



# THE BRADFORD BRIDGE

Volume 7, Number 4

Community News - By and for our neighbors

April 1997

## Bradford mother and daughter killed in automobile accident

Two Bradford residents, Barbara Maxfield and her daughter, Brooke Willis, were tragically killed on Sunday, March 23, by a drunk driver in an automobile accident at the Scarborough, Maine, highway toll booth. Barbara's two-year-old son survived the accident and is with his father in Maine.

Barbara A. Maxfield, 36, of Old Warner Road, was born in Newport, daughter of John Maxfield III and JoAnn Halloran. She lived in Newport for most of her life.

She attended grade school in Newport and graduated in 1978 from the Pinkerton Academy in Derry. She was currently attending Franklin Pierce Law Center in Concord. She was employed by Softdesk Inc. in Henniker for the past six years. She was a member of the Mt. Sunapee Area Ski Club and past member of the Bradford Rescue Squad. She enjoyed handcrafting and needlework.

She is survived by a son, Allan Maxfield of Bradford; her mother, JoAnn Halloran of Naples, Fla.; her father and stepmother, John and Marilyn Maxfield III of Naples, Fla.; a sister, Katherine Mann of Lebanon; five brothers, John Maxfield IV of Poland, Ohio, William Maxfield of Newport, Thomas Maxfield of Salt Lake City, Utah, Richard Maxfield of Lebanon, Peter Maxfield of Salt Lake City, Utah; a step-brother, John Rouillard of Phoenix, Ariz.; a step-sister, Dee Farnsworth of Worcester, Mass. a grandmother, Florina Swanson of Naples Fla.; several aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces, and nephews.

Brooke A. Willis, 13, was born in Concord, the daughter of Wilbert Willis and Barbara Maxfield. She lived in the Bradford and Henniker area all of her life.

■ See MAXFIELD, page 4



Ashley Bauer and Zack Winslow work on a Salish house (Pacific Northwest Indian), part of a school arts project. See article page 13.

## Town meeting defeats library construction, supports kindergarten

Town election results: Selectman: Richard Vitale, write-in, elected, 254 votes; Lance Rickenberg, 145.

Town Clerk/Tax Collector: Sue Pehrson, 388 votes.

Treasurer: Carolyn Grindle, 381 votes.

Scholarship Committee: Cindy Fitton, write-in, elected, 7 votes; Mildred Kittredge, write-in, 5; Beth Rodd, write-in, 6.

Planning Board for 2 yrs: Edythe Craig, 375 votes.

Planning Board for 3 yrs: Jonathan P. Teele, elected, 293 votes; Thomas Riley, elected, 323 votes.

Zoning Board of Adjustment for 2 yrs: Erin DiBello, 323.

Zoning Board of Adjustment for 3 yrs: Everett Kittredge, elected, 352 votes; Richard Vitale, elected, 140; James Monahan, write-in, 88. (Richard Vitale withdrew, James Monahan seated)

Trustee of the Trust Funds: H. Bliss Dayton, 365 votes.

Trustee of Brown Memorial Library: Roderick Jones, elected,

■ See ELECTION, page 12

As Moderator Brackett Scheffy opened the meeting on March 12, he noted that this was the 211th Bradford Town Meeting. A letter was read from the Supervisory Union complimenting Road Agent Andy Anderson and his highway crew for their conscientious maintenance

The first article facing voters was a \$550,000 bond for construction of a new library building. Architect Peter Tennant described the structure, estimated to cost \$464,000 to construct. Bliss Dayton described the proposed financing arrangements. Audience comments were mostly negative, questioning the timing of the project and whether the town could afford it. Bernie Lamach questioned the transfer of the school property to the library, saying it should have required a vote of the town. He also expressed concern over the size of the project and asked voters to consider other town priorities. Fred Winch asked if the project cost included furniture. Librarian Maggi Ainslie responded that they planned, as Warner had, to gradually add furniture through donations and

■ See MEETING, page 12

## Cheryl Behr is new town administrative assistant

From a field of more than forty applicants, Bradford resident Cheryl Behr was hired by the Board of Selectmen in March to fill the position of town administrative assistant. After a brief period of part-time work, Cheryl is now at work full-time. She will attempt to keep the office open "normal office hours," providing that interruptions do not affect her ability to accomplish her work.

Behr's qualifications, according to Selectmen, include strong organizational skills, financial experience, and computer expertise. For the past ten years, she has performed free-lance accounting work. Her previous employment was as a field agent for the NH Dept. of Employment Security.

Behr has been a resident of Bradford for 24 years.

## POSTED ROADS WEIGHT LIMIT WAIVER PERMIT

Roads sensitive to the effect of spring thaws will be posted March 1 to May 1 for vehicles over 6,000 lbs.

The Bradford Road Agent is empowered to approve waivers to the weight limit on a daily basis, dependent on current road conditions.

Waiver permits must be carried in the applicable vehicle.

### Wadleigh heads Historical Society

At the reconvened Annual Meeting of the Bradford Historical Society, David Wadleigh was elected to serve as president. Other officers elected were Mildred Kittredge, vice president and archivist; Glendon Mayo, vice president; Sue Vitale, recorder; Nancy Hibbard, correspondent; and John Forgiel, treasurer.

Continuing to serve as directors: Harriet Douglass, Steven Hansen, G. Richard Keller, and Fred Winch.

An *Introduction to the Collections* program at the regular program meeting provided members with a guided tour of the Historical Society treasures, led by Archivist Milly Kittredge. Society Headquarters are open to the public on Saturday afternoons, 1:30 until 3:00, or by appointment (phone 938-5386).


A meeting of the new Board of Directors will be held on Wednesday, April 16. Items for the agenda or suggestions from members should be mailed to the President by the 15th or phoned to 938-5380.

### Broadway Bound, the Variety Show, at High School on April 4

The KRSD staff and friends will present *Broadway Bound, the Variety Show*, at the High School on Friday, April 4, 7:00 pm. This annual event is sponsored by the Wellness Teams of Bradford Elementary and Simonds Elementary Schools.

Tickets may be purchased at the door, \$3.00 per person or \$8.00 for a family. Students must be accompanied by an adult.

Russell C. Currier, Admin.  
Deirdre H. Currier, RN



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### Artists and Artisans show moves to new location

The Artists and Artisans Exhibition will be held in a new location this summer. Due to a very heavy schedule in August, Bradford Elementary is not available. Instead, the show will be held in the upstairs of the Town Hall on August 9 and 10, 10:00-4:00 each day.

The Art Committee, Moon Mountain Arts, and the Bradford Women's Club are enthusiastic about the space. Local artists and craftsmen have already called about entering their work. Forms will be available in late June. More information will be provided in the *May Bridge*. In the meantime, get to work!!

### Guest speakers at Democratic Party meeting

NH State Democratic Vice-Chair Mary Rauh and public utilities expert Jim Monahan are invited guests at the April meeting of the Bradford/ Henniker/ Hillsborough Democrats.

The meeting will be held on Monday, April 7, 7:30 pm, in Henniker at 28 Hall Avenue. For more information, call Peter Bakke at 428-6334.

428-7076

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### News from the Town Clerk and Tax Collector's office

#### TOWN CLERK

February 12. Mariah Jane Slatunas born to Heidi and Glenn Slatunas.

March 23. Barbara Maxfield and Brooke Willis died.

#### TAX COLLECTOR

Lien starts March 31, 1997 for 1996 taxes.

OFFICE HOURS: Monday, 2:00-7:00; Tuesday, 8:00-5:00; Friday, 8:00-noon. April 29, office will be open noon to 5:00 pm. Telephone: 938-2288, 938-2094.

Sue Pehrson, Town Clerk and Tax Collector

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**BWC Update**

Nominations for 1997-99 are president, Doris Tremblay; first vice president, Caroline Verity; second vice president, Lyn Betz; recording secretary, Martha Von Redlich; corresponding secretary, Jane Johnsen; treasurer, Nancy Hibbard; finance chair, Beth Rodd. Directors until 1999, Kathie Messer, Marge Fritsch, and Jean Gaito.

March's meeting, "Youth Sports," with guest speakers Kevin Daniel and Scott MacLean, brought out some great ideas concerning how we might help the kids when they leave the sports program. We have a group looking into what we can do.

Please get in touch with Lyn Betz if you are interested in helping with the clean-up at French's Park on May 2. Bradford seventh graders will be working with us this year.

We are ready to kick off our Spring Raffle, which we did so well with last year. With the same participation of everyone, we can do it again this year. Prizes are 25" TV-VCR combo, dinner for two at the Applesseed Inn, \$25 gift certificate from Merrimack Farm Store, and \$25 gift certificate from Blake's Nursery.

Applications for the BWC Scholarship are available at Dodge's and at the high school.

"Women and Money" is the topic of our Guest Night meeting, 7:30 pm on April 15, at the church vestry. Remember to bring a friend.

**Scholarship offered by Bradford Women's Club**

The Bradford Women's Club will be offering a \$1,000 scholarship to students living in the Bradford/Newbury area. Students must have been accepted or currently enrolled in a post-secondary program. This includes college programs at all levels, vocational/technical programs, and other professional programs leading to a degree or certification. The scholarship is available to students of all ages and academic backgrounds.

APPLICATION DEADLINE IS WEDNESDAY, APRIL 30, 1997. Applications are available at R.L. Dodge's or contact Beth Rodd at 938-2692.

**HENNIKER VETERINARY CLINIC**

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**Earth Day celebration on May 3**

The Bradford Conservation Commission will celebrate Earth Day on May 3rd with a roadside cleanup of town roads, a raffle, and a bake sale at the transfer station. No roads will be assigned; just do as much as you can. As in the past, there will be prizes at the transfer station for those who find marked cans. Get out early to find them ... some eager beavers are out at 6:00 am!

On May 2, Bradford seventh graders will come to town to help us with several projects. Some will help to spread gravel on the wet part of the Fitness Trail; some will clean up at French's Park, and a third group will help carry lumber on the boardwalk at the Bog. The Conservation Commission looks forward to this help from the seventh grade, and we are grateful to the Women's Club for their help in planning and chaperoning the group. --Amy Blitzer

**RETIREMENT PARTY**  
**Police Chief Al Grindle**

**Saturday, May 3, 1:00-4:00**  
**Bradford Elementary Gym**

*Help us wish Chief Al Grindle well and give him a warm send-off into his life of "leisure"!! We will provide coffee and cookies (two of the Chief's favorite things) and you provide the warm wishes.*

There will be a small presentation between 2:00 and 3:00. If you care to participate, please call Officer Shawn Spooner at 927-4126 before April 19 to let us know.

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# Letters

Open letter to the people of Bradford.

On March 11, 254 of you, my neighbors, took the time to write in my name for selectman on the ballot. I was amazed and am warmed by the response. I want to publicly thank you all for the support you have given me. I have already been to the "office," answered questions, and gotten back to people. Bradford will move forward and I thank you for allowing me to be part of that progress.

Even though I hoped to have made it clear that I was withdrawing my candidacy for the position on the ZBA, I won that post. I have recommended to the ZBA that Jim Monahan, who ran as a write in, be appointed to the position that I am vacating.

Again, thank you all. I will do my best for all of us. Please join me. Become involved.

Dick Vitale

## THANK YOU BRADFORD!!

On behalf of all the parents of the Bradford-Newbury Kindergarten & Preschool, we would like to express our most sincere thanks in appreciation of the overwhelming support the townspeople showed in allowing our classroom to remain at the Town Hall. Your vote at Town Meeting showed your acceptance of early education here in our town. We look forward to continuing to provide such a program for all children of the Bradford and Newbury areas.

BNKP Board of Directors  
Bradford & Newbury Parents

## MAXFIELD, from page 1

She attended school in the Bradford school system and was a member of the Swift Water Council of the Girl Scouts, Troop #286 of Bradford. She enjoyed skiing and sports; she played in the Softball Youth League. She was very talented in craftwork and sewing, making many of her own clothes. She was a very loving and caring big sister.

She is survived by her father, Wilbert Willis of Newbury; a brother, Allan Maxfield of Bradford; a half-brother, Matthew Willis of Manchester; a half-sister, Jamie Willis of Laconia; paternal grandparents, Wilbert and Jane Willis of Newbury; maternal grandmother, JoAnn Halloran of Naples, Fla.; maternal grandfather, John Maxfield III and step-grandmother, Marilyn Maxfield of Naples, Fla.; and a great-grandmother, Florina Swanson of Naples, Fla.

Memorial donations may be made to the Allan Maxfield Trust Fund, c/o Richard Maxfield, HCR 63 Box 33M, Lebanon, 03766.

To the editor:

This is an exciting time in the legislature for the issue of education. We have a governor who has made education a major priority. Our status as the only state in the nation without mandated kindergarten for all children could change. Governor Shaheen has a plan that calls for spending up to \$30 million in state-issued bonds for kindergarten classroom construction over the next five years. She is proposing that every school district with kindergarten receive \$1,000 per student.

Kindergarten is a good investment. It cuts the dropout rate, enhances students' ability to learn and earn, and helps the state's economic security.

The kindergarten bill has already passed two steps. It was voted favorably out of the House Education Committee 16 to 4, and it received an overwhelming 265 - 108 victory in the House. The bill is now in the finance committee, where the focus will be on funding for the plan. Governor Shaheen has proposed a mechanism for funding kindergarten - a 25 cent increase in the state's cigarette tax. Unfortunately, critics of the proposed increase have been very vocal - this is where the real battle lies. We have to be firm and realistic - we are talking about educating our children. This is more important than tobacco industry profits. Funding kindergarten is truly an investment in our future. In addition, this bill will provide much-needed property tax relief by lessening the burden of education funding for property taxpayers.

In addition to kindergarten, Governor Shaheen is proposing more help for special education, the University of New Hampshire System, and the N.H. Technical Institutes. The Governor is clearly correct in making education a priority - she deserves all of our support.

Rep. Barbara C. French

## Planning Board meetings in March

March 11. No meeting, town election day.

March 25. Chair Perry Teele announced that the hearing for Good Night Sand & Gravel Co. had been delayed due to personnel changes in the Selectmen's office. Because of this, both the acceptance and approval hearings will be held at the next planning board meeting on April 8 at 7:30 pm.

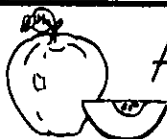
Tom Scribner, property manager for the new owners of the former IGA property (The Bradford Group, a limited liability company), submitted a plot plan to document the nonconforming lot. Because there is no site plan on file, the board recommended a site plan review. The requirement for a stamped survey was waived because no new construction is planned for the Produce Plus Summer Market. A dual public hearing for both acceptance and approval of the site plan was tentatively scheduled for April 22.

Teele announced that all zoning ordinance amendments had passed. An updated zoning ordinance will be produced by the town administrative assistant.



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**Tea Room Fashion Show on April 27**

Spring is in the air! The Rosewood Country Inn and the Lemon Twist Shop of New London will hold a Tea Room Fashion Show at The Rosewood on Sunday, April 27, 2:00-4:00 pm. A four-course "High Tulip Tea" will be served as the Lemon Twist Shop models the new spring line from Sigrid Olson, Elliot Lauren, M. Mac, Nicole Miller, Maggy London, Mita and many others. The event is being arranged by Diane Dressler, fashion coordinator. Tickets to the event are \$15 per person and reservations are required. RSVP by April 23 to 938-5253.

**April 17 program at Pillsbury Library**

DyJahna Cote, certified hypnotherapist, will present a program entitled "Past Life Regression: A Journey Somewhere in Time" at the Pillsbury Public Library, Warner, on Thursday, April 17, 7:00-9:00 pm. A \$5.00 donation is requested. For more information, call Maureen O'Reilly at 456-2178.

**Bradford-Newbury Workshop news**

On April 10, the Bradford-Newbury Workshop has planned a trip to the Currier Gallery of Art in Manchester, with a possible visit to the Frank Lloyd Wright house as well. Details are not firm at this time, but members will be contacted by phone chain closer to the date. Anyone who's not a regular member and interested in this trip may participate by calling Clare Bensley, 938-5482.

**Inn Time classes**

April is here at last, and the Candlelite and Thistle and Shamrock Inns are celebrating. We are going to start a series of Heritage quilting classes. First, Bunny Herman, on April 5, will demonstrate the "whole cloth needle turn applique" technique. This technique will be taught in one session.

Virlene Arnold (back by popular demand) will teach us how to make a table runner for the spring and summer months. This two-session class will be held April 8 and 22. If you'd like to attend these classes, please call Marilyn at the Candlelite Inn (938-5571) or Lynn at the Thistle and Shamrock Inn (938-5553).

**Soo-Nipi Audubon Chapter news**

The Soo-Nipi Audubon Chapter welcomes New England tree farmer, Ned Therrien, of Canterbury, who will present his slide program, "Hands Upon the Land," on Friday, April 11, 7:30 pm, at St. Andrews Episcopal Church on Gould Road in New London.

Ned will take his viewers through the four seasons on his forest land, sharing the beauty, frustrations, and joys of managing forest and wildlife resources, while preserving the integrity of the land.

This meeting is open to the public and refreshments will be served. For more information, call Karen Sullivan at 927-4550.

A field trip is schedule to take place on Saturday, April 26. Participants will travel to the Hopkinton Dam, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Flood Control Project, to look for spring waterfowl migrants. While there, Hopkinton Lake and Elm Brook Marsh will also be investigated.

Bring binoculars, insect repellent, and be prepared for wet walking. Trip will run from 8:00 am to noon. Meet Fred Sladen, 526-4321, at Warner Park and Ride, Exit 9, I-89. -- Phyllis Curtiss

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### Exhibitors solicited for Hopkinton Arts & Music Festival

The Hopkinton Arts & Music Festival is currently accepting applications for crafts exhibitors, musical groups, and other suitable activities. The Festival is scheduled for Sunday, June 1, noon to 6:00 pm, at the Hopkinton State Fairgrounds. Come join us for a fun-filled, stress-free day as we bring back the "old fair where people share their talents" with neighbors and friends. There are no sales allowed, no admission charged, and no monetary profit to be made. The Hopkinton Arts & Music Festival is expecting to exceed last year's 12 musical groups, 76 exhibitors, and 6,000 attendees. If you wish to participate, volunteer, donate, or would like additional information, please contact us at: Hopkinton Arts & Music Festival, P.O. Box 655, Contoocook, NH 03229. Phone 746-9594 or Fax 746-4666. --Jerry Adams

### Bradford Country Squares dance on April 12

The Bradford Country Squares will hold April Showers, a Plus with A-1 tip square dance (A-1 from 7:00-8:00 pm) on Saturday, April 12 at the Bradford Town Hall, 8:00-10:30 pm. Caller will be Ken Ritucci and cuer, Jo Yakimowski. The charge is \$4.00 per person. Refreshments provided. For more information, call 863-9775. Spectators Welcome!



# Church News

from Lynne E. Hubley

**American Baptist Women's Ministries.** The April meeting is on April 1 (no fooling!). Marcia Strout will give a nutrition update entitled "It's all about you!" This will include the Food Guide Pyramid, nutrition food labels, and the fat comparison foods.

**Computer Club.** Wednesday, April 2 will be the third meeting of the computer club. The group will meet 7:00-9:00 pm in the church vestry. The primary topic for the evening will be "Tidbits about Buying a Computer." There will also be some opportunity for hands-on learning.

**Baptism Classes.** Sunday, April 6, 11:30 am, will begin the first in a series of baptism classes.

**Youth Sunday.** The youth in our church will participate in the worship service on

April 13. Their theme is "The Miracles of Jesus" (modernized as told by News Station CRST).

**Youth Groups.** On April 13, youth groups will meet in the church vestry for a program entitled "When Bad Things Happen to Good People." Grades 4-6 will meet at 2:00-3:30 pm. Grades 7-12 will meet at 4:00-5:30 pm. We will be taking some time with the older group to share memories of Brook Willis, a youth group member who died on March 23.

On April 27, 1:00-4:00, grades 4-12 will take a mystery trip to the mall.

**Men's Fellowship.** The men in the church will gather at the home of Clark Phillips on Wednesday, April 16, 7:30 pm, for an evening of fun and fellowship.

**Game Night.** On Friday, April 18, people of all ages from the church will meet in the vestry from 6:30-8:30 pm. Folks are invited to bring their favorite board game, as well as a snack to share.

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## Legislative Report

by Representative  
Bernie Lamach

No one promised it would be easy! Events of the past several weeks at the state house have been very controversial. Whether dealing with the issue of Civil Rights Day, kindergarten proposals, the budget, or utility deregulation, the choices have been numerous and difficult.

Even though there has been heavy coverage in the press about these issues, there is never in-depth coverage to cover the hard work, compromise amendments, and effort put in by the various committees before bills get to the legislative floor. Often there is a story behind the story that is just as interesting.

When campaigning for office, I promised that I'd make the hard choices and I can't recall any time in the past several years when there have been so many as in the last two weeks.

It continues to be a concern of mine that actions at the state level do not get shoved down to the local level, so as to increase our local property taxes.

Article 28A of the State Constitution speaks against passing mandates to the local level without funding. If we, as legislators, are pledged to uphold the constitution, how can we support and vote for any program (in this case, kindergarten) without full funding? Is this against our pledge of office?

Our past history of state promises has not been good. Remember the lottery to support education? Fully funding the Auginblick formula? Moving the "temporary" prison in Laconia? Tying funding of a consistent program to a declining revenue source is not good management practice and is poor legislation, in my view, regardless of the value of the program.

Our local desk drawers are already full of these I.O.U.'s. The hypocrisy of this type of reasoning is of great concern to me. We need to honestly and responsibly step up to the priority of programs and the funding for these programs.

Over the next several weeks, the House Finance Committee will be considering the entire budget (along with revenue) and will be attempting to match funding required on new bills to those expectations. Many new bills will be greatly modified to try to fit

within a budget which stands a reasonable chance of passing. Here is where "politics as the art of compromise" will exert itself. All for the better, though, as constitutionally we must have a balanced budget.

On a personal level, my bills which deal with banning the sale and/or transport of milfoil, and authorizing electronic signatures seem to be moving through the process and I expect some success from that.

My committee of Science and Technology is yet very much involved in the deregulation of utilities, and even though we've heard a lot in recent weeks of the PUC and PSNH dispute, it's likely that good rate relief may yet be two years off. I'm proud that my committee is at the forefront with this issue, and that New Hampshire is leading the push for economic rates.

If you'd like the background on any issues, please give me a call at 938-2095. Spring is here!

### Glimpses of the Past program sponsored by 2nd Monday Nitters

The 2nd Monday Nitters of the First Baptist Church, Main Street, New London, will host Nancy Muller with her slide presentation and narrative, "Glimpses of the Past." The program will start at 7:30 pm on April 14 at the church.

Nancy Muller is Director of the New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources at the State Historic Preservation offices in Concord. She has been associated with the history and archives of Colby Sawyer College since 1978 and will cover the history of the institution during her program.

The public is cordially invited. Refreshments follow the program. -- Gladys Smith

**Trans-Medic**  
TRANSMISSION CLINIC

John McKew  
Route 103, Newbury  
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## Bradford-Newbury Kindergarten Preschool news

The Bradford-Newbury Kindergarten Preschool went on two field trips in February. On the 13th, the children toured the Bradford Post Office and mailed home valentines they had made at school. The next week they went candlepin bowling in Hillsboro. On February 14, Valentine's Day was celebrated with a party and we also said "farewell" to longtime kindergarten aide, Jonas Cosgrove. We will miss her dedication to BNKP and its children. THANK YOU, MRS. COSGROVE.

February was a busy month for both the families and students at BNKP. Our February fund-raiser was very successful... thank you to all the sellers and buyers of the delicious Wolfgang chocolates and candies. During class time, the children learned about the letters K and L and the numbers 6 and 7.

Registration for the 1997-98 school year was held at the school on March 3. There are still openings in both the preschool and kindergarten classes. If you live in Bradford or Newbury and your child will be four or five by September 30, you may register for the 1997-98 school year by calling Janet Bauer, Secretary, at 938-2195.

The BNKP is an organization of dedicated parents who provide the children of our community with a sound preschool and kindergarten experience. Because our communities do not offer public kindergarten, we work together to provide such a program for our children. The Bradford-Newbury Kindergarten Preschool is a non-profit organization that is licensed by the State of New Hampshire, but is funded through tuition fees and fund raising. Our teacher, Susan Kingsbury, is a certified K-6 teacher who provides a stimulating curriculum and nurturing environment for our children. This early school experience is very important for fostering a child's interest in learning and developing the self confidence and skills necessary for success in school later on. Children who come from a good kindergarten are often better prepared for the elementary school experience and enjoy it more.

BNKP held two successful bake sales in March. We would like to thank all who baked and bought the wonderful baked goods. BNKP also wants to thank Oma (Donna Marr's mother) for her support and help to the kindergarten. She helped set up for the bake sale and worked there too.

In March, the kindergartners worked on the letters M, N, and O, and the number 8. A wonderful morning was spent at the Intervale Sugar House in Henniker; the children saw first hand how maple syrup is made and then got to eat a pancake with syrup made at the sugarhouse. --Melanie E. Leathers

# Then & Now

by Milly Kittredge

## SUNSHINE FARM, ROUTE 103



photo from Gary Perkins, circa 1950: "The cow's name was Esmiralda and the delivery truck belonged to Danforth's Store."

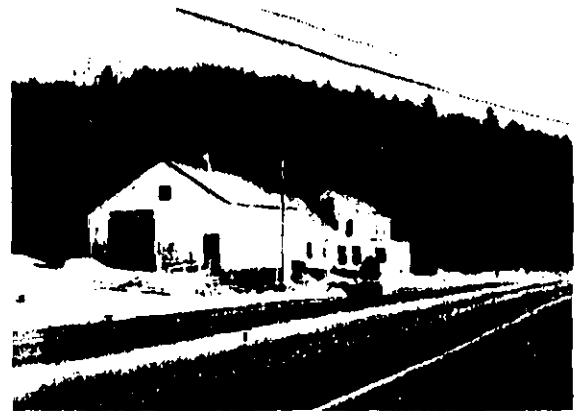
Carlton and Hazel Perkins and family moved there in 1947. They milked their cows, made butter, butchered beef and poultry, raised their own vegetables, and sold maple syrup. The kids swam and fished in the river, and there was a cranberry bog in the swamp area. The building on the river side of the road was moved when the highway was widened, used as Mr. Perkins' woodworking shop, and eventually turned into a home. A small sandy knoll to the east of the house was used for fill for the road.

In 1895, the town voted to relocate the road that went through Union Cemetery to its present lower location. There was a sawmill further up the brook on Blaisdell Lake Road.

The present owners, Perley and Marcia Strout, removed the connecting shed. They have left the interior of the barn much as it was, making a natural setting for their antiques shop.

This is one pleasant farm which looks much the same as it did in pictures of seventy years ago.

Writing and information contributed by: Marcia Strout, Gary Perkins, Alma Davis, Perry Teele... thank you all.



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# In the Woods, by Chris Lincoln

Sun-loving humans are not the only creatures anxiously anticipating spring this year. It's not easy being an amphibian: imagine not having had a bite to eat in more than five months, hunkered down in the bottom muck of a pond, barely breathing, and here it is early April - with the ponds still frozen. Alas, the ice and snow will soon melt, water will drain to wetlands and ponds, and frogs and salamanders will awake from their hibernation stupor.

Some snow-melt water will ultimately flow and collect into depressions in the forest floor and form vernal pools. Known to some as simply "wicked big puddles," and overlooked entirely by others, these temporary pools, which form each spring and generally dry up by the middle of summer, are a critical component in the life cycle of a number of species. For two, the wood frog and spotted salamander, vernal pools are essentially the only place they will breed. The big advantage of breeding in vernal pools is that there is less predation than typically goes on in larger ponds or lakes. Fish, who have a taste for frog eggs, cannot survive in a short-lived vernal pool, let alone swim over dry land to get there.

Vernal pools are also inhabited by several other interesting species, including minute fairy shrimp, finger-nail clams, and caddis flies, as well as the more familiar gray tree frog, spring peeper, and red-spotted newt. The next few weeks are the only time of year to observe some of these critters. Before things start to thaw, scout out some local pools, either in the forest or along the sides of back roads. Keep an eye on them and wait for a warm rainy night in the early spring. There may be patches of ice still on the pools, but if there is enough open water, the action will soon begin.

Wood frogs generally emerge earliest in the year and are easily identified by their call: a loud chorus of quacks. With flashlight in hand and some patience, you can witness the

chaotic raucous to mate. You can hear a deafening roar of quacks as you approach a pool, but it will suddenly become quiet when you shine your light across the surface. Turn it off for a while and sit quietly ... and see what happens.

Yellow-spotted salamanders, which emerge shortly after wood frogs, are my favorite. These creatures, known as "mole salamanders," lead a very secretive life. For most of their lives, they live underground in the top layers of soil and leaf litter, eating grubs and insects or hibernating. In the spring, they surface just long enough to mate, and then return to their subterranean homes. Adults are four to six inches long, mostly shiny black, but with very bright yellow spots. Males come to the pool first and form groups known as "congresses." Fertilization takes place rather unusually: males deposit clumps of spermatophores on the pool bottom and females then come through and pick it up to fertilize their eggs. What a system ... nobody knows who's related to whom and couples never even have to meet. Developing salamander eggs soon appear as golf-ball-sized egg masses attached to submerged sticks in the pool. The parent salamanders are long gone back underground, before the eggs hatch and juveniles are left to fend for themselves.

Breeding in vernal pools does have its downside. In a particularly dry spring or summer, the pool may dry up before the eggs have time to hatch. In some years, it is possible that no offspring will survive from the many thousands of eggs laid. Another threat is obstructions in migration routes. Many frogs and salamanders travel up to an entire mile from where they hibernate to their breeding pool. Roads or a new housing development can make it difficult, or impossible, for them to successfully migrate. The consequences of this threat can be clearly seen the morning after a spring rain. Untold numbers of squished amphibians, stopped dead in the

road while trying to fulfill their need to breed.

Disturbance from logging is also a threat to vernal pools. Amphibians can be very sensitive to light and temperature changes that can occur when cutting trees around a pool. The function of the pool can also be harmed by dropping slash and logging debris into it or driving machinery through it. Generally wet areas are avoided during a harvest, but vernal pools only have water in them for a couple of months of the year, so it's easy to disturb them without even realizing it.

In recent years, the value of vernal pools has been recognized by the forestry profession and voluntary guidelines have been developed for protecting pools during logging operations. A key factor in their protection is to be able to identify and locate pools. The easiest way to do this is to look for them when they are filled with water and mark the perimeter. Once a pool's location is known, skid roads can be planned to minimize the impact. Guidelines recommend maintaining a shaded buffer zone of at least fifty feet around the pool to avoid siltation and temperature increases. It is best to conduct logging operations on snow or frozen ground when working near vernal pools, but if operating cannot be avoided during unfrozen conditions, extra precautions should be taken to prevent ruts which can create barriers to migrating amphibians.

The return of life to the vernal pools is a true harbinger of spring. By protecting pools and understanding the cycle that occur there, we can protect the unique species that depend on them.

*Chris Lincoln is a consulting forester with New England Forestry Consultants, Inc., and lives and work in Bradford.*



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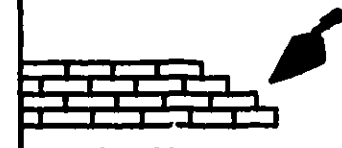
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## It's sugaring time! by Clare Bensley

It's that time of year again ... the sap is flowing, finally! And the age-old practice of making maple syrup has begun.

Sugaring season begins in late February or early March ... whenever the days warm above freezing and temperature dip below freezing at night. Warm temperatures revive the sugar maples, stimulate the flow of sap, and signal that the tree is ready to be tapped. One of the first signs that this is happening is the appearance of "sapsicles," tiny icicles that form on the upper branches where sap leaks from an abrasion in the tree and freezes at night. Sapsicles make a slightly sweet treat, but are usually too high to reach.

Comparing starting dates and boasting about the number of gallons preserved by the time of Town Meeting has always been a popular New England tradition. Another practice, which seems to have disappeared, was that of town bums to congregate in sugar houses where they knew a warm pad waited for them by the wood fires that burned all night. Unfortunately all this fun associated with sugaring only lasts about four to six weeks. The season ends when the trees bud out and the sap becomes dark and foul tasting.

Sap may be gathered in any of several ways. Individual pails hung on trees below a tap are emptied into barrels, which are then trans-



*Rick Messer outside his sugar house, where five generations of his family have sugared. A large operation, they generally produce well over a hundred gallons.*

Either way, the collecting barrels are then picked up by tractor, truck or oxen and hauled to the sugar house whence begins the boiling process.

The sap is boiled over a wood fire until it reaches the syrup stage, approximately 215 degree F. Then it is strained and sealed in bottles or cans. A good-sized tree can produce around 50 gallons of sap. The usual

Some consider Vermont to be the maple syrup capitol; others, New York. Recently Quebec has sent large quantities south, which sells at a lower price due to a government subsidy. Fortunately enough people in this area are still sugaring so that the home-grown variety is readily available.

Sugaring-off parties, where the syrup is boiled beyond the syrup stage, then poured on fresh snow to make "leather aprons" or sugar-on-snow, accompanied by sour pickles, unsweetened donuts and hot coffee, have always been popular. Add to this the bleating of new lambs in the barn, the woodcock performing his mating dance at dusk, and life just doesn't get any better.



*Dean Bensley siphons the sap from the barrel on his tractor into a holding tank. From there it flows automatically into the boiling pans set up inside the wood shed. He hopes to make 20-25 gallons this year.*

ported to the sugar house, or plastic tubing is connected to the taps and allows the sap to flow by gravity through the tubing to a main line and then directly into the collecting barrel. This is the system we see so often by the side of the road. This latter method, while not nearly so picturesque, is much less labor-intensive, as anyone who's gathered the sap in individual buckets and hauled them via a neck yoke over snow and mud will attest.

ratio of sap to syrup is: 40 gal. sap = 1 gal. syrup. The process is really more involved than this and can continue with operations around the clock to produce large amounts of syrup.

Sugaring is strictly an American industry. It is practiced mainly in the Northeast, with Michigan being the western limit. American Indians used syrup for bartering, and it was they who taught the art to the early settlers.



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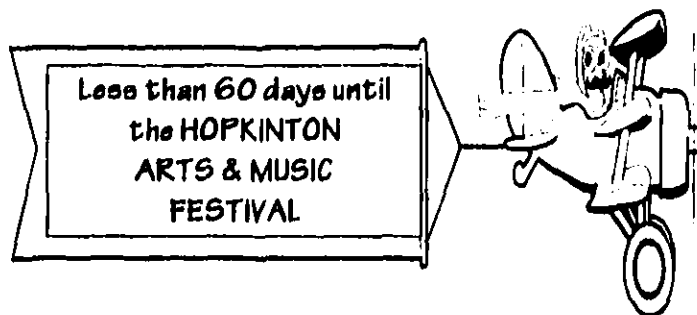


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year at this time we had 8 musical groups, and over 30 exhibitors registered, and then ended up with 12 musical groups and 76 exhibitors to the delight



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**MEETING, from page 1**

budgeted purchases. Gary Wall commented that the old Central School had an assessed valuation of \$247,800. He asked that more consideration be given to using the building before it is demolished. The question was moved at 8:20. The bond article was defeated, by paper ballot, with 54 yes votes and 157 no votes. A later effort to reduce the library capital reserve fund from \$40,000 to \$15,000 was defeated.

Once the library issue had been dealt with, town support for the kindergarten became the major topic of discussion. Mary Keegan-Dayton asked that Article 33 be considered next. Article 33, submitted by petition, asked that voters approve any action to move the kindergarten from the Town Hall against its wishes. Selectman John Signorino noted that town counsel had said the article may unlawfully interfere with the Selectmen's ability to do business. Selectman Joe Conway responded that he had been in discussion with town counsel and had received a faxed letter during the afternoon which stated that there was "room for argument" concerning the legality of the warrant article. Town Counsel recommended that the use of the Town Hall be "in the hands of the townspeople." Several voters expressed support for kindergarten. Selectman Signorino commented that he hadn't seen a determination that the town was responsible for education. He said the kindergarten was a business and "it's time for them to move." Carol Adams said passing Article 33 gives the town time for dialogue, particularly when a committee has been formed to study economic opportunities in town. The article passed on a voice vote.

During the discussion of budget line items, the issue of street lighting was brought up. Suggestions were made that the street light situation be studied. "Don't be penny wise and dollar foolish" was one comment. No action was taken, however.

Most warrant articles passed. Article 30, for audio-visual equipment for the second cruiser was defeated. A motion for reconsideration passed, then the article passed. The only warrant articles to be defeated were numbers 29, \$2000 to repair fencing at Brown-Shattuck Field, and 32, to designate Blaisdell Hill Road a scenic road.

**ELECTION, from page 1**

194 votes; G. Richard Keller, elected, 264 votes; Christopher Payson, write-in, 23 votes.

Cemetery Commission: Doris Tremblay, elected, 362 votes.

Budget Committee: H. Bliss Dayton, elected, 298 votes; Robert Stewart, elected, 299 votes; Richard Vitale, 158 votes.

All Zoning Ordinance amendments passed. Proposed Charter, submitted by Charter Commission, article passed, 211 yes, 92 no.

# A Point of View

by Luanne Mayo

This past month, in retrospect, is hard to sort out; so many major events came tumbling down, one after the other. First, we sold our beloved Barn and property; this alone was enough to send me into a tizzy. (Sure we wanted to sell it. We aren't as young as we were 25 years ago, when we shoveled out the manure and started building a home; on the other hand, it is the only real home or hometown I've ever had.) The next event was when my beloved husband momentarily bit the dust at Town Meeting. It was dramatic, to say the least. Rescue Squad members were at his side in seconds; the Chief of Police went up the aisle to call for the Ambulance as nurses and doctors materialized from all over the hall. No one could have been more and better attended, and our thanks go out to all who helped and all of you who worried for us. (I shall always wonder how that bit of business affected the direction of the meeting.) He, my husband, was fine by the time we got to the hospital; in fact he tried to talk the Rescue Squad into taking him back so he could vote. Funny man!

The next, and perhaps the most perplexing happening, was the Arrival, in the form of an anonymous letter sent to me. It has always seemed to me that if you have something to say that is important enough to put on paper, then it is important enough to put your signature on and claim your sentiments. ... My letter was castigating me (and a select few other townspeople) for what we have and are doing to Bradford. The gist was that we are all out-of-towners (non-natives) and if we'd leave things alone, the town would not be in

such a state. It also mentioned what had been done to the Bradford Center Meeting House, and closed with a fairly lengthy list of scripture for my edification. I am, each evening, reading through the assigned Bible texts, trying to understand my writer's intentions.

The complaint seems to be that what goes on in town is done by people who were not born here. Well, that's easy to explain, when only one in ten people who now live in Bradford were born here. All of the rest of us have moved here, because it is where we WANT to live. What does get done in and around town is mostly accomplished by people who are generous with their time and volunteer their physical and professional services and expertise. We here in Bradford are blessed with an astonishing number of volunteer hours; our Rescue Squad and Fire Department are all volunteers; our youth sports and summer swim classes are done by volunteers; this newspaper is written and produced by volunteers. The old Center School House, Center Church and Old Post Office would not exist today without the hundreds of loving hours given to their rescue. All of the Boards in town are manned/womaned by working people who are willing to give their evenings to the town. If the writer of my letter isn't happy with the results of all of this effort, I wish she or he would look around, find the spot that rubs the worst, join the group and help put the town to rights. We all need all of the help we can get in this life.

And no, we aren't leaving town right away; we'll be around for a while.

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# Meet Your Neighbor, by Audrey Sylvester

Meet our neighbor, architect/designer and planner, John Taylor, Director of the Children's Design Project. John recently completed a collaborative project in Bradford's elementary school, involving fifth graders and their teachers. The topic: Native Americans. The Children's Design Project is a nonprofit educational program that "encourages and enables students to become creative self-motivated learners and problem-solvers through active participation in a wide range of hands-on projects that promote the integration of many disciplines and that are linked to a variety of core topics from the field of the built environment." *Read on. It's more fun than you imagine.*

In March, the successful "collaboration" culminated in an evening open house where students displayed their elaborately crafted Native American village buildings set in authentic environmental habitats. Twelve Indian tribes were represented. During the animated, energetic celebration ending five weeks of hard work, the children explained to their sisters, brothers, parents, fellow students, school administrators and teachers, complex concepts of community development--how governmental, architectural, environmental, and cul-



John Taylor, with Krista Kusinski, Luke Watson, Krystal Bradicich, London Dupere with Chippewa village.

making and building work have flourished. In leaner times, he taught skiing. As business grew, he was drawn more and more to an idea planted by a Kansas City project called CUBE (Center for Understanding the Built Environment) in which third grade children were involved in city planning. Gradually his interest in architecture and in teaching became a reality called the Children's Design Project.

It has been a rewarding journey since John graduated from the University of Virginia with a Bachelor of Architecture and taught middle school in Kennett Square (the mushroom capital of the world). In 1983, W.W. Norton published his book, *Common Sense Architecture*, a collection of 600 original drawings on the folk architecture of the world. To John, "folk" means indigenous, unstylized, unself-conscious, very practical designs that show practical solutions to particular needs. For example, what did folk builders do with materials at hand and how did they respond to their needs, like staying warm or dry. John expanded his library research on a chance trip to Japan, where he found fascinating buildings to draw. When Norton was interested in publishing the book, John convinced the Japanese government to pay for a return trip to expand his research. Now out of print, the book will be reprinted this fall by Chelsea Green Press in White River Junction.



Meghan MacLean (speaking) and Bridgit Sullivan explaining Mandan earthlodge to Sharon Knapp, principal, with Tim Donahue and Adrian Azodi looking on.

tural characteristics influenced their village constructions. John said, "It's so mind-boggling, how much like sponges the students are, how quickly they can absorb concepts and information. When I think of how many times I have to read something before I can understand and remember it, I am amazed how the students pick it up ... 'just like that!'"

To begin the collaboration, John worked with fifth grade teachers, Pat Miller and Katie Perkins, to develop elaborate resources and a research library. Students were grouped in tribes, where each person played a special role with specific responsibilities. Some were shamans, tribal elders, and chiefs. Others were food gatherers and preparers, artists, and builders. To create their villages, the students needed information: what were many facets of the tribe's life ... their food gathering habits, climate, the location's amenities (was there a river, prairie, mountain?), transportation, language, customs, recreation and games, religion and music. The Miwok tribe was momentarily stymied with their research until they connected with a school in California, on email, that had the missing information.

With all reports gathered, the shamans could decide the best solutions. John said, "The process was like a Chinese menu. Many dishes contributed to the meal." *This, folks, is interdisciplinary learning.* John was pleased that nearly two-thirds of the students elected to do additional work when the required elements had been completed.

Born in southeastern Pennsylvania, John moved to Wilmot Flat in 1976. Marveling at his decision to come here, he still wonders why he stays, but life here has been good. Architectural design, cabinet-



Aimee LaRue, Beth Teghe, Betsy Sias, Emily Selig, and Josh Noury building a Hopi pueblo (southwest).

As I listened to John's success story with fifth graders in our elementary school, I couldn't help wonder what these creative self-motivated learners and problem-solvers could suggest, given an opportunity to be actively involved with hands-on projects on the topic -- Bradford town planning. I bet we could learn from these kids who know how to dig in, base their idea of community on extensive research, and know how to use email. *Hold onto your hats, folks. It could be a surprising civics lesson!* [all photos by John Taylor]

## Report on Kearsarge Regional School District by Mike Hague, Bradford School Board Rep

### The Voters Have Spoken

Along with the beginning of maple sugar season, the annual Kearsarge Regional School District Meeting occurred on March 8. Here is a brief summary of what happened. 437 voters registered. Article 1 allowed for change of the KRSD Articles of Agreement to be accomplished by ballot in the towns instead of at the annual school district meeting. It passed by paper ballot, 259 yes votes to 121 no votes. 254 were needed for the required 2/3 majority. A reconsideration motion failed.

A report of the now-passed Charter Commission plan was heard (Article 2) and discussed. A straw vote was taken, with 75 in favor, 269 opposed.

Article 3 was the Operating or Fund I budget for the next school year. A motion was made to add the \$100,000 that was cut by a compromise of the School Board and the Municipal Budget Committee. It passed 167 to 156. The amended budget then passed by paper ballot 276 to 119. The total KRSD budget is now \$15,342,696. Article 4, to finance the last year of the 5-year Technology Plan (\$169,771) passed by voice vote. Article 5, to fund the establishment of a Co-op program at the high school for students to learn a skill and then work that skill in the community, passed 223 to 74 (\$143,337). A Mrs. Wilcox from Wilmot brought down the house with her arguments on behalf of the article.

Article 6, \$27,162 for a 2.5% salary increase for teachers' aides, passed on a voice vote. Article 7, \$290,315 for teachers' salaries, with the addition of a performance-based pay component, passed by paper ballot, 257 to 103. Article 8 dealt with funding a community developed strategic improvement plan; it passed by voice vote (\$60,250). Articles 9 and 10 passed on voice votes; they had to do with establishing reserve funds with monies already in the budget. There was lively discussion on many of the articles, with all sizes

of the issues being presented, some in very eloquent and passionate terms.

As mentioned, the Charter Commission plan was passed. Our Annual School Meeting will become a deliberative and information session, but the final vote will come on town election day. Because of the time line of the new process, next year's deliberative session will be held around January 10. More information on the process as it unfolds.

### Kindergarten ??

Bill HB50 in the state legislature would fund about two-thirds (\$1,000) of the operating costs of kindergarten, according to the State Department of Education, for a five-year period and 100% of the construction costs of new kindergarten classrooms. For the Kearsarge Regional School District, that would be about \$200,000, not including the construction costs for new buildings.

According to research, kindergarten reduces the number of kids staying back a year, increases reading ability, improves behavior, reduces special education placements, and leads to higher high school graduation rates. 47% of New Hampshire's five-year-olds go to approved public kindergarten programs, 35% attend private kindergarten and 18% have no school experience. Every other state in the country has decided that it is unacceptable to rely on separate private programs. These decisions have been based on various reasons, mostly related to a lack of educational consistency. Your School Board is actively exploring its options, costs, etc. What do you think? More information will follow as we collect more information.

### U.S. Education Spending

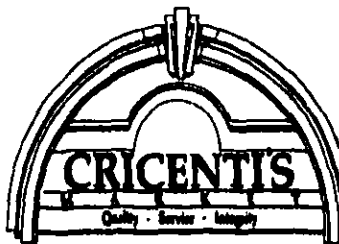
According to most calculations (proportion of GDP, percent of per capita income, proportion of per capita GDP, per pupil expenditure), the U.S. spending on K-12 education is about average among developed countries. If college is taken into account, the U.S.

spends more than any country except Canada. U.S. dollars for K-12 education also pay for more services than in other countries, including food, counseling, transportation, and special education, so that less of the budget goes into actual classroom education.

### School District Community Survey Results

The results of the survey which was mailed to the residents of Kearsarge Regional School District several months ago have been tabulated. There were 325 responses, out of a possible 6,000 or so surveys mailed. I will apportion the highlights over the next few articles. A majority of responses favored increasing the length of the school day at the high school level, but not at the elementary or middle school level. Respondents sent a clear message not to extend the school year using the summer or weekends, except for students "not achieving academic standards/competencies." The amount of time students are supposed to be spending doing assigned homework, according to the homework policy, was judged to be appropriate. (Grades 1-3, 2 times per week for 20-30 minutes each day; grades 4-6, 4 times per week for 30-60 minutes each day; grades 7-8, 1 - 1 1/2 hours daily; grades 9-12, 1 1/2 to 2 1/2 hours daily). Comments suggested that students were not always assigned enough homework to meet the policy standards.

Your School Board will use the results of this survey to help set goals for the district for the next school year. I will also use any feedback or suggestions you may have to help with the task of making your school district the best it can be. Please call at 938-2722, email at LOVMTS@AOL.com, or write to 121 Marshall Hill Road with your ideas, suggestions or questions. Because of the typically low participation in meetings and surveys, it is important to let your opinion be heard, especially if it differs with what has been noted here. Thanks.



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**HISTORICAL GLIMPSES from the Kearsarge Independent**

*selected by Sandy Wadlington*

**ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO - April 1897**

Miss Sarah Morse has just recovered from quite a severe attack of la grippe. Nellie Chase of Newbury is at work for her. Ira Sargent and wife are quite sick at this writing; also Mrs. George Cilley.

Dr. Underwood has arrived in town to take Dr. Jordan's place during his absence. He was called soon after his arrival to attend "patients."

Dr. Jordan reports some gain in flesh, but a wholesome Yankee dislike for the sunny south and all its slipshod ways.

**FIFTY YEARS AGO - April 1947**

Reverend Wayne Haskell of Milford will give a program of magic at the annual Guest Night of the Women's Christian Guild, Friday at the Baptist Church. All in the community are invited. Children should be accompanied by their parents.

Carl Danforth is spending his vacation with his grandmother, Mrs. Carl Danforth.

Charles Sanborn is driving a new red pick-up truck.

**... and from Bradford Historical Society materials**

*selected by Milly Kittredge*

April 1898. An exciting meeting concerning street lights was held, Frank Tappan moderating. D. Moody Morse advised all who were opposed to raising money for street lights to refrain from voting. At the count, the number voting being less than half the number on the voting list, with none in the negative, the article was declared lost. The second article to borrow money was denounced as a trick and once again the opponents refrained from voting. This not being a taxation money vote, it was declared passed, and a committee was appointed to locate the lights. After consultation with attorneys, J. A. Peaslee stated their decisions and said nothing was to be gained by anyone but the lawyers by contesting the matter, so any money raised would have to be by private subscription. This was eventually successful.

Pipes are soon to be laid from the Four Springs Well on Liberty Hill to furnish a water supply for the New Bradford Inn and the Messer Block.

Tear up your carpet, says a Danforth Bros. ad, and use rugs and painted floors, which are cleaner and more healthful in every way.

There was a late heavy snowstorm of three days and three nights in mid-April.

**Library Lantern**  
*by Maggi Ainslie*

Although the warrant article for a new library did not pass this year, we thank all who voted to pass the \$40,000 for our Capital Reserve Fund. We will continue fund raising. To date, no tax dollars have been used for any of the plans or work done by the architect. The Trustees thank the Friends of BML for their donation of \$689 to the Building Fund. For the record, last year the Trustees and the Directors of the Kindergarten met to discuss the possibility of including the kindergarten in the library plans. The Kindergarten decided to stay at the Town Hall until further options became apparent.

Interest earned on the following accounts not listed in the town report: Morse-Gardner, \$687.68; Clifton Danforth, \$28.14; Arthur Rand, \$24.40. On Sunday, April 27, 2:00-5:00, the Candlelite Inn will host *Dolls and Dollhouses: An Exhibition*. We invite you to bring your doll(s) and to exhibit your dollhouse. This will be a special afternoon to share your love and knowledge of dolls. American Girl doll clothing and other items made by Bradford residents may be purchased. Refreshments and door prizes! Call the library for more information and to reserve a space. All proceeds go to the Brown Memorial Library Building Fund.

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## Blue News ... Report from the Police Department by Kathy Grindle

First, the Bradford Police Department would like to thank all those who supported us at Town Meeting last month. Your support was greatly appreciated.

Now, speaking of Town Meeting ... several comments were heard regarding the fact that there is no "real" crime in Bradford. The numbers printed every month do not seem to signify anything tangible to some people. Missing people are not really missing because they are not known personally by those people; thefts are not really thefts because nothing was stolen from them; and these aren't really terrible crimes or incidents anyway -- not like what is seen in places like Manchester or Boston.

It has been the policy of this Department that crimes committed in town, as well as activity by the Department, not be made public. Over the last two years or so, the numbers of incidents have been released in this article, but no real details. We understand that in a small town, many people already know too much, or make up what they don't know, so feeding this "rumor mill" is not something the Department wants to do. However, the result of this philosophy seems to be that residents believe that "nothing happens in Bradford."

With the permission of the Chief, I would now like to give you some details of what the Department has covered in Bradford. This is most probably the ONLY time when such information will be given.

First, there are four known, previously convicted, sex offenders living in town, two of whom involved several minor children. A fifth sexual offender was convicted last week, who has molested four young children in our town but who lives elsewhere.

Four of our residents are on parole, most for multiple charges involving drugs. Three shootings occurred in Bradford last year. In the past year, there were two cases of paren-

tal abuse by minor children. The Department also investigated three deaths in 1996.

Seven investigations are underway in which the Department is collaborating with other states (North Carolina, South Carolina, West Virginia, Massachusetts, Vermont, and Florida), plus numerous investigations ongoing with other New Hampshire towns.

Within the past eighteen months, threats have been made to a member of the Chief's family, which involved several months of threats of being found dead or the house being burned down. This was in connection with an investigation with the DEA and a Massachusetts police department involving drug sales in town.

And, finally, the Department served twelve restraining/domestic violence orders to individuals who threatened or abused a spouse or other family member.

There are also many orders from previous years still in effect.

So, does crime really happen in Bradford? Sadly, yes it does. A small town sees the same types of crime as any major city, except that it is in proportion to the smaller population.

It has been the policy of this Department to give Bradford residents the safest possible environment in which to live and raise their families. Not everything needs to be discussed in a public forum; however, it is important that residents be aware that they do not live in some isolated island, protected completely from the dangers of the outside world. Hopefully, those numbers at the end of this article will now have more meaning.

Through March 26, the Department logged 87 incidents, including 14 assists to other depts/rescue/fire, 7 animal complaints, 5 burglaries/thefts, 5 unsecured buildings, 2 harassing phone calls, 2 suspicious motor vehicles, 3 alarm activations, 1 missing person, 1 report of child abuse, 1 domestic dispute.



## BOOK REVIEW

by Pauline Dishmon

ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE  
YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED

By Liz Hodgkinson  
Ward Lock, 1995

Some time ago, this column carried a review of a book about Alzheimer's Disease. For the most part, that publication dealt with the care of AD victims. This book confronts the disease itself, differentiating it from other dementias.

Alzheimer's is a disease everyone dreads, particularly if they have watched someone they have loved fade away in front of their eyes and/or they begin to recognize forgetfulness in themselves.

Years ago, people would hide relatives with dementia. The disease was viewed as a kind of mental illness, akin to schizophrenia or mental retardation. Now, thanks to research, more is known about the various dementias. This author reports on latest findings.

The condition we know as Alzheimer's was first identified in 1906 by a German neurologist, Alois Alzheimer. Under a microscope, he noted a disorganization in the nerve cells which he called *neurofibrillary tangles* and accumulations of debris he termed *senile plaques*. These changes were responsible for memory loss. Oddly enough, the plaques and tangles can only be seen under a microscope when the brains of victims undergo post-mortem examination. Tests have shown that this condition does not affect animals.

Hodgkinson discusses the similarities and differences between Alzheimer's and Downs Syndrome. She writes about B-amyloid protein, names of notables who have been victims of Alzheimer's, and the genetic predisposition of the disease.

Hodgkinson raises an interesting question: should a caretaker attempt to help the sufferer keep the brain active? Answer: most experts believe this to be pointless and counterproductive except in the early stages of the disease. One should remember that the brain is gradually deteriorating and sufferers will continue to forget because their brains can no longer function at full capacity.

Finally, the author delves into home care: information about what family and friends might expect, social services, insurance, and nursing homes. An extremely helpful book.

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## Selectmen's meetings in March

**March 3.** The meeting opened with a non-public session with Mr. Sweeney to discuss police standards related to hiring a new police chief.

Peter Isham, owner of Good Night Sand & Gravel on Pleasant Valley Road, discussed the new no-exceptions policy for posted roads March 1 to May 1. He commented that he had scheduled heavy work during those months and asked whether special exceptions could be made based on road conditions. After some discussion, it was agreed that Andy should make the determination based on road conditions.

**March 10.** Code Enforcement Officer Chip Meany met to discuss what he sees as a blatant disregard of Bradford's Zoning Ordinance by some residents and contractors. He expressed frustration that local contractors, who are aware of the building permit process, perform work without informing their customers of their responsibility to apply for a permit. "There's no excuse," he said, "for local contractors to disregard town building requirements." Meany said he wants to facilitate businesses in town and "avoid Gestapo tactics," but people need to understand that building permits are required. He said that residents need to be educated. He asked that the new town administrative assistant be provided with information to hand out when individuals have questions regarding building requirements in town. When Meany asked about assessing fines for violations, Selectmen told him to develop a list of penalties and fines and submit it for their approval. When he suggested developing a booklet of information for new homeowners, Selectmen responded by saying they'd "take it under advisement."

Selectmen received a letter from the Cemetery Commissioners asking what should be done about the tree with the dead top located in the cemetery at the church. Their budget had no account to handle such unexpected expenditures. Selectmen suggested asking to amend their budget at Town Meeting.

**March 17.** Fire Chief Mark Goldberg asked Road Agent Anderson whether the highway crew could be responsible for clearing snow from town fire hydrants. He said that firemen were occasionally going out to clear them, but sometimes the snow piles froze solid and they were unable to clear the hydrants. Anderson asked for a list of all hydrants with their locations, and agreed to assume responsibility for keeping them cleared.

The road posting issue was again discussed. Anderson noted that other towns provide permits on a daily basis when conditions allow. Truckers are required to have the permit in the vehicle. Selectmen agreed unanimously that a "weight limit waiver permit" was a good idea, signed by the road

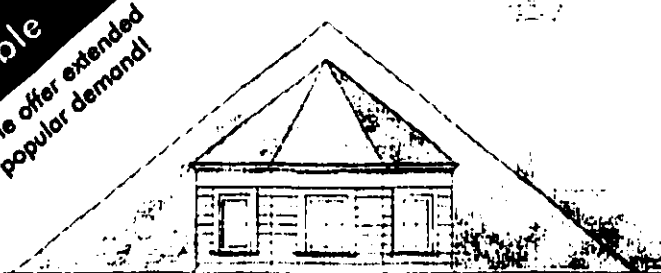
agent at his discretion. Mike Carter expressed concern about the road agent's availability; Anderson responded that he was always available in his office at 7:00 am. Carter inquired about a permit for the following day; Carolyn Grindle accommodated by immediately creating a permit form.

**March 24.** Cheryl Behr was introduced as the new town administrative assistant.

The Building Inspector forwarded a letter of complaint concerning where Joe Wilcox is parking cars for sale on Route 114. The letter was passed on to the Planning Board.


Conservation Commission members Perry Teele and Amy Blitzer met to request the town maintain ownership of one of two lots it took for taxes in the Penhollow development. The Penhollow lots are near the town-owned Aiken Pasture and connecting the lots would provide entry to the Aiken Pasture property via Penhollow Road. They volunteered to draft a deed or do whatever the Selectmen deemed necessary to maintain ownership of the property.

■ See SELECTMEN, page 19



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### Exhibit at Covered Bridge Gallery features works by Women's Caucus for Art, NH Chapter

The Covered Bridge Art Gallery in Contoocook is proud to host a multimedia art exhibition featuring works by the New Hampshire Chapter of the Women's Caucus for Art, from April 12 through June 14.

The non-thematic exhibition will feature 22 regional artists. The exhibit was planned as a non-juried show, allowing any member of WCA-NH to participate.

An opening reception for the artists and public will be held on April 12, 7:00-9:00 pm. For further information, call 746-4996. The gallery is located in Fountain Square, Contoocook, open daily 10:00-5:00, closed Sunday and Wednesday.

WCA is a major national organization for women in the visual arts profession. Founded in 1972, the WCA has worked to further the women's art movement. Although the NH Chapter has been in existence for only a year and a half, its membership has steadily grown. In addition to organizing exhibition opportunities, WCA-NH has also provided members with conferences focusing on self promotion, networking strategies, and a forum that celebrates the diversity of women in the visual arts.

## THE COZY CORNER

by Mildred Schmidt



At long last, April has arrived and daylight savings time is not far behind. No more cabin fever; no more children's wet clothes and boots; no more lost hats or gloves; no more heavy boots! Hurray for Moms everywhere!

### Cajun Veggie Chili

*When adding the garlic, cook for two minutes only over low heat to prevent burning. Be sure to mellow the spices by cooking them so they won't be harsh.*

- |                                                               |                                                                   |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2 Tbsp olive oil                                              | 2 cans (15 1/4 oz) black eyed peas or black beans                 |
| 1 lg onion, peeled, cut in 1/4" dice                          | 1 C cooked corn kernels                                           |
| 1 green pepper, seeded, in 1/4" dice                          | 1 lg bunch fresh spinach, washed, stems removed, coarsely chopped |
| 1 red bell pepper, seeded, in 1/4" dice                       | Salt and freshly ground black pepper                              |
| 1 Tbsp minced garlic                                          | 2 Tbsp fresh lemon juice                                          |
| 2 1/2 Tbsp chili powder                                       | cooked white rice, for serving                                    |
| 1 Tbsp ground cumin                                           | 1/2 C nonfat plain yogurt                                         |
| 1 28-oz can plum tomatoes, crushed                            |                                                                   |
| 2 tsp dried thyme                                             |                                                                   |
| 4 scallions, with 3" green left on, thinly sliced on diagonal |                                                                   |

Place the oil, onion and peppers in a large heavy pot over low heat. Cook, stirring occasionally, for 10-12 minutes or until the vegetables are very soft. Add garlic; cook two minutes longer. Add chili powder and cumin; cook, stirring, for 1 minute.

Add the tomatoes and thyme; simmer over medium heat for 10 minutes. Add the black-eyed peas and corn; cook, stirring occasionally, for 10 minutes longer.

Remove from the heat. Add the spinach and stir until it is well combined and wilted. Season generously with salt and pepper and stir in the lemon juice.

Serve over white rice, garnished with a dollop of yogurt and sprinkled with scallions.

### Connecticut Valley Model Railroad Show

The Connecticut Valley Railroad Show will be held on Sunday, April 13, 10:00-4:00 at Lebanon High School. Take exit 18 off I-89 and follow signs. There will be many operating trains and dealers selling model R.R. supplies, as well as workshops, door prizes, and a video room. Admission: \$2.00/adult, \$1.00/child, or \$5.00/family.  
-- John Granton

### Sunapee-Ragged-Kearsarge Greenway Coalition hikes for April

Amphibian Walk in Springfield at MacDaniel's Marsh. April date will be determined by when amphibians appear. Call Cynthia Bruss (763-4570) for details; leave name and number.

Saturday, April 19. Four-mile hike through the Minks Chandler Reservation. Contact Peter Sabin (456-3473) for details.



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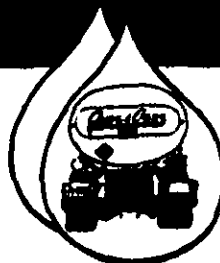
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# GARDENING

by Fred Winch



The last half of March has been more like the end of February than our usual March weather. In February, the east foundation of the house was bordered by budded hyacinths and jonquils, encouraged by the 1700 quarried granite foundation. I was certain we would have some heavy crusted snow and if not that, wind which would batter the buds. So I covered them with a fluffy covering of wheat straw. As of this writing, they are covered with a deep layer of snow and icy crust. I would like to expose several of the budded clumps to be visible for Easter Sunday. It would be nice, but I'll not risk it. It is amazing the influence of a 12-inch thick granite wall whose inside surface is exposed to the furnace room! Spring always tends to be early on that wall. The early bloom is appreciated!

In spite of the March winds, very cold and persistent this year, I tend to start my "big three," the tomatoes, peppers and eggplants, early in the house. This year I was held back a few days by visitors in the extra bedroom. It was March 21 when the seeds were sown in a large plastic tray in which a thermocally controlled heating coil was placed on the bottom and covered with a good potting mix as a base. Then a thin layer of seed starting mix -- mostly milled sphagnum -- was wet down and the seeds drilled into several rows and labeled. Then covered by a quarter inch more of the starting mix, tamped down and liberally moistened. The tray was then covered with a stiff clear plastic cover, the heating coil plugged in, and my fingers crossed. Some of the tomato seeds were three years old, some pepper two years old, and eggplant packed for 1997.

After planting, it's always an "itchy" wait to see just how the sowing will turn out. The heat coil is set for 70°-75° F and it really works. Tomatoes respond quickly. V-Roma popped up smartly in four days. Brandywine in five, all the rest of the 12 varieties were up in six days, and both new and old tomato seeds were vigorous. As expected, peppers and eggplant are taking longer -- they always do, but there are some of each of the varieties pushing up as I write. I may not have planted as early as usual, but with the heat from below, the suspense was shortened.

Last year I inherited several pots of "spent" Easter Lilies, which I kept watered for a few weeks, then put in the cold frame to fend for themselves. With the well-distributed rains (except for August), the plants ran their course, dying back before September. Before heavy frosts, I knocked them out of the pots, removed the soil, dried them off and stored them in the cellar. The first of the year, I

planted the bulbs and though my timing was off, for Easter they are well-budded and will bloom in a week or ten days. It's worth trying if one has the space.

While waiting for spring, I leafed through the myriad of catalogs looking for the oddball item. Once a little outsized and not in color stood out with notable artwork. It is a sales pitch for a nursery established in 1924 and devoted to hardy fruits and plants. It is in the coolest part of upstate New York, less than forty miles from Quebec. As would be expected, its products must be hardy since the local climate usually has low temperatures of -30° to -40°. There are 75 varieties of apples originating from Alaska and Alberta to Minnesota and Quebec, as well as Russia; some old and some very new. The selection of cherries and grapes is much more limited. Also, there are hardy nut trees, yard trees, and berried shrubs. If you are inured to the northern climate of middle New Hampshire and long for fruits that are frost-free, get a copy of the catalog of the St. Lawrence Nurseries, Potsdam, NY 13676, or worldwide web: <http://www.sln.potsdam.ny.us>. It's worth a look for those jaded by the backward spring!

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### SELECTMEN, from page 17

They also brought up the issue of maintaining Class VI roads, inquiring how the Selectmen feel about the Conservation Commission performing maintenance on these roads. Teele noted that five or six major class VI roads have suffered severe weather damage and must be repaired even to handle walkers. He commented that preservation is a small annual cost, while repairs involve substantial expenditures. Selectman Pickman reminded them of a previous discussion where it was suggested that the Conservation Commission draft an ordinance.

Teele reported that the 911 map issue is still unresolved. The State Emergency 911 Office generated a map which did not reflect the details that had been agreed upon. He expressed frustration with the process and said he'd make just one more attempt to get a map with the necessary details.

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# April Calendar

## Tuesday, April 1

ZBA, Town Hall, 7:00

Fish & Game, Lake Todd Clubhouse, 7:00

Library Trustees, Library, 7:15

## Wednesday, April 2

PTC, Bradford Elementary, 7:00  
"You, Your Children, and Drugs," a panel discussion. All invited to attend.

## Friday, April 4

Broadway Bound, The Variety Show, High School, 7:00; see article, page 3

## Saturday, April 5

Historical Society, Old Post Office, 1:30-3:00 or by appointment, call 938-5386.

## Monday, April 7

Cemetery Trustees, 9:00 am, call 938-5386

Selectmen's meeting, Town Hall, 7:00

## Tuesday, April 8

KRSD School Board, High School, 7:15

Planning Board, Town Hall, 7:30

Public hearing for Good Night Sand & Gravel Co.

## Wednesday, April 9

Revolving Loan Com., Town Hall, 7:00

Economic Opportunity Committee, Town Hall, 7:00

## Thursday, April 10

Bradford-Newbury Workshop, Friendship House, 11:00 am

## Friday, April 11

Whist, Church Vestry, 7:30

Prize, refreshments; sponsored by Fire Dept.

## Saturday, April 12

Historical Society, Old Post Office, 1:30-3:00 or by appointment, call 938-5386.

## Monday, April 14

Selectmen's meeting, Town Hall, 7:00

## Tuesday, April 15

Free Reiki clinic, Bradford. Call for details, 938-5394.

Bradford Women's Club Guest Night, Church Vestry, 7:30. "Women and Money" with Jane Dumais. Everyone Welcome.

Conservation Commission, Town Hall, 7:30

## Wednesday, April 16

Road Committee, Town Hall, 7:00

O.E.S. St. Peter's Lodge, 7:30

## Thursday, April 17

School/Family Assembly, Bradford Elementary, 2:00

## Saturday, April 19

Historical Society, Old Post Office, 1:30-3:00 or by appointment, call 938-5386.

## Monday, April 21

Selectmen's meeting, Town Hall, 7:00

Bradford Business Association, Church Vestry, 7:00

## Tuesday, April 22

KRSD School Board, High School, 7:15

## Friday, April 25

Whist, Church Vestry, 7:30

Prizes, refreshmentst; sponsored by the Food Pantry

## Saturday, April 26

Historical Society, Old Post Office, 1:30-3:00 or by appointment, call 938-5386.

## Sunday, April 27

Dolls and Dollhouses: An Exhibition. Candlelite Inn, 2:00-5:00.

## Monday, April 28

Selectmen's meeting, Town Hall, 7:00

To list events for the month of May, call Tom or Nancy Scribner, 938-2286.

## Classified Ads

**ART CLASSES.** Reverse on glass/tinsel painting. Beginners: no artistic talent required. 5-week series, Wednesdays, 7:00-9:00, April 9 - May 7. All supplies included. Class size limited. \$50. To enroll now, call Marge Fritsch, 938-2029 after 6:00 pm. Be creative ... enjoy a new easy hobby.

**HANDYMAN.** Carpet shampooing, ceramic tile, interior and exterior paint, outside landscaping, backhoe work. Call Jim Roy, 428-7630.

**HELP WANTED.** Local produce stand needs conscientious, punctual full and part-time help that is good with the public. Hours to include some Sundays. Reply to P.O. Box 359, Bradford, with telephone number and name.

**LOOKING FOR FREE PARTS.** 1970s Int. Harvester Cub Cadet 125 ... mower, snowblower, sicklebar, whatever. Please call eves, 938-5247.

**HELP WANTED.** Ramp truck operator, FT/PT, good driving record a must, CDL not required. Call 938-2623.

**FOR SALE.** Cedar clapboards, 35 cents per lineal foot. Call 938-2539.

**FOR SALE.** Two ash beams, dried; 6" x 8" by 12.5 ft. \$70 apiece or B.O. Call 938-2692.

**FOR SALE.** Treadmill, Voit model 500MD, never used!! \$100. Call 938-2876.

**FOR SALE.** 1977 Chevy half-ton 4WD pickup. Mechanically good, starting to show rust, '84 engine with low miles. \$1,500. Call 938-2095 or 938-2258.

**CHILD CARE.** I would like to watch your child in my home. Infant to preschool age, days. Call 938-2091. Ask for Melaney or leave message.

**FOR SALE.** 1978 Dodge 4X4, V8, 4-speed. 87,000 mi, step side, many new parts. Runs great. \$1,500 or B.O. Call 938-2480 or (days only) 286-8973.

**PET CARE.** I will care for your animals in my home ... daily, weekly, monthly. Large and small animals welcome; reasonable prices. Call 428-7630.

**HELP.** The Bradford Police Department needs a donation of an IBM compatible computer system that can be upgraded to at least a 486DX at a minimal cost. Please call 938-2522 if you can help.

**FOR SALE.** Overhead garage door, 7' x 9', with complete hardware, \$50. Prehung 5-panel metal clad door, 3' x 6'8", \$50. Call 938-2190.

To place a FREE classified ad, please call Beth Rodd at 938-2692.