



# THE BRADFORD BRIDGE

PROFILE

Marty and Sue Bunis,  
owners of Purple Finch Beads  
See page 13

Volume 7, Number 12; Issue 78

December 1997

## Christmas in the Country

Twinkling lights and luminaries will light the way up Main Street as the town of Bradford kicks off the holiday season on Saturday, December 13. "The Twelve Days of Christmas" is the theme for this year's celebration, which will be capped at 7:00 pm on its opening day with an old-fashioned Christmas Siroll and Caroling. Along with this comes the traditional Hanging of the Greens at the Town Hall. The Melody Makers will lead the carolers to the Thistle and Shamrock Inn and back to the Town Hall for hot chocolate and cookies.

Earlier on the 13th, activities include the Bradford Women's Club Chili and Chowder Fest, Story Hour at Brown Memorial Library, Santa's Outlet, Book Fair, and Cookie Sale at Bradford Elementary School, a craft fair at the Thistle and Shamrock Inn, and an Open House at local stores and antique shops ... promising a full day and evening!

On Sunday, December 14, there's a sing-along concert of Handel's *Messiah* at the First Baptist Church and Dickens' *A Christmas Carol* at the Town Hall, sponsored by Moon Mountain Arts.

During the week, there are plenty of craft workshops to help everyone along with their Christmas list, ranging from reverse painting on glass to making an appliqued stocking, a boxwood Christmas tree, beeswax candles, a Christmas tree placemat, and gifts from the kitchen. The Bradford-Newbury Kindergarten and Preschool will hold a Children's Christmas Pageant at 6:30 pm on Thursday, December 18 at the Town Hall.

The second weekend proves to be just as busy. On Saturday, December 20, there's a Winter Sports Day with x-country skiing and

■ See CHRISTMAS, page 15

## Bradford's property tax rate soars 16.5%

According to Bradford's Board of Selectmen, the steep increase in the property tax bills mailed to residents in early November is the result of inaccurate revenue projections; expenditures have been held to budgeted amounts. Last year's rate was \$27.03; this year's is \$31.48 (\$1.81 county, down from \$2.01; \$19.05 school, up from \$18.08; \$10.62 town, up from \$6.94). Many factors contributed to the increase, but the fact that a bridge reconstruction was planned but not built during 1997 is the major culprit. Not completing the project has resulted in complex accounting issues.

First, to understand the bridge delay ... The NH Dept. of Transportation instituted a new quality-based procedure for selecting engineering firms. It took until December 1996 to complete this process. Personnel changes in the Selectmen's office in early 1997 resulted in additional delays. 1997 was spent developing preliminary engineering drawings. Because of problems with an earlier bridge constructed during the winter, the Road Committee agreed that bridge construction should be postponed until the spring of 1998.

Now to the financial tangle ... At the 1996 Town Meeting, residents approved \$250,000 to reconstruct two bridges. The warrant article was contingent on receiving 80% state bridge aid and was written to carry forward for five years to allow sufficient time to design and complete the projects. The 1996-97 revenue projections used to calculate last year's tax rate were overly optimistic because Selectmen anticipated receiving \$200,000 in bridge aid. However, the state monies cannot be applied for until the project is completed. In addition, optimistic revenue

■ See TAXES, page 9



Performing in *A Christmas Carol*, Charles Dickens' classic holiday story, are: (front row, left to right) Maggie Dayton, Jessica Fillmore, Jill Pinard, Tillie Wheeler; (back row, left to right) John Harris, Fred Hubley, Ruth-Ann Harris, John Signorino, Debbie Lamach, Greg Johnson; not pictured, Carol Tonkin.

The final performance will be held Sunday, December 14, at 7:00 pm on the Bradford Town Hall stage. Tickets will be available at the door.

## Results of "What Ifs" Presentations/Voting by J.R. Harris

The Bradford Economic Opportunities Committee held three public meetings to solicit input on the "What Ifs" that were described in last month's *Bridge* (please refer to that issue for detailed descriptions of each proposed project). The first meeting, on October 20, was with the Bradford Business Association, and the meetings on November 13 and 20 were held in the Town Hall. The Committee was gratified to see the strong turnout for this presentation concerning Bradford's future. Following discussion of the Committee's approach to economic development and an explanation and discussion of the alternatives, participants were asked to indicate their preference for each of the eleven alternatives. Each voter was asked to rank the eleven projects from highest priority to lowest, and also place a "no" for a project to which they objected.

■ See BEOC, page 10

### NOTICE

Effective January 1, 1998, the Bradford Police Dept. will discontinue the local emergency line: 938-2422.

Any person requiring emergency contact with the Bradford Police Dept. should dial 911. To speak to an officer for a non-emergency situation, dial the non-emergency number, which will continue to be 938-2522, and leave a message.

*Living in Bradford*

## Master Plan Public Hearing

Tuesday, December 9  
7:30 pm, Town Hall

It is recommended  
that you review the  
document prior to the  
meeting.

**OBITUARY****Ethel Best**

Ethel "Woody" Lawledge Best, 76, former co-owner of a New Hampshire Inn, died in September at West Jersey Hospital, Voorhees, NJ.

A Voorhees resident for the last ten years, she was born and raised in Ottawa.

She and her husband co-owned the Bradford Inn in Bradford, NH, from 1976 to 1983. While living in Philadelphia, she was a secretary for the Center City Residents Association from 1974 to 1975, and then worked as a systems analyst for Obermeyer, Rebmaum, Maxwell & Hipple in Philadelphia from 1975 to 1976.

Before her marriage, she worked as a public relations specialist for the Canadian Welfare Council and, during World War II, in the foreign exchange division of the Bank of Canada in Ottawa. She also had worked as a systems analyst for I.L. Crane Limited, a division of Moore Business Forms, in Canada. She worked for the Girl Scouts in the 1940s and Big Brothers of America in the 1960s.

Mrs. Best and her husband co-chaired the Haddonfield Assembly, a dance organization, in 1986 and 1987. She also was a volunteer for many organizations, including the Women's Auxiliary of the University of Pennsylvania Hospital, and had been a host and on the Women's Board of the Doylestown Hospital in Doylestown, Pa.

She is survived by her husband of 44 years, Thomas C.; a daughter, Kathryn Lynn Rago; and three grandchildren.

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## First Baptist Church ADVENT DAY ACTIVITIES

Sat, December 6, 10:00 - noon

Free Make & Take Crafts for  
kids - Church Vestry

Craft & Bake Sale - Fiske House

5:00 pm  
**HAM & BEAN SUPPER**  
Adults, \$6  
Children under 12, \$3

For information, call the church office  
at 938-5313.

**Master Plan Hearing on December 9**

The Master Plan Update Committee has completed its work and given the document to the Planning Board for final approval. The opportunity for adjustment to meet suggestions of the community/public comes on one occasion: The Master Plan Hearing. This will be held at the Town Hall on Tuesday, December 9, at 7:30 pm.

Copies of the document are available at the Town Hall and Library and each committee that gave input has one.

We are looking forward to having many people, interested in the future of Bradford, at this hearing. It is recommended that you review the document before coming to the meeting.

**Trail maps for sale**

The Bradford Conservation Commission has recently completed a trail map of the town, showing the trails that presently exist and their uses. The map also identifies historic sites in town.

Through the combined efforts and hard work of Perry Teele and Meg Fearnley, these maps were made possible and are now available for purchase at the cost of \$1.50 per map.

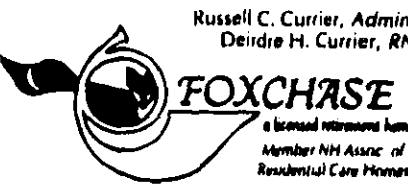
The maps have been distributed to the local inns -- Applesseed, Rosewood, Thistle and Shamrock, Candlelite, Mountain Lake -- where they may be purchased. Maps also may be purchased at Dodge's Store or the Merrimack Farm store or directly from Amy Blitzer or Ann Eldridge. Maps were also distributed to the Bradford Business Association and to the library. --Mary Hopwood

**Bradford-Newbury Workshop**

Bradford-Newbury Workshop will meet on Thursday, December 11, 11:00 am at Friendship House to work on Christmas gifts for residents of Haven Shelter. Potluck and Christmas party at noon. --Clare Bensley

**Candlelite Inn featured in calendar**

The Candlelite Inn has been selected to be featured in the 1998 Bed & Breakfast Calendar, published by Accord Publishing, LTD. The calendar is now being sold throughout thousands of retail outlets across the country.



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

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**News from the Town Clerk and Tax Collector's office****TOWN CLERK**

November 25. Bruce Trudeau and Marilyn Jarret were married.

**TAX COLLECTOR**

Tax bills are due December 12, 1997. After that, interest will be accruing at the rate of 12%.

**TOWN CLERK/TAX COLLECTOR**

The office will be closed on December 26.

Marilyn and I would like to take this opportunity to wish you and yours a Happy Holiday season.

**OFFICE HOURS:** Monday, 2:00-7:00;  
Tuesday, 8:00-5:00; Friday, 8:00-noon.  
Phone: 938-2288, 938-2094.

*Sue Pehrson, Town Clerk and Tax Collector*

**Bradford Post Office news**

Postmaster Mike Ripberger announces that the Bradford Post Office is gearing up to accommodate the increased volume of holiday packages and greetings. Counter hours on Saturdays will be extended until 1:30. In addition, residents are reminded to watch for the flag ... when the U.S. flag is flying, the p.o. box lobby is open.

**Bradford Bridge Subscriptions**

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

The Bradford Bridge  
P.O. Box 463  
Bradford, NH 03221  
Telephone: 938-2286

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Sandy Wadlington, Contributor



# Christmas in the Country

## Twelve Days of Christmas



### CHRISTMAS WORKSHOPS

**December 15 & 16, 7:00-9:00 pm**  
Reverse Glass Painting with Marge Fritsch at the Candlelite Inn. \$65 includes all materials. 938-2029

**December 16, 10:00 am - 1:00 pm**  
Victorian Applied Christmas Stocking with Lynn Horigan at Thistle and Shamrock Inn. \$35 includes all materials and a light luncheon. 938-5553

**December 17, 7:00-9:00 pm;**  
**December 20, 2:00-4:00 pm**  
Boxwood Tree Table Decoration with Marlene Freyler at Marlene's. \$30 includes all materials. 938-2530

**December 17, 1:00-3:00 pm**  
Gifts from the Kitchen at Rosewood Country Inn. \$20. 938-5253

**December 18, 7:00 pm**  
Christmas Tree Placemat with Marcia Strout at Sunshine Farm. \$10 includes materials, bring sewing machine. 938-2716

**December 18, 7:00-9:00 pm**  
Hand-rolled Beeswax Candles with Paula Morse of Wiegelmann Apiaries, at Candlelite Inn \$5.00, purchase what you make. Call for materials list. 938-2776



### Merrimack Farm & Country Store

Bradford, NH 938-2211

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Plants**

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### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13

9:00-4:00 Bradford Elementary School  
Book Fair, Santa's Outlet, Cookie Sale (sponsored by PTC and Bradford Newbury Kindergarten & Preschool)

Odds Bodkin Christmas tales, 11:00 & 1:00 (free)

10:00-4:00  
Premium Gift Extravaganza, Thistle and Shamrock Inn

Christmas specials at local businesses, including Sunshine Farm, Sweet Patch Bakery, Accommodating Beauty, Lumber Barn, Merrimack Farm Store, Blake's Garden Center, Dickie's Bait and Tackle, and Candlelite Inn Gift Shop

11:30-2:00 Thistle & Shamrock Inn  
BWC Chili and Chowder Fest, \$3.00 at the door

3:00 Brown Memorial Library  
Story Hour

4:00 Town Hall  
Santa Claus arrives

7:00 Christmas Stroll  
Hanging of the greens at Town Hall  
Carolling from Town Hall to Thistle and Shamrock Inn with the Melody Makers, followed by hot chocolate and cookies.



### SUNDAY DECEMBER 14

10:00-4:00 Thistle & Shamrock Inn  
Premium Gift Extravaganza

2:30-4:00 First Baptist Church  
Handel's Messiah Sing-In

7:00 Town Hall  
Dickens' *A Christmas Carol* presented by Moon Mountain Arts



### THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18

6:30 Town Hall  
Children's Christmas Pageant, Bradford-Newbury Kindergarten and Preschool

### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 20

8:00-10:00 St. Peter's Lodge  
Hearty Breakfast, served by Masons

10:00-4:00 Thistle & Shamrock Inn  
Premium Gift Extravaganza

10:00-3:00 Library  
Book Sale

1:00-4:00 Winter Sports Day  
(weather permitting)  
Ice skating at Brown Shattuck Field

Skiing and snowshoeing at Rosewood Country Inn

7:00 pm Rosewood Country Inn  
Dickens Christmas Weekend Buffet and Storytelling; \$25 per person, reservations: 938-5253



### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21

1:00-4:00  
Historic Homes Tour (\$5.00 donation). Homes include: Foxchase, Appleseed Inn, Candlelite Inn, Mountain Lake Inn, Dick and Sue Vitale, John and Lynn Tracy, Bob and Addie Stewart, Rosewood Country Inn, Thistle and Shamrock Inn, John and Ruth-Ann Harris.

1:00-3:00  
Free hayrides between Appleseed Inn and Thistle and Shamrock Inn.

5:00-8:00 Thistle & Shamrock Inn  
Festive Holiday Dinner. Hors d'oeuvres in the parlor, followed by four-course dinner in dining room. \$14.25 plus tax & gratuity. Reservation: 938-5553.



### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24

5:00 Bradford Center Meetinghouse  
Annual children's Christmas pageant, followed by hot chocolate and cookies in the Old Schoolhouse. Dress warmly!

7:00 First Baptist Church  
Christmas Eve Service

# Letters

To the editor:

The Bradford Skateboard Park would like to thank Dick Parrish, Ken Ward, the Selectmen, the Parks and Recreation Committee, and all of the parents and kids who helped to get the existing Park up and running again.

We are a six-member committee whose purpose is to build a new skateboard park in Bradford. We gladly accept donations, which can be mailed to: Bradford Skateboard Park Committee, Bradford, NH.

Anyone interested in joining our committee, please contact Deborah B. at 938-5807.

Larry Hall, Chairman  
Corey Noble, Treasurer  
Deborah Bernacchia, Secretary



## Card of Thanks

Sincere thanks from the family of Grace S. Hersey for all the kindness, comforting words, love and support shown to us during this sad time. The phone calls, cards, flowers, and donations to Bradford Rescue Squad and Sutton Rescue Squad are very much appreciated.

Special thanks to Sutton F. A. S. T., Bradford Rescue Squad, Dr. Louis Kowalski, New London Hospital Emergency Room Staff, Pastor Lynne Hubley, Chadwick Funeral Service, Rev. Herschel Rogers, and Ladies of First Freewill Baptist Church of North Sutton. God bless you all.

Karl & Marlene (Hersey) Scribner

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## Soo-Nipi Audubon Chapter news

Do you have 10-15 favorite slides of birds or other natural history subjects that you would be willing to share with the Soo-Nipi Audubon Chapter audience on Friday, December 12, 7:30 pm, at St. Andrews Episcopal Church, Gould Road, New London? If so, please come and be part of our "Slide Potpourri" program and help provide an exciting variety for our viewers.

By the time the program date rolls around, there will be only twelve more shopping days until Christmas, so bluebird enthusiast Bruce Burdett will bring bluebird houses and kits, reasonably priced, for your Christmas giving. We will be seeing and hearing from Bruce again, in February, when he will present a bluebird program.

In keeping with the season, tasty Christmas goodies will be prepared and served by our volunteers.

On Saturday, December 20, the Soo-Nipi Audubon Chapter will conduct its eighth annual Christmas Bird Count in a program sponsored by the National Audubon Society. The tallied results will be printed in its publication, entitled "American Birds," and also in our own Audubon Society New Hampshire winter publication, "Bird Records."

Teams of observers will cover the towns of Sunapee, New London, Newbury, Newport, Sutton and Springfield. This Lake Sunapee Area Count Circle is one of 19 in New Hampshire. Last year, 37 species were recorded for a total of 1805 individuals. Record high totals for this area were noted for hooded and common mergansers, rock dove, blue jay, common raven, golden crowned kinglet, American tree sparrow, and red crossbill, with a cedar waxwing being a new "count" species for us.

Volunteers are always needed and, at day's end, participants meet over supper to compile results of birds seen in fields, roadsides, waterways, and feeders. To volunteer and/or obtain information, please call chairman Gary Stansfield, 863-8737. --Phyllis Curtiss



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### Bradford 4th Coordinating Committee

The Bradford Business Association proposed formation of a non-profit organization (Bradford Community Events, Inc.) as reported in last month's *Bridge*. Another meeting was held on November 19 to discuss the response from each of the Town's various fund-raising organizations. The organizations represented indicated their members were in favor of proceeding with coordination for events. It was decided to leave the decision as to formation of a non-profit to the representatives from each group at their first meeting. The BBA's representative, Gary Wall, will contact each group to set the meeting date. For now, the name of the group will be the "Bradford 4th Coordinating Committee," as the 4th is the first event which needs planning to get underway ... particularly the parade portion and plans for promotion.

### DUMONT'S BARBER SHOP

Wednesdays 8:00 -6:00

Main Street Denis Dumont, Owner

### BWC Update

We had a good turnout at our membership meeting on November 18, held at the Thistle and Shamrock Inn. Chef Jim Horigan demonstrated how to make different kinds of Biscotti. Jim was very patient and answered all our questions. Afterward, everyone enjoyed sandwiches and cookies, supplied by our hospitality group, as well as the fantastic biscotti made by Jim.

The lighting of the BWC Christmas tree will be held on Saturday, December 6.

Don't forget to join us once again for our famous Chili and Chowder Fest. It will be held at the Thistle and Shamrock Inn on Saturday, December 13 from 11:00-2:00.

Attention all boys and girls!! Santa will be at Town Hall on December 13, at 4:00 pm. Cookies and cocoa will be served. Pictures will be taken with Santa. We need BWC elves to bake cookies.

Everyone is invited to come and have fun on the FREE BWC HAYRIDE, on Sunday, December 21. The Hayride will be from the Applesseed Restaurant to the Thistle and Shamrock Inn between noon and 3:00 pm.  
--Doris Tremblay, Pres.

### Friends of Brown Memorial Library news

The Friends of Brown Memorial Library announce the retirement of three board members: Vice President Pauline Dishmon, secretary Chris Lincoln, and treasurer, John Forgiel. Friends President Audrey Sylvester said, "These three people worked hard during the tedious business of writing bylaws and establishing our nonprofit status. Their knowledge, ideas, and interest were essential. They are and were good friends."

At the November 19 meeting, the following appointments were made to fill the unexpired terms of office: Jan Riley, Treasurer; Susan Farber, Secretary; and Laurie Buchar, Vice President. Audrey Sylvester will continue as President.

**SAVE THE DATES!** On Wednesday, January 21 at 6:00 pm, Friends meeting; at 7:00 pm, our neighbor, Bill Hatt will present a talk, "Finding What You Need on the Internet." Howard Brooks will join in the presentation. The Winter Book Discussions, Granite State Stories, will begin on February 2 and continue on February 12.

# 4TH ANNUAL MESSIAH SING-IN

Sunday, December 14  
2:30 - 4:00 pm

First Baptist Church, Bradford

Ernie Mills, Conductor  
Joe Chapline, Organist

COME TO SING - COME TO ENJOY  
ALL WELCOME

Books, stories, toys, food ...

### Bradford PTC Book Fair

The Bradford PTC Book Fair will take place on Saturday, December 13 from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm at the Bradford Elementary School. Vendors will include American Girl, Discovery Toys, and a Santa's Outlet, sponsored by the Bradford-Newbury Cooperative Kindergarten. There will be books, food, toys, grab bags and gifts for everyone.

Odds Bodkin will perform Christmas tales at 11:00 am and 1:00 pm ... free admission for all.



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a lot out of the ordinary!*

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BRADFORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE



## Church News

*from Lynne E. Hubley*

Many thanks to the individuals and groups in our community who generously supported our Thanksgiving Basket project. Thanks to all of you, we delivered thirty baskets to needy families. THANK YOU!

**American Baptist Women's Ministries.** The ABWM will meet Tuesday, December 2 at 7:00 pm in the vestry. A short business meeting will be held to finalize plans for the craft and bake sale on December 6. The Advent program for the evening is entitled "Rejoice the Lord is Near!" This will include a Love Gift Offering. A short amount of time will be spent making felt stockings to be given to our children at Christmas Eve.

**Computer Club.** On Wednesday, December 3 from 7:00 - 9:00 pm in the vestry, people are invited to come and learn how to make Christmas cards using beautiful graphics on the computer.

**Bible Study.** Our Thursday evening Bible study will be held December 4 and 11 during Advent. On December 4, we will study one of the Proverbs and on December 11, we will watch the video "Jesus: The Story Begins." We will then take a break until January 8.

**Advent Craft Day.** On Saturday, December 6 from 10:00 am to noon, children of all ages are invited to come to the vestry and make Christmas swags, candles, cookies, candies and ornaments. Participants can take home everything they make. During the same hours, the ABWM will be selling crafts and baked goods in the Fiske House.

**Ham and Bean Supper.** Come and enjoy a delicious dinner on Saturday, December 6 at 5:00 pm. The menu will be ham, baked beans, cole slaw, potato salad, rolls, gingerbread, whipped cream, cider, coffee and tea. Tickets for adults are \$6.00 and for children, \$3.00. You can call the church office for reservations, 938-5313.

**Women's Christian Guild.** The ladies will meet in the church vestry on Monday, December 15 at 10:30 am to wrap Christmas presents for needy families. Participants are asked to bring a sandwich. Dessert and coffee will be served.

**Food Pantry.** Our Food Pantry will distribute Christmas baskets on Wednesday, December 17 from 6:00-7:00 pm. Monetary donations as well as food donations are always welcome. Food items needed: cans of juice, fruit, beef stew, soups, vegetables, rice, spaghetti sauce, spaghetti, toothpaste and toilet paper.

**Christmas Caroling.** Everyone is welcome to meet at the parsonage Sunday afternoon, December 21 at 3:00 to go Christmas caroling on Main Street. We will then return to the parsonage to enjoy hot cocoa, Christmas cookies, and a Christmas sing-a-long. We will end about 4:30.

**Christmas Eve Candlelight Service.** Our service will begin at 7:00 pm on Christmas Eve. Adults and children will put on a program entitled "My Dear Lord Gave to me ..." This program is based on the familiar song, "The Twelve Days of Christmas," and combines the traditional pageant with a modern interpretation of the song. As always, we will light candles and sing our favorite Christmas hymns.

**Youth Groups.** Our youth groups will meet on Sunday, December 28, grades 4-6, 1:30-3:00; grades 7-12, 3:00-4:30. This will be a New Year's party, complete with all kinds of goodies, including a toast with sparkling apple cider. We will play Blind volleyball, password, my ship sails, and New Year's charades.



**APPLESEED RESTAURANT**

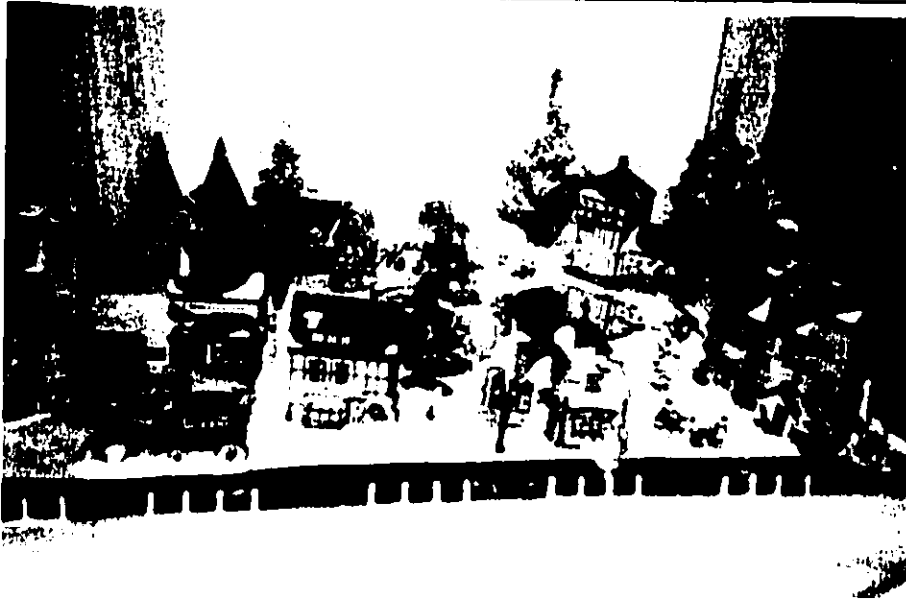
*Overlooking Lake Todd*

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS**

*from the family & staff of the Appleseed*

Member, Bradford Business Association

**938-2100**



*DICKENS' LONDON, 1840. Russell and Dee Currier, owners of Foxchase Retirement Home, cordially invite young and old to see a model of 1840's London, featuring characters from Dickens' novels. Open houses are Wednesdays, December 3, 10 and 17 from 7:00-8:00 pm, and Saturdays, December 6, 13, and 20 from 2:00-4:00. Voluntary donations will be given to area food pantries. Foxchase is located on Route 114 in South Sutton, 938-5111.*



# STATE HOUSE NEWS

By Marcia Keller

Time for a final wrap-up of legislation passed during the 1997 session just in time for the January convening of the 1998 Legislature. The usual caution prevails to contact your local legislators or the New Hampshire Municipal Association (NHMA) at 224-7447 for copies of all bills in order to understand the impact.

**Chapter 237** (HB 130, eff. 8/18/97) provides that county prisoners can perform unpaid public service on municipally owned property. The superintendent of the correctional facility can arrange with local officials for such work to be done with the prisoners in the custody of the superintendent or a designee.

**Chapter 41** (HB 216, eff. 7/11/97) amends RSA 32, the Municipal Budget Act, by adding the notation that the validity of any warrant article lawfully made will not be affected if the governing body or the budget committee has failed to note their recommendations as required by the statute.

**Chapter 79** (HB 249, eff. 1/1/98) provides a needed clarification to RSA 676:17-a,II dealing with the authority to issue cease and desist orders against local planning and zoning violations. The sentence added reads "Personal service may be made by a sheriff, deputy sheriff, local police officer, or constable." Until passage of this amendment, there had been no clear statutory authority for personal service of such cease and desist orders.

**Chapter 219** (HB 731, eff. 1/1/98) is a very complex new law that deals with taxation of sand and gravel excavations. The value of all "earth" (sand and gravel) is exempt from the property tax. Two new taxes, an "excavation tax" and an "excavation activity tax," are imposed. Both taxes are payable to the local community. However, the overall program is administered and enforced by the Department of Revenue Administration (DRA).

The process initiated by this legislation will substantially alter the way in which sand and gravel operations are handled, assessed, and taxed. Local assessors and tax collectors will need to follow closely the administrative rules that are to be adopted by DRA and attend to the education of local officials for which DRA is responsible.



57 Jones Rd. Bradford NH (603) 938-2386



## Blake's Garden Center

Are you looking for a unique gift? Would a special friend or relative enjoy a fresh new landscape design, or some beautiful new shrubs, trees, or perennial plantings around their home? It's a gift that will increase in value, and remind them of your thoughtfulness throughout the years. A gift certificate from Blake's Garden Center for the holidays or any other special occasion in their life will set their dreams in motion and give them warm thoughts of springtime throughout the cold winter months. We are open Wednesday through Sunday 9am to 5pm, or call us anytime at 938-2386. Give a gift that will last a lifetime!

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# The Kidz Corner

By: Maggie Dayton  
and Aryn Conway

Hi! It's us again! We've been very busy looking for Christmas cookie recipes from around the world, and we've finally found the right one. They are called Fucre (sweet in French) Snowballs. They are very tasty! We hope you enjoy them!

## Fucre Snowballs

ingredients: 1/2 cup powered sugar; 1/2 cup butter, softened; 1 teaspoon vanilla; 1 cup flour; 1/4 cup powered sugar to roll finished cookies in.

utensils: a large mixing bowl; a wooden spoon; a saucer; a plate.

Preheat oven to 400 degrees.

Put softened butter in mixing bowl. Use wooden spoon to blend 1/2 cup powered sugar into butter. Gradually stir in flour. Dough will get crumbly when flour is added, so mix dough with hands. Form 1 inch balls and place on cookie sheet. Bake for 10 minutes or until golden brown. While cookies are baking, put 1/4 cup powered sugar in saucer. When cookies are done, scoop off pan and let cool for 1 minute. Then roll in powered sugar. When cookies are completely cool, roll in sugar again. Yield: 24 snowballs.

See you next time and hope you have a very merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!! Happy Holidays!!



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## Legislative Report

by Representative  
Bernie Lamach



The amazing recent birth of the septuplets received a major amount of media time. To emphasize good news, I think it ought to be mentioned that none of the seven were abandoned, abused, born out of wedlock, Aids, or drug affected or any of the other maladies that normally make the news. We can properly direct our attentions to the well-being and success of their continued lives. A beautiful focus for Christmas.

These days the legislature is active in the study and drafting of bills held over from the last session. Action will be taken on these "re-referred" bills early in January after we begin the new session.

Of note are numerous bills that cover the various scenarios that might happen with the electric utility deregulation. My committee (Science, Technology and Energy) is the focal point of these bills. We need to have in place sufficient legislation to cover whatever the perceived result will be after the PUC and the litigation are finished.

These issues are not easy as they affect the lives and prosperity of many people. One of the great concerns I have is to consider the effects that reorganization will have on the tax base. The utilities represent a large part of many towns' assessments and changes of ownership or municipalization could largely affect the tax rate. As we struggle to make our various towns and areas economically attractive, we don't want to inadvertently disrupt the local tax base, even though we advocate lower energy costs.

I have two re-referred bills from last year. One deals with electronic or digital signatures and the other considers a little-known refunding of road-toll taxes.

I have entered a new bill for consideration, the study and perhaps construction of a visitors' center for the Sunapee area, in Bradford. I believe our proximity at the intersection of two state highways, 103 and 114, which both feed tourists into this area, make us a natural gateway to the Sunapee region. It could not only help the local economy, but promote the many attractions of this side of the state.

I look forward to continuing this column as we get into the work of the next session. Let me take this opportunity to wish you all a happy and joyous holiday season!

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**TAXES, continued from page 1**

projections from other sources resulted in a total revenue shortfall of \$224,810, in spite of the fact that tax revenues were right on target.

The town's financial statement includes an account entitled "appropriation carry-forward." This is monies appropriated, but not spent. The Town books show the bridges' \$250,000 as an unreserved fund balance. According to standard accounting practices, this money should be applied against the tax rate. However, NH Dept. of Revenue Administration policy allows a carry-forward item to be applied against the tax rate only once, and that occurred with last year's budget. Therefore, using DRA's procedure, the bridges' fund balance has not been applied to this year's tax rate. In Bradford, \$81,000 is raised for every \$1.00 in the tax rate. This means that the town's inability to apply the fund balance accounts for more than half the increase in the tax rate.

Finally, towns are allowed to maintain "unrestricted reserves," a "cushion" on their balance. Last year the town's unrestricted reserves of \$160,000 were applied against the tax rate. This kept last year's rate low and meant there were no reserves available this year to offset the increase.

**Winter care for pets**

If your dog has an altercation with a skunk, a mixture of common household products will neutralize the odor. These ingredients CANNOT be premixed, but should be kept on hand. Mix one quart of 3% hydrogen peroxide, 1/4 cup baking soda, and 1 teaspoon dishwashing soap. Bathe the animal with the mixture, then rinse with tap water.

Remember that alcoholic beverages, holiday treats such as chocolates, rich, fatty food scraps and bones can be harmful to pets. Always have fresh, clean water available for your pet. If it is kept outdoors, check the water frequently since it may freeze.

Approximately 10,000 dogs are poisoned by ethylene glycol (antifreeze and coolants) each year. If untreated, ethylene glycol poisoning most often results in kidney damage and death. Signs of ethylene glycol poisoning include the appearance of a drunken state, listlessness, frequent urination, and excessive thirst. If your dog exhibits any of these signs, or if you suspect it has ingested anti-freeze, see your veterinarian immediately.

**Cookin' with a hot-rod Ford and a \$2 bill**

*by Jack Rivers*

Debbie, our good friend and neighbor, had just snatched up the karaoke form I had half-jokingly filled out and given it to the DJ.

The waterfront nightclub in Newbury was jam-packed. There were amateur performances going on all the time. Some were really excellent. Everybody was handing in those slips. They'd never get to me. Anyway, I could always back out, couldn't I? Some of these kids were better than the original artists. I can't sing. People don't know it, though, because I never do sing. Who does?

A good looking young fellow was just finishing up a soulful confession of how he had "shot the sheriff, but I did not shoot the deputy." His singing and delivery were fine, but people didn't seem to believe him or at least they didn't take his crime all that seriously as they were all talking and making a lot of noise. One had to shout to be heard across the table.

"Jack Rivers," said the DJ. "Oh, no," I moaned, as I ascended the little platform and took one of the mikes.

"Hey, good lookin', what'cha got cookin'? How's about cookin' something up with me?" I pleaded melodiously into the microphone, only slightly off key. Maybe it was the old Hank Williams magic or that country western beat, but folks started to take notice and there seemed to be a lot of smiling going on.

A couple of cute girls got up and did some fancy dancing. That country music back-

ground was irresistible. When I saw attention starting to fade, I'd throw in a little body language -- you know, like the rock stars. Shameless ham.

Thunderous (Yes, it was!) applause followed me back to my seat, by my smiling wife. Why was everybody smiling? It wasn't a funny song. They all seemed to be having such a good time.

The performance that really brought down the house was a stirring rendition of "Loveshack" shouted out by a few college-aged boys and girls. What energy and enthusiasm!

Sometimes in life, especially when it comes to having fun, you just "go for it." That audience was wonderful. They would have loved me even if I had bombed. Hey, wait a minute!

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**BEOC, continued from page 1**

Table 1 shows the combined results of the three meetings. Each entry shows the number of voters awarding a particular rank to a project.

We calculated scores in two ways. The scoring system awards ten points for a number one rank, nine for a two, and so on to one point for a ten. Table 2 shows the total score where the "no's" are disregarded. Table 3 uses the same scoring system, except that a "no" is given a score of minus ten. Thus one "no" exactly offsets a one.

The overall rankings for the two scoring systems are quite similar, except for the two alternatives involving the library. The proposal (6a) for the library being attached to the town offices received 11 "no" votes, while the alternative (6b), the library on the Marshall property, received 19 "no" votes. The other proposal which received a significant number of "no" votes was water and sewer, with 11.

Looking at these expressed preferences, it is clear that the idea of creating a Bradford Green on the Marshall property has widespread and enthusiastic support. The related proposals for establishing a Bradford business park on the 45-acre site where the Transfer Station is located, and of installing water and sewerage within the village area also have wide acceptance ... although the latter also has significant opposition.

It is clear from the number of "no" votes for each library alternative (6a and 6b) that the siting of a new library is controversial, although both proposals also received much positive support. Common to those alternatives is the relocation of town offices to the Central School building, which is a prerequisite to converting the Town Hall into a community center, another proposal which had wide acceptance.

The Economic Opportunities Committee will be meeting on Thursday, December 11, 7:30, at the Town Hall. The first order of business will be to analyze these results more closely and to develop an action plan on the basis of this input from the community.

As was announced at the public meetings, additional volunteers are needed to help complete tasks in the next phase. The tasks include further analysis of the selected projects, identification of funding sources, and preparation of a "first cut" action program. Subcommittees will be formed for each of the selected projects. Anyone interested in participating is urged to contact one of the committee's members: Carol Adams, Diane Gadoury (secretary), John Harris, Roger Herman, Don Johnsen (chairman), Dick Keller, Audrey Sylvester, and Gary Wall. These activities are important to Bradford's future ... and to you and your family ... please volunteer to help out!

Rank	Bradford Water & Sewer		Business Park	Move Hwy & Transfer	Comm Cntr & Police	Town Off & Library	Town Off Sep. Lib	Hist Soc to Lib	Visitors Center	Elderly Housing	Sidewalk & Bike Pth
	Green	Sewer	Park	& Transfer	& Police	& Library	Sep. Lib	to Lib	Center	Housing	& Bike Pth
	1	2	3	4	5	6A	6B	7	8	9	10
1	20	40	7	4	2	5	23	2	1	2	3
2	17	17	12	5	8	14	10	14	3	7	2
3	15	3	21	7	9	10	12	5	8	5	8
4	16	8	9	17	18	7	8	4	6	8	1
5	11	4	10	14	10	6	6	6	7	11	7
6	3	5	8	7	11	7	5	10	9	12	11
7	7	3	4	8	6	3	5	18	10	8	10
8	5	2	6	6	13	3	2	15	10	8	8
9	6	3	3	6	5	0	1	11	12	8	16
10	4	4	2	2	6	12	5	7	12	16	19
NO	0	11	2	8	0	11	19	0	1	7	4
total votes:	104	100	84	84	88	78	96	92	79	92	89

Table 1. Combined project votes

What If	No.	Positive Scores Only
Bradford Green	1	725
Water & Sewer	2	710
Business Park	3	567
Town Offices in Central School & Separate Lib.	6B	566
Community Center/Police	5	476
Hist Society to Library	7	446
Move Transfer Sta/Hwy Dept	4	443
Combined Town Offices & Library	6A	409
Elderly Housing	9	393
Bradford Visitors Center	8	336
Sidewalks & Bike Path	10	331

Table 2. Total scores with "no's" disregarded

What If	No.	Score No = -10
Bradford Green	1	725
Water & Sewer	2	600
Business Park	3	547
Community Center/Police	5	476
Hist Society to Library	7	446
Town Offices in Central School & Separate Lib.	6B	376
Move Transfer Sta/Hwy Dept	4	363
Bradford Visitors Center	8	326
Elderly Housing	9	323
Combined Town Offices & Library in Central School	6A	299
Sidewalks & Bike Path	10	291

Table 3. Total scores with "no's" included



*From the kitchen of  
Lesley Marquis*

Do you believe it? The holidays are already here! And of course, there's never enough time to get everything done. This is an elegant holiday dessert that takes only a few minutes to whip up and is sure to impress your dinner guests (and still leave you a little time to savor the season). Happy holidays from the Rosewood!

**COCONUT EGGNOG PIE**

- 4 cups Baker's Angel Flake coconut
- 1/3 cup butter or margarine, melted
- 2 pkgs (4 serving size) vanilla instant pudding
- 1 1/4 cups milk
- 1/2 cup dark rum
- 1/8 tsp nutmeg
- 8 oz. thawed Cool Whip

Combine 2 2/3 cups of the coconut and the butter. Press evenly into ungreased 9-inch pie plate. Bake at 300 degrees for 15-20 minutes, or until golden brown. Cool.

Combine pudding mix, milk, rum and nutmeg in a bowl. Beat at lowest speed of electric mixer for one minute. Fold in whipped topping and 2/3 cup of coconut. Spoon into crust. Sprinkle with remaining coconut. Chill 2 hours. Decorate with a sprig of holly.

**Library Lantern**  
by Maggi Ainslie

Holiday stories will be a part of the library's Christmas celebration on Saturday, December 13 at 3:00 pm.

More than 100 people came to the lasagna buffet at the Thistle and Shamrock Inn. Thanks to Lynn and Jim Horigan for a night of wonderful food. Our thanks to all who volunteered their time and for making delicious desserts! We have fun at all our events ... and that's what fund-raising should be!

In response to a patron's suggestion, we contacted the telephone company to ask if they provide directories from other parts of the state. They do, and now we have 14 books covering the entire state. Look for them behind the front door as you enter.

Three new books about Josefina, the newest American Girl, have arrived. The time is 1824 and the setting is her family's rancho in New Mexico.

1997 has been a great year for Brown Memorial Library. We are thankful for the continued support we've received this year. We wish each and everyone a healthy and happy holiday season.

Library hours: Monday, 9:30-8:00, Wednesday, 9:30-5:00, Saturday, 9:30-1:30. Telephone: 938-5562.

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**Bradford Business Association  
news**

The Bradford Business Association will hold its December meeting on Monday, December 8 at the Thistle and Shamrock Inn. The business meeting will begin at 7:00 pm, to be followed by a pot luck Christmas party. Members are asked to bring prepared platters of finger foods, hors d'oeuvres, or desserts. Cash bar available.

**Bradford Country Squares**

The Bradford Country Squares will hold a Class Level square dance on Saturday, December 6 at the Bradford Town Hall, 8:00-10:30 pm. Bradford's own caller, Don Bachelder, will call the dance and Ed Phillips will cue. Haven't danced in a while? This is the perfect time to come back and brush up on those calls! Admission is \$4.00 per person. For more information, call 763-4792.

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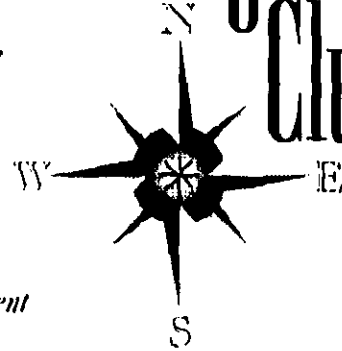
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# At Work ~ At Home

by Audrey V Sylvester

In the "Age of Computers," the owners of *Purple Finch Beads*, Marty and Sue Bunis, sell beads in the modern way--on the Internet. Their electronic mailbox ([www.conknet.com/~m\\_bunis/pfinch](http://www.conknet.com/~m_bunis/pfinch)) is a ten-page illustrated website. There are no paper orders, paper correspondence or paper money. They specialize in unique, vintage glass beads, Swarovski crystal beads, and pendants, which are shipped to customers in Australia, Japan, Europe, Hawaii, and around Mainland USA. Sue examines each bead before packing it; customer satisfaction is guaranteed.

The Bunises fell into the business when Sue wanted to make earrings for herself. They needed reasonably priced beads in a large variety. They discovered a source, larger than they ever expected, in Rhode Island. Vast inventories of discontinued beads were stashed by the hundreds of thousands in poorly lit, dirty multistored warehouses--inventories from former glass-making centers in Czechoslovakia, West Germany, Austria, and occupied Japan (beads dating from 1945 to 1952). Even in the poor lighting, the brilliance of these tiny gems sparkled as grimy box lids were lifted.

Beads in these warehouses are sold only to dealers, by the kilo, pound (2,000 beads), or the mass (1,200 beads). Fascinated with the colors, textures, shapes, and sizes of thousands of beads, their quest for "just a few beads to make earrings" became a large collection. The decision to sell beads was simple: they had enough, but wanted to pay for their own stock and expenses. Determining the name for the business was uncomplicated, but meaningful. The Bunises enjoy watching purple finches at their backyard birdfeeders.



Married for twelve years, Marty and Sue deliberately chose to meet. Each was seeking companionship. Marty took the first chance by placing a personal ad. Sue responded. Their first date, at McDonalds for coffee, was a practical choice for Sue. She said, "I didn't want to get into some long evening with someone I might not want to spend time with." They said ... "and that was that." Sue added, "It's strange. I never hear happy endings with these stories. We're one of the few who got married."

Marty is a happy, busier-than-ever early retiree from Digital Corporation. Moving from Manchester to Bradford in 1990, they chose a home with room for Marty's extensive antique radio collection, "on Main Street where there is little traffic and nobody bothers you."

Even before settling in Bradford, the Bunises have been falling into businesses. Once they bought and sold antiques. The antique radio business happened when Marty discovered 30 to 40 antique radios in their living room. He exclaimed, "Where did they come from? I don't remember buying them." Taking eleven radios to a big sales exposition, he sold ten of them. The man who bought the ten came to his

house, bought the leftover one and nine more. Marty was amused. "This was one heck of a way to earn a living." The collection multiplied. A notebook on radios became ten sweater boxes of 3 x 5 cards (now 30,000 entries). Sue suggested, "Let's write a book." Marty said, "OK." Sending a draft to seven publishers, they received five contracts in the mail. They chose *Collectors Books*, which published the series as the *Collector's Guides to: Antique, Novelty, and Transistor Radios*. Soon their books will be available on a CD ROM. The Bunises also established the New England Antique Radio Club, which has 650 members around the world.

Both are avid readers. Marty became a trustee of Brown Memorial Library. He said, "We know we need a new library. There are so many books downstairs that we can't distribute." The couple wanted to help raise money. They took a simple idea and set up the Library Thrift Shop at the old Central School. Raising \$17,000 in two summers, Marty's contribution earned him the New Hampshire State Library's "Trustee of the Year Award." The Bunises credit the shop's success on the wonderful volunteers, great donations, and great shoppers. "The shop is community recycling. Everybody benefits," he said, and cautioned, "The town is not united yet; people have to get together still."

Since posting the business on the Net in January, the Bunises have been overwhelmed with orders. There are few hours to design and assemble earrings. Would they liquidate their unique inventory to a large buyer? "Not yet," said Marty, "We're having too much fun. ... I greatly advise anyone to retire as fast as you can. Have a lot of fun, do what you want, when you want. Just change your lifestyle a little bit and have a ball."

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# Report on Kearsarge Regional School District

by Mike Hague, Bradford School Board Rep

## School District Outreach to Community

One of the continuing goals of your School Board and District is to encourage as much community involvement with schools as is possible ... and vice versa. To that end, we have added a high school student representative to the Board for every meeting so that we can receive first-hand the student perspective. Each school in the district has an advisory committee to the principal that meets at least monthly and helps give community perspective to the management of each school. The District also has a Character Development Committee that is meeting to explore ways to augment students' positive qualities so that they are less likely to engage in unhealthy behaviors.

## Football

Football had a very successful season as a club sport supported entirely by parents. There is a great deal of local support for continuing the sport, at the least, as an unfunded club sport. The arguments center on increasing the alternatives for students to participate in positive after-school activities. The records so far indicate that very few students would leave other fall sports to play football and that it would appeal to kids who could not excel at soccer. We had 34 high school kids play this year and the estimate for

next year is 50 kids. It would cost about \$12,000 to fund ourselves and would take up field space. What do you think about the addition of another sport if we did not have to pay for it? Contact me at 938-2722 or e-mail, lovmts@aol.com.

## NH Educational Improvement and Assessment Program (NHEIAP)

Last spring, the NHEIAP tests were given to all grade 6 and 10 students in English, math, science and social studies and all grade 3 students in English and math. The test is based on standards set by educators, business people and policy makers in New Hampshire. Because of the way the tests are devised (it's not a standardized test), the test results are not meant to be used to compare different school districts. They are made instead to give individual schools feedback and bench marks so each school can improve its teaching and curriculum over time. Overall our third grade improved from the last year's test in both English and math. The sixth grade improved in English and math and stayed about the same in science and social studies. The tenth grade went down in all areas from last year, significantly so in math. This is an over simplification for the sake of brevity, but the real point is that these results are being used to set priorities in each school, especially when trends are noticed


over the years. It is the use of measurement instruments like this that help to point us in the right direction. I have the detailed results if you would like a copy. (Bradford Elementary did well, improving the percentage of students in the top two categories of tests in both math and English.)

## Sewer-gate

A bad smell has been circulating around parts of the middle school for a long while, the source of which has defied all the best detective work by administrators and plumbers alike. At its worst, it has been a foul fragrance of sizable sweep, at best an inkling of invidious irascibility. A "smoke test" was proposed by several plumbers to locate any break in the plumbing (which is carefully covered with concrete) but the person who was asked replied that he does not work in schools! Sounds like a conspiracy worthy of its own web page! Seriously though, the Lawson Group from Concord has tested the air quality and found it to be fine and an all-night exhaust fan has reduced the smell greatly. But the search for the source of the smell will persist until the situation is resolved!

## Happy Holidays

These holidays are special times for children and it is the innocent joy they bring to the season that makes it so special. It is also time for adults to remember what that joy was like and cause it to continue. Betty, Michael, Christopher and I wish you and your family that joy and all the happiness it brings.



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**CHRISTMAS, from page 1**

snow-shoeing at the Rosewood Country Inn, a hearty breakfast at St. Peter's Lodge, a book sale at the library, premium gift extravaganza at the Thistle and Shamrock Inn, and a Dickens' Christmas Evening with a dinner and fireside storytelling at the Rosewood Country Inn.

Sunday afternoon, December 21, is the Historic Home and Inn Tour, held from 1:00-4:00. Many of the homes along Water Street are included, along with Bradford's four Inns and Foxchase. Tickets may be purchased at any of the Inns. Homes on the tour will be marked with balloons and a complete list is included in the Christmas in the Country brochure. Free wagon rides between the Thistle and Shamrock Inn and the Appleseed Inn are sure to please the little ones. Cut your own Christmas tree at Between the Mountain Farm is offered throughout December. Look for signs.

It all culminates with the annual children's Christmas Pageant at the Union Congregational Meetinghouse in Old Bradford Center at 5:00 pm on Christmas Eve, followed by refreshments in the old schoolhouse. Be sure to dress warmly for this event.

Come visit us as we all celebrate a true Country Christmas!

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NEWBURY-20 acres, westerly views  
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WARNER-53 acres, nice area  
\$85,000

BRADFORD-170 acres, near town  
\$127,500

SUTTON-74 acres, 2400 feet on pond  
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# Then & Now

by Milly Kittredge  
**First Baptist Church**



postcard, after 1904

After organizing in 1821, the Baptist Missionary Society felt ready to build a church. In January 1830, for \$600, the building of the church was contracted. The interior was to be finished by June 1830, including the pews, flooring, stairs, pulpit, plastering, and gallery finished for singers. The outside was to be "well and handsomely painted white, the two outside doors to be mahogany colour."

In 1856, the church remodeling included a low platform replacing the pulpit. This began many repairs and

renovations. A small vestry was added in 1872 and enlarged by 1900. A newspaper article in 1897 affirmed they were proud of the new coat of paint, but "where is the man who was going to give us a start on the new vestry?" In 1906, there were extensive repairs and a rededication. The Town Clock went into the tower. The porch was added in 1928, and the Sunday School and furnace room in the basement excavated in 1957. A two-story vestry was discussed in 1962.

There was much debate in the 1940s about replacing the spire on the steeple, or should it be a less expensive tower. The membership gathered support and money for the spire, led by the Church women.

Before 1904, there were two front doors.



Christmas photo, 1991, by John Moore

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## Selectmen's meeting in November

November 3. Selectmen discussed the Parks and Recreation Committee's request concerning an ice skating rink at Brown Shattuck Field and asked the Committee to come and discuss the matter.

Selectmen received two letters commending Officer Varley's professionalism, one involving his skill in dealing with children.

Diane Gadoury met to inquire whether the Selectmen had any objections to the Co-op plans to open a store in the Marketplace building.

November 10. The appointment of Gary Wall to serve as an alternate on the Planning Board was approved.

Joanne Hinnendael, representing the Kear-sarge Booster Club, requested help from the Bradford Highway Dept. to transport loam donated by Colby Sawyer College to the high school, where it will be stockpiled for the athletic fields. All KRSD towns are being asked to help. Selectmen approved the request, providing the weather isn't a factor.

Members of the Parks and Recreation Committee met to discuss the proposed skating rink at Brown Shattuck Field. Member Ken Coyle has experience setting up skating rinks. He estimated the cost of materials at \$397 or less. The Fire Dept. has agreed to fill the rink; Selectmen Pickman said Road Agent Andy Anderson has no problem plowing the area, providing it doesn't interfere with his road work. Pickman suggested getting volunteers to help with clearing the ice.

Chair Debbie Johnson reported that the committee is looking into the parking situation at French's Park, attempting to determine the best use of the area. Dave Blake has volunteered to draw up some suggestions. Selectmen warned the committee that the Shoreland Protection Act was very restrictive and they should familiarize themselves with its requirements before doing any work there, even clearing brush.

Selectmen reviewed the revised Provan and Lorber contract concerning the sewer/water study, which included the revised completion date of April 15.

Selectmen received a complaint from a resident concerning damage to a vehicle resulting from travel over East Washington Road. Selectmen will have a warning sign posted and ask the Road Committee to investigate the situation.

The handicapped access ramp was discussed as Selectmen expressing concern over problems with the back door. They agreed that no plan for remodeling the Town Hall would be submitted this year and decided to go ahead and construct the ramp at the back entrance.

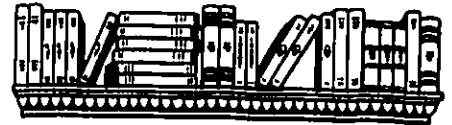
Administrative Assistant Cheryl Behr reported that she had received a large number of complaints concerning the tax bills, some more polite than others.

November 17. Selectmen approved appointments for Deputy Fire Wardens: Robert MacLeod, Richard Moore, Ralph Carroll, Robert Raymond, Steven Hansen, Robert Moore, Mark Goldberg, Alan McCartney.

Selectmen discussed the State Forester's statement that Selectmen cannot refuse to sign intents to cut without maps because it is a town ordinance, not a state law. Selectmen responded by agreeing to notify the Police Chief because they do have the authority to prevent timber hauling on town roads without their approval, which requires a map before issuing a road bond. Letters will be mailed to loggers reminding them of the town ordinance requiring maps to accompany intent to cut requests.

November 24. Royal Latuch, a realtor with E. Harris Real Estate, met to discuss a customer's concerns with the economic health of the community. Selectmen discussed the jump in the tax rate and clarified the tax abatement deadline, which is March 1.

Library trustees met to discuss their 1998 budget. Dick Keller commented that their planning and grant applications depend on the site for the new library. He noted that the votes on the "What Ifs" reflect support for the Marshall property location. Selectmen responded that the priority for the new library was 5th or 6th. The matter was left unresolved.



## BOOK REVIEW

by Pauline Dishmon

MEN ARE FROM MARS, WOMEN ARE FROM VENUS

by John Gray  
Harper Collins, NY, 1992

Using the metaphors of Martians for men and Venusians for women, Gray successfully shows how men and women are different as they interact. Men mistakenly expect women to think, communicate and react as men do, while women mistakenly expect men to feel, communicate and respond as do women. They forget they are supposed to be different. When men and women are able to respect and accept these differences, love has a chance to blossom.

The most frequently expressed complaint of women about men is that they don't listen. The man is apt to completely ignore her as she speaks or listen for a few beats, assess what is bothering her, and then proudly put on his Mr. Fix-It cap and offer a solution. He is confused when she doesn't appreciate this gesture of love. The woman seeks empathy, but he thinks she seeks a solution. Gray suggests couples give up giving advice.

There is an interesting insight about men who "go to their caves," for example, a workshop or the cellar. The man wants to be quiet, relax and unwind, perhaps read the newspaper. He desires no talk. The problem here is that each needs to understand the different approaches to stress. In the cave, the man may have a problem to solve, unaware his wife feels ignored and under stress herself.

While the man is in the cave, the woman should do something to make herself happy -- read a book, listen to music, telephone a friend, go shopping. Knowing his wife is happy, the man finds strength to deal with his problems.

According to Gray, women under stress are not immediately concerned with finding solutions to problems, but rather seek relief by expressing themselves and being understood. To forget her own painful feelings, a woman may become emotionally involved in the problems of others.

Gray provides many interesting insights.

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# GARDENING

by Fred Winch



What a year! Sticking snow the 15th of November! It, in truth, was a colorful fall with the spectacular foliage of Bradford's maples. Now, however, most of those leaves are under several inches of heavy wet snow, where they will stay (except where ambitious gardeners got right after them).

Many gardeners were caught by the snows and did not get the perennials mulched or the compost spread in the garden. It is customary for many to leave the rose garden till last—definitely after Thanksgiving, before mounding rose plants with soil and covering the soil with compost or pine needles. This year my roses, ragged from a dry summer, will have to tough it out on their own without the usual cover. This is one reason I am trying to switch from hybrid teas to the new more rugged plants developed by the Canadian experiment stations. These plants are hybridized from at least one parent as the rugosa rose. They also have their "own roots," since they are rooted cuttings, not budded or grafted stock. Most also have the rose fragrance we remember from old time roses. Watch for them in catalogs of nurseries in Maine and the Midwest.

The snow certainly has accented the sparkling brilliant red berries of the northern holly, *Ilex verticillata* or Black Alder, native to New England. I can remember no year when these wild plants have had such a crop of berries and such large berries at that. Every bush seems to have had optimum conditions for fruit. I believe another factor prevails in 1997. The berries ripened late and the robins, who normally harvest the ripe berries, migrated early and left the plants alone. Besides, if there were enough robins to make an impression on the crop, we would

have had more, not less, birds than normal. It is surprising that the plant breeders who have been so active in many areas have not tackled the *Ilex* for a landscape plant.

I normally plant broccoli and cauliflower in July in quantities for fresh eating and freezing. Due to the exceptionally dry summer conditions, I planted seed late, transplanted late, and knew I would have a smaller than usual crop. October caused my expectations to rise, adequate rains and warmer temperatures produced about a quarter of a crop of succulent heads. The fall crop always has more flavor than the spring planting to me. Maine has, in recent years, made a market for broccoli in the supermarkets using land previously planted to potatoes. In a normal year, I can pick broccoli until after Thanksgiving; however, the mid-November snowfall put an early end to my late planted crop.

How the world of communications has changed! I remember several years ago that the U.S. Post Office put a damper on gardeners' itch for catalogs by refusing them until after the Christmas mail rush. Now, with UPS, FedEx and others, there is no restriction on what is mailed and when. Note the larger loads of catalogs, pamphlets, and flyers that are received by our compactor a day or two after being delivered to the addressee. So though it was still a couple of days before Thanksgiving, there in my p.o. box was the first 1998 gardening catalog—from Stokes, an aggressive supplier of high quality flower and vegetable seeds. Be prepared, the mail will bring you more!

Have a good holiday season and take care of your seasonal plants and flowers. It is forecast that the snows will depart sometime in spring . . . . .

## GLIMPSES, selected by Milly Kittredge from Bradford Historical Society materials

December 1897 ... an exhibit of Edison's new and wonderful invention, "The Projecting Kinetoscope," with that other marvel, "The Gramophone," will be at the town hall ... the pictures are life size, actual photos full of life and motion. Among the scenes are thrilling fire scenes showing the fire apparatus under full motion, and the Black Diamond Express moving at a rate of 70 mph. The art of motion is so perfect that objects come and go before the vision and actually seem to live.

In 1898, heavy rains of December 15 caused a landslide at Kelleyville, delaying the 9:00 am train for 3 and a half hours.

In 1897, there were monthly notices for seven Bradford fraternal organizations. In addition, there were several social clubs as well as the religious community with its many circles and discussion groups. A meeting every night is not a modern phenomenon.

Historical Building, Old Post Office ... open sporadically during the winter months; call 938-5386 for a visit.

John and Ruth-Ann Harris will host an Open House at the Old Brick Mill during the Christmas in the Country celebration. The Brick Mill, built ca. 1805, has been a mill for many types of manufacturing from early Bradford history until becoming a private home.

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(Concord Valley Telephone) or  
746-8811 (Merrimack County Telephone).




\*CVT offer runs from November 15, 1997 through January 14, 1998.  
MCT offer runs from December 1, 1997 through January 31, 1998.  
NOTE: Offer contingent upon the availability of facilities necessary to provide this service.

# December Calendar

## Monday, December 1

Selectmen's meeting, Town Hall, 7:00  
Cemetery Commission, Call 938-5386

## Tuesday, December 2

Budget Committee, Town Hall, 7:00  
ZBA, Town Hall, 7:00  
Fish & Game, Lake Todd Club House 7:00

## Wednesday, December 3

PTC, Bradford Elementary, 7:00  
Library Trustees, 7:00, open to public  
Ancient Art of Dowsing, Pillsbury Public Library, Warner 7:00-9:00

## Monday, December 8

Selectmen's meeting, Town Hall, 7:00  
BBA Christmas Party, Thistle and Shamrock Inn, 7:00

## Tuesday, December 9

Master Plan public hearing, Town Hall, 7:30

## Wednesday, December 10

Revolving Loan Committee, Town Hall, 7:00

## Thursday, December 11

Bradford-Newbury Workshop, Friendship House, 11:00 am  
KRSD School Board, High School 7:15  
Bradford Economic Opportunities Committee, 7:30 Town Hall

## Saturday, December 13

Christmas in the Country, Twelve Days of Christmas festivities

## Sunday, December 14

Christmas in the Country, Twelve Days of Christmas festivities  
Dickens' *Christmas Carol*, Town Hall, 7:00  
Sponsored by Moon Mountain Arts

## Monday, December 15

Selectmen's meeting, Town Hall, 7:00

## Tuesday, December 16

Kindergarten, Town Hall 7:00  
Conservation Commission, Town Hall, 7:30

## Wednesday, December 17

Road Committee, Town Hall, 7:00  
O.E.S. St. Peter's Lodge 7:30  
Friends of the Library 7:30

## Saturday, December 20

Christmas in the Country, Twelve Days of Christmas festivities

## Sunday, December 21

Christmas in the Country, Twelve Days of Christmas festivities

## Monday, December 22

Selectmen's meeting, Town Hall, 7:00

## Monday, December 29

Selectmen's meeting, Town Hall, 7:00

To list events for the month of January, call the Scribners, 938-2286.

## Classified Ads

MISSING. Large metal lantern from haunted house. If you have info, please call 938-2692.

FOR SALE Kirby vacuum cleaner, complete with shampoo attachment. Best offer over \$300. 938-2346.

FOR SALE. Four snow tires. Pacemark radial hi-trak, excellent condition. MS185/65R14. \$100. Leave message. 938-2204.

FOR SALE 1985 Sentra Station wagon, 5 speed, runs well. 1982 & 1984 Sentra sedans for parts. \$1200 takes all three. 456-3591.

FOR SALE. Children's ski helmets, one size fits 7-8 yr old; one size fits 9-10 yr old. Like new, only \$45 each. Call 938-2722.

FOR SALE. HO gauge train set-up. Mounted on 4'x8' plywood. Complete with trains, buildings, vehicles, street lights, etc. Fully landscaped. \$400. Call 938-2876.

FOR SALE. Thomas spinet organ, electronic; needs some attention. \$100 or B.O. 938-2110.

FOR SALE. 1983 Nissan truck, 4x4 with cap. \$600 or B.O. 938-2692.

FOR SALE. 3 opal/4 diamond chip ladies' ring, circa 1910. Brilliant colors; must see to appreciate. Serious buyers only \$250 firm. 938-2129.

CHRISTMAS TREES. Cut-your-own Christmas trees, \$9 for any tree. Between-the-Mountains Farm, 938-5482.

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

