellowish-brown). The window sashes and trim were a dark forest green color. An archaeological excavation in 2015 revealed numerous artifacts that will help inform the house interpretation. Earlier rehabilitation of the house included rebuilding the foundation and the chimney stack above the roofline.

This fall, John Schnitzler, Master Carpenter, and Barry Person, Carpenter, focused on the exterior of the building. Schnitzler rebuilt much of the south-facing frame, including the introduction of reinforcing steel brackets made by Dan Smith, Restoration Assistant. In addition, Schnitzler removed, rebuilt, and replaced the door surround. Ron Raiselis, Master Cooper and Cabinetmaker reproduced the front door. Additionally, the house is to receive new clapboards where necessary, retaining those in good condition, and a new asphalt roof.

The house is being rehabilitated through the Heritage House Program (HHP), which aims to return underutilized buildings into income-producing rental space. Yeaton-Walsh House will provide rental space on the second floor and the first floor will be used to interpret the Welch family.



SAVE THE DATE!

Seacoast Skating with the Stars Saturday, February 5, 2022, 2-3 PM

For the third year, the annual professional ice skating show will follow the format of 'Dancing with the Stars.' Six local Seacoast-area 'stars' are paired with a professional skater to perform a skating routine. The



volunteer skaters are coached by Ice Dance International and Labrie Family Skate at Puddle

Dock Pond artistic director Doug Webster. The IDI professional skaters practice with their partners for a week before the show and then perform their routines in the show. A panel of judges awards points, to determine the Seacoast Skating with the Stars champion!

Seacoast Skating with the Stars is funded in part by the New England States Touring program of the New England Foundation for the Arts, made possible with funding from the National Endowment for the Arts Regional Touring Program and the six New England state arts agencies.

