



THE BRADFORD BRIDGE

PROFILE

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see page 13

Volume 7, Number 1

Community News - By and for our neighbors

January 1997

Selectmen commission community economic development committee

At their December 16 meeting, the Selectmen commissioned the establishment of the Bradford Community Economic Development Steering Committee. The purpose of the committee is to support and promote sound community economic development and to serve as their liaison for economic development activities within the Town of Bradford. Membership on the committee will include: a Selectmen's representative, a Planning Board representative, a ZBA representative, a Road Committee representative, two members from the Bradford business community,

and up to six members from the community at large.

The motivation for establishing the committee is the Selectmen's belief that: "Communities having sound fiscal health and high quality facilities and services are attractive to business and industry. New corporate investment and reinvestment in a community may be influenced by improvements which enhance the quality of life for their executives and employees. Private decisions which bring jobs to an area and new tax base to a community are based not only on availability of water and sewer utilities, but also upon the quality of community schools, public safety facilities, recreational opportunities, and other services."

The Selectmen approved a vision statement for the committee:

"Create within the Town of Bradford an operating network of public, private and municipal sector resource providers that can help the community identify and accomplish internally-generated strategies through members' willingness to listen, share contacts, information and decision-making authority for problem solving.

"Additionally, the steering committee mission is to act as a catalyst for innovative community and economic development by identifying and forming key partnerships, recognizing inequities in services and programs, and bridging the gap between planning and spending, visions and fiscal reality with emphasis on development opportunities that coincide with the town's Master Plan and Capital Improvement Plan."

Those interested in serving on the Bradford Community Economic Development Steering Committee

Filing period for declaration of candidacy ends January 31

The following positions will be filled by election at Town Meeting on March 11. The Town Clerk will be open for filing for candidacy at the following times: Friday, January 24, 8:00-noon; Monday, January 26, 2:00-7:00; Tuesday, January 27, 8:00-5:00; and Friday, January 31, 8:00-noon and 3:00-5:00.

Selectman for three years (1) (\$1.00 fee); Town clerk/tax collector for three years (1) (\$1.00 fee); Treasurer for three years (1) (\$1.00 fee); Trustee of the trust funds for three years (1); Trustee of the Brown Memorial Library for three years (3); Scholarship Committee for three years (1); Budget Committee for three years (2); Planning Board for three years (2); Zoning Board of Adjustment for three years (2); Zoning Board of Adjustment for two years (1); Cemetery Commission for three years (1).

Planning Board proposes zoning ordinance changes

In response to the many comments made over the past year concerning the need to simplify the procedures for developing businesses in the business district, the Planning Board proposes several changes to the Bradford Zoning Ordinance.

The Board proposes to remove the special exception requirement. This will make development of additional businesses or dwelling units simpler. It eliminates the need to gain approval from both the ZBA and Planning Board. Proposed additional businesses or dwellings will be reviewed under the regular site plan review procedures.

The requirement of an additional half-acre of land for an additional business is also proposed for removal. Most lots in the business district cannot meet the criteria which, under the current Zoning Ordinance, requires application to the ZBA for a variance.

The non-conforming lot grace period of one year is proposed to be extended to two years. In the recent past, there have been legal questions which have prevented buildings from being reopened within one year.

A reference to the Shoreland Protection Act is proposed to be inserted so that applicants are aware that conditions of the Act may apply to the proposed project. This clarifies the fact that the stronger restrictions will apply, whether it is the Zoning Ordinance or state law.

Kathy Russell granted leave of absence

Kathy Russell, Selectmen's Administrative Assistant, has been granted an indefinite unpaid leave of absence, effective January 1. Sue Ann Siarto has been hired to fill the position during Kathy's leave.

Petition warrant articles deadline

Warrant articles may be submitted by any resident, accompanied by the signatures of 25 registered voters. The deadline for submission is February 3.

Bradford Springs property donated to the town

Robert Keating of N. Palm Beach, Florida, has donated the site of the old Bradford Springs Hotel and 20 acres of surrounding wetland to the town as conservation land. The property is located on East Washington Road near the Bradford Bog property.

Mr. Keating is descended from an old Bradford family. His great-grandfather, William Kezar, owned and developed the hotel at the turn of the century. The land passed to his grandmother, Elizabeth, who married Robert Snow. Elizabeth passed it to her daughter, Sarah Alice, who married Thomas Keating. Last, but not least, it was passed to her son, Robert Thomas Keating.

The Conservation Commission plans to work with the Bradford Historical Society to preserve the historic site and protect the wetland. The Commission is grateful to Dan Coolidge and Bonnie Palmer of Sheehan Phinney Bas & Green for providing the legal work needed for the transfer of property.

Bradbury Priority Mail announces vacationers' alert!

Are you planning a weekend get-away, a trip, an escape, or the vacation of a lifetime? Don't forget to tuck the Bradford Elementary School's address in your luggage and remember us with a postcard or two while you're away. Postcards from everywhere can enrich our school's curriculum, offering teachers the opportunity to integrate the postcards into all subject areas. For example, on the surface, a postcard might depict geographical features which can include information about history, geology, or human interest. A teacher can use postcards to advance mathematical concepts such as counting, calculating, percentage, and MORE! Stamps and frankings from foreign lands offer insight into slightly different postal methods and cultures.

The postcards should be addressed to the school. They will be delivered within the school through the school's private postal program, WE DELIVER. Each card will be read during lunch, along with other announcements. Every card will be saved and catalogued for future reference.

When writing, please make sure to date the card and include information such as approximate temperature and weather conditions. If the card is not self-explanatory, please tell us more about what's pictured. And tell us how you are enjoying your trip!

The PTC Enrichment Committee encourages students, parents and community members to participate in the school's *Bradbury Priority Mail* program, which is certain to expose the minds of our students to new places, different ways, and ideas. Whether it's a vacation to Vermont, Vicksburg, Vienna or Vishakhapatnam (India), *Bradbury Priority Mail* students want to hear from you!

Send your postcards to: Bradbury Priority Mail, c/o WE DELIVER, Bradford Elementary School, P.O. Box 435, Bradford, NH 03221. --Carolyn Coolidge

Casting in January for return engagement of Rebecca Rule's TOWN MEETING

On March 1, Moon Mountain Arts will present a return engagement of the play, *TOWN MEETING, A Comedy in Two Acts*, by Rebecca Rule. Anyone interested in acting in this revised version of the 1996 hit comedy may telephone Marcia Strout (938-2716) or Debby Lamach (938-2095).

Returning cast members include Tillie Wheeler as Esther, Lois Bradicich as Stella Gooch-Enright, and John Harris as Old Gooch. New to the cast are Debby Lamach as Maxine Marsh and John Signorino as Ed Gooch.

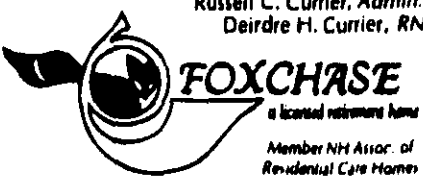
For an evening of fun and laughter, do not miss the play, *TOWN MEETING*, on Saturday, March 1 at 7:30 pm at the Town Hall.

Bradford Women's Club update

Even with bad weather the second weekend, our Holiday Crafts and Antiques Fair did very well ... I believe all due to the time and work given by so many members. Once again, Ann and Bill Hallahan gave us the place to hold it and then so much of their time; can't imagine a fair without them. We all thank them so very much.

"911, Who Responds" will be the topic of our January 21 meeting at the church vestry at 1:00 pm.

With a new year, we need some new goals for the BWC. Bring your ideas to the meeting. --Jane Lucas, President



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Deirdre H. Currier, RN

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News from the Town Clerk and Tax Collector's office

TOWN CLERK

December 29. Robert Mitchell and Virginia Estes were married.

Declaration for candidacy begins on January 22 for the town officers to be elected at town meeting on March 11, 1997.

TAX COLLECTOR

All unpaid 1996 property tax bills are now assessed at 12% interest.

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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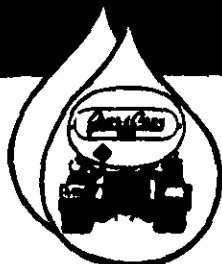
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Bradford Historical Society notes ...

Thanks to all who came to the Society's Christmas in the Country Open House at the Brick Mill. And thanks to our hosts, Ruth Ann and John Harris, who have done such a wonderful job restoring and refurbishing this landmark building into a warm and wonderful home. Despite the wretched weather, a goodly number stopped by to enjoy the Harris's hospitality. We made many new friends and found a few new members for the Society as well.

The Society's Board of Directors will meet on January 6 at 7:30 pm. Members who have suggestions for the Board's agenda should phone the President (938-2301) before the 6th.

Bradford Historical Society will have a workshop meeting on Thursday, January 23, at 9:30 am at the home of Nancy Hibbard. This is when we do the work of the History Committee and many hands make light work. Please come; cabin fever may have set in by then and the workshop is always a jolly gathering.

Society Headquarters at the Old Post Office will not be open regularly during the winter months. However, we are happy to make it available for your research or questions by appointment. Please call Millie Kittredge, the archivist, at 938-5386.

With all our good wishes for the new year ...
Nancy Hibbard, President

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KRHS Winter Concert an outstanding success

The High School presented a high quality Winter Concert on December 10. The Jazz Band opened with great enthusiasm. The Emil Faber Chorale, a male chorus, was outstanding and should be heard often. The String Quartet, another very professional quartet of five, gave us Vivaldi and Britten. The Band was well rounded and gave a rousing performance, including the Prelude to Finlandia. The Chorus is one-hundred strong and blended their voices into some marvelous sounds. Director Mills and his musicians have put in many hours to accomplish such a professional program.

A New Year's wish could be that the entire school district would work so hard and achieve such pleasing harmonious results.

The Spring Concert is scheduled for June 3.
--Milly Kittredge

Mauri Scheffy joins Yankee Cable Network

Yankee Cable Network announces that Mauri Scheffy has joined the organization in a number of roles. Her most visible role is as hostess of the weekly television program, "Mauri Scheffy on the Road." The program appears on Channel 13 in the MCT cable area and Channel 10 in the Kearsarge cable area. This show highlights the people and events that make this area an interesting place to live and visit. In addition to appearing on the programs, Scheffy is responsible for determining the sites and subjects for each show.

On the business side, Scheffy serves as an account executive, responsible for selling advertising time to local, regional and national businesses. In addition to the local cable channels, she can place ads on ESPN and CNN.

Mauri can be reached for advertising information and program topic suggestions at 938-2222. Greg and Lisa Uhrin, principals of Yankee Cable Network, look forward to working with Mauri to expand the quality programming available to area residents.

ZBA approves seasonal campground on East Washington Road

The Zoning Board of Adjustment held a public hearing in December on the application of Timberstand Investments Co. Ltd. for a special exception to develop a seasonal campground on East Washington Road. Abutters and interested residents were in attendance, some to ask questions, some to express concerns, and others to register support. Bob Stewart, Jr., agent for property owner Michael Carter, described the proposal and responded to the application questions, using a large map to illustrate the site and the area that would be developed.

Major concerns raised were for the integrity of the neighboring Bradford Bog and the adjoining wetlands, disruption of the rural character of that part of town, increased traffic, both on the roads and from off-road vehicles, and possible vandalism because of the isolated location.

At the close of the public hearing, the Board discussed the seven conditions contained in the Zoning Ordinance that must be met in order to grant a special exception and considered the public comments, along with those that had been requested, in writing, from the Selectmen, Police, Fire, Highway and Conservation Commission.

By a four to one vote, the Board granted a special exception to develop a seasonal campground for 20 RV and 53 tent sites, adding the following conditions: the requirements of RSA 216-1 Recreational Campgrounds and Camping Park must be met; particular attention shall be given to protection of the surrounding wetlands; the bridge that provides access must be acceptable to the Fire Chief; no vehicles shall be on the site after the close of the season; and a suitable vegetative buffer shall be retained along East Washington Road.

Since the next step is expected to be Site Plan Review by the Planning Board, the Zoning Board forwarded a letter to the Planning Board suggesting consideration of this project as a "Development of Regional Impact" under RSA 36:54, which might include notification of the Town of Washington.

--Marcia Keller



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Master Plan Goals and Objectives finalized

At its December 30 meeting, the Planning Board accepted the Master Plan Goals and Objectives, submitted by the Master Plan Update Committee. These are based on an exhaustive 18-month effort to solicit input from Bradford residents and town organizations concerning how they would like to see the town grow over the next five to ten years. The Master Plan Update Committee will now compile data and write the Master Plan, with the goal of presenting it to the town by early March. Committee members include Co-Chairs Dick Whall and Glen Mayo, Harriet Douglass, Nancy Hibbard, and Kathy Messer.

MASTER PLAN VISION: The vision for Bradford into the 21st century is to retain its small-town character with an active village area and an historic district connected to a rural landscape that is primarily fields and forests. Bradford will support diverse small businesses that provide economic benefits to and employment opportunities in the community. Children will be provided quality education at a reasonable cost. Community spirit will flourish.

MASTER PLAN GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

I. To maintain a small-town character and rural lifestyle.

Objectives:

- Support a rural lifestyle with sufficient rules and regulations to control growth with an acceptable balance between residential and non-residential use.
- Recommend conservation policy to support a rural lifestyle.
- Protect important natural resources, including wetlands, flood plains, and aquifers.
- Provide recreational opportunity both as a town and a community function, involving our lakes, parks and open lands.
- Preserve historic features throughout the town.

II. To improve the economic climate.

Objectives:

- Recognize the need to actively work to improve the tax base and create employment opportunity.
- Recognize the potential for economic improvement offered by the location of the access highways leading in and out of the village area.
- Analyze the need and develop programs for working cooperatively with the contiguous and regional communities.
- Develop a comprehensive plan as to how, where and when to encourage business and light industry.
- Provide the infrastructure to service present community needs and future growth; i.e. pedestrian access to community services.
- Promote small business development.

III. To improve the village area (which includes KRES, the USPO and Appleseed Inn).

Objectives:

- Address the means to revitalize Main Street and make it a source of pride to the community.
- Evaluate the water/sewer issue as it affects the health and economic future of the town.

IV. To preserve the rural landscape (the area outside of the village area and the access highways) as a community resource.

Objectives:

- Maintain a landscape of fields, farms, and forests.
- Support a viable current-use program.
- Encourage recreational use of all available areas of the rural landscape (including ATV, cross-country and skimobile trails, hiking, hunting and trapping).
- Evaluate the town's Class VI roads for possible use and maintenance as Class A conservation trails.
- Evaluate rules and regulations to maintain and promote a rural landscape.

V. To promote community spirit and encourage citizen participation.

Objectives:

- Provide an atmosphere and environment for cohesive action within the community and with surrounding towns.
- Maintain town-supported vital services.
- Provide adequate facilities for town service organizations.
- Develop a program to actively support community sports programs, youth recreation needs, special events and celebrations, and local business.

Road Committee report

The December meeting of the Road Committee was spent reviewing current road conditions and preparing recommendations for the 1997 budget. Based on the ongoing work and the Road Agent's analysis of cost estimates and available personnel, the priorities for the coming year include continuation of restoration on West Road (from East Washington toward Old Mountain), repaving Forest Street, Davis Road, the upper portion of Cochran Hill, and Oakdale Road; if necessary, drainage easements can be obtained on Oakdale. Roads to be sealed include Breezy Hill, Jones, Steele, Rowe Mountain, and Gillingham Drive.

After reviewing the work that has been completed on the town's bridges and the Hoyle Tanner and NH Department of Transportation inspection reports, the committee decided to request funding, using the state's 80% matching program, for the bridge on Fairgrounds Road, between Pleasant View and East Meadow Roads. This bridge, following the two currently being worked on, will complete bridge projects on a major section of the school bus route.

The Road Committee recommendations have been forwarded to the Board of Selectmen for its review and, as approved or modified, inclusion in the budget submitted to the Budget Committee. --Marcia Keller

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Pontine founder Marguerite Mathews discusses the production with the Lamberts and Kate Hibbard

Voices from the Spirit Land enchants audience

Following the performance of *Voices from the Spirit Land* on December 29, Portsmouth-based actors Marguerite Mathews and Greg Gathers encouraged adults and children to take a closer look at the hand-carved faces and hands of the Bunraku-style puppets used in the play. The holiday performance was produced for the community by Moon Mountain Arts in the Town Hall. The complex play, combining 19th century history, philosophy and literature, illuminated the phenomenon of Transcendentalism -- a somewhat heady adventure for persons unfamiliar with the topic. But even 10-year-olds were captivated by the magic of the performance, with puppets acting out a Henry James ghost story atop a Victorian table and cutout figures reporting mysterious events of the day, hand-manipulated across the stage of a toy theatre. The actors flawlessly moved between performing as puppet characters and real "flesh and blood" characters.

The Town Hall stage was transformed with professional lighting, an innovative set, and professional sound system. Pontine thinks the Bradford Town Hall is one of the best performance spaces in any of New Hampshire's small towns.

The finely crafted selection of music which accompanied each vignette enchanted the audience. One memorable selection was an exquisite rendition of Stephen Foster's "Beau-

Soo-Nipi Audubon Chapter news

Become a Florida "snowbird" on Friday, January 10, 7:30 pm, at St. Andrews Episcopal Church, New London, when the Soo-Nipi Audubon Chapter will present a slide program entitled, "South Florida Wildlife Safari."

Speakers Rebecca and Mark Suomala will discuss the area's ecology and show pictures of wildlife taken at Ding Darling Wildlife Refuge on Sanibel Island, Audubon's Corkscrew Swamp, and Everglades National Park.

This program is open to the public and refreshments will be served. For more information, call Phyllis Curtiss, 526-4396.

On Saturday, January 11, experience a more wintry environment as Gary Stansfield leads the Soo-Nipi Audubon Chapter's annual birding trip to the Parker River National Wildlife Refuge on Plum Island, Newburyport, MA, to look for snowy owls, waterbirds, and other winter migrants.

This field trip is open to all interested persons. Participants should be prepared for cold, windy weather. Meet Gary at the Warner Park and Ride, Exit 9, off I-89, at 8:00 am. Bring lunch and binoculars. For more information, call Gary at 863-8737.

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BRADFORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE

Blue News Report from the Police Department *by Kathy Grindle*

This past month has seen some changes in personnel for the police department. Sgt. Neal Martin has resigned, leaving a full-time opening within the department. He had been a Bradford police officer for more than four years and we wish him well in his future endeavors. The full-time opening has been advertised in local papers.

Part-time officer Dave Leathers also resigned this month. Officer Leathers, who served in the department for more than three years, found that increased responsibility at his full-time job as an environmental investigator with the state did not allow him the availability to also work part time. Since we are able to keep only a certain number of part-time officers, Officer Leathers thought that another individual may be able to better fill his time. He has always shown himself to be an outstanding officer and we wish him well.

At their December 30 meeting, the Selectmen approved the promotion of Kris Dupuis from part-time to full-time officer. Kris has served as a part-time officer in Bradford for 18 months. He will attend the police academy in the spring. The Selectmen also approved the appointment of Chris Lemay as a part-time officer.

Officer Robert Varley will start full-time police academy this month and continue through March. We wish him good luck and are sure that he will make the department proud. Two officers will go to the part-time academy starting in February. One will be Officer John Roberts, who has been street training over the last few months. Another part-time officer has yet to be chosen.

The Department will be auctioning off items which were turned in and never claimed. These items may be viewed Monday through Thursday, January 2-14, 9:00-5:00. They include a rechargeable flashlight, two mountain bikes, and a leather jacket, size 16.

The Department would like to thank all those who brought us goodies over the holiday season. They were all much appreciated.

We are pleased to report that we got through the holidays without any major problems in town. There were a few minor fender-bender accidents, but nothing serious. (There are no tallies this month because I have been out of the office for a few weeks due to surgery.)

We would like to wish all of the residents of Bradford a safe, healthy and happy New Year.



Church News

from Lynne E. Hubley

American Baptist Women's Ministries. The ladies will hold their January meeting on Tuesday, January 7, beginning at 7:00 pm. Edythe Craig will lead us in our mission program, entitled "Baptist Women in Eastern Europe." Ladies are invited to bring costumes or items from Eastern Europe for a "show and tell."

Unhanging of the Greens. On Sunday, January 12, we will be "unhanging the greens" and taking down Christmas decorations immediately following the coffee hour.

Food Pantry. The community food pantry will be open Wednesday, January 15, from 6:00-7:00 pm. You must be a Bradford resident and meet certain requirements. For questions regarding eligibility, please call 938-5313.

Men's Fellowship. Our faithful men will meet on Wednesday, January 15, at 7:30 pm at the home of Milton Brennan. Guest speaker for the evening is Nancy Lyons of N.E. Canine Search and Rescue.

Wednesday Night Study/Support Group. Beginning Wednesday, January 15, this group will gather to study the book *Relationships: Becoming a Caring Community* (a Serendipity series). The book covers loving God, ourselves, family, others inside the community of faith, others outside the community of faith, and loving our enemies. Please note new meeting time: 7:00 - 8:30 pm.

Bible Study. On Thursday, January 16, 7:30-8:30 pm, we will continue our study of the book of Acts. We meet at the parsonage.

Youth Group News. A Beach Party is being planned for Sunday, January 19, in the church vestry. Yes, complete with beach balls, towels and barbecued hot dogs and hamburgers. Proper beach attire is required. Grades 4-6 will meet 2:30-4:00 pm. Grades 7-12 will meet 4:30-6:00 pm.

Fellowship. Friday, January 31 is Church Game Night and Pizza Party. Folks are invited to bring their favorite board game and a desire to have fun. We'll order pizza -- cost will not exceed \$3.00 per person. Time frame is 6:00-8:00 pm.



WARNER. Owners have spent 23 yrs making this property into mini showplace w/handsome manageable grounds. Handy access to interstate, town services. Spacious fireplaced, sunken LR w/paneling, built-ins, wide pine floors. Den is pine paneled. Recent sitting room, bath addition off MBR. A-one condition
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Legislative Report

by Representative
Bernie Lamach

Already there is much conversation about the "turn of the century," "Year 2000," or the millennia.

Politically, 1997 seems to be the "year of the woman." I believe that what we will be seeing in the new year will be the accommodation of priorities of philosophies that will set the stage for changes leading up to the year 2000. Both our new governor and new speaker (both ladies, but of opposite parties) will need to be experts in reading the will of the taxpayers and bargaining for compromise to be successful in getting programs and priorities passed.

I, for one, am most excited about the next two years, as this will be a tremendous example of practical politics.

Not only are there severe problems in budget, education and welfare, but in revenue, as it may be targeted from tobacco or gambling.

The speaker has set the expected calendar for the forthcoming legislative session, and it recognizes the load of work we will face as the session dates extend into the middle of June. Already there are more than 1,100 bills in draft that are to be entered. This is expected to surpass last year by maybe 100 bills.

I am the prime sponsor of six bills and co-sponsor of two more. Two of my bills are of my own origination; all others are constituent requests.

1. A bill relative to protection of lakes by banning the import of milfoil.
2. Enabling the use of electronic signatures for documents transmitted via modem.
3. Allowing for methadone maintenance programs in NH by properly qualified medical professionals.

4. Allowing for dispersement of annual school meetings.

5. Requiring that departmental rules be logged with the state library (and accessible) before implementation.

6. Relative to capturing of road toll money that is now refunded to retailers under out-moded laws.

7. Co-sponsor of a bill relative to shifting the date of auto tailpipe emission programs.

8. Co-sponsor of a bill to restrict political parties from registering candidates for the primary after the closing date.

As you can see, these bills cover a wide spectrum of subjects, so I will be busy hopping from committee to committee to shepherd the bills through.

I am pleased that I was renamed to the Science, Technology and Energy Committee. We can continue some of the effort we managed over the past two years. Most notable was the electric utility competition bill (HB 1392).

Over the summer I continued to work on the task force to study electronic communication in state government. I am pleased to say that we completed our work, filed our report, and so far its content has been favorably accepted by the new leaders. As a result, I would expect to see some exciting strides made in this area of accessibility in the next several years.

I hope your holidays have been pleasant and that you are looking forward to the next year as I am. My thanks for the many compliments readers have given me for this column. I will work to represent you faithfully.

ZBA action elicits frustration from all

David Friedline attended the December 3 meeting of the Zoning Board of Adjustment to ask about his property at 34 Greenhouse Lane. He wants to put a hat manufacturing business in the building and rent out an apartment. The Board discussed the issues regarding home businesses and numbers of dwelling units/businesses allowed on a site. When he asked for advice on how best to proceed, the Board explained he was free to pursue a variance if he wanted to put in both businesses, but was told it is hard to obtain. The Board offered little advice on how best to proceed and the Chair suggested he contact someone who specializes in these types of issues for help.

ZBA members expressed frustration at having to turn away legitimate light businesses that would fit nicely into the downtown area because of an ordinance that was restrictive and allowed for little leeway. Another member noted that if Mr. Friedline lived in the house, he would have no problem with opening the business. It was pointed out that "We don't write the ordinance, we only enforce it, and people get mad at us for doing so." *[from ZBA minutes]*



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Bradford-Newbury Kindergarten Preschool news

Our Thanksgiving pie sale was very successful this year. BNKP extends a big THANK YOU to the families who donated pies and to the folks who bought them.

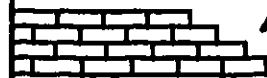
Santa's Outlet actually made money this year (usually we just break even) and THANK YOU again to those who donated items to sell and to those who bought them.

On Tuesday, December 17, parents, family and friends of BNKP gathered at the Town Hall for a delightful holiday program. Their teacher, Susan Kingsbury, and music teacher, Kathy Lowe, led the children through an engaging performance with singing, bells, and Kathy's wonderful guitar music.

School resumes on January 6th. Ski lessons at Mt. Sunapee begin that afternoon.

--Melanie Leathers

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A Point of View

by Luanne Mayo

When I moved to Bradford my first trips to the village were to register my car, sign the registry to vote, and meet our legendary Town Clerk, Elizabeth Cilley. Mrs. Cilley held the Town Clerk's post for almost 50 years; she was the town's local font of knowledge. She did all of the necessary paper work, took my money and then advised me to register as a Republican. This, she said, was a solidly Republican town and I would be pretty much voteless in local elections as either an Independent or a Democrat (that has changed in the intervening years). She also gave me an interesting bit of insight into my new town. To paraphrase what she said, "Almost everyone in town is related in one way or another; they squabble with each other, and carry on, until a crisis comes along; then they close ranks and become a tight knit family, helping each other and fending off any outside threats." She told me to never bad mouth anyone, because nine times out of ten, it's somebody's cousin you are talking about. That's still good advice to any newcomer.

Something has changed, though, since my first visit to town. Over the last few years our tight knit family has splintered. Sure, when there is a flood or fire, everyone is ready to help; there is no question about that. The difference seems to be that everyone now has their own agenda. The town has split into factions and come hell or high water, what each group wants is THE one and probably only thing that is important. If I don't think your cause is paramount, by ginger, you're either hostile, a little stupid, or downright

blind to the town's basic needs, since I have the answers.

Last year the Master Plan Update Committee distributed a questionnaire. The response was truly amazing; well over 50% of the forms came back (10% or less is the norm). The majority wanted the town to retain its rural, bucolic character. Many didn't want things to change.

Well, things have changed dramatically since those questionnaires were filled out. Main Street as we knew it is gone, and recreating anything really doesn't work. There is always change, either up or down, forward or back; things will never be the same twice. Our zoning laws, as written, make it virtually impossible for the downtown area to accommodate new, innovative businesses. The Rural Residential zoning laws, as passed at Town Meeting, make it possible for the empty land across from your house to become a campground or a miniature golf course or a -- slaughter house. There doesn't appear to be that pulling together that Mrs. Cilley talked about. In its stead, there seems to be a pall of negativism. Perhaps the "family" hasn't realized that there is a crisis on their doorstep, that the town lacks a plan for the future. We seem to be missing the leadership that will get the collective town's attention and work towards a long range plan. No one wants their sacred bull gored; no project need be abandoned or set aside -- but a youth center here, a market there, a library, a ball field, a new police station, a new Town Hall, all built on a willy nilly basis certainly can't end up with a town that works.

Perhaps it is time to hearken back to Betty Cilley's conviction that our town pulls together in times of need. This poor fractured community certainly needs some continuity of thought as we head into a new year and approach a new century. We should think about changing some of the codes that are keeping our business district hostage to change as well as the approaches that are taking each splinter group off in its own direction, no matter what the result to the larger community may be.

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In the Woods, by Chris Lincoln

So many issues in town come down to taxes: how to reduce them, while at the same time wishing we could have a new library, new town offices, public water and sewer, just to name a few items from the wish list. Ultimately the cost of any of these projects falls to our property taxes. It has been argued by some that to increase tax revenues, we need to encourage growth and development in town ... more taxpayers to cover the cost of services. However, recent studies refute this strategy.

Maintaining a significant portion of our town in open space is an asset to the community, not a cost. Several recent studies have looked at the relationship between tax revenues and services costs. A number of these studies are described in the Fall 1996 issue of Conservation Commission News, published by the NH Assoc. of Conservation Commissions. Studies found that the costs for town services exceed tax revenue from residential properties, while cost for services to open space land are well below the tax revenue generated from them.

To state this simply: trees don't go to school, don't generally need police and fire protection; they don't drive and they don't need a sewer system. It has been demonstrated time and time again that the towns in New Hampshire with the most open space also have some of the lowest tax rates. Looking beyond the fact that open space requires very few services, forests also play a major role in the town's economy. Between loggers, log truckers, sawmill workers, and foresters, there are a significant number of people employed in town who depend on the forest. Add to this the character of the town which forests contribute to and we begin to recognize their full value. Many of us live here because there are lots of trees here and not lots of houses and factories. The value of forests to New Hampshire's tourism industry cannot be understated.

One method the state uses to encourage the protection of open space is "current use" assessment of land. This is a state law which allows landowners to have their property tax assessment based on the land's income-producing capability, not its potential development value. Generally, to be eligible for current use, a landowner must have a minimum of ten acres of farm land, forest land, or unproductive land, excluding developed areas of a property, such as driveways, houses, and maintained yards. Wetlands, regardless of a minimum size, are eligible.

Assessment of forest land in current use is based on forest type. There are three categories: white pine, hardwoods (deciduous trees), and all other (hemlock, spruce, fir). The Current Use Board, which is made up of state officials and members of the public, sets a range of assessment values for each category based on the income-producing potential of the forest type. Towns then use this range to assess each current use property. Farm land is likewise assessed on its potential productivity. Unproductive land is unimproved land, such as wetlands, which is incapable of producing crops or forest products, and is left in its natural state.

Professional forest management is encouraged on current use forest land, but is not mandatory. The assessment range for each forest type is set slightly lower for properties which can document that responsible land stewardship is being practiced. This lower rate takes into account the added cost to the landowner for proper management. There is also a 20% reduction in the assessment if the landowner agrees not to post the land. A landowner can limit some activities, such as hunting or snowmobiling, but must generally keep the land open for public recreation.

Legally, current use status is a lien on the property, which is filed at the county Registry of Deeds. When the property is sold, the lien and current use status is transferred to the new owners. A new application must be

made, but the status stays with the property. If, at some time, the property is developed, the developed portions must be withdrawn from current use. When this is done, a "Use Change Tax" is paid to the town, which is equal to ten percent of the full and true value of the land withdrawn. Studies of towns where land is taken out of current use show that most properties pay more in Use Change Tax than the land would have paid if full taxes had been paid all along.

The current use application procedure is not complicated, but a landowner may want to hire a consulting forester or other professional familiar with the process to help. An application form, forest type map, and filing fee is required. A forest management plan that has been followed will generally serve as documentation and satisfy a town's requirement to demonstrate good stewardship. The deadline for applications for the current year's property taxes (1997) is April 15.

Current use assessment makes owning forest land affordable. It allows families to hold onto land and not be forced to subdivide and sell because of high taxes. Some may argue that current use land is not paying its fair share to the town, but the numbers are clear - current use lands more than pay for themselves. It makes sense for communities to support current use and other methods of preserving open space.

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



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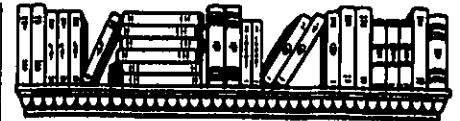
Renowned NH printmaker inspires art exhibition

An original print exhibition will be held January 11 through March 22 at the Covered Bridge Art Gallery in Contoocook. The exhibit explores the art and craft of printmaking and the places where printmakers do their work. The Covered Bridge has invited more than thirty New England printmakers to participate in this exhibition by creating a print inspired by "My Studio," the well-known wood engraving by Herbert Waters, the recently deceased Master NH Printmaker. Printmakers working with a wide variety of techniques and visions will use "My Studio" as a jumping-off point for an artistic exploration of their own creative work.

This exhibition offers an opportunity for the public to view images from the printmakers that are not just fanciful works, but detailed insights into their lives, their work spaces, and their feelings about printmaking.

Co-curator Parker Potter comments on the hallmarks of the exhibition. "We are seeing a full range of expression, prints that run the scope from strictly representational to the more abstract rendition of 'their studio.' Also represented is a wide field of printmaking techniques, etchings, silkscreens, woodblocks, and lithographies."

An opening reception will be held on Saturday, January 18, from 6:00-9:00 pm. The Gallery is located at Fountain Square in Contoocook. Gallery hours are 10:00-5:00 daily, except closed Sunday and Wednesday. Please call 746-4996 for further information.



BOOK REVIEW

by Pauline Dishmon

THE WORLD OF ... (many artists)
by Editors of Time-Life Books

The Brown Memorial Library shelves hold a marvelous series of books about master artists. Over the past few years, I've perused most and now offer glimpses into the lives of three notables.

Thomas Gainsborough, 1727-1788

Gainsborough loved to draw. His uncle was his teacher. At 13, he was sent to London to live in the home of a respectable engraver.

Gainsborough was an independent man. He tried to make homely faces attractive while still resembling the originals. His landscape clouds were outstanding because of their realistic quality with gradations from dark to light, adding brilliance to sunlit fields. Author Jonathon Norton Leonard reports that no one knows the name of the young man who sat for *The Blue Boy*, but it is believed to have been Jonathan Buttall, the son of a wealthy London hardware dealer. Gainsborough left word that he wished to have the young fellow attend his funeral.

Francisco Goya, 1746-1828

Goya was born in a village in Spain where the land was arid with rocks and hills, which became backgrounds for much of his work. He barely learned to read and write. His spelling remained coarse throughout his life.

Eleven of his large frescoes were painted in a Saragossa church.

In his late 40's, he was stricken with dizziness and partial paralysis, had a severe eye infection and suffered from constant buzzing in his ears. Richard Schickel, his biographer, describes Goya as melancholy, yet always grateful he never lost his sight.

Leonardo da Vinci, 1452-1519

Leonardo was born in the Renaissance period. It is believed his mother was a barmaid known as Caterina; his father Piero da Vinci, a notary from an upper middle class family.

Leonardo lived with Caterina until his father married and discovered his wife was barren. Then Leonardo was welcomed into Piero's home.

According to author Robert Wallace, Leonardo loved animals, often bought birds, then set them free. He always carried a sketchpad around with him. His unusual handwriting ran from right to left across the page--letters reversed--best read with the aid of a mirror.

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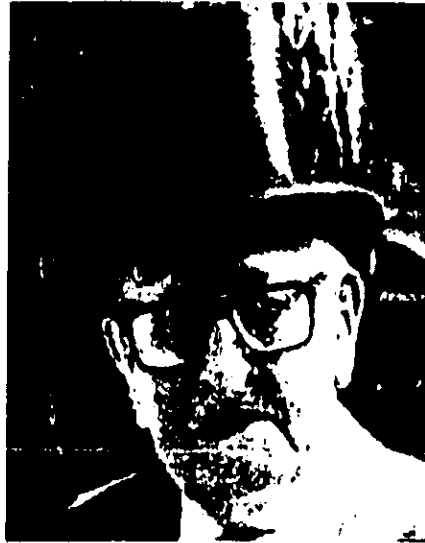
Remembrance of a friend ... FREDERICK FLAGG 1894-1996

by Clare Bensley

Frederick P. Flagg, long-time summer resident of Brown Road in Newbury, died November 17 at the age of 102. Fred first came to the Bradford-Newbury area with his parents as a young man. The family vacationed at several rooming houses in town, including the Box Corner area. Eventually they purchased the grounds and cellar hole of a homestead that stood on the lower slope of Bald Sunapee Mountain. Here, on the foundation of the original farmhouse, the family built a log cabin which Fred and his parents, his daughter, and recently his grandchildren occupied in the summer months. When the family occasionally came up for a ski weekend, the Newbury road crew would make a special trip to plow the road for them since the steep section of Brown Road where their home sits is not maintained for winter travel.

Fred enjoyed excellent health and stamina well through his nineties, and only gave up gathering and chopping his own firewood the last few summers. Music was his passion. He played the flute and was a seventy-five year subscriber to the Boston Symphony Orchestra. A Phi Beta Kappa graduate (Class of '16) of Tufts University, Fred worked as a plant chemist at the Waltham Watch Co. for many years. He was also a consulting metallurgist at the Bulova Watch Co. and the Judson L. Thompson Co. in Waltham, Massachusetts.

Recently Fred was the subject of a study on centenarians by a doctor at Beth Israel Hospital in Boston. More and more people are living to be one hundred years old and doctors are realizing they have to be pretty healthy to live that long. To quote the study,



Frederick Flagg

"Often these elders are forthright, tolerant, forgiving, and independent in nature. There's a strong psychological characteristic among those who live to be 100; they do carry a heavy dose of assertiveness." These characteristics certainly describe Fred, who was philosophical as he neared the end of his life ... he felt that he was no more knowledgeable about the purpose and meaning of life then than he had been many years before.

Job training information on the web

Businesses looking to hire and train new workers, as well as those seeking jobs, can now find information electronically through the New Hampshire Job Training Council's site on the World Wide Web.

"The latest information on upcoming programs, and also the answers to questions about what we do is now instantly available and at the fingertips of anyone with access to a personal computer and modem," said Ray O. Worden, executive director of the New Hampshire Job Training Council. The Council's Web address is <http://www.mv.com/ipusers/nhjtcc/>.

NH Job Training Council officials believe the first users of the service will be business people looking for help in hiring new workers. Companies that take part in an On-the-Job Training program, for example, can get reimbursement for up to half of the new hire's wages during training. The company may need more information about how to qualify and take advantage of this program. There are also links to America's Job Bank and New Hampshire Employment Security.

The site also has information about what specific training programs are scheduled, how to become a vendor of NHJTC, and, when the time comes, information about the Governor's Summer Youth Employment program. For more information, you can reach NHJTC by phone at 1-800-772-7001 (or in the Concord area at 228-9500). --Cary Gladstone

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Planning Board activities in December

At its December 10 meeting, the Planning Board discussed the plans of Joyce Chamness to open a dog grooming business on Old Warner Road. The Planning Board questioned whether locating the business in a separate building would require a special exception from the ZBA. Chair Perry Teele noted that it was his understanding the ZBA had determined that this qualifies as a "home business." The board voted unanimously to deem Chamness's business a home business, with no further action from the Planning Board required.

The Master Plan Update Committee presented their Master Plan Goals and Objectives, with revisions based on a December 4 meeting with the element committees. The committee requested a response from the Planning Board by January 1 so they could begin writing the text for the Master Plan.

Members of the Conservation Commission met to discuss proposing a warrant article designating the Bradford Bog/Springs area a "prime wetlands," which would provide additional protections for the wetlands. They commented that this area had been identified as needing prime wetlands protection during the NH Method Study on the bog. The Commission was asked by Planning Board Chair Perry Teele to submit a draft warrant article and substantive materials for public information.

Bob Stewart, Jr. and Mike Carter, of Timberstand Investments, met to discuss Carter's proposed campground on East Washington Road. Stewart commented that he was requesting a "preliminary consultation" in order to limit the costs incurred by his client,

Mike Carter. He noted that a site plan requires substantial expense, as does the engineering for a gravel permit. Perry said they should begin by submitting a "basic application." Stewart also expressed concern over the preceding discussion about a prime wetlands warrant article, questioning if the timing of their application would affect whether or not the prime wetlands requirements would be imposed on the project.

Stewart then presented details of the project to the Board, beginning by noting that the project had received a special exception with conditions from the ZBA. The plan is to make improvements to only 10% of the 388-acre property, with "improvements" being mainly roads and campsites, and one recreational facility with bathrooms, an office, and living quarters for the staff. Carter requested a waiver of the requirement for a detailed diagram of the entire property. The Board agreed, then discussed which areas would require detailed diagrams. Stewart also requested a waiver of the requirement that the site plan be recordable. The Board disagreed, saying that a project of this size and impact should be recorded. Road construction questions resulted in a substantial discussion, with the Board agreeing that the portion of most concern was the entrance road. Stewart asked that they agree on what is required, without "over-specing" the project.

Nancy Scribner met to discuss what the Board would require to open a "farmers' market" in the former IGA building for the summer months. With no change of use, they responded that nothing is required. However, because there is no site plan on file, the

Board recommended that a site plan be filed. It would serve the purpose of documenting the nonconforming lot.

Following the December Conservation Commission meeting, the Board was informed that the Commission had decided not to propose the prime wetlands warrant article at the 1997 Town Meeting.

On December 30, David Blake presented his design for a storage/retail shed to be built at Blake's Garden Center. This was noted in the original site plan.


The Board reviewed the proposed Master Plan Goals and Objectives, made minor recommendations and approved the document for incorporation in the 1997 updated Master Plan.

Proposed zoning ordinance changes were discussed and prepared for public input (see page 1 article). The first public hearing for proposed warrant articles will be held on January 14 at 7:30 at the Town Hall.

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Friends of Brown Memorial Library Book Discussion begins in February

The American Short Story Book Discussion Series, sponsored by the Friends of Brown Memorial Library, will be held on Thursdays, beginning February 6, 7:00-9:00 pm. Dr. Patrick Anderson, Colby Sawyer College, will return as discussion leader. Each program will be accompanied by a video of the short story.

The schedule includes:

February 6: *The Blue Hotel*, by Stephen Crane

February 20: *Greatest Man in the World*, by James Thurber

March 6: *Displaced Person*, by Flannery O'Connor

March 20: *Music School*, by John Updike

The programs are free and all are welcome to attend any or all of the series. Refreshments will be served. Special thanks to Laurie Buchar for arranging the special grant from the NH Humanities Council.

Bradford Area Cooperative update

December, that distracting, exhausting month that we have all now successfully put behind us, saw the Co-op Steering Committee take steps toward legal incorporation. A co-op attorney is preparing the articles of incorporation. The Legal Committee chair, Suzanne Paul, has prepared draft bylaws for review. And the name for the co-op was agreed to ... the Bradford Area Cooperative. It's not very colorful, but we agreed that the name that matters is the name of the store, and that decision will be made at a future time.

Decisions have been made concerning ownership in the co-op, which will lead to a membership drive beginning February 1. The cost of ownership has been set at \$100 for ten shares, payable either in a lump sum or by purchasing shares one at a time. This is a one-time purchase and is fully refundable. Voting rights are conferred once an owner has purchased at least five shares. The Steering Committee has been advised by all co-ops which distribute discounts to owners at the cash register to avoid making that mistake. It is more fiscally responsible to distribute profits as patronage refunds once the profits have been realized. A patronage refund means that co-op owners will receive a refund annually (once the co-op is profitable) based on their purchases during the year.

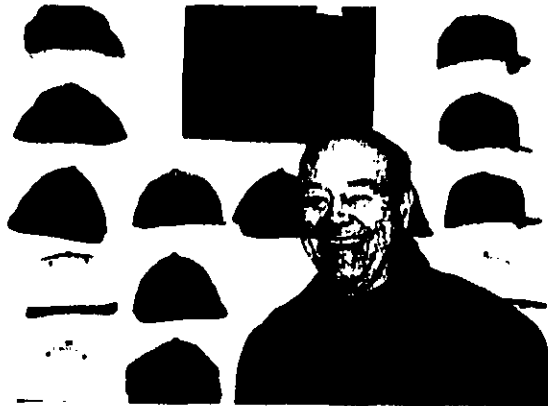
The Steering Committee will be meeting with a SCORE representative, Barry Wright, at its January 2 meeting to begin the process of writing a business plan. Anyone interested in becoming involved in this cooperative development process is invited to call Nancy or Tom Scribner, 938-2286.

At Work ~ At Home

by Audrey V Sylvester

The Cold War is over. The Russians are our friends. For Don Johnsen, his wife, Jane, and their son, Chuck, the new political landscape has allowed them the opportunity to establish their own business, *MAX Recognition Corp.*, located in a 19th century factory building in Warner. *MAX* produces machine embroidered and silk-screened custom designs and logos on garments that companies use to promote business and reward employees--designs on fleece jackets, vests, blankets, caps, hats, and polo shirts. What plan did this former warm-weather California family follow to take up residency in a winter climate--Bradford--and to create a new business in Warner?

After earning an electrical engineering degree from the University of Washington, Don spent eighteen years in the U.S. Navy as a Tactical Engineering Specialist. He accumulated



10,000 flying hours looking for Russian submarines, a tedious activity he described as "boredom punctuated by moments of sheer terror." Later he worked with an old Navy buddy in a defense-related company in Chelmsford, Massachusetts, moving from systems engineer to director of marketing to director of development. He traveled around the country, starting up new sites and acquiring other businesses. He even searched for Russians in this country who were suspected of stealing corporate secrets.

When the Russians became our friends, all of a sudden the company's customer base disappeared. Don wanted to leave the defense industry, where in order to sell your product, "You had to promise the moon, while you were paid to develop Swiss cheese." Customers who wanted the moon and got Swiss cheese were never satisfied. Don made customer satisfaction a high priority as he mulled over ideas for a future business.

To find a retirement or summer home, the family traveled throughout Maine and New Hampshire. Each property had its good and bad points. At the end of one day's search, the real estate broker offered a house that sat on the top of a little snow-covered knoll. At just the right moment, the sun came out. Simultaneously, Don and Jane agreed to buy the house on nine acres. Don thought their choice was really "dumb luck," since they love the house and neighborhood.

After some searching, Don found a factory building suitable for running silk-screen machinery in Warner. Before he added machine-stitching to the business, he visited 25 companies in the area. With one exception, everyone liked their business and customers were happy with the product--Number One Priority. Although neither he nor his son (who had a degree in robotics) knew anything about the technology, they were eager to learn. Don bought the assets of a Boston screen printing company, whose customers became *MAX*'s first-year clients--abundant work since the company embroidered logos for a couple of softball leagues with 39 teams.

MAX has a thousand stock designs and can transform original designs into digitized computer patterns. The nine-needle machines are capable of making more than 31,000 stitches in a logo; for example, 8" high by 9.6" wide. Chuck runs production; Jane runs embroidery machines and the books; Don transforms images from paper drawings and business card logos into patterns in the computer that tell the stitching machines the order of the nine colors and number of stitches. Before running a design, samples are printed or stitched on the chosen fabric to confirm that the design will come out as planned. Don said, "In our business, we wear our mistakes."

The Johnsen family's economic plan has survived the transition from defense to peace-related activities. Don cautions aspiring entrepreneurs: "You have to have the money to wait out the period before you start paying your own way. Invariably at the outset, you say 'It's going to take this much and this long before it is a paying proposition.' You can usually multiply that estimate by at least three times before you are actually on your own and find yourself self-sustaining." He added words of encouragement ... "It pays to advertise. Always wear your stuff."

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

Sports

The Kearsarge district has a very comprehensive athletic program. For the fall of this school year, 24% (137 out of 564) of students at the high school participated in team sports. At the middle school, 32% (164 of out 516) of students played sports. As NH test results showed, students who participate in sports tend to do well in school. 96 of the 137 high school student athletes were on the first quarter honor role; 12 were on the high honor role. This is not to say that the only way to succeed in school is to play sports, but it seems to be one of the ways.

The "athletic menu" includes twenty-four varsity interscholastic teams, nine junior varsity interscholastic teams, four reserve level interscholastic teams, twenty-one middle school interscholastic teams, two middle school intramural programs, and one club sport. In addition, in the last two years, between the athletic program and the Booster Club, the district has been the beneficiary of a high school basketball scoreboard, ice machine, and gymnasium sound system, and a middle school basketball scoreboard, free.

The athletic program is a vital, growth-enhancing part of the district, as sports are to many kids. A proposal before the board now is to increase the athletic menu by making boys' lacrosse a high school, instead of a

club, sport. This also adds about \$7,000 to the school budget.

1997-1998 Budget Battles

Last month, the byline was "Budget Highlights;" this month, it is a battle. Our job as a school board is to sift through good but competing priorities, like sports, and help select the most valuable ones to present to you, the voters, with their costs, in a reasonable budget. Your job as taxpayers is to keep the board informed of what you feel are the most valuable priorities and programs and how much is reasonable. Here are the variables we have been discussing most, with their approximate percent of the total budget.

The proposed extension of the successful enrichment program, Mindstretch, up to the middle school from the elementary level. The volunteer-led Odyssey of the Mind enrichment program down to the elementary level from the middle school. Addition of the intensive Reading Recovery program at the elementary level to jump-start six-year-olds who are having trouble reading, so they do not fall behind and need more services later (0.3%) This is one of my priorities.

A projected rise in student enrollment of 4.68% (3.6% over last summer alone). So the proposed individual school budgets are mostly up, especially the high school for

equipment for the new renovation/addition. The middle school budget is down. Special education budget is up, due mostly to out-of-district placements. Transportation is up slightly and athletics is up, due mostly to lacrosse. The SAU budget is up, due to improvements in computer networking. (2.2%)

A hoped-for new high school Co-op Program to teach health occupations, culinary arts, and graphic design, which has strong local input and cooperation. (0.9%)

New math text for a new math initiative to improve performance at all four elementary schools. (0.3%)

The last year of a five-year Technology Plan that would make computers accessible to all eighth graders and to elementary classes. (1.1%)

An estimated 1.1% increase in the district tax base each year.

Implementing Year I of the Strategic Plan, developed by a wide representation of community members and educators. Year I would focus on arts integration, teacher training, developing other funding sources, and more effective communications between school district and communities. (0.6%)

An as-yet unagreed upon teacher contract. (unknown)

This list cannot and does not exhaustively cover or explain the details of the budget, and the percentages are for relative comparisons only ... based upon a ball-park guess at the final budget. Last year's budget was about \$14.4 million, a 3.9% increase over the year before.

Please contact me with your questions or input. As I try to do my job, please do yours and help me make those tough decisions. 938-2722.



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Selectmen's meetings in December

December 2. Police Chief Al Grindle met to request that part-time officer Kris Dupuis be promoted to full-time officer to fill the vacancy caused by officer Neal Martin's resignation. The Board discussed the possibility of conducting a state-wide search for a qualified officer and took the request under advisement.

Trustees of the Cemetery Commission met to discuss their budget. Chair Milly Kittredge stated that the Commission proposes to begin a major cemetery-stone repair project in 1997. Members have received training and will work as volunteers, saving the town the expense of hiring professionals to complete the task.

December 9. Chief Grindle met to discuss his requirement for a full-time officer. The Selectmen responded that they felt there is a lack of experience among the current police officers. For this reason, they asked Grindle to conduct an advertised search for a certified officer. Grindle reviewed his proposed budget, including three warrant articles for video monitoring equipment, replacement radar equipment for the second cruiser, and computer equipment for three workstations, a recommendation of the Police Management Study. Grindle was asked to go out for bid on the computer equipment.

Selectmen responded to the request of the E911 representatives by agreeing to designate unnamed roads as numbered "fire lanes" with appropriate signs.

Selectman John Signorino proposed drafting a warrant article for \$10,000 to hire a part-time town planner with expertise in community development. Selectman Joe Conway added that a community visit has been scheduled for February with the NH Rural Development Council.

Selectmen then discussed what to do about remodeling the town hall. When Conway commented that questions had been raised concerning the intentions of the Selectmen to "force the kindergarten out of the town hall," Signorino responded that the possibility had been presented to the kindergarten. If a warrant article were passed which eliminated space for the kindergarten, then they would have to find another location. All agreed that any warrant article should be well-thought out, with justifiable numbers. Conway went on to say that with the updated Master Plan and the proposed town planner, efforts should be made to work toward the future. He recommended that the Board not insert something "ill conceived." Signorino suggested sending a letter with a deadline to the kindergarten. Conway responded that should a warrant article be proposed that eliminated space for the kindergarten, it would be legally challenged. He said the kindergarten believes that the deed to the building which

states that it should be used for educational purposes gives them the right to be in the building. Selectmen agreed to ask town counsel to give them his opinion. Other possible solutions were discussed, but the discussion ended with Selectman Signorino commenting that the kindergarten should have the "bigness of heart" to understand that their remaining in the building is "not good for the town ... there are better uses for this building." Selectman Pickman added that "kindergarten is not a town function." And Kathy Russell said "working while kids are playing is interruptive."

A letter of resignation was received from part-time police officer Dave Leathers.

Conway inquired whether any action needs to be taken to activate the Capital Improvement Plan, now that the Master Plan is nearing completion. Selectmen agreed to ask the Planning Board to begin the process and solicit interested individuals to assist them.

Action taken in non-public session: Selectmen granted the request of Administrative Assistant Kathy Russell for a leave of absence, without pay.

December 16. Selectmen took action on a number of town department budgets, including the fire department, which stayed the same, the usual \$500 to the kindergarten, and a warrant article of \$3,000 for the 4th of July parade.

Selectmen approved State appointments for Bradford Autocraft for new/used dealership, inspection station, and repair business.

Selectmen again discussed possibilities for remodeling the town hall. Signorino asked that a plan be drawn with the kindergarten and police, with the input from Kathy Russell. Kathy reported she had received a letter from town counsel Tim Bates stating that he would contact the kindergarten's attorney to explore the wording and meaning of the Tappan deed.

Selectman Joe Conway discussed the scheduled February visit of the NH Rural Development Council and suggested the establishment of a town economic development committee, one of whose tasks would be to coordinate the visit. He said the Master Plan only provides guidance, not the "nuts and bolts" of community economic development. Selectmen commissioned the formation of the Bradford Community Economic Development Steering Committee. Conway will write a vision statement and goals for the committee.

December 23. Chief Grindle met to discuss his need for a part-time officer. He reported no response yet on his advertisement for a full-time certified officer. Selectmen asked to see applications for part-time position.

Amy Blitzer and Brooks McCandlish, representing the Conservation Commission, submitted two proposed warrant articles for the Selectmen's approval. One would reclassify two Class VI roads as Class A trails (Smith Road and the Class VI portion of Dunfield Road). Selectmen expressed concern over the consequences of losing the Class VI status for these town roads and will consult with town counsel. The second warrant article would add \$1,000 to the conservation fund. McCandlish also offered the services of the Conservation Commission to "advise" the Selectmen concerning evaluating the condition of Class VI roads following logging operations prior to returning bonds to loggers.

Selectmen reported receiving a dividend of \$10,193.06 from the NH Municipal Association Property Liability Trust for the five-year period 1988-1993.

December 30. Sue Ann Siarto was introduced; she was hired as the temporary replacement for Kathy Russell while Kathy is on leave.

Amy Blitzer and Brooks McCandlish presented the deed for the Bradford Springs property, donated by Mr. Robert Keating, for the signatures of the Selectmen.

Chief Grindle met to report he had received no applications concerning the full-time position and to request that the Selectmen approve the appointment of part-time officer Kris Dupuis to the full-time position. He also submitted the application of Chris Lemay for the part-time position. Both were approved by the Selectmen.

Road Agent Andy Anderson discussed the highway department budget. He submitted a warrant article for road paving of \$152,000, up from \$128,000 last year, due to the cost of materials. He proposed another warrant article for a new dump truck, for \$70,000. A comment was made that the issue of cleaning uniforms "was getting out of hand." Later, Conway reported that he had resolved the uniform-cleaning issue for the transfer station employees by agreeing to pay \$112 and cancel the contract. Selectmen agreed that research needs to be undertaken to determine the most economic method of providing uniforms for town employees. They also commented that part of the problem involved employees signing binding contracts. They asked Kathy Russell to send a notice to town departments that all binding contracts must go through the Selectmen's office for approval.

THEN & THEN

by Milly Kittredge and Steve Hansen



Snow Hill

At the intersection of Jones and Center Roads is the pleasing old farm built by a Presby. Later owners included the Trows, the Spaffords, now the Clarks.

A wooden tower and ski jump, modeled on the Nansen Jump in Berlin, NH, was built on the hill in back and was used during the Winter Carnival contests in the 1930's and 1940's. It was still clear enough for the kids to slide down until the early 1970's. The picture looks across the meadows and the present Route 103 to the western part of Ring Hill, then cleared and in summer use as a hayfield. We expect the gentleman in the top hat is a judge.

Ring Hill

Ring Hill was used by the town for ski runs from the very early 1940's.

The Ring Hill rope tow, powered by an automobile engine, was built by the Johnsons, who owned the Lakeside (Appleseed) Inn, for their guests and townspeople. A day's skiing cost fifty cents. The tow was on the east side of Ring Hill, and the tow was only in operation for three winters, probably 1946-1949. The waterhole, which was fenced in and got its share of skiing hits, is still visible.

At one time, there was a fad of skiing on pine needles in the summer. The Johnsons and guests skied around the sides of Todd from the Appleseed to Ayers (Vitalis), an area available since there were no buildings between them at the time.

Bradford was fortunate to have its Swedish culture, the Johnsons, Swensons, Larsons, Westerbergs, who were interested in skiing or hospitality that added diversity to the area.

Thank you Steve, Allene, Bob, Betty, Ev, Mickey, Paul, Vern, Marion, Loren, and whoever I haven't called yet for help on this.

Please note that the December Then & Now went through an extensive editorial rewrite and contains much that was not in the original submission.



Library Lantern by Maggi Ainslie

Winners of fund-raising items (started on election day) were announced Saturday, December 7. The handcrafted crocheted afghan made and donated by Isabel Sheehan was won by Audrey Sylvester. Trustee Sandy Wadlington donated two exquisite prints. Jim Monahan and Edna Herbert were the lucky prizewinners. We thank everyone who bought a ticket.

Our new raffle is for "Samantha," an American Girl doll with hat, locket and purse. Tickets are on sale at the library, \$1.00 each, 6 for \$5.00. Be sure not to miss out on this!

The Brown Memorial Thrift Shop plans to reopen in May. If you have items now, call us for pick up. We need volunteers to work at the shop. Sign up at the library and be where the action is! We're looking forward to a great season again this year.

During 1996, 57 cassettes and videos were donated to BML. This greatly enhances our collection. We appreciate each and every one and thank the donors for supporting the library in this special way.

There is a beautiful picture of sheep in a winter pasture at sunset hanging over the fireplace/computer for the next month or so, loaned to us by the Wadleigh family. The next time you're in, take a minute and feast your eyes.....

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

Telephone: 938-5562.

Bradford Country Squares holds dance January 11

HATS & MITTENS, a Class level square dance, will be held on Saturday, January 11 at the Bradford Town Hall from 8:00 to 10:30 pm. The caller will be Don Bachelder; cuer, Ed Phillips. The charge is \$4.00 per person. Refreshments will be served. For more information, call 863-9775. Spectators are welcome!

SRK Greenway hikes in January

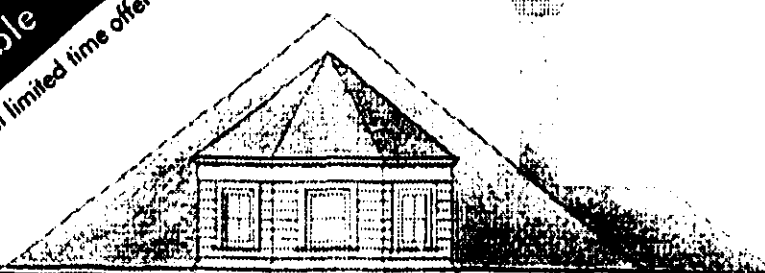
The Sunapee-Ragged-Kearsarge Greenway Coalition is offering two winter hikes during January. All are welcome to join members on these hikes. On Tuesday, January 7, Dick Martin will lead a hike from Newbury Harbor to Chalk Pond Road. Call Dick at 763-2464 for details.

On Saturday, January 19, Richard Maines will lead a hike from New Canada Road to East Peak of Ragged Mountain to the parking lot of Ragged Mountain Ski Area. Call Richard at 768-3630 for details.

Bradford-Newbury Workshop

The Bradford-Newbury Workshop will meet on Thursday, January 9 at 11:00 am at Friendship House in S. Newbury. We will work on baby quilts for Dartmouth-Hitchcock Hospital. Bring a bag lunch; beverage and dessert will be provided.

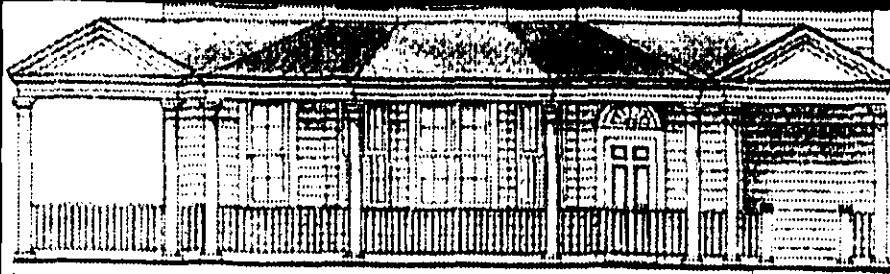
At 1:00, we'll have a "show and tell" session. Bring your own show-and-tell item ... a family heirloom, a hobby, song and dance -- whatever.



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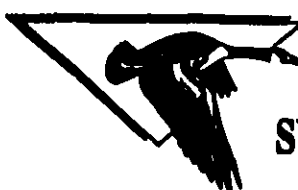
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Warner Senior Center lunch menus

The Warner Senior Center, located in the CAP Building in Warner, serves lunch every weekday, with transportation provided as needed. For more information concerning Warner Senior Center activities and/or transportation, call Betty at 456-9200 between 9:00-11:30 am or after 1:00 pm.

Lunches served in January include: 6) Chicken Kiev, 7) American chop suey, 8) Cod au gratin, 9) Turkey broccoli casserole, 10) Chopped steak with gravy, 13) Roast beef with gravy, 14) Chicken with cream sauce, 15) Ziti casserole, 16) Franks and beans, 17) Meatloaf with gravy, 20) Civil Rights holiday, no lunch served, 21) Pork chops with apricot sauce, 22) Manicotti with meat sauce, 23) Beef stew, 24) Turkey ala king, 27) Sliced turkey with gravy, 28) Curried chicken, 29) Seafood newburg, 30) Sweet-n-sour meatballs, 31) Pot roast with au jus.

Ausbon Sargent Land Preservation Trust topic of 2nd Monday Nite's

The 2nd Monday Nite's of the First Baptist Church, Main Street, New London, will have Deb and Peter Stanley as its guests on January 13 at 7:30 pm.

The Stanleys' presentation, with slides, will cover the numerous and varied activities of the Ausbon Sargent Land Preservation Trust and the New London Conservation Commission.

Debbie, as Executive Director of the Land Preservation Trust, will report on recent achievements and current projects of the ASLPT covering the Kearsarge-Sunapee area.

Peter, as a member of the New London Conservation Commission, will share details on local conservation accomplishments and protection of wildlife and wetlands.

The public is welcome. Refreshments will follow the program.

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THE COZY CORNER

by Mildred Schmidt



Happy New Year to all! After all the excitement of the holidays, I'll be glad to be back into my exercise class -- well, yes, I did gain a pound or two -- hope you didn't!

Nuts, Oats & Chips Cookies

2 C oats, quick or old-fashioned	1 1/4 C flour
1/2 tsp baking powder	1 C (2 sticks) butter or marg
1 C powdered sugar	2/3 C firmly packed brown sugar
3 Tbsp water	1 tsp vanilla
1 C nuts (peanuts OR walnuts OR pecans OR your choice)	
1 C semi-sweet chocolate chips	

Preheat oven to 350°. Line a 13" x 9" cookie sheet with edges with foil. Spray foil with a little butter spray or grease with melted butter.

In a large bowl, combine oats, flour and baking powder. Add butter and mix well. Add remaining ingredients, except for the chocolate chips. Mix with a spoon or knead dough gently until it is a soft ball. Place ball on foil and pat dough evenly with lightly floured hands. (I found a rolling pin works well.)

Bake 22-24 minutes or until golden brown, rotating cookie sheet in oven after 12 minutes. Place on cooling rack.

Immediately sprinkle the chocolate chips over large cookie. Let stand 2-3 minutes. While still warm, cut cookie into squares. Place in a cool spot for about 15 minutes. Remove from cookie sheet, breaking into cookie squares.



No room at the Inn

There was "no room at the inn" as Lesley and Dick Marquis, owners of the Rosewood Country Inn, greeted more than 100 guests at their fifth annual Candlelight Christmas Tea, held on Sunday evening, December 15. Lesley deemed the event "our biggest and best so far." Two gift baskets were raffled. "A Romantic Getaway" basket was won by Jack Flynn of New London. The "Sunapee Ski" basket was won by Alan McCartney of Bradford.

The Marquis' would like to thank the local media, area businesses, and all who attended the event for making it such a huge success. Proceeds will help buy warm winter clothing for children in the Kearsarge elementary schools, and the remainder will go toward the Rosewood Scholarship Fund.

GARDENING

by Fred Winch

The new year is a time to look back as well as forward. 1996 gives much to look back on. Weather -- there was lots of it. The deep unthawed snow gave us late wet snow for planting ... or rather for holding back planting. Most of us look forward to the early crops: lettuce, spinach, beets and if you're a cabbage fan, the Early Jersey Wakefield, a real winner. In my case, they were eaten by porcupines by night and accosted by woodchucks by day. I got none. The cold early summer held back peppers, tomatoes and eggplant, as well as peas and beans, which finally came in to a short but good harvest. Cool weather did not do much for the summer squash.

Since the "porkies" flourished, my resolution for the new year is to plant the early leafy crops, such as lettuce, chard, beets and all the kohlr crops, behind a four-foot sturdy fence. Plant those veggies which are not sought out by deer, porcupines and woodchucks, such as tomatoes, peppers, leeks and eggplant, in areas where they have not been grown for a couple of years to reduce disease.

Since tomato hornworms have been so plentiful the last two years, my resolve is to patrol the tomatoes and peppers at least twice a day to pick off and dispatch the worms. I did find once the tomatoes were ripening that porcupines do like the large sweet varieties.

I have learned the value of those summer garden crops I could not harvest in 1996 this late fall and winter. I have been tempted by the beets and chard in supermarkets so much that I have paid \$1.29 to \$1.39 for bunches of three or four beets and 49 cents per lb. for acorn squash, a single squash costing about a dollar. On the average year, I harvest for winter storage three dozen acorn and delicata squash.

In order to get the most produce from my fenced area, I resolve to go to raised beds, enclosed by 2x6 or 2x8 planks, six to eight feet wide, which are easily worked. To raise fertility, my compost of leaves and other organic materials will be well mixed with rich soil. Beds thus set up will produce more per square foot than the single long row system, since plant spacing will be closer and

crop plants closer. Weeding and watering will be easier as will insect control. Succession plantings will use the area more fully.

A friend who works to manage wildlife and gardens has found that a four-foot high fence of close mesh, topped with light barbed wire loosely stretch on taller poles about a foot above the fence and with light-colored streamers tied on will keep deer out if the area the fence protects is not more than twelve to fourteen feet wide. His experience shows deer are careful not to jump into something they cannot readily jump out of.

From the looks of the tracks in my garden and back fields, as I have been writing this, the deer population is thick --- I never see them, but I can see where they are exploring for the residual garden crops and the rhododendrons and azaleas and other fertilized shrubs. Gardeners of 1997 will have to look to fenced gardens and probably yards if their hopes are to be fulfilled.

COMMITTEE, from page 1

should telephone either the Selectmen's office, 938-5900, or Selectman Joe Conway, 938-2056.

The first task of the committee will be to coordinate the February visit of the NH Rural Economic Development Council. The Council will be conducting a community visit, the first step in helping the community with economic development strategic planning. The group will visit with residents, tour various sites, talk to town departments, in an effort to gather the information necessary to compile a report for the town. Because the Council also works with professionals who volunteer their services, it will act as a conduit to help Bradford get needed services from other groups, either at no cost or low cost.

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- ☆ Local maple syrup, honey and fudge

Many thanks for your support during 1996. Our Very Best Wishes in 1997!

January Calendar

Monday, January 6

Cemetery Commission, call 938-5386.

Selectmen's meeting, Town Hall, 7:00

Tuesday, January 7

ZBA, Town Hall, 7:00

Fish & Game, Lake Todd Clubhouse, 7:00

Library Trustees, 7:30
Open to the public

Wednesday, January 8

Master Plan Update Committee, Fiske House, 9:00 am. Open to the public.

Bradford Revolving Loan Committee, Town Hall, 7:00

Thursday, January 9

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

KRSD School Board, high school, 7:15

Friday, January 10

Whist, church vestry, 7:30
Refreshments, prizes, sponsored by Union Congregational Society

Monday, January 13

Selectmen's meeting, Town Hall, 7:00

Tuesday, January 14

Planning Board, Town Hall, 7:30
Public hearing on proposed warrant articles.

Wednesday, January 15

Road Committee, Town Hall, 7:00

Monday, January 20

Selectmen's meeting, Town Hall, 7:00

Bradford Business Association, church vestry, 7:00

Tuesday, January 21

Women's Club, church vestry, 1:00
"911, Who Responds." NOTE time change

Kindergarten parents, Town Hall, 7:00

Conservation Commission, Town Hall, 7:30

Thursday, January 23

Historical Society workshop, Nancy Hibbard's, 9:30 am

Friday, January 24

Whist, church vestry, 7:30
Sponsored by Food Pantry

Monday, January 27

Selectmen's meeting, Town Hall, 7:00

Tuesday, January 28

Planning Board, Town Hall, 7:30

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

Classified Ads

HELP WANTED. Part-time aide (mornings) wanted for local kindergarten. Please send resume to P.O. Box 514, Bradford.

FOR SALE. The Bradford Police will auction off unclaimed items, which include a rechargeable flashlight, two mountain bikes, and a leather jacket, size 16. These items may be viewed at the police dept. Monday thru Thursday, January 2-14, between 9:00 and 5:00.

FOR SALE. Overhead garage door. 9x7.5 including all hardware, \$100. Metal hung door and frame, 3x7, like new, \$100. Call 938-2190.

NEEDED. Someone to share rides and expenses to and from Nashua, Monday through Friday, January, February and March. Leave Bradford 7:00 am. Return after 4:00 pm. Call 938-2957.

KRIPALU Yoga Classes. Continuous Kripalu Yoga classes Wednesdays, 10:00-11:15 am at Bradford Town Hall. \$48/six weeks or \$10/class as an introductory offer. For more info, call Stephanie at 456-2288.

FOUND. At Candlelite Inn during Christmas in the Country celebration, child's black parka. Call Marilyn at 938-5571.

FREE. 2-year-old female tiger cat, fixed, litter-trained, all shots. Free to a good home. Call 938-5450.

FOR SALE. Simplicity tractor, 8 hp hydrostatic w/48" mowing deck plus grade blade, chains, new battery, and more. Runs strong. \$700 or B.O. Bolens snowblower, 8 hp, new short block engine and auger gear. \$300 or B.O. Call 938-2843.

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