

# THE BRADFORD BRIDGE

COMMUNITY NEWS BY NEIGHBORS FOR NEIGHBORS

Volume 14, Number 4; Issue 154

April 2004

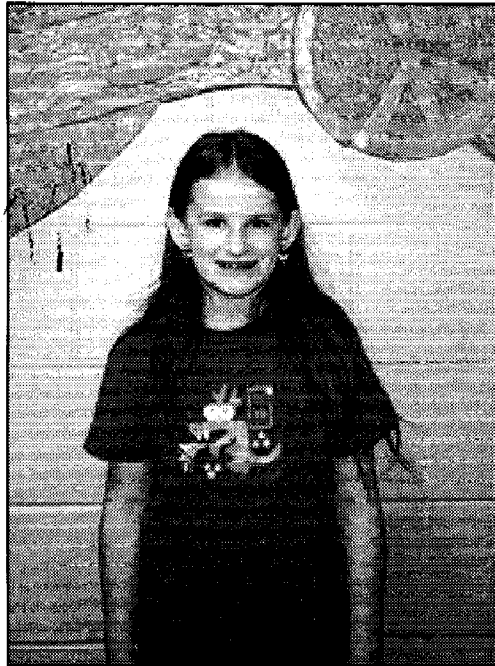
## KRES at Bradford Spelling Bee

On Tuesday, February 10<sup>th</sup>, 27 fourth and fifth grade students took part in the annual KRES at Bradford Spelling Bee. The school spelling bee is the first step in the Scripps Howard National Spelling Bee. The *Manchester Union Leader* and *New Hampshire Sunday News* sponsor area and state wide spelling bees.

Samantha Pugliese, a fifth grade student in Mrs. Lee's class, won the KRES at Bradford Spelling Bee. Paige Newman, a fourth grade student in Mrs. Miller's class, was the runner-up. In a very exciting finish, Samantha and Paige went fifteen rounds before Samantha won the school spelling bee by correctly spelling the word, HOMOPHONES.

Samantha went on to admirably represent KRES at Bradford at the Concord Area Spelling Bee on Saturday, March 13<sup>th</sup>. She spelled six rounds before being eliminated by misspelling the word, PERPETRATOR. The Concord Area Spelling Bee included student representatives (grades 4 through 8) from more than twenty schools.

Kathy McKenna



*Congratulations to Samantha!*

## Bradford Rescue Squad Call

On Friday March 19, at 5:00 am our pagers go off. It is still the Thursday night's Team that is on until 6:00 am. This would be Sue Sneck (EMT-I), Chuck Johnsen (EMT-B), and Steve Manley (Driver). The call comes in for a pregnant woman whose water has broken and is having contractions three to five minutes apart. The address is on top of Rowe Mountain. We all jump at the sound of this call and start going as fast as we can. Even another EMT-I (Deborah Bede) joins us. This is going to be good, we are going to bring a new life into this world—if we can get to them in time. It's still snowing and a long way up there.

Well, to make a long story short, the Bradford Rescue Squad and a New London Paramedic were able to get this woman to Concord Hospital in the nick of time. The Bradford Rescue Squad would like to welcome Benjamin Bellino to this world and to our Town of Bradford! He was born at 7:20 am!

Chuck Johnsen

## Revaluation Process Begins in April

The New Hampshire Constitution requires that real property be revalued every five years. Most towns, including Bradford, have overlooked this part of the law for most of the twentieth century. The state education property tax has brought this oversight to an end and the state is now requiring all towns to comply with the intent of our founding fathers.

The Board of Selectmen is required by the Department of Revenue to have the Town revalued in 2005. Chris Frey has been hired by the board to verify the correctness of existing data on the assessment cards by listing, measuring and verifying (when possible) the interior and exterior condition of buildings. A percentage of properties,

computer generated, will be visited each year and the data will not be used until all properties have been visited. In 2005, a team of assessors from the Department of Revenue will determine a new value of the property based on the collected data.

It should be noted that Chris does not establish value numbers for the property nor can he change data in the assessment database. If a discrepancy is found which could affect the value of a building, it will be brought to the attention of the town and forwarded to the town's assessors. This might cause a change to be made prior to the reassessment. This process will start in April and anyone having questions should contact the Selectmen's office.

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**THE BRADFORD BRIDGE**



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**Advertising**

The Bradford Bridge is a free community newspaper supported by advertisers. To place an ad, call Carol Troy at 938-6186 or send a FAX to 938-2995. Ad deadline is the 20th of the month.

**Submissions**

The Bradford Bridge is written by neighbors, for neighbors. Anyone is welcome to submit articles and/or photographs of interest to the community. The Bridge reserves the right to edit submissions for length or content. Send articles or letters to Beth Rodd/Bev Leo at the address, FAX number, or e-mail address above by the 20th of the month.

**Bradford Conservation Commission**

No doubt about it. Most people enjoy feeding wildlife. Luring animals within sight makes a connection to the natural world. Feeding also gives us a benevolent feeling that we are "helping". Some birds have extended their ranges partly in response to artificial food sources.

As spring approaches, take care with bird seed and bring it safely in by late afternoon. This high energy food is especially attractive to the intelligent bear. Training a bear to approach dwellings for an easy feed almost without exception leads to the gunning death of the bear.

Consider removing all feeders as the weather warms and birds turn to more natural foods. Consider planting native berries and seed crops. For further information, contact the New Hampshire Audubon Society 224-9909 or the NH Fish and Game Department at 271-2461.

*Ann Eldridge*



**Bradford Country Squares**

In honor of their 2004 square dance graduates, the Bradford Country Squares will host a Mainstream level with Plus Tips square dance on Saturday, April 17 from 8:00-10:30 pm at the Town Hall. The caller is Don Bachelder and the cuer will be Phil Gatchell. Price of admission is \$5 and includes refreshments. For more information you may call Arlo and Norma Burns at 927-4454.

**Bradford Planning Board**

First I would like to thank the town for passing both the warrant articles at town meeting. The first was to complete the Master Plan review, and the second, brought in from the floor, was to provide a Circuit Rider from Central New Hampshire Regional Planning Commission (CNHRPC) to assist the Planning Board and be available for resident's use one day a week. As our board consists of elected volunteers, we have no members with a professional Land Use and Planning background. Having this professional to assist us will ensure a consistent professional approach for anyone having an application before the board, and may even help keep the town out of court by providing this service.

I have touched base with CNHRPC and it appears that we will start having this professional available at the Town Hall on Wednesdays, from 10 AM till 2 pm. This will be the time and place for any town resident to stop in and find out planning and zoning issues. You will be able to get your questions answered about subdividing your property, making a boundary line adjustment, which zoning district you live in, what land uses you can conduct, how to proceed and which type application you will need, etc. These questions, that both Cheryl and I deal with, will have a formal time and place for you to come see what we mean. The first day will be the 13<sup>th</sup> of April and will continue each following Wednesday.

As you are aware, we sent out a survey for the future of Bradford. We sent out 1,400 surveys and received 330, or about 24%. Although not a big return rate, we have a starting point for putting the Master Plan

*Continued on page 6*

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## The Women of the "Greatest Generation"

How are the lives of young people today different from that of women born before World War II? This was the project for the Youth Group of Bradford's First Baptist Church on Sunday, February 29 when Samantha Pugliese and Elizabeth Barker, led by Pastor Lynne Hubley, interviewed Foxchase residents Madeline Brown, Helene Delong, Phyllis Roby, and Dorothy Henderson with owner Dee Currier joining the discussion of what life was like for these residents when they were younger.

World War II affected each of these women's lives. Phyllis's husband was in Europe at the Battle of the Bulge and her dad built submarines in the Navy Yard, so she got to know some things about the war before others did. Madeline's father had a bad heart and couldn't serve but was concerned about the bomb, while both Helen's and Dorothy's brothers served. Dee was born after the war but remembers her uncles having nightmares after the war, what would later be called post traumatic stress syndrome.

When young people graduate from high school today most expect to go on for further training, but sixty or seventy years ago graduating from high school was a big accomplishment. Phyllis's dad didn't have enough money to send her to college, while Dorothy was an artist but had to help with her eleven brothers and sisters. Madeline went to Katherine Gibbs Secretarial School at night, working during the day at Brigham's Ice Cream; later she taught at Katherine Gibbs. Helene majored in English at college, while Dee went into nursing after volunteering at a hospital with handicapped persons.

When asked if music was part of their lives as children, Samantha and Elizabeth learned that violin and piano lessons were part of the women's lives as children. Helene's family was musical because her brother was a pianist, while Phyllis played the violin and Madeline played the piano. Only Dorothy didn't recall whether music was an important part of her life as a child.

Grandparents like to tell their grandchildren how hard they worked as children. What tasks did these women have to do as children? The answers ranged from Helene whose mother didn't make her do anything to Dorothy who had to care for the other children. Phyllis remembers lots of chores including having to fluff the feather beds, and Madeline took turns with her sister cleaning upstairs one week and downstairs the next. Prior to World War II the Great

Seated, L-R;  
Helene, Phyllis,  
Dorothy.  
Standing in back:  
Madeline.



Depression of the 1930s affected everyone's life.

Do children today have more worries than in the past? What worried these women when they were children? Phyllis felt that she was sheltered from the world's problems while Dorothy remembers worrying about family finances. Madeline's father traveled for a living and that worried her while Helene's greatest worry was peer pressure, something that will be familiar to young people today. Dee remembers having to change the headline of the school newspaper, of which she was editor, when President Kennedy was assassinated.

What did they do for fun? In the years before television became part of people's lives, Helene remembers enjoying playing the piano while Dorothy remembers enjoying working in a flower garden. Phyllis remembers the adventure of sledding in a big box with holes in it so the kids could see out. Madeline loved roller-skating and sliding down the banister. She remembers listening to "The Shadow Knows" on the radio with her grandmother. While Madeline drove at 16, the others waited until they were about twenty years old. Helene's family didn't have pets while Madeline remembers having a dog and a cat and Dorothy had pet rabbits. Phyllis had cats and a white rat from her biology class. The women

discussed with Elizabeth and Samantha how children used to spend more time out of doors playing games like hopscotch, softball, and hide and go seek and they observed that children today watch a lot of television, play lots of video games, and spend time on the computer.

How was dating different for these young women? Madeline remembers being able to date when she was 14 and falling in love with all of them, but having to be home by ten o'clock. Dorothy was in high school before she could date the boys from her church. Phyllis couldn't date until she was in her late teens and then the boys always had to come to the house. Helene's mother judged her dates by how they looked and approved only if they looked honest.

One of the greatest changes from the past was in what families did together. The women remember family meals when the family sat down together being a more important part of family life than it seems to be today. Now family members are going in so many different directions.

This was a great opportunity for the young people to get a first-hand sense of history and the women to enjoy sharing their lives and ideas. It was clear that while manners and circumstances change, the generations have much in common.

—Ruth-Ann M. Harris

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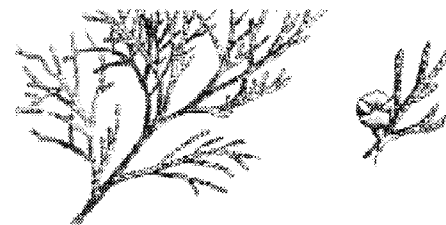
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## Bradford Conservation Commission / Rural Heritage Connection Update

On March 10th, residents voted resoundingly for the warrant articles to double the size of the Bradford Bog conservation area, ensuring protection of the oldest of the rare Atlantic white cedar swamp habitat. This project was coordinated by the Bradford Conservation Commission and the Rural Heritage Connection of Bradford.

The Conservation Commission, an advisory group appointed by the Selectmen, oversees a fund for conservation purposes. The Rural Heritage Connection (RHC) is a separate, incorporated non-profit organization with open membership. The RHC has the ability to research funding sources and raise funds for significant recreational, historical, or conservation projects in town. Both groups worked together with the assistance of the Society for the Protection of NH Forests to offer this preservation plan to the voters for consideration.

The NH Charitable Foundation gave a major boost with a grant of \$10,000 shortly before the town meeting. An additional \$10,000 was leveraged by selling three insignificant town-owned lots to abutters with a keen interest in increasing land protection



in the Pillsbury/Sunapee area. This money will also go towards the Bog purchase. The remainder has been raised through fundraising efforts of the RHC in combination with the conservation fund of the town and \$5,000 through the town vote.

The process now moves forward with the drafting of the purchase and sales agreements and deeds. The owners of the cedar swamp, the Goodridges, are also interested in preserving this property and have made every effort to assist this effort. The Bradford Conservation Commission meets on the third Tuesday of every month at 7:30pm at the Town hall. The RHC meets on the second Monday of every month at 7pm at the BACC. All meetings are open to the public. For more information you may contact Miranda Levin at [inthering@conknet.com](mailto:inthering@conknet.com) or 938-6095.

## Bradford-Newbury Workshop

Debby Stanley from the Ausbon Sargent Land Preservation Trust will be our guest speaker on Thursday, April 8. Debby will tell us about the work she and her staff and volunteers are performing to preserve open lands and provide protection for wildlife, streams, lakes, and ponds in the area. She will also show slides of some of the

protected spots which are typical of what we all appreciate and enjoy here in the Sunapee region.

The public is invited to attend this important meeting which takes place Thursday, April 8, at 12:30 at the Friendship House in South Newbury. For more information call Clare Bensley at 938-5482.

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### Attention Spring Cleaners: Your Book Donations Will Help To Preserve New Hampshire History

The New Hampshire Historical Society is requesting that you donate all those tomes you turn up during your annual spring-cleaning ritual. The Society is collecting books for their first ever Book Sale on May 1. The funds generated from the sale of these books will be used for education initiatives and library and museum services. The Society's Volunteer Council is organizing this effort and will be glad to arrange for pick-up of your book donations or you can drop off your books the next time you're in downtown Concord. For more information, call Renee at 856-0607 or e-mail her at [membership@nhhistory.org](mailto:membership@nhhistory.org).

The New Hampshire Historical Society is the premiere organization dedicated to preserving and sharing New Hampshire history. Established in 1823, it is the fifth-oldest statewide historical society in the nation. The New Hampshire Historical Society operates two facilities in Concord: the Museum of New Hampshire History and the Tuck Library. For visitor information, call 228-6688 or visit [www.nhhistory.org](http://www.nhhistory.org).

### AARP Driver Safety Program

AARP's (American Association of Retired Persons) Driver Safety Program, the nation's first and largest classroom driver improvement course designed especially for drivers 50 and older, will be presented at the Lake Sunapee Bank, 150 Main Street (corner of Main and Pleasant Streets), New London. Sponsored by Lake Sunapee Bank, the 8-hour classroom course will be held in two, four-hour sessions from 9:15 am to 1:15 pm on Tuesday, April 13 and Wednesday, April 14. The cost is a nominal \$10 and there are no tests!

The AARP Driver Safety course is approved in every state, and graduates may be eligible for discounts on their auto insurance. To register for the course, call the instructor, Bob Vernon at 526-6216 or write him at 217 Pingree Rd., New London, NH 03257. Please include your telephone number when you write or call. For more information call Bob at the above number. Space is limited so call early.

### BACC Offers Inscribed Bricks

The Bradford Area Community Center has been receiving inquiries regarding the purchase of additional inscribed bricks for the walkways. Inscribed bricks were first offered during the renovation stage of the center and again offered in 2001 and 2002. The bricks have been inscribed to memorialize family or friends while some bricks have names of family members or businesses on them.

Each brick may have up to two lines with 14 letters per line, including spaces and punctuation in the letter count. The cost of each brick is \$100 with proceeds going to the general fund of the BACC. Order forms may be picked up at the center and an order will be placed at the end of April. Please feel free to call the Center at 938-6228 with any questions. Inscribed bricks may be seen in the front walkway around the flagpole of the BACC.

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## LETTERS

To the editor:

I want to let you know that I've resigned my position. I have been offered and have accepted a position with S.A.U. #88 (Lebanon School District) effective July 1, 2004. I will be principal of two K - 2 neighborhood schools, School Street School and Sacred Heart Public School. (Interestingly, I believe I was offered this position 17 years ago but turned it down in favor of a single school in Claremont.)

The superintendent for S.A.U. #88 is Dr. Mike Harris, former assistant superintendent in the Claremont School District. We worked well together in the past and I am looking forward to working with him again.

I want to let you know that I have enjoyed my experiences at K.R.E.S. at Bradford. I have learned a great deal from

past and present staff members, leadership team colleagues, S.A.U. staff, as well as parents and community members. I have undergone tremendous professional growth as a result of my 6 years with the Kearsarge School District and will be a better principal moving forward as a result of my experiences in this district. I leave with no regrets. It is simply the right time for me to move on. With best regards for the future.

Scott Bouranis, Principal



file photo

### Planning Board continued from page 2

together. CNHRPC is now tallying the inputs and will be providing the statistics and assisting in the town Visioning session we will use to kick off the process. In order to accommodate residents that may not be here through the winter, this visioning session is scheduled for Saturday May 15<sup>th</sup>, from 8:30 AM till noon. Topics to be discussed in small groups include Transportation, Natural Features, Community Facilities, Housing, Population and Economics, History and Culture, and Land Use. This is where we will be asking interested residents to become subcommittee members for those portions of the Master Plan. We will be posting additional information about this event as reminders. This is an 18 month process, so even if you can't participate in portions of the process, there are other opportunities for you to help Bradford prepare for the future.

On March 9<sup>th</sup>, the Planning Board had a Public Hearing on our Subdivision Appli-

cation and procedures. As you probably read or heard, we didn't appear to be consistent with all applications. That hearing established our revised procedures and an updated application that we are now using and will be required for each subdivision. We also increased the fees and provided for an immediate professional review of all applications. These changes, coupled with the CNHRPC Circuit Rider professional at our meetings, will ensure consistent procedures for any and all applications. Increased fees will pay for this professional assistance voted in at Town Meeting.

I will try to keep all of you informed as we move along in this Master Plan Review process and, again, I invite you to participate both in the review and in the town, whether by being a member of various boards or through attendance at Public Hearings.

Bob Foor, Chair

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# Legislative Report

By Representative Beth Rodd

Many thanks to the diligence and hard work of volunteers and voters of District 34 (Bradford, Henniker, Newbury, Hopkinton, Sutton, Warner and Webster) for returning me to the House of Representatives in the Special Election of March 2. Returning to the House has been quite an eye-opening experience as many of the bills being debated are the same bills that have surfaced without fail every two years in sessions past. No doubt the issues that are regularly examined will continue to be debated in future sessions. Bills relating to reproductive choice, school funding, environmental issues, local control, the death penalty, and the environment have been steadfastly repeated with an occasional new twist to lure both supporters and detractors. On issues of local concern, particularly the plans for expansion of the Mt. Sunapee resort through privatization of state park land for the development of new ski trails and condos, local residents have come out in force. Most neighboring towns argue that the sale of state park property for private profit is a violation of the notion that state parks should be for all the people, not for individual corporate profit. Concerns also weigh in heavily about the ability of local infrastructures to absorb the weight of increased populations in schools, police and fire protection, and traffic patterns that our country roads will be unable to sustain. Supporters argue that development is inevitable and that the demand for housing and other related services will increase the business opportunities for all citizens in the area. Another topic of local concern regards the mandate for public access to Lake Sunapee. Two public access sites are being examined, the State Beach in Newbury and the Wild Goose site, just west of Newbury

Harbor. Both sites have strengths and weaknesses based on environmental and safety concerns and the issue is further complicated by turf wars between state agencies in charge of carrying out public access mandates. If there is any positive slant to be gathered from these issues, it is the bold and articulate comment by citizens engaged in the debates that will continue for the foreseeable future. Executive Councilor Peter Spaulding has commenced monthly meetings with District 34 House and Senate representatives to discuss and examine issues of regional and local interest. During the last meeting on March 1, much attention was focused on the Bio-Energy plant in Contoocook. For many years, the plant has burned wood chips without any significant environmental impact on neighboring towns. Last year, the plant owners applied for a permit to burn "dirty" construction debris that would spew significant, unhealthy, amounts of lead, arsenic, and mercury into the air and water supplies surrounding the towns of Hopkinton and Henniker. The health and safety impacts of these chemicals pose a serious health hazard to developing children and pregnant women as well as to the population at large. The Department of Environmental Services is charged with issuing permits and are prepared to do so because their lead, arsenic, and mercury standards are fifteen years old and have not been updated to comply with current scientific health standards. Legislation that would require such plants to be located three miles away from residential areas has been referred for further study. Many were disappointed that the bill failed to pass as several other incinerators in the state are aware of the conflict and poised to begin similar disposal programs. This issue will

continue to be litigated and legislated until a resolution is reached. While we recognize that a healthy, thriving business environment is crucial to the economic prosperity of our state, the health and environmental welfare of our citizens must take precedence in weighing the merits of hazardous emissions on our population. There are many challenges facing our state government and your participation in the process is essential. The current school funding formula recently passed by the Senate and en route to the House will decrease state school funding to our district by 1.3 million dollars, funds that will be shifted to our local property tax bill. Until we reformulate our state tax structure to a fair and equitable standard, any cuts to the state and county budget for mandated services will be passed along to our towns in the form of increased tax bills. Consider the failure of our towns to pass funds for construction of a new Middle School, the current site being generally acknowledged as inadequate for our growing population. Many who recognized the dire need for a new facility simply could not afford the higher tax bill to fund a school although the need was clearly demonstrated. Please contact me if you have any concerns, interests or questions about legislative issues. I look forward to serving you and welcome your calls and e-mails.

Rep. Beth Rodd 938-2692; e-mail [c\\_rodd@conknet.com](mailto:c_rodd@conknet.com)



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