

My Book: Uncle Mark's Amazing Adventures: The Lyrics of a Unificationist's Life

Mark Hanlon
August 11, 2018



Mark Hanlon and family at a book signing set up at a booth in the Fiddleheads Gift Shoppe in Colebrook, NH. Photo originally published by The Colebrook Chronicle.

For those of you considering publishing your memoirs, dig this. I published my story -- Uncle Mark's Amazing Adventures: The Lyrics of a Unificationist's Life -- back in July with Reader's Digest through [Liferich Publishing](#). On the weekend of August 11, 2018, my family and I went to Pittsburg, NH where I had taught in the public school for 10 years. Even though some of the town knew we were Unificationists, we never directly witnessed to anyone during that time.



Mark Hanlon and family set up a booth as part of the Pittsburg Old Home Day Celebrations.

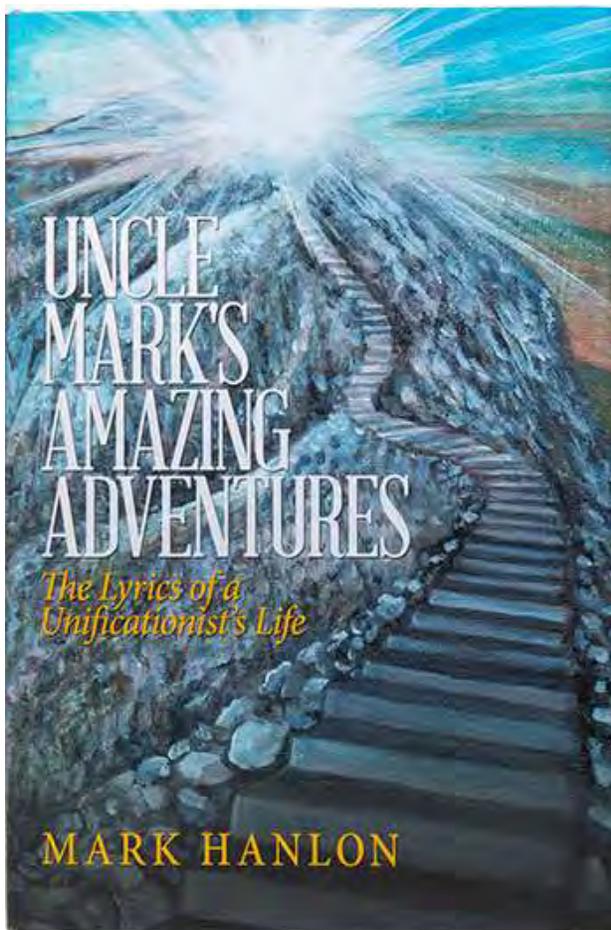
After my book came out I was compelled to go back to the town and promote the book. I cannot overstate how much of a miracle we experienced as a result of this. The first thing I did was contact the local newspaper, The Colebrook Chronicle, and let them know I was coming to promote the book. They printed an amazing [article](#) which appeared on the front page and on page 3 of their August 17 issue. One of our teacher friends helped us to set up shop at the Fiddlehead's in Colebrook on Friday afternoon.

We met a few people on Friday. One was a retired teacher who approached me in tears, hugged me and had me sign the book. He had read every word and told me with such deep sincerity how much he loved it and how special it was to him. That evening I went out with a few of my old friends to a local restaurant. I knew half the people in the restaurant. They had all already read the article. I hugged many people and sold several books right there.

On Saturday we set up a little booth as part of the Pittsburg Old Home Day Celebrations. All Day I talked with people about the book. They had all read the article. They were so curious. I even met an old adversary school administrator who I had fought with for 10 years. We had a tearful embrace. By the end of the day I had sold out of more than 30 books. I also sold one to the public library. One teacher who runs a book club ordered a book for each of her members. I was stunned. I had just witnessed to the entire town!

My book is now available on Amazon, Barnes and Noble, Liferich Publishing (a division of Reader's Digest) and other booksellers and outlets. It's available in electronic media for \$3.99, paperback for \$12.99 and hardbound for \$30.95. I'll be holding a book release party on September 30 at the MLK Center on 237 Chandler St. in Worcester at 10:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Please pop in and say hello.

Report contributed by Mark Hanlon.



Mark Hanlon shares his interesting yet astonishing adventures throughout his life as a Unificationist in his book *Uncle Mark's Amazing Adventures: The Lyrics of a Unificationist's Life*. Mark was a musician who later became a music teacher at a school in his hometown of Pittsburg, NH.

While studying music at UMass Lowell, Mark became friends with a few devout Christians, which struck his interest in religion and God. He became a reborn Christian, and soon later heard about the Unification movement through some coworkers. As luck had it, Mark got a job at the mall selling musical instruments and equipment and just so happened to be stationed right next to a booth operated by Unificationists selling Ginseng Tea and butterflies mounted in jars. From there he was invited to a Unification Church center for an exotic Korean and Japanese dinner, which also included a lecture about the Divine Principle, the core text of the Unification faith. From there, Mark was invited to a Divine Principle weekend retreat, which then lead to a week long retreat and eventually to his becoming a member of the Unification Church. "I began to realize that The Divine Principle was not an ordinary teaching," he shared.

His story continues with many miraculous tales about the times he experienced God, the highs and lows of fundraising, all the fascinating people he met, what it was like to be a Unification Church state leader in America and his interactions with True Father, Rev. Dr. Sun Myung Moon, the founder of the Unification movement.

To purchase your copy of Mark's book, visit [Liferich Publishing here](#).

The Colebrook Chronicle

COVERING THE TOWNS OF THE UPPER CONNECTICUT RIVER VALLEY

FRIDAY, AUGUST 17, 2018

603-246-8998

VOL. 19, NO. 4

North Country Moose Festival Set For August 24-25



During last Saturday's Helping Hands North Golf Tournament at the Colebrook Country Club, Bob Pariseau presents Michelle Hinds with a plaque recognizing the family of Clay Hinds for its years of support hosting this event. Organizers say this year's event was the final one. Sarah Cummings photo.

The 27th Annual North Country Moose Festival takes place Aug. 24-25. "This event represents the Festival's 27th year and is truly a celebration of the North Country's communities, culture and of course-the moose," said Jodi Gilbert, Co-Director of

the Festival. "There really is something for every age."

The North Country Moose Festival is organized by the North Country Chamber of Commerce and begins on Friday, Aug. 24, at 3 p.m. on Main Street in downtown Colebrook. On Sat-
(Continued on page 2)



First flag received for the Arts Center: three flags are being donated to the Great North Woods Center for the Arts, a U.S., a state and a Canadian. Connecticut River Artisan Group (CRAG) President Les Klinefelter and Coaticook Art President Suzanne Martin with the Canadian flag that was donated this week. Courtesy photo.

Woodburn Files Not Guilty Plea, Coos Democrats Stay With Him

Following an emergency meeting of the Coos County Democratic Party, held last Friday in Gorham, the group decided to not call for the resignation of State

Senator Jeff Woodburn of Whitefield, following several allegations of domestic violence charges he is facing. In a news release, acting party Chairman

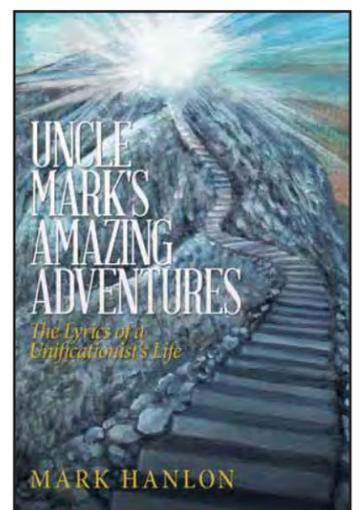
Theodore Bosen said, "No one present supported calling for the Senator's resignation."

(Continued on page 2)

Book: Former Pittsburg Music Teacher's Spiritual Adventure

By Thomas Jordan

A former Pittsburg resident and teacher has published and released a book on his life. Mark Hanlon is a music teacher, traveler, activist and musician. He graduated from UMass Lowell and earned a master's in religious education from the Unification Theological Seminary. Hanlon has been director of the Unification Church in six states and has led teams of missionaries nationwide, teaching directly and through his music. His mission work has carried him to several foreign countries. He currently resides with his family in Massachusetts. Active in the music
(Continued on page 3)



The cover of Mark Hanlon's new book, *Uncle Mark's Amazing Adventures*. Courtesy photo.

Tuesday, Sept. 4:

GNWCA Bringing Top Celtic Band The Outside Track To Rialto Theatre



The Outside Track is one of the top Celtic acts in the world. Winner of "Best Group" in both the Live Ireland awards and the Tradition In Review awards. Live Ireland called them, "Among the top bands in the world—stunning on every cut."

The Great North Woods Committee for the Arts will be hosting this award-winning international band on Tuesday, Sept. 4, at 7 p.m., at the Rialto Theatre in Lancaster. This will be the third appearance for this popular group in northern New Hampshire under the sponsorship of the GNWCA. This concert is cosponsored by James Fitch.

"This seasoned band is unquestionably among the top performers we've had the opportunity to bring to our area," said GNWCA President Charlie Jordan. "They put on a really memorable night of song and dance."
(Continued on page 3)

Internationally acclaimed, The Outside Track return to northern New Hampshire at the Rialto Theatre in Lancaster on Tuesday, Sept. 4. Tickets for this GNWCA show are now on sale. Courtesy photo.

NP Appealing SEC Ruling To N.H. Supreme Court

By Garry Rayno, InDepthNH.org

The criteria the Site Evaluation Committee used to deny the Northern Pass Transmission project was "unduly or impermissibly vague," developer Ever-source claims in appealing the

decision to the state Supreme Court.

Filed late Friday afternoon, Northern Pass attorneys also claim regulators prematurely ended deliberations before assessing the project's benefit which could have swayed the
(Continued on page 2)



For 10 years Mark Hanlon was the music teacher at Pittsburg School. Today, living in Massachusetts, he is setting out on a book tour, which begins this weekend in Colebrook and Pittsburg. Courtesy photos.

Mark Hanlon

(Continued from page 1)

community, he has also taught music privately and in the public schools, including a 10-year stint as a North Country music teacher in Pittsburg.

Uncle Mark's Amazing Adventures: The Lyrics of a Unificationist's Life is a casual and conversationally-written account of Hanlon's life and experiences in life and his spirituality.

"I grew up as a Catholic, my mom was a Protestant, and there were very prominent beliefs on both sides of the family," said Hanlon, "so when I was a child, I was kind of caught in the middle of these two opposing theologies, so I tried to work it out in our family, and in my own head. When I went into college I wasn't thinking about anything except what college students think of. But the older I got, the more I thought about things, and I became a Christian, and I just happened to meet someone from the Unification Church in Salem. That's all in the book—what happened as a result of that."

Hanlon admits that he discusses the ups and downs of the sometimes-controversial religious movement. He says that he hopes to not preach his beliefs with the book, but rather to present his own experiences and let readers draw what they want to from it.

"The older I've gotten, the more I've realized that people's beliefs are personal to them, and it's better to let them have those beliefs, rather than try to change them," said Hanlon. "My experiences within the Unification movement are certainly unique, and they're also wide. I've kind of touched the bases of all the controversial areas. I was a leader in the Church, I was also a footsoldier, a missionary who did the hard work, too."

Hanlon had met Unification movement founder Rev. Sun Myung Moon, with some photos of his interactions to be found in the book. He fondly recalled a pool game against Rev. Moon. "He beat me in pool. It's one of my favorite games, one that I'm really good at, and he beat me!" laughed Hanlon. He also shared a memory of meeting him in 2001, when Mark was the interim state leader for the movement, and he and his wife presented Rev. Moon and his wife with a print of the Old Man of the Mountain.

"The people who read the book, they seem to enjoy it, it's a

bite-sized kind of a thing," said Hanlon. The whole process took about two years to write, and the origins of it came from reflective journaling that Mark did during his time in Pittsburg. Each chapter is introduced with a snippet of a song lyric, emphasizing the near and dear influence of music in Hanlon's life. "I didn't want to do a historical memoir, so I did kind of clips of things—it's like a collage. People that read, they can get something specific out of each chapter. It's dialogue."

Hanlon explained that the name "Uncle Mark" came from the fact that for many years he and his wife did not have any children, and it became an affectionate title from friends around them. Eventually they did give birth to their son Mikey, who is currently studying Aerospace and Physics at the University of Maryland and has a passion for competitive beatboxing.

A lengthy chapter of the book titled "Flatlander" speaks fondly of the Hanlons' time in Pittsburg, and their feelings of acceptance and support in the community. During this 10-year period, Mark also worked at the Balsams Grand Resort Hotel in Dixville Notch and performed live music regionally with a folk band called The Folk Tree.

Mark will be present for a book signing at Fiddleheads Gift Shoppe in Colebrook on Friday from 2-5 p.m., where the book will continue to be available for purchase. He also plans to have copies at Old Home Day in Pittsburg on Saturday. It can also be found online through the publisher, Reader's Digest's LifeRich Publishing, and through all major book selling services.

Outside Track

(Continued from page 1)

The Outside Track's marriage of Celtic music, song and footwork has been rapturously received around the world. Hailing from Scotland, Ireland, and Cape Breton, its five members are united by a love of traditional music and a commitment to creating new music on this as a foundation. They blend fiddle, accordion, harp, guitar, flute, whistle, step-dance and vocals with breathtaking vitality.

Members of the band include fiddler Mairi Rankin, one of the hugely influential members of the Rankin Family—legends on the Canadian music scene. She plays fiddle, sings and also step-

dances up a storm. Born in Mabou, Nova Scotia, Mairi has been influenced by some of the best Cape Breton traditional musicians and instructors on the island. She has developed her own unique style by being immersed in such a rich musical culture. She has toured nationally and internationally as a solo artist, a sideman and is a member of the Cape Breton Celtic super group Beolach. She has performed with the Rankin Sisters, Unusual Suspects and Bruce Guthro to name but a few. Mairi has recorded one solo album, two CDs with Beolach and has been featured on numerous compilations and recordings

Teresa Horgan, from Co. Cork, Ireland, has an emotive singing style. "She has just enough world weariness in her vocals to interpret...songs and make them her own," said Tony Lawless of Tradconnect. Teresa was immersed in music from a young age, playing with her family and later went on to obtain an honors degree in Irish Music and Dance at the University of Limerick. She recorded two albums with award-winning Irish band FullSet and shared the stage with The Chieftains, Declan O'Rourke, Andy Irvine, Lúnasa and more.

Ailie Robertson from Edinburgh, Scotland, is widely regarded as one of Scotland's leading young traditional musicians. She is a musician in the broadest sense: composer, arranger, teacher, improviser and harp virtuoso. Her accomplishment on the clarsach is such that leading Irish flautist Niall Keegan said: "Ailie's synthesis of Irish, Scottish and contemporary harping technique into an individual style represents the realization of otherwise unimagined possibilities for the Celtic harp." Ailie is in great demand as a teacher around the world, and has published six books of harp music.

From the Highland village of Evanton, Fiona Black developed a love of music and dance from a young age. The feisean movement provided her the opportunity to nurture her passion through learning to play the piano accordion. Fiona went on to attend the National Centre of Excellence in Traditional Music where she honed her skills as an accordionist and gained valuable experience arranging, performing, composing and recording. Fiona's accordion style incorporates many different influences, intertwining her native Scottish style with Irish, Swedish and Cape Breton repertoire, always

adding her distinctive rhythm and vibrancy.

Michael Ferrie is an award-winning guitarist and composer from Callander, Scotland. Ferrie was named Highland Young Guitarist in 2010. In 2013 Ferrie was commissioned to compose for the Royal Scottish National Orchestra's "Out and About" week, and in the same year was nominated for the BBC Radio 2 Young Folk Award with Scottish folk band Thalla.

After they complete their current U.S. tour, The Outside Track will be heading to Germany, Switzerland, Denmark, and the U.K.

Don't miss this one-of-a-kind international show, which starts at 7 p.m. Admission will be \$15 per person. For more information or to reserve tickets, call 237-9302 or 246-8998, or the Rialto Theatre at 788-3456. For more information on the GNWCA and upcoming shows, visit www.gnwca.org.



Police, EMS Reports

FATALITY AT TOWING SCENE IN QUEBEC

Media on both sides of the border have written stories about very close calls at towing and accident scenes for many years now. On Monday the worst happened on Auto Route 10 between Granby and Bromont, Que., when a 52-year-old delivery truck driver was killed. The driver's truck had broken down and he had called a tow truck. The towing service had arrived and was parked in front of the truck, safety flashers all running. The tow truck driver was setting up safety cones when an approaching semi-truck veered into the lane and hit the broken down truck hard in the rear. Both trucks ended up in the ditch. The Jaws of Life had to be used to free the semi-truck driver.

The delivery truck driver Jean-Guy Lenneville, 52, of Sherbrooke died on scene. The tow truck driver was very seriously injured and the semi-driver suffered major injuries. The injured are a 22 year old from Sherbrooke and a 39 year old from Magog. They were transported to the Centre Hospitalier Universitaire de Sherbrooke (CHUS) to be treated for their injuries. AutoRoute 10 was closed until into the night between Km. 74 and 78 which resulted in a traffic mess.

—Corey Bellam

45TH PARALLEL EMS

The following is the ambulance call activity report for the period from Aug. 5-11:

On Aug. 5, at 3:40 a.m., the department responded to Colebrook for a medical emergency.

The patient was transported to UCVH. At 8:59 a.m., the department responded to UCVH for an interfacility transfer to DHMC. The patient was transported to DHMC. At 9:11 a.m., the department responded to Colebrook for a medical emergency. The patient was transported to UCVH. At 1:50 p.m., the department responded to Colebrook for a medical emergency. The patient was transported to UCVH. At 3:47 p.m., the department responded to UCVH for an interfacility transfer to DHMC. The patient was transported to DHMC. At 4:37 p.m., the department responded to Errol as mutual aid to Errol Rescue for a medical emergency. The patient refused transport.

On Aug. 6, at 11:08 a.m., the department responded to Colebrook for a medical emergency. The patient was transported to UCVH.

On Aug. 7, at 12:07 a.m., the department responded to CCNH West Stewartstown for a medical emergency. The patient was transported to UCVH. At 12:25 a.m., the department responded to Colebrook for a medical emergency. The patient refused transport. At 1:19 a.m., the department responded to Androscoggin Valley Hospital for an interfacility transfer to DHMC. The patient was transported to DHMC. At 7:10 a.m., the department responded to UCVH for an interfacility transfer to University of Vt. Medical Center. The patient was transported to UVMC. At 10:40 a.m., the department responded to Lemington, Vt., for a medical emergency. The patient was

transported to UCVH. At 2:43 p.m., the department responded to Canaan, Vt., for a medical emergency. The patient refused transport.

On Aug. 8, at 6:02 p.m., the department responded to UCVH for an interfacility transfer to Catholic Medical Center. The patient was transported to CMC. At 8:22 p.m., the department responded to Clarksville for an ATV collision. There was no patient found.

On Aug. 9, at 4:51 a.m., the department responded to UCVH for an interfacility transfer to Androscoggin Valley Hospital. The patient was transported to AVH. At 6:44 a.m., the department responded to Colebrook for a medical emergency. The patient was transported to UCVH. At 7:07 p.m., the department responded to UCVH for an interfacility transfer to Littleton Regional Healthcare. The patient was transported to LRH.

On Aug. 10, at 5:48 p.m., the department responded to Colebrook for medical emergency. The patient was transported to UCVH.

On Aug. 11, at 8:21 a.m., the department responded to Colebrook for a medical emergency. The patient was transported to UCVH. At 12:43 p.m., the department responded to Errol as mutual aid to Errol Rescue for a medical emergency. The ambulance was canceled while en route. At 10:39 p.m., the department responded to CCNH West Stewartstown for a medical emergency. The patient was transported to UCVH.