



THE BRADFORD BRIDGE

PROJECT

Meet Your Neighbor,
retiring Police Chief Al Grindle
see page 13

Volume 7, Number 2

Community News - By and for our neighbors

February 1997

Police Chief Al Grindle announces his retirement



Police Chief Al Grindle submitted a letter of retirement to the Board of Selectmen on January 27. He has served as Chief of Police since April, 1990 and expected to be fully retired by August, 1997.

The letter submitted to the Board, and accepted, outlines his plans to phase out as Chief while the town searches for a replacement. Until May 4, the Chief will be on full active duty. Then he will become "inactive," but be available to the officers and incoming Chief until August 2. He believes this will allow a smooth transition and give ample time to find a suitable replacement.

The chief said that he has been contemplating retirement for some time now. He believes that this is a good time, since he will be leaving a very capable staff. His retirement letter states "The Bradford Police Department is a stable, well-trained, energetic and dedicated department at this time." He felt that he needed to give the Selectmen sufficient time to find a replacement that "can lead this department into the next century and continue to build upon the quality personnel that we now have."

His letter also states that "It has been a pleasure and an honor to serve the residents of the town over the last seven years and I am a bit saddened to be moving on to another phase in my life. Retirement, however, is something that most of us look forward to and I am no exception. There are other things I wish to pursue in my life and I believe now is the time to begin them."

Chief Grindle took over the Bradford Police Department upon the retirement of Marvin Rich in 1990. Under Grindle's direction, the department has grown to include three full-time officers (including the Chief), four part-time officers, a part-time secretary, an animal control officer, and two French's Park/school guards. He has also initiated the computerization of the department and the utilization of video recording equipment in the cruisers.

It is not yet known how or when the Selectmen will go about recruiting for a replacement. Chief Grindle has said that he anticipates no other staffing changes at this time. --Kathy Grindle

Candidates for town offices

The following individuals have filed to run for town offices in the election to be held on Tuesday, March 11.

- Selectman: Lance Rickenberg
- Town Clerk/Tax Collector: Susan Pehrson
- Treasurer: Carolyn Grindle
- Trustee of the Trust Funds: H. Bliss Dayton
- Trustee of Brown Memorial Library (vote for 3): Roderick Jones, G. Richard Keller
- Budget Committee (vote for 2): H. Bliss Dayton, Robert Stewart, Richard Vitale
- Planning Board for 3 years (vote for 2): Jonathan P. Teele, Thomas Riley
- Planning Board for 2 years: Edythe Craig
- Zoning Board for 3 years (vote for 2): Everett Kittredge, Richard Vitale
- Zoning Board for 2 years: Erin DiBello
- Cemetery Commission: Doris Tremblay
- Scholarship Committee: no candidate.

Make It Happen co-op membership campaign

After three months of intense effort, the Steering Committee of the Bradford Area Cooperative is launching its charter membership drive. The theme of the four-month campaign is "MAKE IT HAPPEN... a community-owned grocery in Bradford." Area residents are being invited to become member-owners of the Bradford Area Cooperative for a one-time \$100 equity purchase. The goal of the not-for-profit cooperative is to open a grocery business in a leased building at the IGA site if possible, probably in 1998. All members of the cooperative will become equal part-owners of the grocery business. Should the project fail,

See HAPPEN, page 12

Community visit planned for February 27

Rural Development Council rep meets with Bradford Economic Development Steering Committee

As part of his effort to locate resources to help Bradford improve its economic climate, Selectman Joe Conway has solicited help from the NH Rural Development Council (RDC). The charter of the Rural Development Council is to help communities find the resources to reach goals they set for themselves. The RDC is made up of individuals with applicable areas of expertise.

On January 28, Kelly Goddard, executive director of the Rural Development Council, met with members of the Bradford Economic Development Steering Committee to plan for the February 27 community visit. According to Goddard, a community visit is designed to be a "listening" opportunity, with a number of RDC members meeting and talking with local officers, town

See VISIT, page 18

Living in Bradford

TOWN MEETING, a two-act comedy

Saturday, March 1
7:30, Town Hall

presented by
Moon Mountain Arts

Tickets available at:

Dodge's
Brown Memorial Library

OBITUARY**Marjorie Elizabeth (Marshall)****Montgomery**

Marjorie Elizabeth (Marshall) Montgomery, 93, daughter of Harry W. and Nettie (Cressy) Marshall, a summer resident of Bradford, died January 27 at her daughter's home after a period of declining health.

She was born in Contoocook and was a graduate of Hopkinton High School and Lesley College in Cambridge, Mass. She was a kindergarten teacher in Franklin and Manchester-by-the-Sea, Mass.

Montgomery was a lifetime member of the Order of Eastern Star in Ferndale, Mich. She had wintered in Gainsville, Fla since 1967.

She was predeceased by her husband, John Montgomery, who died in 1968. She is survived by a son, Marshall Montgomery of Naples, FL; two daughters, Joan Dorn of Bradford and Lakeland, Fla, and Mary Derry of Gainsville, Fla; four grandchildren, one great-granddaughter, and nieces and nephews.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Brown Memorial Library, Bradford, for large print books.

Soo-nipi Audubon Chapter news

A "Slide Potpourri" will be the feature attraction at the monthly program of the Soo-nipi Audubon Chapter on Friday, February 14, 7:30 pm, at St. Andrews Episcopal Church on Gould Road in New London. Please bring 10-15 of your favorite slides of birds or other natural history subjects to share with the audience. For more information, call President Gary Stansfield at 863-8737.

The following day, Saturday, February 15, veteran birder Bob Vernon will lead the annual "Cape Ann Birding Trip" to Gloucester, Mass., to look for gulls, ducks, grebes, and "the unexpected." Participants should meet Bob (526-6216) at the Park and Ride, Exit 9 off I-89 in Warner at 8:00 am. Bring binoculars and lunch. --Phyllis Curtis

KRHS Variety Show on February 15

On February 15 at 7:00 pm, in the KRHS cafeteria, the 1997 KRHS Variety Show will be taking place.

When you come to see this show, you will find nothing but entertainment. There will be singing, dancing, comedy sketches, and refreshments. The tickets are only \$3.00, a great price for such great entertainment.

All the students at the high school are invited to come and display their talents at the Show. The Variety Show is very unique because it is completely student run.

The stage for the Variety Show is set up, performed on, and taken down all in the cafeteria and all in one night. The Variety Show is very important because it is the sole fund-raiser for the spring musical. So please, come and join us and see the 1997 KRHS Variety Show for fun and entertainment.

If you would like, please visit the Drama Club website at:
<http://www.conknet.com/krhd/krhdrama/drama.htmlx>. --Bree Johnson

Becoming a registered voter ...

The Supervisors of the Checklist will be in session on Wednesday, February 26, 7:00-8:00 pm, at the Town Hall, to make additions and corrections to the checklist prior to the School District Meeting on Saturday, March 8, 1997.

We have been requested by Richard Petrin, Business Administrator for the School District, to remind voters that School District election of officials is held at the same time and place as town meeting elections.

The Supervisors will be in session again on Saturday, March 1, at the Town Hall, 11:00 a.m. to noon, to make additions and corrections to the checklist prior to Town Meeting on March 11, 1997.

To become a registered voter, you must be 18 years of age and a resident of Bradford. You may also register to vote with the Town Clerk during regular office hours.

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

Births: January 13. Raven Michelle Bennett was born to Tracy and Anthony Bennett.

TAX COLLECTOR

All 1996 tax bills are now accruing interest at 12%.

Lien notices will be going out in the next few weeks.

Tax deed notices will also be going out shortly. Tax deeds will be taken on April 1, 1997 for the 1994 unpaid taxes. This is the lien of 1995.

TOWN CLERK/TAX COLLECTOR

The office will be closed on Monday, February 17, for the Presidents' Day holiday.

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

Sue Pehrson, Town Clerk and Tax Collector

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Bradford-Newbury Workshop

The Bradford-Newbury Workshop will meet at 11:30 am on Thursday, February 13 at the Friendship House parking lot to carpool to Clare Slesley's home. Ruth Page will share the video her family made for Charlie and her at the time of their 50th wedding anniversary. Fran Lyons will tell us about her project helping seniors record events and highlights for future generations. Fran has used this project across the state and was interviewed on WEVO by Laura Knoy. Bring a bag lunch; dessert and beverage will be provided.

THE BBA IS DOING IT AGAIN!

Gary Wall, President of the Bradford Business Association, has appointed Chris St. Cyr of CSC Specialty Advertising to chair the Second Annual Bradford Business Day, to be held on Sunday, March 9. This event is designed to showcase all those businesses that serve the citizens of Bradford, featuring the members of the Association.

Chairwoman Chris, aided by a subcommittee consisting of Marlene Freyler, Dick Dumais, Perley Strout and Glen Mayo, is diligently preparing for the show, which will again be held at the KRES auditorium between the hours of 10:00 and 4:00. Chris said that already, more exhibitors have expressed a desire to participate than were involved in last year's show. And only the first call has gone out! At this writing, there are at least 35 firms on board, with more to be counted. This may call for some imaginative display locating, due to Bradford's lack of a major hall for major gatherings, but the committee has no doubt that this will work out as well as last year's spectacular.

Invitations are being extended to Governor Shaheen and other officials to participate in the opening activities. Tom Behrens, NH Director of Small Business, has already indicated that he is reserving the time.

Activities for the DAY, in addition to the exhibits and displays by the members, will include outdoor activities and displays, such as Rescue Squad (and their DOG HOUSE) and Fire Department, pony cart rides and other attractions, as well as major indoor attractions throughout the day such as Rainbow the Clown and her balloon creatures, Big Bird and Cookie Monster working the crowd, Golfmania, the KRHS Jazz Band and the BBA Exotica Coffeehouse. Just to add to the fun, drawings for door prizes will be held every half hour throughout the day.

St. Cyr extended an invitation to the community, saying "This is a showcase offered to the community by the BBA. There is no entry fee or other charge. It is our way of introducing you to, as our theme states, THE MANY FACES OF BRADFORD. We'll keep you posted as we progress, and sincerely hope to see you at the show."

Conservation Commission supports Class A trails warrant article

The Bradford Conservation Commission is encouraging anyone who has opinions and concerns about a warrant article to change two class VI roads to class A trails to come to the next meeting on Tuesday, February 18 at 7:00 in the Town Hall. The roads in question are Dunfield Road and Smith Road. Abutters on these roads have received letters informing them of the plan.

The purpose of the warrant article is to allow the Conservation Commission to stabilize these roads for recreational use to benefit the town. Eventually, it is the goal of the Commission to have a trail system throughout the town. Class VI roads would be a vital part of this system. They are rapidly deteriorating from unchecked erosion. Conversion to Class A trails would give the Conservation Commission the ability to raise money from grants for repairs and to encourage proper use of the roads.

Musical entertainment to support anti-Rite Aid effort

In its battle to keep up with legal and other expenses associated with the effort to keep Rite Aid out of Henniker, The Only Henniker on Earth Committee has organized an evening of musical entertainment to celebrate the "small town with a big heart" on Friday, February 7, 7:30-11:00 pm at Daniel's Restaurant in downtown Henniker. Music will be provided by the bands, "Across the Hall," and "Bluestones" and the "OHOE Trio."

Tickets are \$5.00 in advance and may be purchased at the Henniker Pharmacy and the Coffee Grind, both in Henniker, or \$6.00 at the door. There will be door prizes and a 50/50 raffle. In addition, there will be a Valentine's Day-inspired auction of items like dinner for two, candy and flowers. Proceeds from ticket sales and a portion of the bar sales will benefit The Only Henniker on Earth Committee. Additional information may be obtained by calling 428-7383.

ZBA Public Hearings on February 4

The ZBA will hold two public hearings on Tuesday, February 4. At 7:30, a hearing will be held to consider a request for a special exception to enlarge a shed, requested by John Dame, 38 East Shore Drive.

At 7:45, a hearing will be held to consider a request for a special exception for Good Night Sand & Gravel operation on Pleasant

Bradford Historical Society

We are sad to hear of the death of Mrs. Marjorie Marshall Montgomery, who graciously and wittily participated in the 100th anniversary telephone call to Sutton this summer. She was the daughter of Harry W. Marshall, merchant and director of the early telephone company.

Did you tune in New Hampshire Crossroads with the segment on the murderer Harry K. Thaw? Bradford's Clark "Del" Nelson was his court-appointed companion during Harry's years in the area. Does anyone remember any of Del's stories of those adventures?

The fourth grades at Bradford Elementary School are doing work on important New Hampshire people. They will do map plotting of the Bradford-Newbury area and work their way into Native Americans and the Colonial period. If you have information or materials to share, contact Carol Adams, the school district volunteer director, or call the school and leave a message for Mrs. Riley.

The Historical Society will hold another workshop in February. We clip, paste, check for duplicates, and work slowly because we can't resist reading the clippings. Anyone is welcome to join us ... call 938-5386.

In March we will hold our recessed annual meeting.

We do not spend much time at the Old Post Office during the cold months, but we are available to locate information and materials. The Bradford Historical Society encourages the sharing and copying of the pictures and materials we have. --Milly Kittredge

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Letters

To the editor:

I would like to thank the Bradford Fire Department for its efforts to flood a skating rink at Brown Shattuck Field. Due to the unevenness of the area and the uncooperative weather, so far we don't have a skating rink. If conditions improve in February, we may make another attempt. If you would like to help in this effort, please call me at 938-2837, evenings and weekends.

Debbie Johnson, Recreation Committee

Inn Time ... classes at the Thistle and Shamrock

A series of "Heritage Classes" will begin in February. A weekend class on silk ribbon embroidery will be held on Saturday, February 8, 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. Lynn Horigan will be the instructor; the project will be a "Wild Rose Brooch," which will be completed in class. No prior experience with silk ribbon is required, but it is necessary to know basic embroidery stitches.

On February 22, at 10:00 am, we are delighted to showcase the talents of Bunny Herman. She will be teaching the beautiful art of whole cloth needle turn applique. Bunny, a fifth generation quilter, is also teaching her daughter the art form.

For more information and reservations, please contact either Lynn Horigan (938-5553) or Marilyn Gordon (938-5571).



At the January meeting of the Bradford Business Association, President Gary Wall and Selectman Joe Conway presented the trophies for best interior and best exterior decorations in the Holiday Decorating Contest to Lesley and Dick Marquis of the Rosewood Country Inn. A perennial winner, this is the third year the Inn has won the exterior award and the second year for the interior award. Named first runner-up was the Thistle and Shamrock Inn; second runner-up was the Applesseed Inn.

Residential winners in the contest were: first place, Mel Pfeifle; second place, Mauri Scheffy; and third place, Bernie Lamach. The Bradford Business Association thanks all those who entered the contest, the judges appointed by the Warner Selectmen's office, and their chauffeur.



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Friends Donate to Library Building Fund

At the end of 1996, the Friends of Brown Memorial Library presented the Library Trustees with a check for \$689, designated for the library's building fund. The funds came from generous donations of the Friends' members during the 1996 membership drive. Another important, but quiet, event took place when the Friends received final IRS approval establishing that donations to the Friends are now tax-deductible.

The Friends announces that library patrons will now be able to use a new VCR/TV monitor in the library. The purchase (arranged by Laurie Buchar) was made possible by a shared gift from the Library Trustees and the Friends of Brown Memorial Library. The monitor will be unveiled for the Mud Season Mind Clearing Literary Series: *The American Short Story*.

Correction: Please note that the first program will take place on Thursday, February 6, instead of February 9 (which is a Sunday). Short stories will be shown on the video prior to discussion. Copies of the stories are available in the library.

Feb. 6 (7-9 pm) *The Blue Hotel* by Stephen Crane. A foreigner arrives by train to a small Nebraska frontier town where he suspects his death will occur.

Feb. 20 (7-9 pm) *The Greatest Man in the World* by James Thurber. A stunt pilot who becomes the first person to fly solo around the world without stopping, refuses to fit the standard criteria for a hero.

The Friends will be piloting a children's literary video program during mud season. The first event will feature a viewing of the Disney version of Robin Hood on Wednesday, February 12, 3:30-5:00 pm. Children are encouraged to read any of the many versions of this classic legend before attending the viewing.

--Audrey V. Sylvester for the Friends Executive Committee

Bradford Womens Club news

Our February meeting will be held on Tuesday, the 18th, 11:30 am, at the church vestry. The program is Town Reports, with a potluck luncheon. Lunch is supplied by the members and dessert by the Board. Call hospitality chair Jane Johnsen with any questions.

We will hold our Candidates Night on March 5 at Bradford Elementary at 7:30.

Pictures of Santa with children should be picked up at Dodge's.

911 was the topic of January's meeting, with John O'Connor from the Bureau of Emergency Communications speaking. It was well attended. --Jane Lucas, president

274 Lake Todd acres donated for Forest Society protection

In the closing days of 1996, the Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests completed projects protecting more than 785 acres in eight towns around New Hampshire. The newly protected properties include 274 acres on Lake Todd in Newbury, 63 acres on the border of Kensington and North Hampton, 110 acres in Alexandria, and nearly 50 acres in Eaton. The Society also worked with the residents of Canterbury to protect more than 60 acres in the town center and assisted in the protection of another 140 acres in Deerfield. All of the properties were protected through conservation easements, which leave the lands in private hands, but permanently restricted against development.

Newbury Selectman William M. Weiler donated a conservation easement to the Forest Society on 274 acres of forest and wetland. The property is a certified Tree Farm, includes nearly a mile of frontage on Lake Todd, and supports a deer yard and an abundant wildlife population. The cellar holes for an early settlement and remnants of an old gristmill can be found on the protected property.

Return engagement ... *Town Meeting, the play*

Back by popular demand, Moon Mountain Arts presents *Town Meeting*, an original two-act comedy, on Saturday, March 1 at 7:30 pm. on the Bradford Town Hall stage. The play, performed as a staged reading by local thespians in costume, is directed by Glen Mayo. The cast includes seasoned and new performers, including: Tillie Wheeler, Vernon Hall, Ev Kittredge, Wally Brown, Marcia and Perley Strout, Dick and Sue Vitale, Debby Lamach, Lois Bradicich and her twins, Ashley and Krystal, David Blaisdell, Lyn Betz, Debra Johnson, Edythe Craig, John and RuthAnn Harris, John Signorino, and Jeanne Brown. Producers for Moon Mountain Arts are Lu Signorino, Debby Lamach, Marcia Strout, Nancy Hibbard, and Audrey Sylvester.

The script (changed this year to include new dialogue and music) was written by New Hampshire native and Northwood writer, Rebecca Rule. Rule said, "The play celebrates the rite of government, where perceived injuries are never forgotten, retribution is both art and entertainment, but sometimes...compassion prevails."

Seating is limited. Tickets are available at Dodge's Store, \$5.00 each. For more information, call Debby Lamach at 938-2095.

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New England Handicapped Sports Association events

AUCTION! AUCTION!

A round-trip air fair for two to Paris on American Airlines? A New England Patriots autographed hat? An Apocalypse snowboard with bindings or a pair of shaped skis? A condo at Sugarbush Valley VT? Lots of skis, goggles, lift tickets, fleece wear, gift certificates for food, clothing, hiking boots ... this list goes on and on, with a hundred more items.

Where: Mt. Sunapee Base Lodge

When: Saturday, February 8, 5:00 pm

Why: Because you could use a great deal and you will be supporting the New England Handicapped Sports Association

How: Come and bid, or if you cannot make it to the auction, you may fill out a "Left Bids Form." VISA and MC accepted.

What else is going on that day: The Corporate Challenge Race -- it's fun to watch.

For a complete list of items and information on how to bid, call Debbie Bruss (president of New England Handicapped Sports) at 938-2979.

CORPORATE CHALLENGE SKI RACE

For some skiers, racing is serious business. For others, it's a challenge to make it down the race course in one piece. But whatever the goal, these racers know they are having fun and raising money for the New England Handicapped Sports Association.

When: Saturday, February 8

Place: Mt. Sunapee

Participants: 4 racers on each team (must be age 21 plus)

Entry fee: \$175 per team (tax deductible), includes all-day lift ticket for each racer, free beers in the bar after the race, grab bag of goodies.

For more information, please call Debbie Bruss (938-2979) or the NEHSA lodge at Mt. Sunapee (1-800-628-4484).

SKI-A-THON, March 8

If you like to ski, raise money for a great cause, and eat from an outdoor grill during the month of March, this ski-a-thon at Mt. Sunapee may be for you.

It is not too early to get sponsors for the 11th Annual New England Handicapped Sports Association ski-a-thon. Skiers of all ages and all abilities have only one requirement ... to have fun while plying the Duckling Slope. Then, after a free lunch, you are free to ski the mountain.

If you are not a skier, sponsors for skiers are also needed, as are volunteers to help run the event. For more information, call Debbie Bruss (938-2979) or the NEHSA lodge (1-800-628-4484).



Church News

from Lynne E. Hubley

It's Show Time (well, almost). Can you raise a curtain, sell some tickets, paint the set or sing, dance, or play a musical instrument? "Fabulous Fifties" is the theme for the church show this year. It will be performed on Friday and Saturday, March 21 and 22 at the Bradford Elementary School at 8:00 pm. Call Marcia Strout at 938-2716 or Debby Lamach at 938-2095 for rehearsal times and additional information.

Attention Quilters. The ABWM quilt is almost ready to quilt. Eight women helped make the squares. If anyone has 15, 30 or 45 minutes to spare and would like to help quilt, please call Marcia Strout at 938-2716 to arrange a time. Experience is not necessary; lessons can be given. The quilt will be raffled at the ABWM All Church Fair, to be held on July 5.

The ABWM will hold its February meeting on Tuesday, February 4, beginning at 7:00 with a short business meeting. At 7:30, Chief Al Grindle and I will speak on the issue of domestic violence. This is an open meeting.

The first meeting of the Computer Club will be held Wednesday, February 5 at 7:30 in the vestry. The club is open to anyone interested in learning the basics of computers.

We will celebrate American Baptist Men's Sunday on February 9, beginning at 10:00. At 11:30, our Food Pantry Committee will meet to discuss the progress of the pantry.

Our youth groups will meet the afternoon of the 9th for a "Holiday Bonanza." Activities

will focus on several holidays, including Valentine's Day, Fourth of July, Halloween and Christmas. Grades 4-6 will meet from 1:00-2:30; grades 7-12 will meet 2:30-4:00.

An Ash Wednesday service will be held on Wednesday, February 12 at 7:30 pm. We will be singing several Lenten hymns; there will be a Children's message and some time for silent meditation. The meditation will be "Stirring the Ashes."

A Family Winter Picnic will be held on Saturday, February 15 beginning at 5:30 pm. This event is sponsored by the Board of Christian Education and Missions Committee. The snow date will be Sunday, February 16 after church. Christian Bingo and other games will be played. We ask that people bring their own place setting and silverware, as well as a favorite main dish or salad. Beverage and dessert will be provided.

Men's Fellowship will hold its February meeting on Wednesday, February 19 at 7:30 pm, at the home of Dick Whall.

Our youth groups will enjoy a "Cookie Bake-off" on Sunday, February 23. The cookies will be delivered to shut-ins. Exact time will be announced later.

COMING UP: Please mark your calendar for Saturday, March 8. Our youth will put on a spaghetti dinner with all the fixings. There will be two sittings: 5:00 and 6:00. Tickets will be \$5.00 adults, \$3.00 children, and \$15.00 maximum per family. Please watch for more details.

Thistle and Shamrock Inn & Restaurant

11 West Main Street, Bradford, NH 03221

Friday February 14, 1997

Valentine's Day
"Romantic Dinner for Two"

\$44.75 includes tax and gratuity
(Alcoholic beverages not included.)

Make your reservations early

938-5553





Legislative Report

by Representative
Bernie Lamach

After a somewhat slow start, the 1997 session of the NH House is well underway and into the heavy work of digesting more than 1100 bills. The celebration and seating of a new Governor and Speaker of the House has been placed behind us and it's time to accomplish what we are about. There are a wide assortment of bills dealing with every subject and I remain appreciative of constituents who express their views on pending legislation.

This month I wish to take on the ever present subject of taxes and revenue because that seems to be the question I hear most often. The new governor has said that she would be in favor of a raise of cigarette taxes and/or video gaming machines in certain locations, if they could raise more money for education, specifically kindergarten.

We currently are facing a possible budget deficit of about \$32 million. Broad-based taxes, such as personal income, retail sales, and property taxes, are always hard to raise because they are so visible and affect so many voters. As a result, states look for an end-run around changing those taxes.

One category is commonly attractive ... the traditional "sin" taxes that raise revenues from the weaknesses or addictions of the electorate. The two most common are taxes on cigarettes or alcoholic beverages, which have a two-fold attraction. They discourage consumption of the commodity, and at the same time generate revenues. The longer-term problem, however, is that sin taxes depend on a declining revenue base. As a more health-conscious society and a myriad of restrictions are imposed, consumption drops. Cigarette sales have dropped about 2.5% a year over the past decade. So to maintain revenues, the rate of tax has to be continually cranked up. The second problem arises from the limits of how much tax can be increased and still attract those out-of-state buyers. For example, when the sur-

rounding states raised their cigarette taxes, New Hampshire saw their sales increase by 3%. Therefore, we could also lose those sales if our retail cost approaches the same level as our neighboring states.

With the cost of education needing a solid base, I question whether we should hold out hope for this type of revenue to support a stable and growing educational need. Are we in a mode where we have to say "Go and sin more, please!"?

On a different subject, and one closer to home, my bill to ban sale and import of milfoil has been introduced and received good support from state agencies. It was helped by testimony from Marcia Keller from the Lake Massasecum Improvement Association. I feel we can expect it will move through the committee and the floor of the House, and I am prepared to urge it through the Senate.

In order to bring the broadest perspective to these pages, I have been asked by the editor of the *Bridge* to alternate in this space with our other representative, Barbara French. I have agreed, as one of my campaign promises was to expand and further communication to the residents and voters of the district. So next month, expect to welcome Barbara to this column.

I shall continue to welcome your comments on any issue. My home phone is 938-2095.



Bradford Newbury Kindergarten & Preschool (BNKP) news

During the month of January, the kindergarteners worked on the letters G, H and I and the numbers 5 and 6.

Jonas Cosgrove, the BNKP kindergarten aide, is retiring after nine years of dedicated service. She helped teach and guide more than 100 children through kindergarten and her wisdom and experience will be missed.

Applicants for the Aide position are now being interviewed and we should have a new aide by the end of February.

In February, BNKP will resume fund-raising, selling delicious Wolfgang chocolates and candies. Jelly beans, chocolate bunnies and eggs and other treats can be purchased and will arrive just in time to fill Easter baskets. You can place your order with any BNKP member. We will also hold a bake sale at the elementary school on March 11, after 3:00 pm (election day) and during town meeting on Wednesday, March 12.

Melanie E. Leathers

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Blue News report of the Bradford Police Department by Kathy Grindle

The Department recently received notification from the Director of Motor Vehicles that, as of February 1, 1997, drivers under twenty years old who hold a NH driver's license and are convicted of a motor vehicle violation will be subject to a license suspension. The notification read, in part: "A conviction of any motor vehicle violation by a licensed driver under age twenty shall result in suspension of the individual's driver's license. The first conviction shall result in a license suspension of twenty days, any second conviction shall result in a driver's license suspension of forty-five days, and any third conviction shall result in a driver's license suspension of ninety days."

Violators will be given an opportunity for an administrative hearing. The suspension will take effect when the individual's driver's license is received by the Department of Motor Vehicles.

This past month, Officer Kris Dupuis took part in a two-day "simunitions" training seminar, sponsored by the Durham Police Department. Officer Dupuis spent two days involved in mock scenarios of motor vehicle stops, domestic disputes, and other possible confrontations, where simulated, paint-ball type ammunition was used. The training provides the officers with real-life types of situations and brings home the fact that they can be very vulnerable to attack. It teaches them always to be on the alert for possible attack and helps them learn how to protect themselves using the least amount of force necessary to control a situation.

Officer Dupuis stated that the training was very informative, and although he was "killed" twice the first day, he fared much better on the second day. He said that the training made real the fact that an officer can be very vulnerable on the street, especially when you least expect it, and that you must always be prepared to control any situation.

The Department logged 81 incidents through the 29th of January, including 17 assists to other departments, fire, rescue; 7 unsecured businesses; 4 animal complaints; 4 missing persons; 4 suspicious persons; 1 theft; 1 stolen vehicle; and 1 domestic dispute.

The Department also issued 33 warnings, 4 summonses, and made 1 arrest.

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A Point of View by Luanne Mayo

Whenever we travel outside New Hampshire, people ask about our state - what it offers, what it doesn't; taxes, scenic, recreational and cultural advantages, then the inevitable question, "Is it true New Hampshire doesn't have state-funded kindergarten?" To my grave embarrassment, I admit this is true. We in Bradford have at least addressed the problem, but the future of the Bradford Newbury Kindergarten and Preschool is a "tangled web," to say the least.

In the early 90's, the Selectmen appointed a Facilities Committee. Its task was "to examine the existing and recently re-acquired town buildings for the purpose of determining the most advantageous utilization of space to fulfill the present and proposed needs of the Town Administration and the citizens, at the least cost." Information was gathered; a report produced; it was submitted, accepted, and published. Monies were voted at a town meeting to implement the plan; an architect was hired; plans were drawn. The town offices and police station were to go into a newly renovated Central School building. The existing Town Hall was to be brought up to code and to contain the kindergarten, plus desperately needed meeting and recreational facilities for the town. A final cost was obtained to do the work; a bonding proposal was presented at the 1995 Town Meeting, and was turned down flat by the voters. Two years later the Selectmen have given the

Central School building to the Trustees of the Brown Memorial Library, apparently to do with as they wish. The police station and town administrative offices remain where they were. None of the other needed facilities are even being considered. East Main Street is in shambles, half empty and/or for sale. AND that is just for starters.

Now, the ultimate blow. Our Selectmen have ordered the Bradford-Newbury Kindergarten and Preschool to find new space and remove their operation at the end of this school year. They were informed that the town administration needs the space and the police need more adequate facilities. So - pouf - after 25 years, out they go! Of course the town needs space and the police are improperly housed; the Facilities Committee addressed all of that four or five years ago. The Selectmen have not gone back to the Facilities Committee to ask for help or advice; they forge ahead with plans for their needs, without any overall, comprehensive long range scheme for the town.

We, the town, have been providing the kindergarten with space, heat, and electricity, plus a monetary stipend each year, since its inception. The rest of their operating funds come through tuition and fund-raisers. Although the taxpayers have been minimally generous, they have not solved the basic educational problem. If we can keep our kindergarten in place and intact for another year or two, there is a good chance New Hampshire will have state-funded kindergarten. Then there should be a smooth transition into the Bradford Elementary School building, and out of the Town Hall. The Selectmen do not, perhaps, know that there appears to be no building, either in Bradford or Newbury, that can legally house this school. Under the State Life Safety Codes, Section 10 -2.1.2, preschool and kindergarten children cannot occupy rooms in a building where they are required to negotiate stairs to reach an exit (this is the reason the old Central School building was not suitable for a kindergarten).

Do we, the taxpayers of this town, really wish to obliterate one of the only chances for our young children to compete scholastically with the children in the other forty-nine states? Can we perhaps wait until we have a long (or at least intermediate) range plan before we expend any more funds or take any more precipitate actions?



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In the Woods, by Chris Lincoln

After a lull in the winter action during December, in January we saw a return to a snow-covered landscape. This is an ideal time to get out in the woods and see what kinds of animals live there. A fresh dusting of snow provides prime conditions for identifying and following tracks. For landowners interested in encouraging wildlife to their properties, knowing what is already living there is valuable information for planning wildlife habitat management activities.

There are a number of good guide books available to help identify tracks and other animal signs. As an aid to ID, I carry a card in my wallet that shows a number of common tracks. Several organizations in the area occasionally offer workshops in track ID. With a little practice and the right conditions, it's not too hard to figure out who's tracks are who's. In addition to the shape of the paw print, there are a number of other clues: the size of the print, the distance between prints, and the track pattern. Deciding whether it's a walker, waddler, galloper, or bouncer will narrow the possibilities.

One of the joys of tracking is following the story written in the snow. Find a set of tracks and see where they lead. Ask yourself questions: What was the animal doing? Was it feeding? Traveling? If so, where was it going? Was it day or night? Was it moving fast or slow? Clues are there in the snow; the object is to discover the answers. If you're lucky, you may stumble upon something dramatic, maybe *Wild Kingdom* material. I have followed grouse tracks, only to find them suddenly stop...at the path of fox tracks. Back-tracking, I could see that the fox had been loping along at a steady pace, slowed

as it picked up a scent, crouched as it stalked closer, then leaped to its prey, where there was a quick tussle. The fox had its dinner -- there was nothing left but scattered feathers.

On another wintry day, I followed snowshoe hare tracks through the woods. Much to my surprise, these tracks suddenly stopped as well. In this case though, there were no signs of a fight and no intercepting trail of a predator. What had happened? Do hares fly? No, but owls do. Upon a closer examination of the scene of the crime, clearly left in the snow at the end of the hare trail was the impression of feathered wing tips, where a large bird of prey had swooped down to seize its target without ever fully landing. The evidence was gone -- likely flying to a nearby tree for a late night snack.

These stories, left in the snow, illustrate an important point in the management of wildlife ... the food web. It may be difficult to directly manipulate habitats to encourage predators such as bobcat, fisher, coyote, and fox. But if you manage vegetation to improve conditions for the prey that predators feed on, you can have an influence. Snowshoe hare is a prime example. It is hunted by nearly all of the predators found in this region, including both raptors and mammals.

The snowshoe hare is a devoted vegetarian, feeding in summer on such things as clover, grass, dandelions, berries, and ferns. In winter, their diet shifts to twigs, buds, and sapling stems from aspen, alder, spruce, fir, hemlock, and birch. Ideal habitat for hare is a lowland spruce-fir forest with a mix of deciduous trees. They require a dense forest understory of conifer saplings for cover. A forest management strategy that breaks up

uniform continuous forest to create patches of different tree ages and species will best serve snowshoe hare populations. This can be done through such forestry practices as small group selection cutting or narrow strip cutting. This type of harvesting is easily integrated with managing for quality timber as well.

According to anecdotal accounts, the hare population has been down in recent years. This makes it all the more imperative to manage for suitable habitat. By creating conditions favorable to species like snowshoe hare, and hopefully increasing their numbers, species that depend on hare will be more likely to inhabit the area as well. By tracking animals in the winter, wildlife managers can gain an understanding of which species are present or absent. If landowners really want to have wildlife, such as bobcat, on their property, but a tracking survey reveals no rabbits or hare, bobcat will be very difficult to attract.


Tracking animals is a fun winter diversion ... pick a sunny morning after a fresh dusting of snow and find out who's been hiding in your backyard. You may be surprised at the stories the snow has to reveal.

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

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**HISTORICAL GLIMPSES from
the Kearsarge Independent
selected by Sandy Wadlington**

ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO - February 1897

The Whittings have stored about 800 tons of ice this week.

Little Markie Ayer is the first one on record in making maple sugar this year. He tapped one tree the 31st of January and it has run every day but one since.

Remember the Corn Supper at Town Hall Tuesday evening. A social, good time is anticipated.

FIFTY YEARS AGO - February 1947

Howard Hurd of the Merrimack Farmers Exchange is home this week, result of an injured foot received last Saturday when grain fell on him.

Bradford will hold its annual Winter Carnival, sponsored by the Fish and Game Club, under the direction of Richard Wright, on Feb. 21 and 22. Many events will be offered the carnival visitor.

**... and from Bradford Historical
Society materials
selected by Milly Kittredge**

February 1873. On a snowy weekend, a train of passengers took three hours to reach Bradford from Concord, where most disembarked to find lodgings in town. The remaining passengers and crew encountered ten foot drifts before Newbury Cut, and spent a cold, hungry night shoveling the tracks as the train finally backed down to the Bradford Station.

A most interesting account of the event was written by the late Doris Sargent (Mrs. Leonard), who had an exceptional way with words. It can be found in *Two Hundred Plus, Bradford in retrospective*.

February 1977. Vying for the three-year selectman term: Russell Allen, Howard Goldberg, Joseph Grubb, and Fred Winch. For the one-year term, the candidates were John Pfeifle and Bernard Woods.

The Lothrop King family reopened the Bradford Junction Restaurant on Route 114, previously known as the Bradford Nook.



**BOOK REVIEW
by Pauline Dishmon**

THE NEW GOLDEN BOUGH
(An abridgment of the classic work by Sir James George Fraser)
by Dr. Theodor H. Gaster
S.G. Phillips, Inc., NY, 1972

First published in England in 1890 by Sir James George Fraser, a distinguished Scottish classicist and anthropologist, this book consisted of two volumes, then eventually grew to twelve volumes. Some elements in the original works are now outmoded or proven untrue, but readers interested in principle thought, folklore, religion and social interplay will enjoy perusing this book. One might open at any place and immediately become entranced.

Have you ever wondered about February, our second month? The name came as early as 44 B.C. Annually on February 15, one could see men running down the street wrapped in goatskin or carrying goatskin straps for whipping throngs of people standing along the wayside. Stranger still, these wayside folks wanted to be whipped.

In those days, there was a god named Lupercus. It was thought that a whipping would cleanse the body of sin and gain favor from this god. Women, especially the highly respected, begged for beatings in the belief a whipping prior to motherhood would make for a fine, bonny baby. The whips whistling through the air were called *februa*, taken from the Latin meaning purification. Thus came February, our present second month.

February's St. Valentine's Day, formerly called the day of Lupercalia, had its ceremonies. One of these called for parchment slips bearing names of young ladies to be placed in a box. These names would be drawn out by eligible young men. As Christian churches began to grow and influence pagan leaders, old customs were merged with or replaced with new. The Lupercalia custom became St. Valentine's Day, named for a martyred Christian bishop. Many times in England and Scotland, this simple game became a catalyst for true and lasting loves.

This book is packed with interesting facts about magic, taboos, customs and history.

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Between the Mountains Barn

by Clare Bensley

The few remaining barns dotting fields and hillsides in our area are picturesque reminders of a time past when sheep grazing, animal husbandry, and vegetable farming were the primary means of survival for the average New England family.

Researching our barn and using the information as a way to trace the lifestyle changes that have taken place, we learn that our farm and another just like it a quarter mile up the road were built in the early nineteenth century by two Bailey brothers. Although the second homestead burned some time ago, the old cellar holes from barn and house survive because they were constructed, as were most early cellar holes, of large, well-placed slabs of granite.

Originally Between the Mountains Farm had two large barns, each accommodating herds of approximately forty head of cattle. The well that supplied water year-round for the cattle lies several hundred feet beyond the barn and still produces a good, steady flow. Surrounding trees and undergrowth that took over in the early 1900's when grazing land reverted to forest make the well difficult to locate. Sharp eyes can also discover abandoned equipment and stone walls in the woods... more indicators of past open fields.

We can only surmise it was Dr. Moore, the local veterinarian and beekeeper who consolidated the best from each barn in the early part of this century and made the smaller one



The long, horizontal windows over the barn door are known as "transom lights." Originally made of wood and first used on barns during the Middle Ages, they hinged open like a shutter, providing illumination and ventilation. Glass was not used in barns until the mid-19th century.

we have today. His son, who was wheelchair bound, used the renovated barn for a thriving poultry business, with hundreds of chickens, all of which he tended himself.

Following Dr. Moore, the Gagnons, Arthur and Georgette (she was Newbury selectman) lived here from the 1960's to the 80's. They raised large fields of raspberries, strawberries and asparagus. Again, some reconstruction was done to the barn. We assume the

"diamond peak," as the high point of the roof is known because of the lovely shape the beams form where they come together, was added at this time for support.

We have lived here since 1981. After working the raspberries for several summers, we noticed that a virus was affecting the fields. That, plus the heavy amount of physical labor required to maintain them, convinced us it was time to take out the raspberries and raise Christmas trees. A crop of some 2,000 mixed spruce, balsam, pine, and fir trees in all stages of growth now grace much of the present open land.

In early February, our four sheep go into the barn for lambing. Our meager flock of chickens is dependent upon the second graders to supply us with the results of their science projects. The remaining space is used to store hay from the fields, which is then fed to the sheep during the winter. Quite a change from the labor-intensive working farm it had once been.

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by Rebecca Rule

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HAPPEN, continued from page 1

equity payments will be refunded, minus a \$7.00 service charge. It's important to emphasize that the store will be open to all, not just to member-owners.

What you get today for your \$100 is the good feeling that you're helping to reestablish a grocery in Bradford. It'll be convenient for you and your family, as well as serving the needs of those who have difficulty traveling for groceries. The primary benefit of ownership will be to receive a return on your investment. That means that when your business realizes a profit, the profit will be distributed to the member-owners. The method of distribution will be a patronage refund, determined by the amount that you spent in the store. This method of profit distribution encourages member-owners to shop in the store and improves the store's chances to succeed.

Purchasing equity shares by June 1 makes you a charter member. To qualify, you must purchase either two equity shares (shares are \$25 each) for \$50 (with the remaining \$50 due within 12 months) or the full four shares, for \$100. All charter members will participate in a drawing in June, with prizes yet to be determined.

Some may ask, "Why become a member now, when there's no store?" The answer is that establishing this community-owned grocery business requires a demonstration of support by the community. The larger the number of member-owners, the larger the base of shoppers appears to lending institutions. Without broad support, the co-op will not be able to raise the capital necessary to open a store.

Many people have questions about what a cooperative is and what member obligations include. What's especially rewarding about cooperatives is that they are organized and managed by members. This means that each one evolves based on the needs of its members. Did you know, for example, that Ocean Spray is a cooperative? So is Land O'Lakes, Sunkist Growers, ACE Hardware, and the

Associated Press. Thus, the structure and requirements of the Bradford Area Cooperative are based on the needs of our community. The Steering Committee believes that most residents are too busy to take on the commitment of volunteering for the cooperative. So there is no member-owner requirement of volunteer labor. The store will be run by a professional staff. However, those who would enjoy participating will be invited to volunteer. And of course during this organizational phase, the more help the better.

The membership campaign has three phases. First, you'll find a membership brochure in this issue of the *Bridge*. You may fill out the form, include your payment, and mail it to P.O. Box 477, Bradford. You're automatically a member-owner and won't be contacted by a co-op representative. Second, during March, get-togethers will be held throughout Bradford, and the surrounding area, where neighbors will be invited to hear about the co-op and ask questions. Co-op representatives are also available to visit interested local organizations. During the final phase, co-op representatives will visit neighbors individually to invite their participation and answer any questions. The goal of the Steering Committee is to ensure that everyone in Bradford and as many as possible in the surrounding towns are invited to participate.

All details concerning the site, refurbishing the IGA building, or constructing a new store are yet to be determined. What has been decided is that the cooperative will own a grocery business that leases space in a building provided by a group of local investors, The Bradford Group, a Limited Liability Company.

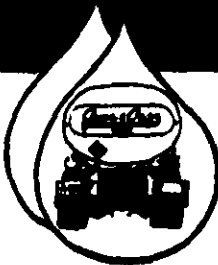
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Planning Board public hearings on proposed zoning changes

At two public hearings in January, residents discussed proposed zoning ordinance changes with the Planning Board. Chair Perry Teele opened the January 14 meeting by explaining that the Planning Board "tweaks the zoning ordinance when it can to make the regulations do what they're designed to do." In recent years, the board has found several areas that have been "difficult, unproductive, or a nuisance." One is the regulation that requires both special exception and an additional half-acre to add an additional business to an existing lot in the residential business district. Board member Tammara Van Ryn explained that approval for some businesses on Main Street now requires applying to both the Planning Board and the Zoning Board of Adjustment, a process that can take months. What the Planning Board is attempting to do is offer "one stop shopping" for applicants who wish to open a business in the residential business district. The Planning Board feels adequate protections exist in the site plan review process.

ZBA Chair Erin DiBello commented that approval from two boards provides the public with protection from an applicant being able to "railroad" a request through a single board. Responding to a comment from the audience, board members said the zoning ordinance should be "overhauled" once the Master Plan is approved. But they don't want to "hold businesses hostage" while they go through the process.

One proposed change involves eliminating the requirement for a special exception to use an accessory building for a home business. Teele explained that the board feels this type of business has little or no effect on the community and that it does not matter if the activities take place in the basement or in a detached garage, so there's little gain to following the procedure. Marcia Keller commented that the special exception review is a safeguard, determining whether the usage is appropriate and valid. Van Ryn responded that it is the responsibility of the code enforcement officer to determine compliance and identify any business whose impact on the community is a "commercial use" rather than a home business.

On January 28, the board presented for discussion its changes to the proposed amendments, based on the comments at the earlier hearing. The board responded to questions raised on the new wording, but determined that no further substantive changes should be made at this time. At the close of the hearing, the board voted to present the following amendments to be acted on by ballot vote at town meeting.

■ See HEARINGS, page 13

HEARINGS, from page 12

Amendment 1: change the definition of home business by adding *by the occupants* after the word conducted. To read: Home Business - means any business use conducted by the occupants entirely within a dwelling unit or an accessory unit which is clearly incidental and secondary to the use of the dwelling unit for dwelling purposes and does not change the character thereof, and in connection with which there is no outside display or storage, nor emission of dust, noise, fumes, vibration or smoke, or additional street parking or traffic or other adverse impacts to the town.

Amendment 2: Article III, new #12. Add: Shoreland Protection Act - The Shoreland Protection Act (RSA483-B) exists. If any provision of the Shoreland Protection Act differs or appears to conflict with any provision of the Zoning, Site Plan, Wetland or Floodplain Management Ordinances, the provision imposing the greater restriction or more stringent standard shall be controlling.

Amend 3: Art IV, Sec 2.A(c). Change from: Each lot shall be a minimum of two (2) acres. The density of this district shall not exceed one dwelling or business unit per lot, except that additional business or dwelling units may be allowed on the same lot by special exception and shall require an additional 1/2 acre per lot unit. To read: Each lot shall be a minimum of two (2) acres. The density of this district shall not exceed one dwelling or business unit per lot, except that additional business or dwelling units may be allowed upon site plan approval. Any existing lot in the residential business district of less than two (2) acres shall be considered for the purpose of this ordinance to be two (2) acres.

Amend 4: Article IV, Section 2.A(g). Delete last sentence: Use of an accessory building may be permitted for home businesses by special exception. To read: Home businesses are permitted and require full compliance with applicable sections of this ordinance.

Amendment 5: Article IV, Section 2.C(c). Delete last sentence: Use of an accessory building may be permitted for home businesses by special exception.

Amend. 6: Article V, Section 3.A. Change word in brackets from [one year] To read: When any existing nonconforming use of a building or use of land has been discontinued for [two years], the building or land shall thereafter be used only in conformity with this ordinance, except by special exception.

Amend. 7: Art. VIII, Section 1.B(f). Change the following paragraph: A site plan has been submitted to the planning board for approval and for recommendations from the selectmen, conservation commission, road agent, and police and fire chiefs, as appropriate; and To read: Comments have been solicited from the selectmen, conservation commission, road agent, and police and fire chiefs, and planning board as appropriate, and.

Meet Your Neighbor

by Audrey V. Sylvester

After seven years as Bradford's chief law enforcement officer, Al Grindle, a.k.a., Haldon T. Grindle (known to most of us as "The Chief") will retire to private life. This native New Englander from the State of Maine (born in Penobscot, to be exact) gained a sensitivity to small town law enforcement from growing up in a country environment.

Al's fondness for the country was fixed by the time he entered grammar school (when country schoolhouses had wood stoves, outhouses and oil lamps). This little boy yearned for the country when his father (a sailor on privately owned yachts) moved from "Down East" to the big city of Dorchester, Massachusetts, to take work in the Lawley Shipyard during World War II. Al quoted the expression, "You can take the boy out of the country, but you can't take the country out of the boy." Grandparents welcomed Al into their home, so he could stay in Maine while he adjusted to the idea of joining his mother and father in Massachusetts, where he started high school. The short-lived experiment ended when he quit school in tenth grade.

Uncle Sam drafted the young man into the U.S. Army. After receiving a security clearance, which took 19 months to obtain, Al excelled at computer work in the 7th Machine Records Unit at the Pentagon. He was assigned to Heidelberg, Germany, where he served in the Special Services -- work that involved, he said vaguely, "Traveling around and doing different jobs." While in Germany and living off base, Al became fluent in German and German customs ... as well as any "auslander" could. When he left the Army, he was Sergeant Grindle. It would be many years before the boy returned to the country.

After his military service, Al worked for an uncle who had been in the FBI. He discovered he liked police work. He earned a Bachelor's degree in Law Enforcement from Northeastern University. After intensive additional training, Al joined the Marshfield MA police force, where he stayed for 17 years, until an injury while on duty forced him into an early retirement.

At some point, Al had purchased Bradford property from the Marshfield Chief of Police, who had a place here. At first, Al came as a vacationing summer visitor. After his injury, Al returned to the country, making Bradford his permanent home. At this time, Chief Marvin Rich was retiring. Recuperated from his injury, Al became the new chief.

Believe it or not, Chief Grindle thinks the best part of law enforcement is "the people." He said, "People are the biggest part of law enforcement because they are the 'eyes' of the community when the police are absent. This is why I have never taken my phone number out of the book. I get calls any hour--night or day. I think in a small town, you should be available to the public and to your officers, 24 hours a day." Being a neighbor and resident helps Al with his work. The informal/formal relationship, instead of being a compromising dilemma, is useful. He said, "You're on a more personal basis, so you can deal with the situation. You know the environment the person is in."

In a small town, what does one do when an animal gets into trouble? Call the police, of course. Imagine the chief's surprise in answering an emergency call to find the emergency was a donkey named Pedro, stuck in a ten-inch space below the stall's partition. Pedro had been after Sweet Pea, another donkey. During the rescue, the owner and police chief crawled through "animal leftovers" to push or pull Pedro out. Al was mellow, "That's one of the special duties of a country officer."

Domestic and child abuse top the list of Bradford's crimes. Drugs are also on the list, with cocaine the drug of choice, followed by marijuana. Al adopts a "spoon-fed" rather than a "force-fed" approach to maintaining law and order ... sometimes with a sense of humor. When "The Chief" found a patch of marijuana plants, he pulled them up, drove stakes where the plants had grown, attached a police business card to each stake, and invited the owners to collect their property at the police station. Nobody came.

In spite of the inconvenience to his personal life, Chief Grindle advocates 24-hour police coverage for the town. He knows that troublemakers will move on to towns that do not provide full-time coverage and that police visibility is a major factor in deterring crime.

Reflecting on his retirement, Al said, "Being the Chief has been quite an honor. People have stood behind me in every endeavor. They have helped us in all ways. I hope for the next person who takes the job, that people will help as much as they have helped me. The people of Bradford have been great."

Soon, Chief Al Grindle will be a private citizen--among the "eyes" of the community--going to bed at night like the rest of us, not having to worry about enforcing the law.

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

BUDGET UPDATE

As of this writing, the final numbers of the proposed annual school budget are still being discussed. The School Board and Municipal Budget Committee are not in complete agreement, but both believe they are working long hours to provide quality services at an acceptable cost. We will have the deliberations completed by February 6. As of late January, here are the highlights of where your school board stands.

There will be a warrant article that will allow for changing the apportionment formula in Article 5 of the Articles of Agreement, such that the vote for any change in Article 5 will be by ballot at your town hall. There will still be a hearing and everything else will remain the same, only the manner of voting will be change. It would be moved to the individual towns for ballot vote.

The School Board will ask for probably about a 1.9% increase over last year in support for the school district to cover basic expenses, the Fund 1 budget. A warrant article will ask for funding for the last year of the 5-year technology plan, which will put 15 computers in the middle school and one computer in each elementary classroom, at a cost of \$169,771 (about 1% increase). There is a warrant article for beginning a co-op program at the high school, which would allow

students to learn a skill (culinary arts, graphic arts, or health occupations) and then continue their education at cooperating local businesses, \$143,337 (about 1%). The teacher contract, another article, is still unsettled but, with the teacher aide contract, will probably come in at about a 2% increase. If you add all that up, it comes to about a 5.9% increase.

While this is higher than last year's increase (3.9%), projected student enrollment is up by 4.68% and we are gradually attempting to increase the quality of our district with the addition of computers and business-school partnerships.

The Municipal Budget Committee budget presented at the January 23 School Board meeting comes in at about a 3.2% increase by cutting or deferring such things as: supplies (15%), textbooks (20%), mindstretch (no expansion to middle school plus 50% cut of existing program) a proposed new high school English teacher, and \$100,000 in unspecified cuts from the total budget. The budget committee public hearing is at the high school at 7:00 pm on February 6.

I believe that the Municipal Budget Committee's budget would cut deeply into the quality of education for our students. Contact me if you want to discuss the particulars, have any questions, or want to give me valuable input. I need your input. My number is 938-2722.

FEEDBACK, FEEDBACK, FEEDBACK

A grasshopper walks into a bar, the bartender says, "Gee, we have a drink here named after you." The grasshopper says, "Why in the world would you name a drink 'Bob'?" (courtesy NPR)

The moral of the story is that everyone has his or her own unique perspective. As your school district reps, we need that individual perspective in order to better develop our product ... the education of the district's youth. We all have a stake in the evolving of our future and our future is today's youth. Please participate in the evolution by answering question/making comments in the survey mailed to each Bradford household and by asking questions/making comments at the Focus Forum with the Superintendent, Dr. Jean Richards, myself, and the Bradford PTC on February 6 at 7:00 pm at the Bradford Elementary School. The PTC will be holding its meeting with us that night. We will have a box available for you to hand in your completed survey instead of having to mail it in.

CHARTER COMMISSION

The Charter Commission, charged with bringing a proposal to voters about how money for schools shall be approved, completed its preliminary proposal on December 31 and sent it off to be reviewed by the appropriate state agencies (Dept. of Revenue Administration, Attorney General, Secretary of State). If the review is favorable, then the School Board will pass it on to the voters to decide if it should be accepted. There was a split in the Commission, as four members were planning to submit a minority report addressing their concerns. Since then, there has been at least one revision of the proposal by the Commission. More information will be provided as it becomes available.

FIELD TRIPS

Two high school trips were approved by your board. One is a practicum to France, Italy and Spain during spring vacation and the other is a trip to Puerto Rico after the school year ends in June. These are being undertaken by foreign language classes and look very exciting as well as educational. They won't take Board members we asked!

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Selectmen's meetings in January

January 6. George Musler, from the New Hampshire Office of Emergency Management, met to discuss the importance of Bradford's remaining in the federal flood insurance program. He explained that for policy holders to maintain coverage, the town's Code Enforcement Officer must understand the areas designated as floodplain and enforce the regulations during the building permit process. When asked about the recurring high-water problems on Lake Massasecum, Musler responded that that situation was the responsibility of the NH Dept. of Environmental Services. He said he had recommended that the state's Mitigation Officer come to Bradford to discuss mitigation efforts. Dick Keller asked for assurances that the Selectmen would support whatever mitigation was determined for Lake Massasecum. Selectman Signorino responded that Lake Massasecum was in Bradford and the board would cooperate in any way it could.

Selectmen discussed proposed warrant article to convert two class VI roads to class A trails. They agreed that there were too many unanswered questions for them to support the article.

Signorino met with Autocraft owner Joe Wilcox concerning moving cars still on town property. Wilcox responded that he is making room at his new location for the remaining cars.

Selectman Joe Conway reported that a community visit by the Rural Development Council had been set for February 27. The Board of Selectmen was invited to meet with the Bradford Business Association on January 20 to discuss the Economic Development Steering Committee.

January 13. Library trustees met to submit three warrant articles by petition. The first is a bond issue for \$550,000 to build a new library, \$415,000 to be raised by bonds and notes, \$70,000 from capital reserve, and \$25,000 from library funds. The second is a request for \$40,000 in capital reserve funds if the bond article fails. The third authorizes the trustees to accept gifts of personal property, other than money. With Selectman Signorino not in attendance, the board took the proposed warrant articles under advisement and asked the trustees to submit the petitions to Town Clerk Sue Pehrson for authentication.

The topic of water running onto town roads and freezing and causing hazardous icing situations was again discussed. Three situations were identified and letters will be sent to homeowners, informing them of their responsibility to correct the situation, providing they were responsible for diverting the water.

January 20. No Selectmen's meeting, Civil Rights Day.

January 27. The meeting began with a non-public session, after which the Selectmen announced that they had accepted a letter of retirement from Police Chief Al Grindle.

Conservation Commission members returned to again discuss their warrant article to reclassify Dunfield and Smith Roads from class VI to class A trails. They expressed concern over the serious degradation of these roads (the town cannot expend funds to maintain class VI roads) and said that if the roads were reclassified, the Conservation Commission could take action to stabilize and eventually improve them as part of a trail system. Selectmen expressed concern over limiting future use of these roads. Commission members pointed out that landowners are not allowed to build on class VI roads without

the permission of the Selectmen anyway. Should such a situation arise, the road could be reclassified class VI by action of town meeting. If the roads are not reclassified, the Conservation Commission would need to feel that the roads would be policed to eliminate any destruction if they were to undertake any repairs. It was suggested that the Selectmen could pass an ordinance empowering the Conservation Commission to act as agents to protect the roads. Selectmen asked Commission members to draft an ordinance for their consideration. They expressed appreciation for clarification of this issue and said they would reconsider supporting the warrant article.

The damage to roads caused by logging vehicles was discussed, with members again asking that the Conservation Commission be notified of logging operations to document conditions prior to the activity.



APPLESEED RESTAURANT

VALENTINE'S WEEKEND SPECIALS

for two or more

Affordable Family Dining - Wed-Sun 5:00-9:00, closed Mon & Tu
"A Must Visit" - Manchester Union Leader, 8/30/96

Member, Bradford Business Association

938-2100

Christmas in the Country Thank You

The Bradford Business Association wishes to thank all of you who participated in the 1996 Christmas in the Country weekend: the Bradford Women's Club; Brown Memorial Library and staff; the First Baptist Church Advent Crafts Program; the American Baptist Women; the Baptist Church House Committee Ham and Bean Supper; the Bradford-Newbury Kindergarten and Preschool; the Bradford Elementary School PTO; the choristers from Magdalene College; John and Mel Pfeifle; Universal Packaging Corp.; Andrew Pinard; Mary Webb and staff at Sweet Patch Bakery; Les and Marilyn Gordon, Candlelite Inn; Jim and Lynn Horigan, Thistle and Shamrock Inn; Dick and Lesley Marquis, Rosewood Country Inn; Dee and Russell Currier, Foxchase; Pat Lubano, Mountain Lake Inn; John and RuthAnn Harris; the Bradford Historical Society; Don and Jane Johnsen; all those who participated in the Holiday Decorating Contest; the Selectmen from Bradford and Warner; the Hodge Podge Puppets; the Bradford Police Department; the *Bradford Bridge*; the *InterTown Record*; and last but not least, the Christmas in the Country Committee: Mariene Freyler, Lynn Horigan, and Marilyn Gordon. If we have inadvertently omitted your name from this list, please know that your participation in this event was greatly appreciated.

The Bradford Business Association,
 Gary Wall, President

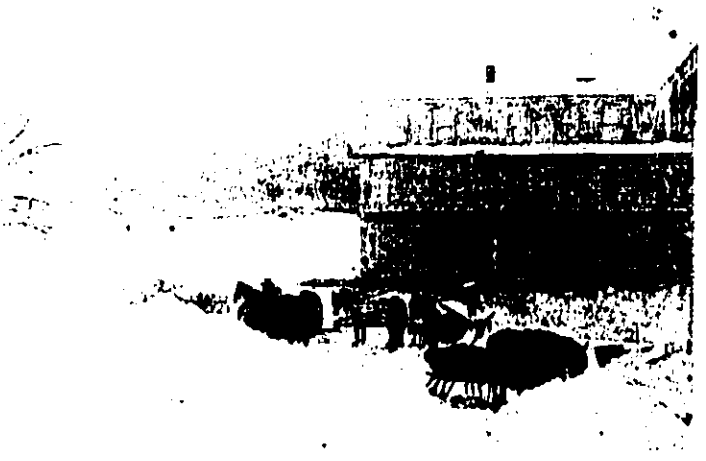
THEN & NOW

*West Main Street
by Milly Kittredge and Steve Hansen*



Winter Carnival parade


Can anyone come closer than 1934 to 1938 for this picture? The Sutton Athletic Association is in the lead coming up West Main Street. We have a view of the Peaslee house and barn, which burned in 1970 and is now the entrance to Fisherfield. On the hill is the Flanders home, now Burnell, next to the present library. At one time, the Peaslee home also held the town library room and Mrs. Frank Peaslee was the first librarian.



Bradford Inn

The inn which is now called the Thistle and Shamrock Inn was built after the first Brick Hotel burned in 1894. It was called the New Bradford Hotel. In front is the snow roller, working its way down Main Street. In the back, barely visible, is the arch at the gate of Pleasant Hill Cemetery. Near the gate is the Hearse House, and closer to the road is the Buswell Block, which burned in 1926.

Please advise of any additions or corrections.



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Library Lantern

by Maggi Ainslie

Circulation for 1996 at Brown Memorial Library was 11,064. Juvenile fiction was up 24%, juvenile non-fiction was up 34%. Inter-library loans (books borrowed between libraries) was up 34.7%. Video circulation increased 39.6%.

We're looking for someone to bring in TIME magazine on a regular basis. Give us a call if you can do this.

Audio items recently purchased.....

- Tuck Everlasting, by Babbitt
- Genesis, by Stegner
- Louis L'Amour Stories, by Nelson
- Time of Wonder, by McClosky
- Last on a Mountain in Maine, by Fendler
- Wellspring, by Bodkin
- Andre, by Dietz

New books

- Airframe, by Crichton
- English Patient, by Ondaatje
- Fallen Man, by Hillerman
- Icon, by Forsyth

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

Telephone: 938-5562.

Chris Payson would like all voters to know that he is a write-in candidate for the office of Library Trustee.

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Odds Bodkin wins awards

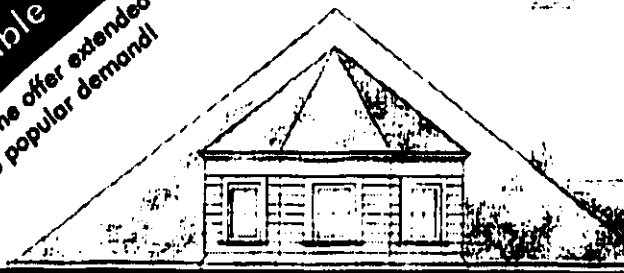
Master Talesman Odds Bodkin, of Bradford, has recently accumulated several awards. Congratulations to Odds for ... the 1997 Oppenheim Platinum Award for best audio for his production of *The Odyssey: An Epic Telling*; the Parent Council Award for *The Winter Cherries*, *Paul Bunyan*, and *The Blossom Tree*; and the Tribune Media Services Award for "Best Storyteller" and his recording of *The Evergreens: Gentle Tales of Nature*.

February hikes with Greenway coalition

The Sunapee-Ragged-Kearsarge Greenway Coalition is offering two hikes during February. All are invited to take part and enjoy the beauty of winter in our local forests.

On Wednesday, February 5, Bill Best will lead a hike through the Langanau Forest via the Webb Interpretive Trail to Route 4A in Wilmot. Call Bill at 526-9367 for details.

On Saturday, February 22, Natalie Davis and Ruth White will lead a hike on the Morgan Hill Loop in New London. Call Natalie (763-5320) or Ruth (763-4893) for details.

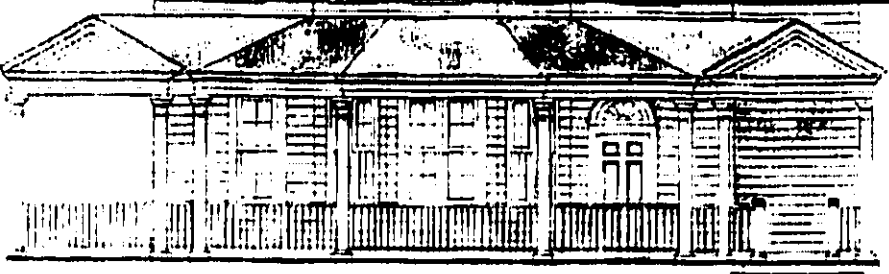


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VISIT, continued from page 1

departments, organizations, businesses, and individuals. The visit usually lasts all day, often ending with a potluck supper where conversations can continue. Following the visit, the RDC prepares a report that covers, according to Goddard, "here's what we heard; here's what can be done." The report will be presented to the Steering Committee approximately two months after the visit. The committee will be responsible for setting goals and determining action items.

During February, Committee members are responsible for identifying Bradford resources to invite, providing information on Bradford to the RDC, and planning the schedule for meetings, meals, etc. If you would like to get involved, you may volunteer by calling Joe Conway, 938-2056.

THE COZY CORNER
by Mildred Schmidt



OOPS! Last month's recipe needs a little insert. After "Let stand 2-3 minutes," please add "smooth (chocolate) chips with spatula." Thanks!

We are lucky having all this snow! Children, teenagers, and adults can do their thing in the winter. Nothing is so great as skiing, snowboarding, sleigh-riding, snowmobiling, ice fishing ... even just rolling in the snow is fun! Happy Valentine's Day to you and your family.

This month's recipe is red for Valentine's Day. Easy to make, healthy for your heart, delicious to eat!

Cherry Crumble

- 6 Tbsp unsalted butter or marg
- 1/2 C old-fashioned rolled oats
- 1 Tbsp grated lemon zest
- 1 can (1 lb, 5 oz) cherry pie filling
- 1 C plus 2 Tbsp flour
- 6 Tbps firmly packed brown sugar
- 1/8 tsp salt

Preheat oven to 375°. Melt butter in large, heavy saucepan over medium heat, stirring occasionally. Remove from heat.

Stir in flour, oats, brown sugar, lemon zest and salt until dry, crumbly dough forms.

Press about two-thirds of dough (about 1 2/3 cups) onto bottom of 9 x 9 x 2-inch square baking pan, making firm, even layer. Spread cherry pie filling over top and sprinkle with remaining crumb mixture.

Bake in preheated 375° oven for 40-45 minutes, until lightly browned. Serve warm or at room temperature. Makes 16 servings.

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February Square Dance

Frosty the Snowman, a Mainstream level square dance with PLUS tips will be held on February 8, at the Bradford Town Hall, 8:00-10:30 pm. The caller will be Ralph Peacock; cuer, Phil Gatchell. The cost is \$4.00 per person. Refreshments will be served. For more information, call 863-9775. Spectators welcome!

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GARDENING

by Fred Winch



Since just before Christmas, the seed catalogs have been coming ... in large quantities to those who ordered seeds in past years. Thus many have begun to think of past gardens, past harvests, and also what they wish they had planted last year. The latter thought may have been triggered when walking the fresh produce aisles of the supermarket in the last weeks. I visited several where early spring crops were displayed: spring cabbages, parsnips, and asparagus, both green and white. It was the first time I have seen white asparagus in our markets, though it is common and a favored vegetable in European markets.

Asparagus is a perennial crop like rhubarb. Both involve dedicating a part of the garden to those crops for many years and holding off harvesting for at least a couple of years. Back in the days when my father kept a cow for milk and butter and a horse for transportation, he had one garden in part devoted to the two crops: two or three rhubarb plants and three long (50 foot) rows of asparagus, for what was the "first crop" of the year. Since some dedication is needed, asparagus is often plant not in the average garden.

Asparagus, however, if planted correctly, will supply a family for many years. Some garden owners in town are fortunate that previous owners of their property planted the patch and, if cared for, it produces yearly.

To plant your own patch, choose a site on good loamy soil, preferably east or south facing and in previously cultivated soil. Dig a trench or trenches 4 or 5 feet apart and 6 to 8 inches deep. Loosen the soil well, incorporating humus or compost to receive the plants, which are best planted the first thing in the spring for best results.

Asparagus, believe it or not, is in the lily family. The stock for planting, root clumps, should be freshly dug for best results. Since much effort by plant breeders has gone into development of disease and insect resistance, as well as hybrid vigor, there are new varieties now available. New Jersey breeders have "all male" stock which produces larger more succulent stalks. Other Northeastern growers have developed rust resistant varieties. So order early and plant early for best results. When plants arrive, set them on that prepared soil about one to one and a half feet apart, covering them with good soil mixed with well rotted or composted manure about 3 inches deep, liming that soil if the area has not previously been limed. Water well. Once the young slender stalks emerge, fill the trench gradually and keep weeded and cultivated. The space between rows may be used

for annual crops, well cultivated, for a couple of years. Since the plants may not be harvested the first year and only one or two stalks from each hill cut in the next year, one must patiently watch the patch develop.

Local nurseries in the northeast offer freshly dug plants, able to be delivered in a couple of days. Two nurseries serving us are Jersey Asparagus Farms, 105 Porchtown Road, Pittsgrove NJ 08318, and Nourse Plant Farm, Inc., 41 River Road, So. Deerfield MA 01373.

In the meantime, do not neglect the annual garden. There are so many new vegetable and flower varieties available to the 1997 gardener that time should be devoted to comparing what you planted last year to those new to your use this year. I find that if you had good results last year, it would be well to plant that variety again, but try a new one too, for comparison. Pretty generally, the older varieties are available for several years, but in many cases seed catalogs drop one or two of the older varieties unless sales of seeds of such standbys hold up. It is rather interesting, if you have one, to compare a catalog ten or more years old with the '97 ones to see which varieties are still in vogue. For instance, Lincoln peas have remained on the

favored list, as has Early Summer Crookneck Squash, while in the corn varieties, nearly 100% of the offerings are less than ten years old. In the flower list, Heavenly Blue Morning Glory is still a favored variety, which is hard to beat.

Conversely, there is a present trend to bring back some of the "heirloom" varieties of old vegetables, especially tomatoes. Several seed catalogs have one or more pages devoted to the old varieties which have been "rediscovered" and made available. Of the tomatoes, Abraham Lincoln, German Johnson, Delicious, and Brandywine, and even Golden Bantam corn, favorites of one's childhood (if you're over 65!) are now listed. Shumway Seed Co. of Graniteville SC, Johnny's of Albion ME and Pine Tree Seed of New Gloucester ME have many resurrected varieties now available. Bear in mind the old varieties are not as disease resistant as the modern hybrids, nor are they as early maturing or vigorous. So it may be well to grow them somewhat distant from the main part of the garden. If you desire the old fashioned flavor and looks of some of the old timers, plant some and see if the memories of the past are true. Happy planning!



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OPEN VALENTINE'S DAY 8:00 - 6:30

February Calendar

Monday, February 3

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

Tuesday, February 4

ZBA public hearings, Town Hall, 7:00
Library Trustees, Open to Public, 7:15
Fish & Game, Lake Todd Clubhouse, 7:00

Wednesday, February 5

Budget Committee meeting, Town Hall, 7:00
Economic Development Steering Committee, Town Hall, 7:00

Thursday, February 6

Combined PTC/School Superintendent Focus Forum, Bradford Elementary, 7:00
KRSD Budget Public Hearing, high school, 7:00
Winter Book Discussion, library, 7:00
Sponsored by Friends of the Library.

Saturday, February 8

Mainstream level square dance, Town Hall, 8:00-10:30

Monday, February 10

Selectmen's meeting, Town Hall, 7:00

Tuesday, February 11

Planning Board, Town Hall, 7:30

Wednesday, February 12

Children's literary video program, library, 3:30-5:00
Revolving Loan Committee, Town Hall, 7:00

Thursday, February 13

Bradford/Newbury Workshop, S. Newbury Friendship House, 11:00 am
Town Budget Public Hearing, Town Hall, 7:00
KRSD Board Meeting, High School, 7:15

Friday, February 14

Whist, Church Vestry, 7:30
Prizes, refreshments, sponsored by Fish & Game

Saturday, February 15

KRHS Variety Show, high school, 7:00

Monday, February 17

NO Selectmen's meeting, Presidents' Day
Bradford Business Association, Church Vestry, 7:00

Tuesday, February 18

BWC Pot Luck Luncheon & Town Reports, Church Vestry, 11:30 am
Conservation Commission, Town Hall, 7:00
BNKP, Town Hall, 7:00

Wednesday, February 19

Road Committee, Town Hall, 7:00

Thursday, February 20

School/Family Assembly, Bradford Elementary, 2:00
Winter Book Discussion, library, 7:00
Sponsored by Friends of the Library.

Monday, February 24

Selectmen's meeting, Town Hall, 7:00
Planning Board, Town Hall, 7:30

Thursday, February 27

Rural Development Council Community Visit, all day
School Board meeting, High School, 7:15
Historical Society Workshop, Call M. Kittridge, 938-5386

Friday, February 28

Whist, Church Vestry, 7:30
Prizes, refreshments, sponsored by the Food Pantry

Saturday, March 1

Moon Mountain Arts reprise of "Town Meeting," Town Hall, 7:30. For reservations call 938-2095. Seats are limited.

To list events for the month of March, call Lu Signorino, 938-2608.

Classified Ads

FOR SALE. Cement mixer, electric, 110 volt one-bagger, \$100.
Cedar clapboards, 35 cents per lineal foot. Call 938-2539.

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WANTED. The date the "Haystack" on the east side of Massasecum split and fell over. Reply to David B. Gaudes, Sr., 16 Belmont Court, Bedford NH 03110.

FOR SALE. Four pine ladderback chairs, in fine condition; rush seats need repair--great winter project. \$40 or B.O. Call 938-2319.

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