

We welcome your comments about this issue of Banke Notes and encourage your ideas.  
Please contact us at 603-433-1100 or [info@strawberybanke.org](mailto:info@strawberybanke.org)



Strawbery Banke Museum, PO Box 300  
14 Hancock Street, Portsmouth, NH 03801

## Upcoming Events

### HEARTH COOKING CLASSES

A two-hour hands-on experience teaching culinary history, traditional recipes and hearth techniques. Highlighted by *Yankee Magazine*! Each workshop is offered on a Saturday, 11 am to 1 pm. Members receive a \$10 discount. Visit [StrawberyBanke.org](http://StrawberyBanke.org) to register.

#### JANUARY 14

Beef stew in a 'pastry coffin' and pumpkin pie using both dried and fresh pumpkin.

#### JANUARY 28

Roast pork, applesauce, roasted root vegetables and lemon pie.

#### FEBRUARY 11

Chicken and wine, roasted root vegetables, chocolate tart or Queens pudding.

#### FEBRUARY 25

Pork and apple pie, 3 grain bread, and gingerbread.



### SKATE WITH THE UNH WILDCATS AND THEIR MASCOT!

JANUARY 2, 2017, 10 AM – 12 PM

### FIRST ANNUAL PUDDLE DOCK POND-A-THON SKATING FUNDRAISER!

JANUARY 28, 2017

Everyone is invited to gather sponsors for a 20-lap skate-a-thon around the Labrie Family Skate rink. All proceeds will go to keep the rink open. Watch the website for details.

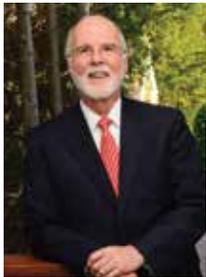
## GIVE THE GIFT OF MEMBERSHIP THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

Contact Membership and Annual Fund  
Manager Megan McNutt  
at 603.422.7508 or go to  
[strawberybanke.org/memberships.html](http://strawberybanke.org/memberships.html)



## President's Message

Lawrence J. Yerdon, President & CEO



I've just finished reading a letter from Jonathan Holloway, Yale University's Dean of Students, published in the *Yale News*. A transcript of his remarks to incoming freshmen,

he cited Strawberry Banke and a visit he made that happened to coincide with the July 4th Naturalization Ceremony hosted here each year.

"These kinds of places usually give me pause as they tend toward oversimplified narratives of this nation's rich and complex past," he explained to the freshman class. "Thankfully, and to its credit, Strawberry Banke did not hide from the challenges of its particular past... But I was mainly moved by the over-arching narrative [of the Naturalization Ceremony]: so many strangers had come to this place—the United States, New Hampshire, Portsmouth, Strawberry Banke—believing in the possibilities ... They made a collective leap of faith that they would find, through citizenship, a place to realize their ambitions."

That is the story—more accurately, those are the stories—of leaps of faith from this neighborhood of newcomers and from "the challenges of this particular past" that Strawberry Banke exists to tell. Each day the stories are mirrored in the memories of museum guests; in the imaginations of visiting schoolchildren; and in the reminders of the people who lived in this neighborhood that emerge from floorboards and attics even now.

One TripAdvisor reviewer this fall

*Continued on next page...*

## Winter Wonderland!



### LABRIE FAMILY SKATE OPENS FOR THIRD SEASON

Skaters will find some new amenities this year that are designed to make the skating experience—at one of New Hampshire's only outdoor rinks—more comfortable and welcoming. Members pay half-price for public skate tickets.

### 37TH ANNUAL CANDLELIGHT STROLL BRINGS A "GIFT FROM THE SEA"

DECEMBER 3–4, 10–11 AND 16–18, 2017

For the first three weekends in December, Strawberry Banke again anchors the celebration of Vintage Christmas in Portsmouth, bringing dozens of costumed role-players, strolling carolers and an immersive sensory experience to the season. In addition to cherished traditions and a return of Pickwick's Holiday Dinners in Pitt Tavern (tickets available at [PickwicksMercantile.com](http://PickwicksMercantile.com)), this year Stroll adds a day, bringing Friday, December 16 (5–9 pm) into the Stroll schedule. For details and advance tickets, visit [StrawberryBanke.org](http://StrawberryBanke.org). Member tickets half-price.

*Stroll support comes from season sponsors Lincoln Financial Group, CPManagement, Proulx Oil & Propane, R.M.Davis. Guided 90-minute interactive Holiday House Tours of select decorated historic houses are offered December 26 through 31st from 10 am to 2 pm. Guided tours free to members.*



### SAVE THE DATE FOR SEACOAST WINTER PARTY ON ICE, JANUARY 14

On Martin Luther King Day weekend, artistic director Doug Webster's Ice Dance International again presents "Seacoast Winter Party on Ice," a professional skating show that brings some of the top skaters in the world to perform at Labrie Family Skate.

# Give the gift of skating!

Stop by the TYCO Visitor Center to purchase skate passes, new hand-painted ornaments featuring Labrie Family Skate, hats, and more. Great stocking-stuffers, teacher's gifts and Yankee swap ideas!



## Letter from the President

*Continued from page 1...*

commented, "The Shapiro family's experience paralleled my grandparents' immigrant experience, and the Shapiro House is as close as many of us can get to visiting the homes where our parents, grandparents, and great-grandparents lived."

The awards, like those bestowed by Portsmouth Advocates and the Thompson Fund (see adjacent), are wonderful affirmations that Strawberry Banke operates at the highest levels of professionalism. But the unsolicited praise, ranging from academia to casual observers, is what feeds the soul of this place.

So next time you visit—for the holiday traditions of Candlelight Stroll or skating outdoors in the brisk winter air—think of Strawberry Banke as the starting point for endless possibilities. A living museum that offers history as the launching pad for myriad leaps of faith.

As always thanks for your support.

## Enhanced Visitor Services for Labrie Family Skate

### NEW FEATURES FOR 2016–17:

- In response to visitor requests for more warm spots, the Labrie Family Skate ticket desk and rentals move inside the TYCO Visitor Center and a warm, lighted environment more in keeping with the Strawberry Banke welcome provided the rest of the year.
- Thanks to an extremely generous donation from Rink Services Group, the firepit loop has been modified to allow for more ice surface, which will reduce the rutting and melting that occurred when so many skaters were funneled through a small area.
- The large hall in the Visitor Center and adjacent lighted patio take the place of the "warming shed," providing a larger, warmer area for changing and large windows overlooking the rink. Those who rent the rink for private parties also enjoy the use of this room.
- Figtree Kitchen Café is offering longer hours to match the available ice time. Guests will now be able to purchase snacks or a hot beverage without removing their skates.

Building the temporary rink each year is an ambitious and costly effort; Strawberry Banke appreciates the support of lead sponsors The River House and Proulx Oil and Propane, Core Orthopaedics for the operation of the Zamboni, as well as Vital and amadeus.

*For details on hours, schedules, lessons and ticket prices, visit [PuddleDockPond.org](http://PuddleDockPond.org)*



*Save the Date for "Champions on Ice" ice show, January 14, 2017*



## New Thompson Fund grant and new collaboration benefit Strawberry Banke

Strawberry Banke is celebrating the honor of being one of six beneficiaries of the Roger R. & Theresa S. Thompson Foundation Fund on two levels. First, the Thompson Fund announced it is awarding a grant of \$20,000 to Strawberry Banke for a new Botanical Sciences program to complement the Horticulture Center now in development for Cotton North.

In addition, Strawberry Banke is partnering with another of the Thompson Fund beneficiaries the NH Association for the Blind, on a multi-phase project to interpret the campus for the vision-impaired. Working together on seasonal initiatives the museum and Association held their first joint program in November, introducing a group of vision-impaired adults to the architecture program offered by the Education Department. The hands-on activity included a short tour of examples of especially tactile

Strawberry Banke architecture: the rough exterior of Sherburne House, the carved balustrades on the staircase in Chase House and the contrast of Shapley-Drisco. This first partner program was covered by WMUR NH Chronicle.

During the winter, the NH Association for the Blind will incorporate a visit to Labrie Family Skate in the Living Innovation adaptive assistance program.

In the spring, the program shifts to Strawberry Banke's gardens as participants assist the Horticulture Department with the planting of annuals and an introduction to the new Botanical Sciences initiative.

The Thompson Fund is encouraging partnerships among and between all six beneficiaries. The Strawberry Banke-NH Association for the Blind collaboration is the first.



## Annual Fund

The Fiscal Year 2017 Annual Fund campaign has launched!

Though Strawberry Banke's Fiscal Year ends on March 31, 2017, there's still time to claim an IRS tax deduction for a donation to Strawberry Banke (501c3 non-profit) during calendar year 2016 by sending a donation before December 31!

This is a year marking significant accomplishments, not the least of which was the opening of "Port of Portsmouth: War, Trade & Travel"—Portsmouth's first

permanent maritime history exhibit in the newly-restored Thales Yeaton House. In addition to the Montrone Family Gallery exhibit space on the first floor, this Heritage House Program project includes an apartment on the 2nd floor. A portion of the rental income is set aside for future maintenance needs. It's one of many forward-looking initiatives that helps keep Strawberry Banke Museum afloat.

Each donation to this Annual Fund Appeal helps Strawberry Banke embark on new and exciting opportunities like these. Although

this ship is launched, the wind beneath her sails comes from you. Your donations support new interpretive programs, educational initiatives that serve 12,000 schoolchildren each year and the ongoing investment in ensuring Strawberry Banke is a place to learn, a place to gather and a sustainable resource for the community, long into the future.

**Help Strawberry Banke continue to navigate the seas of change.** Every donation is welcome. Reply with the enclosed envelope or on the secure website. [StrawberryBanke.org/donate.cfm](http://StrawberryBanke.org/donate.cfm)

## Portsmouth Advocates Award Thales Yeaton Preservation

On November 17, Strawberry Banke was honored with the Portsmouth Advocates award for Adaptive Reuse of a Historic Resource for the transformation of the Thales Yeaton House.

Formed in 1980, Portsmouth Advocates was established to "promote the maintenance of the historical and architectural integrity of the structures and cityscape of the City of Portsmouth." In 2012, Portsmouth Advocates became part of Portsmouth Historical Society.

Since 1989, Portsmouth Advocates has honored individuals and projects which enhance the city's unique historic character and make Portsmouth a better place to live



*Thales Yeaton "before" and "after" the Heritage House Program*

and work. Advocates has continued this tradition by presenting awards to exceptional individuals and projects completed over the last year.

## Donor Recognition

NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE COUNCIL ON THE ARTS, operating grant for arts activities

GRANITE STATE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION, for the preservation of Yeaton-Walsh House as part of the Heritage House Program

THE ROGER R. AND THERESA S. THOMPSON ENDOWMENT FUND, for the Botanical Sciences Exhibition in the Horticulture Center

ROSAMOND THAXTER FOUNDATION, for the Botanical Sciences Exhibition in the Horticulture Center

THE GETZ CHARITABLE TRUST, CITIZEN'S BANK, N.A. TRUSTEE, for the preservation of Yeaton-Walsh House as part of the Heritage House Program

## 2nd Annual Children's Author Festival



Twenty local children's authors welcomed more than 200 people to the 2nd annual festival, part of the city-wide Portsmouth Literary Festival presented by Strawberry Banke and the Portsmouth Public Library.