



THE BRADFORD BRIDGE

COMMUNITY NEWS BY NEIGHBORS FOR NEIGHBORS

Volume 10, Number 2; Issue 104

February 2000

Bradford Couple Protects 148-acre Tree Farm

A 148-acre tree farm will forever remain a working forest, thanks to the generosity of a Bradford couple and the work of a non-profit conservation group. Dr. John and Amy Blitzer donated a conservation easement on their property to the Ausbon Sargent Land Preservation Trust (ASLPT). "We really love that piece of land," Amy Blitzer said. "We wanted to protect it." The Blitzer's property is the second parcel protected in Bradford by the ASLPT. Just a month earlier, the ASLPT helped the Town of Bradford protect the 136-acre Town Forest formerly known as the Aiken Pasture. A conservation easement is a legal agreement that restricts use of land and is sold or given to a qualifying, non-profit organization such as the ASLPT. In this case, the Blitzers donated a conservation easement to the ASLPT. While the Blitzers continue to own the property, the easement restrictions are bound to the land, in perpetuity. The ASLPT, holder of nearly 50 conservation

easements, is responsible, also in perpetuity, for enforcing easement restrictions and prosecuting violations. "We're so pleased to have helped conserve almost 300 acres of open space in Bradford," said Debbie Stanley, executive director of the ASLPT.

Amy Blitzer, who is a Bradford Conservation Commissioner, also worked with the ASLPT in protecting the Town Forest. "I'm well aware how much of our wild land is being lost to development," she said. Like the Town Forest, the Blitzer's property used to be pastureland. Cows belonging to Connor's Dairy in Henniker grazed there for years before the land was allowed to revert to forest. One winter day in 1969, John Blitzer came up from Cambridge, Mass. to ski at Mount Sunapee and saw the parcel advertised for sale. He bought the land from dairyman Lester Connor the

same day. The Blitzers have long had a second home on Center Road in Bradford and moved here permanently in 1987 after John's retirement. Since 1990, the Blitzers have been managing the property as a tree farm, a portion of which is dedicated to Christmas trees. Finally, this December the Blitzers had a Christmas tree harvest—one tree for themselves. The rest of the crop may be ready for cutting in a few years.

The parcel, with 1,550 feet of frontage on Rowe Mountain Road, is accessible to the public and hikers are welcome. The Blitzers have built a trail network they plan to link to a Town trail on Rowe Mountain. Someday, they hope their property will be part of a trail system linked to nearby Lowe State Forest. "We

continued on page 18

"I'm well aware how much of our wild land is being lost to development."

Rescue Squad Needs Volunteers

Bradford Rescue Squad has been meeting with other towns to brainstorm solutions to our personnel problems. One thing we have learned from these meetings is that the shortage of personnel is not unique to our town. It is very much a statewide problem. We have considered a variety of ideas but one thing is very clear. We are in need of people power!

We have an urgent need for drivers for the ambulance. If you are able to volunteer one night each week (6:00pm-6:00am) and two weekend nights every five weeks (Friday and Saturday night 6:00pm-6:00am), have a good driving record, and are in good health, please call Mary Beth Fenton, 938-2120, or any rescue squad member.

We also are looking for volunteers to take the EMT or First Responder course, especially those who might be able to respond during daytime hours. Be assured that Bradford Rescue is committed to maintaining our high standard of patient care for our community.

—Mary Beth Fenton

Local Girl Wins MLK Essay Contest

Rosemary Bateman of Bradford was awarded first place for her essay honoring Martin Luther King, Jr. Governor Jeanne Shaheen presented Rosemary with a plaque and an award of \$100 at the Martin Luther King Day Celebration held January 17 at Notre Dame College in Manchester.

The statewide contest was sponsored by the Martin Luther King Coalition for students grades one through twelve in both art and writing. Rosemary's essay was judged best in the grades 6-8 group. In her essay, she argued against materialism and for stronger moral values following King's example. Rosemary is the 11-year-old daughter of Susan Farber and Marcus Bateman. She is interested in animals, wetlands and drawing, and she plans to be a writer. She is a homeschooled 6th grader.

Another area winner was Emerson Lennon of Warner, who was awarded an honorable mention for his artwork.

Food Pantry Receives Donation



Vernon Hall, Treasurer, presents a check for \$300 to Rev. Lynne Hubley to benefit the First Baptist Church Community Food Pantry. The donation was made by St. Peter's Lodge and the Grand Lodge.

Bradford's Millennium Celebration

Oh, what a party we had! This was one of the several positive comments made about the New Year's Eve Party at the new Bradford Area Community Center. Guests were treated to punch and salsa and chips while they listened to pre-dinner music from DJ Rob Duclos in the Kindergarten Room which was decorated in a white and gold motif. Guests then moved to the Senior Room, which was decorated in a white, silver and blue theme, where they enjoyed an elegant and sumptuous buffet. Forty-eight people feasted on salad, roasted potatoes, vegetable lasagna, stuffed chicken breasts, vegetable medley and roast beef carved to order by Peter Fenton and Beth Sargent of the Applesseed Restaurant. Two wonderful cakes donated by Betty and Mike Ripberger were served for dessert.

After this wonderful meal, we were treated to a very entertaining presentation by singer, actress, dancer Molly Clark who sang her way through the story of the summer love of "Johnny and Tammy" using songs from the 50s and 60s. It was reminiscent of teenage "sock hops." Door prizes were won by the following people: Carey Rodd - an outdoor thermometer donated by the Lumber Barn, Howard Klein - an 18-piece punch set donated by Dodge's, Tom Pitts - three videos from Video Pursuit, Jim Denoncourt - a \$50 Savings Bond from Lake Sunapee Bank, Marvin Rich - a \$50 Savings Bond from Sugar River Savings Bank, Dick Paul - a \$25 gift certificate from Market Basket and Perley Strout - a \$25 gift certificate from Bowie's Market. Congratulations to all our winners and thank you to our prize contributors.

Partygoers enjoyed the rest of the evening by dancing to all types of music played by the DJ. There are many good dancing couples in the community. It was as much fun to watch others dance as it was to dance ourselves. Just before mid-

night, we donned party hats and tiaras and used our noisemakers to usher in the New Year. We toasted the new millennium with sparkling cider, making for a safe and fun evening with no headache the next morning.

Many people need to be thanked for the success of this party, among them are the decorating committee which included the creative talents of Michael and Teresa Bryant, the organizational skills of Dick and Phyllis Whall, Neil and Lynn Smith, Vern and Marion Hall, Marge Messer, Marcia and Perley Strout and Sophie Burke. We thank the Bradford Historical Society for the donation of balloons, the cooperation of Karen McNeil from the Party Store, Dawn Rich for being our fiscal agent, Dave Long from the White Star Function Hall on Route 103 in Newbury for the generous use of the tables and chairs. We thank Steve Hansen, Perley Strout, Vern Hall, Neil Smith, Mike Ripberger and Dick Vitale for their muscles to move the tables and chairs and to take them back. Well done, men! We thank the Ripbergers for the cakes and the Fenton family of the Applesseed Restaurant for a truly elegant and delicious buffet dinner. Molly Clark, our entertainer, was terrific. Our DJ Rob Duclos and his wife Lisa were most accommodating. Phyllis Whall, our chairperson, is most thankful for the bouquet of flowers presented to her from an anonymous donor. The celebration committee from the Governance Board of the Community Center consisting of Marion Hall, Betty Perron, Carol Conforti-Adams, Sue Vitale and Phyllis Whall thanks you, the members of our community, for giving us the support so that we can have happy memories of a truly enchanting evening.

—Suzanne C. Vitale for the Committee



Molly Clark sings Happy Birthday to Tommy Pitts

THE BRADFORD BRIDGE



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Subscription Information

For those wishing to receive the Bradford Bridge by mail, the annual subscription price is \$12 to cover the cost of mailing. To subscribe, please send a check to the address above.

Advertising

The Bradford Bridge is a free community newspaper supported by advertisers. To place an ad, call Denise Fairbank at 938-2973 or send a FAX to 938-5263. Ad deadline is Feb. 20.

Submissions

The Bradford Bridge is written by neighbors, for neighbors. Anyone is welcome to submit articles and/or photographs of interest to the community. Send articles or letters to Lyn Betz at the address, FAX number or e-mail address above by Feb. 20.



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Community Center Opening Delayed

Due to unforeseen problems, the Bradford Area Community Center will not open as anticipated on February 1. We hope the problems can be rectified so that the Center can be available to area residents. We apologize to all of those who have been inconvenienced by delays in the Community Center opening.

The Governance Board will announce the Grand Opening and Celebration of the Community Center as soon as possible. Look on Channel 3 and for posters announcing this event.

Kindergarten will be able to move in during February vacation week.

The Weight Watchers program had to be cancelled because the minimum of 18 people did not sign up. However, we plan to offer Weight Watchers again at a later date.

The entire Governance Board would like to thank Carol Conforti-Adams for her vision, persistence and hard work making it possible for the town of Bradford to have a Community Center that will enhance the lives of residents in this area. The Bradford Area Community Center, which started as a dream, has become a reality. Thank you, Carol, for a job well done.

The Governance Board is pleased to announce the hiring of Meg Ames from Newbury, NH as Program and Planning Director for the Community Center. She comes to us with much experience in community organizing and was instrumental in the development of the new Newbury Public Library. Meg has a M.Ed. in counseling and BA cum laude in Psychology- Sociology. Further she brings experience in grant writing, planning and needs assessments and many other tasks to her position.

—BACC Governance Board

Area Senior Rally

All area seniors, look for our next gathering on Saturday, Feb.12 from 1:00-3:00pm at the new Bradford Area Community Center on East Main Street. The discussion will focus on choosing the programs and services that seniors desire to be held at the Center in the new senior room. Seniors can be as general or as innovative as they desire. Come make your voices heard as to your needs, choices and concerns.

On Saturday, March 11 at 1:00pm area seniors will meet again, at the Community Center, for an enjoyable social program to be announced at a later date.

The Area Senior Rally held on Saturday, January 22 was educational and enlightening. The guest speaker was Nancy Lyon, president of New England Canine Search and Rescue out of New London. Nancy showed slides of her dogs, Sage, Trace and Keeper, along with dogs owned by other members of this group. Nancy brought Trace and Keeper and demonstrated techniques as to how the dogs seek and retrieve. The group consists of seventeen members, all volunteers, who cover New Hampshire and Vermont. Seniors asked many questions and Nancy proved her knowledge of land and water rescue techniques by her answers. A round of applause showed appreciation for the wonderful commitment these volunteers provide to the communities they serve.

The Area Senior Rally is very excited at the prospect of the move into their new headquarters at the Community Center. At this time, we would like to express our thanks to the First Baptist Church and Hallahan Real Estate for providing meeting space in the past. Appreciation, also, to Carol Conforti-Adams, Bruss Construction, Chris Frey etc., etc. for transforming the old school into the beautiful Community Center all area citizens will enjoy. All area seniors are encouraged to come to the next Area Senior Rally and enjoy these new facilities.

—Genie Palm

Open Space Trail System Plan

The Town of Bradford and the Central New Hampshire Regional Planning Commission (CNHRPC) are working together to produce a municipal Open Space Trail System Plan through the Regional Environmental Planning Program (REPP) of the NH Department of Environmental Services (NH DES). This plan will identify current and potential recreational trails and their relationship to public and conservation land and unprotected open space on a parcel-by-parcel basis and will provide a set of recommendations for implementation of the Plan. The purposes of this Plan are to encourage and increase outdoor recreational opportunities in Bradford by creating a municipal trail system, to encourage recreational partnerships between landowners and the Town and to consider future land conservation options. After its completion, the Plan can be adopted as a sub-element of Bradford's Master Plan. This project, fully funded through the REPP, will have both the Town and the CNHRPC doing certain tasks in order to complete the Plan. In addition, close coordination with the NH Department of Revenue and Economic Development (NH DRED) Trails Bureau will be undertaken to ensure that pertinent issues are adequately addressed.

A Steering Committee, comprised of the Conservation Commission and other volunteer individuals representing a variety of interests within Bradford, will meet four times between January and May 31, 2000. The first meeting was held on January 18 from 7:00-9:00pm at the Town Hall. The remaining meetings have been scheduled for the Tuesdays of February 15, March 21, and May 16 beginning at 7:00pm. Each of the meetings will have a short presentation and interactive sessions where the attendees identify current trails and public lands, provide review and comment on maps and draft Plans, hold discussions about trails usage, and identify potential future trails land. All of the meetings are open to the public. For more information, please contact Charlie Betz, Conservation Commission Chair, at 456-3210 or Stephanie Vaine, CNHRPC Natural Resources Planner, at 753-9374 (svaine@cnhrpc.org).

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Letters

To the editor:

Bradford has some wonderful and committed citizens and a lot has happened in the last few years. "Nothing happens unless there is a dream which creates a vision of what you want to make into reality." I am glad that I had the opportunity to share my professional talents and dream with the community I live in.

The Bradford Community Corporation and the Community Center are both assets to this community. Use them wisely and you will achieve great things so that many communities will ask, "how did Bradford do that?" Now there is a beautiful renovated building which belongs to the community. Please get involved, volunteer your time and create an active, vibrant Center. Remember what Margaret Mead said: "Never doubt that a small group of people can change the world, it is the only way it happens." Bradford citizens, keep up the dreams and success will always come.

Carol Conforti-Adams

To the editor:

New Year's Eve Celebration was the first official function at the Bradford Area Community Center. Wow, what a party... To all who made it possible, thank you for a wonderful evening. We ended the year in laughter and fun and welcomed the new year with hopes of love and peace not only in our wonderful community but all over the world. Happy New Year.

Dawn and Marv Rich

Letters to the editor should be no more than 400 words and may be edited for clarity and content. All letters must be signed and include a telephone number for verification.

BEOC Update

The January meeting started with Joe Conway, one of the seasoned veterans of the BEOC, telling us about the reaction of Mike Wimsatt of the Department of Environmental Services. "He was extremely optimistic with the content, the past efforts in the town and information going back to 1994," regarding the Bradford Green project. This reaction was in reference to the most recent grant proposal for the site assessment submitted just before the holidays. The BEOC should know the results of this proposal by middle to late February.

Don Johnsen then presented some preliminary information on aerial topographical mapping. This mapping would require both an air photographic survey and ground survey to cover the data needed for the Bradford Green, Water & Sewer and proposed Bradford Business Park. I must stress that the BEOC is only investigating options at this point to understand the process, requirements and details of this highly specialized mapping. We do not foresee the actual mapping to begin for more than a year.

The last bit of business relates to the "Reviewing Bradford Village" questionnaire. No doubt you have already stumbled across the boldly colored, one page sheet in your Bridge. If you need an extra copy for other family members (no age requirement), you should be able to pick one up or drop off your completed copy at the following locations: Dodges/Video Pursuit, Pizza Chef or the Merrimack Farm Store. We hope you will take a couple of moments to help us with your thoughts. After all, 1999 passed as a year of making "ideas and dreams" into realities, help us seek out the "new ideas" that will become the realities of the future.

—Stephen Manley



From the kitchen of Lesley Marquis

VALENTINE CHERRY SCONES

4 cups flour
1/3 cup sugar
1 tablespoon baking powder
1/2 teaspoon salt
1/2 teaspoon baking soda
1/3 cup butter
1 1/3 cups buttermilk
jar cherry preserves
red sugar crystals

Preheat oven to 425°. Grease a large baking sheet. Combine flour, sugar, baking powder, baking soda and salt. With a pastry blender, cut in the butter until mixture resembles coarse crumbs. Add buttermilk and mix until mixture forms a soft dough.

Turn dough out onto a lightly floured surface and knead 5-6 times. With a floured rolling pin, roll out the dough to a 1/2 inch thickness. Cut with a heart-shaped cookie cutter. Lightly press the trimmings together and re-roll to cut more scones. You should have 16.

Place 8 dough hearts on baking sheet. Top with 1 teaspoonful of cherry preserves. Moisten edge of dough with water and press a second heart on top. Press to seal edges. Sprinkle with red sugar crystals and bake 15-18 minutes, or until lightly browned.

Serve warm—Happy Valentine's Day!

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Selectmen's Update

In the last column it was stated that "this was the last column of the century". Well, this is the first column of the year 2000. Things are still happening here in Bradford. At the beginning of January, a "punch list" for the Bradford Area Community Center was made and all items were taken care of. We now have an outstanding building for use by the residents of Bradford and of the surrounding communities. The Governance Board of the center meets weekly and programs are being developed. This never would have happened without the generous contributions of time and money by residents and businesses of Bradford and other communities.

The Selectmen have been meeting regularly with the various department heads and have presented the budgets to the Budget Committee. This board is very aware of where our tax dollars are to be spent and have worked very hard with the budget committee to hold the line as much as possible. With the potential for the school budget to increase by over 7% this year, it has made it difficult for us to get projects going that are needed by the town without impacting the bottom line of our tax bills. We request that you come to the Public Hearing on the Town Budget on February 8. It is here that you will be able to ask questions about the budget.

Some of you that have been in the Town Hall are probably wondering what all those cabinets and tables are in the main room. Well, the goal of the Selectmen is to make the offices more efficient and "user friendly". This is part of that plan. Filing will be more orderly and files will be easier to retrieve.

Many hours have been spent transferring all of the assessment cards over to a computer-based system and that project is almost complete.

The next three months are going to be very busy with Primary Elections and Town Elections upon us. We need people on several boards in the town. All it takes is a commitment to Bradford and your neighbors to help. There are many elected positions available and all it takes is to go to the Town Clerk and fill out a form to get on the ballot. There is nothing as satisfying as being involved with the town for the town. Think about it.

—Dick Vitale for the Board of Selectmen

Bradford Business Association

The Bradford Business Association is ready to start the new millennium with renewed enthusiasm and a list of goals for 2000. First, plans are underway to create an information booth/kiosk to be located in the town at a site that will be easy for people driving through the area to get to. The most likely site is the Tall Pines rest area on Route 103. Members are discussing design and content. Second, the welcome signs as you enter Bradford are in need of replacement. Third, plans are in the works to expand our web site, www.bradfordnh.com. Fourth, we want to expand the BBA brochure with town events, historic information, etc. One of the biggest assets of being a BBA member is inclusion in this informative and attractive brochure that gets distributed around town and elsewhere. And fifth, we plan to issue more press releases with news about BBA happenings and events.

In addition to the above, the BBA will continue to support the beautification of Main Street, Adopt-a-Highway clean up and the popular July 4th parade and activities. Other ideas will be discussed throughout the year. Meetings are held the third Monday of every month at 7:00pm in the Church Vestry. If you own a business in Bradford, please come and offer your ideas.

—Laura Hallahan

Bradford Women's Club Update

The January 18 meeting of the Bradford Women's Club was a Chinese auction. Tillie Wheeler won the lion's share of the prizes. Members later had lunch at the Little Chinese Restaurant in Newbury. A fun time was had by all.

Our February 15 meeting will be at 11:30am at the new Community Center. We are very excited about using this marvelous new facility. It will be our "Town Reports" meeting so that we can be updated prior to Town Meeting in March. We will have a potluck lunch and members planning to attend are asked to bring a dish. The Executive Board will provide dessert. Please call Sue Vitale at 938-2852 and state what type of dish you will be bringing.

On February 22 at 7:00pm the Women's Club will sponsor a Candidate's Night at the Bradford Elementary School. All candidates running for Town offices are urged to attend. Candidates running for the Presidency have expressed an interest in attending our Candidate's Night. We do not have any firm commitments as of this writing, so we do not know who may attend. This meeting is open to the public and all residents are urged to attend and be informed. Your vote does count.

—Suzanne C. Vitale, President

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The Library Lantern

By Maggi Ainslie

The Library Lantern is lit once again and we all love our new space. This truly is a gift of a lifetime to our town. Everyone involved can be very proud of what was accomplished. The Kindergarten has returned on Wednesday mornings for stories (10:30am). They danced around their room celebrating its beauty and purpose as only kids can. All Kindergarten age children are welcome to join us.

Our New Books shelf (near the main desk) will be featuring fiction and nonfiction from the New York Times Best Seller lists. Call us for any book you would like to reserve. Each week we have requests for books from all over the state through the New Hampshire Automated System. We loan out our books and libraries loan requested titles to us. The State provides van delivery of the books once a week. We all benefit from this wonderful service.

One recent Saturday morning six people from Canterbury came to see our building. They were shown all the features

and we answered questions about the project. They were most impressed with the quality of our furnishings and thought it a great addition to the town.

The Friends start their February/March book discussion series on February 1. Come in for the books and schedule.

Patrons are amazed by the list. It is available to anyone unable to use the steps. If you have any questions, call us.

New books recently added:

Ultimate Lego Book

Titanic (Eyewitness), by Adams

Family Honor, by Parker

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Hunting Badger, by Hillerman

Timeline, by Crichton

Madeline in America, by Bemelmans

Patrick's Dinosaurs on the Internet, by Carrick

World Almanac for Kids 2000

Worst Fears Realized, by Woods

GED 2000

Holes, by Sachar



Church News

From Lynne E. Hubley

The American Baptist Women's Ministry will meet on Tuesday, February 1 at 7:00pm. After a short business meeting, a program will be presented: "Letters from Laurinda—a Love Gift Program." Women are asked to bring their Love Gift boxes. Refreshments will be served after the program.

On Friday, February 4 the Women's Christian Guild will meet at the home of Tillie Wheeler to make Valentines for shut-ins. The time will be announced closer to the meeting.

Baptism candidates will meet with the Deacons on Sunday, February 6 at 11:30am for their last Baptism Class.

The Board of Christian Education is sponsoring a potluck Winter Picnic on Friday, February 11 at 6:00pm for our church family (all ages). After dinner, we will play Church Family Feud, Hollywood Squares and there will be Bingo games for the children.

The American Baptist Men's group will participate in the worship service on Sunday, February 13, including preaching the message.

The Food Pantry will be open Wednesday, February 16 at 6:00pm. Families are asked to come as close to 6:00pm as possible during the cold winter months. Arrangements can be made to pick up the boxes the following morning as well.

Our youth groups and our church family will go to the home of Judy and Tom Marshall for a Winter Wonderland Gathering on Sunday, February 27 from 1:00-4:00pm. We will enjoy an afternoon of ice skating and other winter sports with hot cocoa, popcorn and s'mores on the campfire.

Anyone interested in becoming a member of our church is invited to the parsonage on Sunday, February 27 at 7:00pm for a New Members Get-Together. We will spend time sharing, learning about American Baptist beliefs, our Church and enjoying some refreshments.

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Winter Carnival, 1946

The 20th Winter Carnival was held in mid-February sponsored that year by the Bradford Fish and Game Club. Friday's program had the ski tow operating all day until 8:00pm, skating contests, a buggy race on Todd Pond, and a bazaar at the Town Hall. Saturday brought ski competition at Heath Hill (Ring Hill, now), a wood chopping contest, and the Carnival Ball and Coronation of the Carnival Queen at the Town Hall, admission 85 cents.

Advertisers in the Carnival brochure included Charles F. Gage (cattle dealer), Green Gables, H.L. Holmes & Son (funeral home), Sunny Plain Farm, Pine Cress Mink Farm, Wallace Woodward (Cedar Hill hot-houses), Paul Gove (plumber), Charles Sanborn (painter/contractor), Roy A.

Messer (insurance), Cressy & Williams (the Farmall dealer), Merrimack Farmers' Exchange, Bradford Inn (the "Heart of Bradford Hospitality"), Dustin G. Cressy (5 and 10-\$1.00 and "Ice Cream Corner"),

Smith's Garage, Arthur B. Gardner (stoves, ranges), Red Front, Lake Side, Forest Brook Guernsey Farm, Bradford Garage (Frank A. Wise, prop.), Bellevue Garage (Frank H. Fortune, prop.), Dodge Poultry Farm, C.A. Harrington (blacksmith), Singing Hill Farm, C.A. Danforth & Co. and Arthur E. Rowe (electrician).

Out of town advertisers included Mrs. Jim's Lunch in South Newbury, Wright's General Store at Blaisdell Lake and the Rock Garden, home cooked foods in Henniker.

A nice thing about the fashionable ski outfit was you probably had the heavy wool pants in your winter wardrobe anyhow.



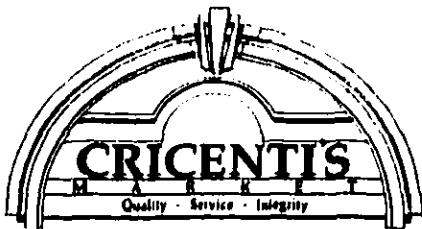
Notice to Dog Owners

Please be very aware of the enforced leash law in our town. Dogs running free can contract rabies or other infectious diseases and may get hurt or killed. Licenses are issued at the Town Clerk's Office and the prices per year are Spayed/Neutered \$6.50, Unaltered/Unspayed \$9.00, Puppies 3-6 months old \$6.50 and a special rate for Senior Citizens who own dogs is \$2.00. A license tag is needed to identify your dog if it happens to stray or gets injured. Please, for the love of your dog, take the proper responsibility to have it licensed. Thank you.

—C. St. Pierre, Animal Control Officer



THE GOVERNANCE BOARD OF THE BRADFORD AREA COMMUNITY CENTER WOULD LIKE TO EXPRESS THEIR SINCERE APPRECIATION TO CAROL CONFORTI-ADAMS OF CCA ASSOCIATES FOR HER DEDICATION AND EXTRAORDINARY PERFORMANCE WITHOUT WHICH THE COMMUNITY CENTER COULD NOT HAVE BECOME A REALITY.



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Bradford-Newbury Kindergarten and Preschool

Our big news this month is our exciting move into the new Bradford Community Center. February 2000 is the date. Mrs. Kingsbury and Mrs. Conway will be coordinating our giant move down Main Street. BNKP would like to thank Carol Conforti-Adams, Bruss Construction, Bradford Board of Selectman, the Bradford Community Corp. and the Community Center's Governance Board for all their support of our school. Thank you so much!

Our field trip this month is to the Bradford Post Office with a visit to Mike the Postmaster. Trips in town are always so special. We will be having a Valentine's Day Party February 14 at our school. At the end of February we will be taking orders for Easter Candy as one of our winter fundraisers. BNKP will also be holding an Election Day bake sale on Primary Day.

We are very grateful to the following businesses for their corporate donations to our school: Outspokin' Bike shop, Lake Sunapee Bank and New London Trust.

See you at the Community Center!

—Mary Keegan Dayton

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BRADFORD. Small 3 bedroom Cottage overlooking Lake Massasacum on Oakdale Road. No frontage but nice view of lake from screened porch. Needs TLC but appears structurally sound. Some furnishings stay, has been used many summers by same family. Needs well and septic, has outdoor privy.\$33,900

E. Harris Realty

456-6161

Kearsarge Charter Middle School Update

The Founders Group would like to address some issues brought up during the School District deliberative session regarding the Charter Middle School.

Comment: *The Charter Middle School curriculum will be no different from the existing Middle School curriculum.*

The Charter School curriculum will use the Middle School curriculum as a guide which will ensure that, upon graduation from the Charter Middle School, students will be fully prepared academically to enter any high school.

The difference between the Charter and existing Middle School will be in the teaching techniques. Subjects will be taught in themes and integrated between the subjects allowing teachers to use their creative talents. However, as in the case of math and language skills, basic skill development will be taught at times in a non-integrated manner. In contrast to the existing Middle School, foreign language will begin in earnest with potential for additional languages if the community wishes.

Another difference is that because of its small size, there is greater opportunity for flexibility and quicker changes if parents and teachers decide upon a new or interesting course to offer or method of teaching.

Comment: *What if students want to be in organized sports or take courses not of-*

fered by the Charter School?

Charter Schools are part of the public school system within the Kearsarge Regional School District. The cooperative nature of this relationship allows for reciprocity between schools in terms of what courses are offered. Students from either school will be able to participate in unique programs provided by each school.

Comment: *I wish the founders group would put their energy into the existing public school system.*

The Founders Group is doing exactly this by working to create more options for all middle school-aged students in our district. We believe that one overcrowded, large middle school may not be serving the best educational and social needs of every student.

There is only one month left to become informed on this issue. The Founders Group will meet with anyone who would like more information. Please call Mary Mead (456-3262), Susan Farber (938-5228), Kathy Kovacs (456-2182), Ken & Holly Grossman (526-6390). You can also visit our website at www.kearsargecharter.com. The Founders Group will be sending information about the Charter Middle School to all parents and taxpayers before the March vote.

—Lori Terwilliger, Founders Group



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Reviewing Bradford Village

As rejuvenation projects in Bradford Village become reality, the BEOC is looking for ALL residents to assess the progress, and explore possibilities for other projects in the future. We hope you will take a few moments to fill out this form and return your ideas, so we can better follow your lead. Our overall goal is to identify improvements for downtown Bradford. With *your* help, the BEOC will better understand your vision and hopes for the town of Bradford.

(Village Area as defined in Master Plan: Traffic light at 114/103 to blinking light at end of Main St., Main St. across 103 to Water St., Right up High St. to 103, and right following 103 back to 114/103.)

- Do you live in the Village Area? Yes ___ No ___
- Do you have children? Yes ___ No ___
- How long have you lived in Bradford? _____
- Are you a seasonal resident? Yes ___ No ___
- Do you work in Bradford? Yes ___ No ___
- Do you: own your home ____, rent ____, live with friends or family ____?
- How often do you do business in the Village Area? times per week _____
- Did you attend any of the town forums or the Charette meetings? Yes ___ No ___

What five Village Area improvements would you like to see completed in the next five years, without burdening the taxpayer?

What recent changes have improved the Village Area?

What has not improved, and is becoming a worse situation?

What improvements would you like to see on the following? (note below)

- Roadways, Sidewalks, and Curbing:

- Planting flowers, Shrubs and Trees:

- Night lighting of streets, signs, and businesses:

Please expand on improvements you would like to see in the following areas.

- The intersection of 103 and 114.
- The intersection of Main St. and 114:
- The intersection of Main St. and 103:
- Main St. East of 103 to 114:
- Main St. West of 103 to the end at the 4-way:
- Other improvements:

(Return completed form to: **Dodges/Video Pursuit, Pizza Chet,
Merrimack's Country Store, or mail to BEOC, P.O. Box
456, Bradford, NH 03721**)

**Thank You,
BEOC Members**



Real Estate Hints: Real Estate on the Internet

by Laura Hallahan

If sales from this past holiday season are any indication, shopping over the internet is here to stay. Some people love the privacy of turning on a computer and having access to merchandise from thousands of vendors. Others prefer going to the mall where they can try things on before buying. Whatever category you fall into, you must admit it is truly amazing what you can find on the World Wide Web.

Real estate is no exception, with every kind of site imaginable. You can actually see listings across the country, find a realtor, obtain school, neighborhood and mortgage information—all without talking to a single person.

Some in the industry feel that this type of technology will put us out of business. Others think it actually makes our job easier because you have a better educated consumer. I'm not sure what the future holds, but I do know that the internet is a wonderful first stop to gather information and then take that information to the realtor of your choice. Can buyers and sellers find each other without a realtor in the picture? Absolutely. But real estate is not a sweater that can be returned if it doesn't fit. Buying or selling a house is a very involved process with legal and ethical implications and a licensed professional should be part of that process. That being said, it sure is fun to check out the various Web sites. If you are a buyer, you get to see what's out there. As a seller, you know that a couple from California or Paris, France can find your house in New Hampshire with just a click! Here are a few sites to try:

- Realtor.com www.realtor.com
- CyberHomes www.cyberhomes.com
- HomeSeekers www.homeseekers.com
- Homes.com www.homes.com
- HomeStore <http://homestore.com>

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Parks and Recreation News

January was a quiet month, between sickness and the cold weather. Line Dancing and the Fun Dance are now up and going once more. Join us on Tuesdays and Fridays. We have a number programs ready to go at the BACC.

A new program, Step Aerobics with Molly Clark, will be held Tuesday and Thursday evenings each week from 7:00-8:00pm beginning on February 8. This will run six weeks for \$36. Bring your own step. Call 938-2570 to register or for information.

Busy Bodies, a group for moms, babies and pre-schoolers, will be held two mornings a week. For information call Sue Anne at 938-5237 or Trish at 938-5662.

We will have registration for Baton Twirling on February 12 at the Town Hall from 10:00-11:00am. We will measure for regulation batons. The fee for this course will be \$48 (fee includes regulation baton) for 8 weeks. Half is due at registration; the balance will be due at the first class. We hope at the end of these classes to have produced the "Bradford Twirlers" who will make their debut in the Fourth of July Parade. Watch for posters and check cable for starting dates.

A Middle School Dance will be held at the Town Hall on Friday, February 25 from 7:00-10:00pm. Admission is \$4.00. Refreshments will be available. A Lip Sync contest will be held with prizes! Bring your own music. For advance tickets call 938-2570. If you have questions about any of these programs, call Jane at 938-2570.

A number of other projects are in the making. We have a great group of workers but can always use more.

—Jane Lucas

Police Report

The Bradford Police Department handled 479 calls for service between December 16, 1999 and January 14, 2000. The breakdown is as follows: one alarm activation, one ambulance call, 15 animal complaints, eight assists to other police departments, one assist to the Public Works Dept., one burglary, 375 business checks, one check on welfare, nine citizens assists, one criminal arrest warrant, two cases of damage to property, one found property, one harassing communication, three incident/services, one juvenile offense, six motor vehicle accidents, one case of operating after suspension, one runaway, one simple assault, five suspicious persons/vehicles, two thefts, 12 traffic citations, 30 traffic warnings, 16 vacation house checks and four weapons permits.

—Pennie M. Spooner



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New England Handicapped Sports Association

The slopes of Mount Sunapee are swarming with adaptive skiers and snowboarders. On the weekdays alone, 26 children from seven area schools participate in New England Handicapped Sports Association's program.

And thanks to several area businesses, NEHSA's school program is receiving the funds it takes to continue their work on the slopes. Children with developmental and physical disabilities often require extra assistance and special equipment to join their peers in physical activities. NEHSA's volunteer instructors teach kids who normally would be left behind due to disabilities such as blindness, Downs Syndrome, autism and spina bifida. NEHSA also provides the equipment—from snowboards to bi-skis. These children learn more than a sport. They learn to feel good about themselves, to trust others, to enjoy the out-of-doors and to work towards a goal. But smiles alone—and the \$4 per lesson that NEHSA receives from the schools—cannot run NEHSA's program.

This ski season NEHSA received support from the following Bradford area businesses: Valley Excavating, Valley Transportation, Pickman and Sons Plumbing and Heating, Colonial Woodworking, Bruss Construction, Ayer & Goss, Pizza Chef, Alae Design and Seddon Savage, MD. Businesses in other surrounding towns have also joined in the effort.

There are still many ways for businesses and individuals to become involved. More sponsors are needed for the children. Volunteers are needed on the slopes, especially on weekdays. And there is NEHSA's annual SKI-A-THON and RIDE-A-THON on Saturday, February 5 at Mount Sunapee from 9:00am to 1:00pm. Novice skiers and boarders can count their runs on the Province slope. More advanced skiers can do "The Grand Tour of the Mountain." Raise \$100 and earn a T-shirt; \$250—a sweatshirt; \$500—a \$100 gift certificate to Bob Skinner's. All participants who raise at least \$50 receive a lift ticket and BBQ lunch. For more information and to pre-register call NEHSA at 763-9158 or Debbie Bruss at 938-2979. Also, check out NEHSA's website: www.nehsa.org for photos, stories and inspiration.

—Debbie Bruss



BOOK REVIEW

by Pauline Dishmon

WHEN THE WIND BLOWS

James Patterson
Little, Brown & Co., 1998

Before Patterson began this book, he had no idea how close his story might be to reality. Over thirty medical doctors and research scientists helped him at the conceptual stage and again when the manuscript was nearing completion.

The story begins with an eleven-year-old girl named Max. She is screaming, needing help and wondering if anyone can hear her. Her throat and lungs hurt and she is beginning to tire. As she runs, she knows men were behind her, that they wanted to kill her. As she runs, her long blond hair flares behind her. She tries to glance back, wondering if her little brother, Matthew, is close behind. She fears he might be dead. As she continues to run she spots a sign that warns "Extreme Danger—Electric Fence." She bends over and cups her hands over her bare knees, at the same time she senses eyes upon her. Suddenly, she unfurls her wings and flies to a point about nine feet away. At this point, I wondered if Max was a bird or a girl.

The mystery of her wings leads veterinarian Frannie O'Neill and FBI agent Kit Harrison into a massive conspiracy involving secret genetic research and the scientific manipulation of the human species. Patterson's story moves rapidly. Before you know it, you'll reach the final page and want more.

Book Discussions begin February 1



"Myths and Masculinity," Tuesday evening book discussions led by Dr. Patrick Anderson begin on February 1 at 7:00pm in Brown Memorial Library by the fireplace.

A "Not for Children Only" book discussion will be held on March 7. The program is sponsored by the NH Humanities Council. Multiple copies of the books are now available in the handicapped accessible Brown Memorial Library. Refreshments will be served.

Feb. 1 *The Virginian* by Owen Wister
Feb. 15 *The Jolly Corner* by Henry James (with film)
Feb. 29 *In Our Time* by Ernest Hemingway (short stories)
Mar. 7 *Charlotte's Web* by E. B. White (adults & children)

Fourth of July 2000

The Fourth of July 2000 Committee will meet at the Town Hall, Wednesday, February 9 at 7:15pm. The committee coordinates activities here in Bradford that day. Anyone who is interested in participating is encouraged to attend this meeting. For more information, call Debbie Lamach at 938-2095.

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Kearsarge Community Character Coalition

The Kearsarge Community Character Coalition (through the Kearsarge Regional School District) has adopted a program created by the Search Institute based in Minnesota to help build the assets of the youth in our community. Research has shown that the more of the defined 40 developmental assets a young person has, the less likely he/she is to engage in high risk activities (such as drinking or drugs) and the more likely he/she will be to make smart decisions and positive choices. This is the first in a series of articles to introduce and explain the assets the program is promoting.

This month's article addresses the asset of support. Support is very important to teens while growing up and going through the challenges of adolescence. This can be a difficult time to give support because teens are often pushing away and rebelling. They act as though they do not want or need love and support, but this is the time they need it more than ever. (Secretly, they will be grateful!) Support can be defined as family support/love and positive family communication. Relationships with other adults or caring neighbors and positive school environments can also be sources of support for young people.

Working on the asset of support can be as simple as eating dinner together every night, scheduling one-on-one time with your child or having an outing with a niece or nephew or young neighbor. Remember that quality time does not necessarily have to be a large quantity of time; it often does not take more than 20 to 30 minutes to feel that you have made a connection with a young person.

Supporting a young person through school does not mean you have to commit to many school functions; it can be as easy as staying in touch with your child's teacher by phone (or e-mail—this has made it very easy and convenient for our family!), going to a school sports event together or volunteering to chaperone a field trip. It is the little things and small events that add up, which help make a meaningful difference in the life of a young person.

For more information on the Search Institute's program, you can contact them at 1-800-888-7828 or at www.search-institute.org. Please look for next month's article on youth empowerment and the next meeting date for the KCCC.

—Sarah Harvey

Bradford Fish & Game Clubhouse News

The Bradford Fish & Game Club is one of the oldest organizations in the area. The Club was established in 1927. We are a member-based and volunteer-driven non-profit organization. Building on the foundations of our past members and leaders, we hope to improve wildlife habitat and introduce our youth to outdoor sports. Without people to pass on their skills and knowledge to future generations, these skills and sports will pass on into history.

The club's current officers, elected in December 1999, are President, Lance Rickenberg; Vice President, John Wardwell; Treasurer, Robert Stewart; Secretary, Charles Meany; Board of Directors, John Mock, Richard Wright and Dorothy Peret.

The annual Ice Fishing Derby will be held on Sunday February 20 with a foul weather date of February 27. Final details will be worked out at the February 1 meeting. The Annual Banquet was held on January 17 at the Bradford Junction Restaurant. Ted Walski, a New Hampshire Fish & Game Dept. biologist, was our guest speaker. The Junction did an outstanding job for us and we would like to offer a hearty "Thank You". A social hour was followed by a superb dinner of either Prime Rib or Fisherman's Platter. Ted Walski discussed the health and status of our NH deer herd. He estimates the deer population to be about 80,000 right now. Ted was interested in input from sportsmen about the current deer seasons and bag limits. We

talked about our abundant turkey population and demise of snowshoe hares (many attribute it to the growth of coyote and fisher populations). When asked, Ted said that he estimated about 80-90 Russian Boar escaped from Corbin Park in Croydon (a private game park). Since boars are so prolific, there is a chance that they will take hold in our area if they are not hunted out first. Wouldn't it be nice to have another big game species around in abundance? I certainly wouldn't mind some smoked boar in the freezer.

At our January meeting, we discussed building and installing wood duck boxes in conjunction with "Ducks Unlimited". Other programs such as a junior indoor pellet gun league, junior hiking and outdoor adventure groups for the spring were also discussed.

The Fish & Game Club is always looking for new members and volunteers. Our meetings are held on the first Tuesday of every month at 7:30pm at our Clubhouse on Gillingham Drive. Membership costs \$10 per year. New members and guests are always welcome. If you are coming from the light at Main St. & Rte. 103, head toward Newbury. As you come to Lake Todd, make a right just before the frog pond. Go over two frost heaves, as the road curves back to the right, the Clubhouse is a little brown building up on the knoll.

—Lance Rickenberg

President's Day Square Dance

The Bradford Country Squares will celebrate President's Day with a square dance at the Town Hall on Saturday, February 19. Ted Lizotte will call A-1 from 7:00-8:00pm and Mainstream/Plus from 8:00-10:30pm. Bernie Porter will cue the Rounds. For more information call George or Marlene Freyler at 938-2530. Spectators are welcome.

Valentine's Day
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Legislative Report

By Representative Barbara Conner French



On January 13 I was pleased to attend a press conference sponsored by The Children's Alliance, of which I am a member, with guest speaker Marian Wright Edelman. Mrs. Edelman is the founder of the Children's Defense Fund and a nationally known advocate, writer and speaker for America's poor and minority children. Mrs. Edelman spoke in support of the newly formed New Hampshire Child Advocacy Network (NH CAN). NH CAN is a coalition of over 60 non-profit organizations, businesses, members of the faith community, and state officials that have joined together to improve child health and well-being in New Hampshire. The press conference was held to release the Children's Agenda 2000, a statewide call to action. Mrs. Edelman said, "At a time when our nation is experiencing its greatest prosperity, it is deplorable that there are 13 million children living in poverty in this country. The Children's Agenda addresses the concerns of those who cannot vote, cannot lobby, who, indeed, need our help to ensure their well being. The work being done here is another important step on the road to Leave No Child Behind." As stated in its Executive Summary, The Children's Agenda recommends immediate and coordinated changes in the areas of education, health, economic security and child safety and protection so that all children in New Hampshire can live in healthy, nurturing environments which enable them to reach their full po-

tential. NH CAN and the Children's Agenda hope to build an understanding of and support for the changes necessary to assist our children and families. After the press conference, Mrs. Edelman was the special guest of the Legislative Caucus for Young Children. She was interested in learning what we are doing in New Hampshire to ensure a quality life for our children and families. I was very pleased to be part of this discussion.

Here is an update on some of the bills that I am working on this session. I have introduced a bill that will establish a committee to study school nurse certification. Currently, when a registered nurse graduates from a program, the nurse receives a diploma in nursing. The graduate then must pass the State Board exam to obtain a license to practice nursing. The exam is accepted in all states. Certification is certifying that a nurse is qualified in a specialty of nursing, and school nursing is a specialty in nursing. What this bill aims to do is to provide schools with nurses that are qualified to meet the needs of today's school children.

Every one of us, no matter where we live, has become aware of the relationship between the environment and our health. For some of us, this may not be a front burner issue, until something happens to remind us. There is more public awareness, more understanding, and more concern about the effects of the environment on our bodies. My bill to establish a commit-

tee to study environmental health will look at the scope of environmental health practice both in New Hampshire and in other states, including, indoor air quality, childhood lead poisoning prevention, food sanitation, private well water contamination, exposure to radiation and the commercial use of pesticides. Some of the people who will be involved with this bill are Katherine Hartnett, Executive Director, NH Comparative Risk Project, Robert McLellan, MD, Medical Director, Center for Occupational and Environmental Health, Brook Dupee, Health and Human Services and the Department of Environmental Services.

Work is also in progress on the committee to study marriage preparation. The committee will look at the most recently available data relating to problems reported by married couples in New Hampshire and nationwide who seek marital or individual counseling services. It will also study various approaches to premarital preparation including courses dealing with conflict management, communication and relationship skills, financial responsibilities, and children and parenting responsibilities. We will look at marriage preparation programs in others states, especially the program now in place in Florida. People who have expressed an interest in this bill include Stephanie Nute, Marital Master, NH Superior Court, Donna Raycraft, MA Riverbend Parent-Child Centers, Director, Rose Hill, NH Mediation Program.

As always, please feel free to contact me, Barbara French, at 428-3366 or Beth Rodd at 938-2692 with any concerns you may have. Take care of yourself and stay warm in all this cold weather.

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And remember, you can always leave the decision up to your Sweetheart with one of our gift certificates...so come on by!

South Newbury Union Church Flea Market

The South Newbury Union Church is planning an Early Spring Flea Market on Saturday, March 4 from 9:00am-2:00pm. It will be held indoors, rain or shine, at the Friendship House in South Newbury. (Snow date March 11). There will be something for everyone--attic treasures, great stuff, coffee, donuts and a Bake Table. For more info, call 938-5369.

Selectmen's Meetings in January

January 3. Robert Stewart Jr., RCS Design, representing Tracy Dunne, discussed his client's request to build on a class VI road. Mr. Stewart indicated the road is in Bradford, not Warner, and Mr. Dunne is aware of the responsibilities he will have under the agreement. Selectmen voted to agree to sign the agreement and release to build on a Class VI road for Mr. Dunne when received. Cheryl Behr will prepare the necessary paperwork for Mr. Dunne.

SEA Consultants has received notice from the State of acceptance of the Box Corner Bridge. Selectmen will meet with SEA to review a bridge issue raised by Robert Judge on Tuesday at 1:00pm.

Chris Frey requested a motion to enact RSA 231:191 of the 1995 RSAs to Post Non-Paved Roads for a six-ton road limit until the Road Agent feels the conditions have adequately changed to allow passage without damage to the roads. The unseasonable weather has created conditions in which traffic is causing deep ruts and making regular travel difficult. Vote taken and passed.

January 10. Agreement and Release regarding Building Permit for a Class VI Road for Tracy Dunne was signed by the selectmen.

Bradford Newbury Youth Sports abatement application was signed by the selectmen. The town has decided to abate the property taxes on the sports fields. The organization is a non-profit corporation providing league sports recreation for the area's children.

Intent to cut signed for an operation owned by Delbert Harris III. Road bond in existence.

Intent to cut signed for Tracy Dunne. Land to be accessible from Bible Hill Road.

Intent to cut signed for Bettina and Marsom Pratt to be accessed from West Road. Selectmen will require a \$10,000. Road bond.

Property abatements for overpayments on 1999 taxes were signed.

The Selectmen appointed Addy Stewart as a Fair Hearing Officer for a term of one year.

Cheryl Behr requested permission to purchase used file cabinets for use by the town offices. Selectmen approved a \$600.00 expenditure.

January 24. Jane Lucas, representing Parks and Recreation, met with selectmen to discuss upcoming programs and events. The Committee will host a dance for middle school children on February 25. There will be at least eight chaperones and advance ticket sales are being considered. The committee has also been investigating Bingo and the requirements and responsibilities for reporting, equipment and staffing. Marvin Rich has had experience with such fundraisers and offered suggestions to Mrs. Lucas. There is the possibility of renting or borrowing the equipment from the group operating summer bingo in Newbury. Available dates for use of the Town Hall were discussed. Mrs. Lucas is continuing to investigate the issue and will also need to obtain sponsorship of the Bradford Community Corporation to run the program. Other activities planned by the Parks and Rec. Committee include sponsoring water aerobics and twirling lessons.

Sue Vitale, representing the Bradford Area Community Center Governance Board met with selectmen with the final draft of an agreement with Kindergarten. Selectmen will review and revisit next week.

Robert Stewart Jr., RCS design, met with selectmen regarding a letter distributed to realtors regarding lots with less than specified road frontage. The letter has led to confusion because of the paraphrasing of portions of certain RSAs. The selectmen will contact the town attorney

to clarify the wording and issue a letter for distribution to clear up these misunderstandings. The letter deals with the grandfather status of lots subdivided prior to the adoption of zoning regulations. Cheryl Behr questioned Mr. Stewart on a recently submitted building permit on a rear lot. Mr. Stewart clarified the lot in question has a private road, and the letter in question does not address property on a private road.

Selectmen discussed a request from Dick Moore to replace monies removed from his budget. The selectmen decided to let the budget stand.

Selectmen discussed attending the House Finance Committee hearing on education funding (HB 195:15) to be held Tuesday in Concord. Dick Vitale and Chris Frey plan to attend.

BACC Governance Board has requested manufacturer's safety sheets on the cleaning supplies to be used at and stored in the Community Center. Cheryl Behr and Dick Moore will work on this.

Material left at the office by Ken Anderson regarding new legislation for recycling was discussed by selectmen. Mr. Anderson has suggested the selectmen mail this data to townspeople to increase awareness of the importance of recycling. Selectmen will take under advisement.

--Excerpted from public minutes prepared by Cheryl Behr

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**Tuesday, February 1
8:00am-7:00pm
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February 14, 2000

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HISTORIC CAPE



Bradford. This 3-bedroom 1776 post & beam cape was a summer resting place for President Franklin Pierce. It features 9 over 6 windows, fireplace and wood stove, new oil furnace, addition in rear with large family room, 24' X 24' garage/barn. 1.5 acre lot surrounded by stone walls. **\$145,000**

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Profile: Fritz von Beren

by Audrey V. Sylvester

Russell David von Beren III is known to family, friends and customers as Fritz. He is the down-to-earth owner of FVB Landscaping—a business managed from his West Main Street home in Bradford. Fritz and a five-man crew maintain lawns, grounds, and garden to a standard home gardeners struggle to achieve—mowed and grass-filled lawns, edged flower beds, shaped shrubs and trees, tidy brush piles, and toppled rocks from stone walls back in place. Winter is Fritz's "down time." From spring through fall, he "makes hay while the sun shines," working 60-hour weeks outdoors. In winter, he tackles mundane indoor jobs: closing the books, preparing tax returns, filing reports, planning next season's work, and buying new equipment. In past years, he took vacations in Florida, but this year was special. He and his wife, Beth, became new parents on October 18, 1999. So far, parenting is routine with baby Izabella sleeping through 'til 3:00am. In spite of a little sleep deprivation, Fritz is a mellow first-time parent. Naturally, grandparents from Connecticut (Fritz's family) and Massachusetts (Beth's family) have converged to help out and ogle their beautiful granddaughter.

Fritz came from Connecticut to New Hampshire to attend New Hampshire College, a choice driven by proximity to ski slopes. After graduation (with degrees in Marketing and Accounting), Fritz devised a best-of-all-possible-worlds plan—managing his own landscape business in Connecticut from April to December and skiing in Salt Lake City, Utah in between. After ten years, he sold the landscape business and established a sign company, a short-lived enterprise. Fritz knew it was time for a change, "When my partner and

I were becoming more and more partners, and less and less friends." After traveling out West as a couple, Beth (whom Fritz met in college) wanted to come back to New England. Equally determined to have

a say, Fritz offered three alternatives no further south than Vermont, New Hampshire, or Maine. When the couple found an affordable rental in Bradford six years ago, they settled on New Hampshire. In May 1998, they bought a historical house in Bradford.

Fritz learned the art of repairing stone walls by playing on them as a child in Connecticut.

Russell David von

Beren II enjoyed rearing his son into work. "Oh, you knocked down the stone wall. Now I have to go there and fix it." Out of curiosity, Fritz would trek out to watch his father rebuild the wall. During the 1970's oil crisis, wood heated the family home. His father's invitation to work was effective. "The breakfast is on the table, so come on out. If you don't get up, I'm giving your breakfast to the dog." Bemused, Fritz said, "If you got up and had breakfast, that was good. If you didn't get up, he'd give your breakfast to the dog and you'd still get up, go down to the woods and cut trees for the wood stoves."

Fritz demands a similar work ethic from his crew. He believes he pays a good wage for a hard job and is willing to train people to work to his standards. Although his motto, "It's my way or the highway," might scare off the faint-hearted, he knows his own reputation is on the line when someone does shoddy work or cuts corners. He said, "As long as one pays attention to the details, they will do well in the landscaping business."

So far, Fritz is satisfied with the choices he has made. The von Berens like Bradford for the comparative quiet and quality of life—especially proximity to many lakes, mountains, and ski slopes. Sensing that the area is poised to change dramatically in the next 20 years, Fritz hopes that change improves the quality of life we now enjoy.



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Outside

by Ann Eldridge

The milk snake lay in a relaxed coil on the frozen lawn just outside the barren garden. It was very dead but it looked very much alive. Snakes and cats always look totally graceful and totally at home in their bodies no matter what they're doing, it seems to me. It's hard to catch them in an awkward pose. I doubt it was a stalking cat that kept this snake out too long in freezing temperatures—it's coil would be tighter, more defensive. Probably there had been a temptingly warm day followed by a perilously cold evening. It was mid-December and this two-foot long mouse-constricting snake would normally have been below the frost line in October, deep in the stone foundation of the house nearby.

These below freezing temperatures, late-season warm spells and lack of snow cover are no doubt killing more than the occasional milk snake. Amphibians and reptiles are cold-blooded. They don't manufacture their own body heat but adjust to and rely on their environment. To deal with New England winters everything living must make some arrangements for freeze tolerance and/or freeze avoidance. (Personally, I try for avoidance.) All of our local snakes head below what they judge to be the frost line, sometimes using woodchuck and other rodent tunnels, burrowing into the loose sand of ant hills, or edging down rock crevices. Some will use the same hibernaculum year after year, sometimes more than one species using the same den. Once settled, they conserve energy by reducing their breathing and heart beat to the minimum amount needed to stay alive.

Young garter snakes, wood frogs, spring peepers, American toads, gray tree frogs and some hatchling turtles have some talent for freezing and still surviving. They apparently do this by reducing their water content and moving body fluids into the spaces between cells to keep the cell walls from bursting as the freezing water expands. They can also alter their blood sugars into a form of glucose antifreeze. Even more complicated procedures seem to be at work but there is a great deal that we do not understand. It is amazing to me to think about tiny spring peepers insensate and dry as potato chips down among the frozen leaves in January.

Pickerel, green and bullfrogs, most salamanders, adult turtles and some of their

hatchlings and even some of the snakes bury themselves in the ponds and swamps, often beneath the mud. Oxygen then becomes a concern. In the summer when all systems are active, turtles can remain underwater for hours without coming up for air. They can do this by absorbing some oxygen from the water through their skin, throat lining and cloaca. In the winter when their activity levels drop, most turtles can live for six months without taking what we might consider a normal breath. Which is a

good thing because there is virtually no oxygen in the mud beneath wet land. The lack of oxygen in their bodies then causes a potentially dangerous buildup of lactic acid. Having had quite a few millions of years to work these things out, the turtles can

deal with this by reabsorbing calcium carbonate from their shells (which are modified ribs) and thus deacidifying themselves.

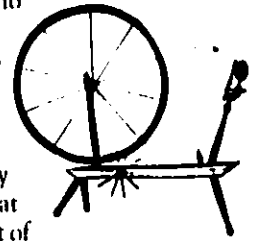
This snowless cold spell is apt to be hardest on this year's generation of turtles that were intending to overwinter in the nest. Laid in May, the eggs lie only a few inches beneath the surface slowly developing over the summer. Young turtles hatch out of their shells in the fall, but remain in the nest until the following spring. Young painted turtles are able to withstand temperatures as low as 18°Fahrenheit and can tolerate the freezing of as much as 53 percent of their body water. Without that insulating blanket of snow however the soil temperatures have dropped well below this level. In a "normal" winter the snow cover usually can maintain soil temperatures at about 30°F.

My incoming water pipe is sputtering and threatening to burst, the exiting pipes have frozen and the oil occasionally stops flowing to the furnace from the tank. I am altogether likely to survive the winter thanks to wool, goose down and polypropylene but all things considered, I feel that my winter strategies are so much less elegant and intelligent than those of any turtle, snake or frog.

Some of the information in this article came to me by way of David Carroll of Warner and his book "The Year of the Turtle."

A New Group in Bradford and a Call for Entries

Many of you who remember the Bradford Artists & Artisans exhibits held in previous years at the elementary school know that Bradford has a lot of



talented artists and craftspeople. The committee who organized those exhibits has regrouped, reorganized, and renamed themselves to the less tongue-twisting title the Bradford Art Group. The purpose of the group is to organize exhibits to be held bi-monthly in the newly expanded Brown Memorial Library. The first exhibit—etchings by Ann Eldridge—is currently installed through February.

The Bradford Art Group is currently scheduling exhibits for the year 2000. All interested artists/craftspeople please call us. The next scheduled exhibit (March/April) will be entitled "Wooly Things". If you are a spinner, knitter, weaver, dyer, felt-maker, or if you work with wool, we would love to hear from you as soon as possible. The Bradford Art Group's members are Amy Blitzer (938-5952), Laurie Brown (938-2451), Sandy Wadlington (938-5088) and Audrey Sylvester (938-5948).

—Sandy Wadlington

New Listing



Bradford—Need a good investment? Here's a nice post & beam ranch on 2+ acres. Oak floors, open concept LR/DR, 2BR, 2BA with laundry room and woodstove H/U. Comes with a 14' X 16' storage shed as well. Needs some TLC, but priced right at **\$69,900.**

Welcome to Bob Alexander, Kathy Strauch and their daughter Alyssa, who bought a home on Lake Massacum!

**Ann C. Hallahan
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February Calendar



TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 1

Presidential Primary Elections, Bradford Elementary School, polls open 8:00am-7:00pm
ZBA, Town Hall, 7:00pm
Book Discussion, BML, 7:00pm
Bradford Fish and Game Club, Gillingham Drive, 7:30pm

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 2

Library Trustees Meeting, BML, 7:00pm
Bradford Elementary School PTC Meeting, KRES at Bradford, 7:00pm

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 7

Selectmen's Meeting, Town Hall, 5:00pm
Bradford Cemetery Commission, Town Hall, 9:00am

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 8

Women's Club Executive Board Meeting, Sue Vitale's Home, 10:00am
Planning Board, Town Hall, 7:30pm
Bradford Revolving Loan Committee Meeting, Candlelite Inn, 7:00pm

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 10

BEOC Meeting, Town Hall, 7:00pm
KRSD School Board Meeting, KRES at Sutton, 7:00pm

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 11

Bradford Community Corporation Meeting, Town Hall, 7:00am
Bradford Area Community Center Governance Board Meeting, BACC, 12:30-2:00pm

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 12

Senior Rally, BACC, 1:00-3:00pm

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 14

Selectmen's Meeting, Town Hall, 5:00pm

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 15

Bradford Women's Club Meeting, "Town Reports," BACC, 11:30am. Join us for a pot luck lunch, all are welcome to attend
Conservation Commission, Town Hall, 6:30pm
Book Discussion, BML, 7:00pm

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 16

Library Trustees Meeting, BML, 7:00pm
Country Capitalist Meeting, call 938-2787 for details
Road Committee, Town Hall, 7:00pm
Friends of the Library, BML, 7:00pm

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 17

Parks and Recreation Meeting, Town Hall, 7:00pm

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 20

Bradford Fish and Game's Annual Ice and Fishing Derby for 15 year olds and younger, meet at Club House, Lake Todd. For more details call Dickie's Bait and Tackle Shop at 938-5393

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 21

Selectmen's Meeting, Town Hall, 5:00pm
BBA Meeting, Town Hall, 7:00pm

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 22

Planning Board, Town Hall, 7:30pm
Bradford Revolving Loan Committee Meeting, Candlelite Inn, 7:00pm
Bradford Women's Club CANDIDATES NIGHT, KRES at Bradford, 7:00pm.
Open to all

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 25

Bradford Community Corporation Meeting, Town Hall, 7:00am
Bradford Area Community Center Governance Board Meeting, BACC, 12:30-2:00pm
Middle School Kids Dance, Town Hall, 7:00-10:00pm, call 938-2570 for ticket info.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 28

Selectmen's Meeting, Town Hall, 5:00pm

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 29

Book Discussion, BML, 7:00pm

Bradford Historical Society open by appointment, call 938-5386

Mondays in February Thistle Spinners, every Monday 1:00-3:00 pm, Thistle and Shamrock Inn, All are welcome to attend, come and learn a new craft.

Tuesdays in February Line Dancing, Town Hall, 7:00-8:00pm. All welcome to join in on the fun

Fridays in February "Fun Dance." Dance your way to fitness, group dancing, walk-in class, Town Hall, 7:00-8:30pm, all ages welcome

To list events for the March calendar, please call Betty Hague at 938-2722.

Tree Farm

continued from page 1

hope to leave wild land for recreation and wildlife," Amy Blitzer said. Land protection in Bradford cannot come too soon, according to Stanley. Development pressure is expected to increase in towns within the I-89 corridor between Concord and Lebanon. A statewide report predicts Bradford's population will grow 20 to 30 percent in the next two decades. Currently, only five to 10 percent of land in Bradford is protected according to the October 1999 report by the Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests and the New Hampshire Chapter of the Nature Conservancy. "Landowners who protect their properties leave a legacy for future generations," Stanley said. Founded in 1987, the ASLPT's mission is to preserve the rural character of the Kearsarge-Sunapee area including Andover, Bradford, Danbury, Goshen, Grantham, Newbury, New London, Springfield, Sunapee, Sutton, Wilmot and Warner. For more information call the ASLPT at 526-6555 or e-mail aslpt@tds.net.

Classifieds

OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT, prime location, Main St., Bradford. Also available, free office space in exchange for a few hours per month of secretarial/administrative assistance, such as word processing, copying, mailings, etc. Good for someone just starting up a business. Call 938-2894 days, 938-2844 evenings.

To place a FREE classified ad of 40 words or less, please call Carey Rodd at 938-2692.



Bradford Bridge February deadlines

| | |
|----------------|--------------|
| Display ads | February 20 |
| Classified ads | February 26 |
| Articles | February 20* |

*If you would like to submit an article covering an event occurring after the deadline, please contact Lyn Betz at 938-5029.