

# THE Bradford Bridge

## COMMUNITY NEWS FOR NEIGHBORS BY NEIGHBORS

Volume 19, Number 11; Issue 209

January 2009

### The Ice Storm Cometh.....

The ice storm of 2008 started the morning of December 12 resulting in power outages for most of New Hampshire. Bradford residents were without power for almost a week and were able to survive with many stories to tell.

Bradford Community Center Director Kate Dubrowski said the response to the power outage was, "A great example of people putting their own 'stuff' aside and pulling together." Many people were sheltered at the Community Center overnight, others came during the day to get warm, enjoy hot food, charge batteries and use computers. Once the severity of the situation was apparent, the building became the emergency operations center and Emergency Management Director Bruce Edwards was in charge of keeping things running smoothly.

Many people donated food that was cooked and served; KRES Bradford school nurse Jane Norman (who lives in New London where there was power) brought a fully cooked turkey dinner "with all the fixings" that was greatly enjoyed. The Kearsarge Area Preschool cancelled the scheduled "Breakfast with Santa" and donated that food which was cooked up and served by Andrew Pinard.

One night the generator at the NFI School (Sunshine Farm) failed and 18 students plus their advisors spent the night. Bradford Police Officer Edward Shaughnessy not only stayed at the shelter that night, but brought some of his video games from home to help with the entertainment.

Overall Kate felt the response was done in a very professional manner. The Community Center offered shelter, food and warmth, the Fire Station provided showers, the police checked on the safety of our more vulnerable residents. For the future, getting the word out more widely as to where services are available during an emergency should be the goal.



*Scenes like this were common around Bradford and other parts of New Hampshire. More Pictures on page 9*

### 10 QUESTIONS: by Phyllis Wilcox

#### The Ice Storm

*In a departure from our usual 10 Questions practice of interviewing our neighbors, we are using the format to interview Selectman Andrew Pinard regarding the recent ice storm that left much of Bradford without power for several days. It was initially difficult to find someone to interview about the storm and power outages because many of the volunteers working to assist townspeople were engaged in long hours of active volunteer activities and could not be contacted. We were able to catch up with Andrew Pinard by cell phone to get an update on the situation. Andrew, along with many others, volunteered his time during the power outage and helped keep the Bradford Area Community Center open for members of the community who needed a warm place to stay, hot food, social interaction and even a place to sleep.*

**Q. We interviewed you three years ago when you were elected as a selectman. Now you've gotten your feet wet and have experienced many new things in your position. What was your reaction to our recent ice storm and lengthy loss of power?**

*continued on page 10*



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#### VOLUNTEER STAFF:

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#### Subscription Information

To receive The Bridge by mail, please send an \$18 check to cover mailing costs to the above address.

#### Advertising

The Bradford Bridge is a free community newspaper supported by advertisers. To place an ad, call Maureen O'Keefe at 938-2941. Ad deadline is the 15th of the month.

#### Submissions

The Bradford Bridge is written by neighbors, for neighbors. Anyone is welcome to submit articles and/or photographs of interest to the community. We reserve the right to edit submissions.

### Selectmen's Office Hours

**938- 5900**

Monday-Thursday: 8 am - 12 noon

1 pm - 5 pm

Friday 8 am - 12 noon

Selectmen meet 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month at 6 pm

### Town Clerk/ Tax Collector

**938-2288**

Hours: Monday: noon - 7 pm

Tuesday: 7am-11:30 am

12:30 pm 5 pm

Friday 8 am - noon  
1 pm - 5 pm

## From The Editor

### HAPPY NEW YEAR . . .

to all Bradford residents and readers of the Bridge from the board and staff of our community newspaper. We wish you a safe, healthy, happy and peaceful 2009.

As this is written, winter has just officially begun, but we have already experienced more winter weather than many of us were prepared for. The eight or more days of power outages from the ice storm were followed rapidly by two substantial snow storms. It is not until the electricity does not work that we realize how dependent we are on it – lights, cooking, water as well as radio and television to keep up with the progress. Our hope is that none of our readers suffered any extended damage and “coped” using back-up sources, community support, and Yankee ingenuity. One of the most troubling aspects was the limited daylight. No sooner was the day organized to compensate for no electricity then the sun was gone and it was time to light the lamps again.

January begins the preparations for Town Meeting in March. The Selectmen and Budget Committee continue work on the 2009 Budget that will be presented at a Budget Hearing in February, the Planning Board will hold a hearing on a petitioned change to the Zoning Ordinance, and the Town Clerk will accept filings for vacancies in local office. Look carefully at the openings listed in her article on page 11, think about what you can contribute to your town and sign up to volunteer for one of the many positions that help to keep this community functioning smoothly.

Marcia Keller

January Editor

Deadline for Bridge submissions is January 15. Items submitted later may not be printed. Please submit to [bradfordbridge@mcttelecom.com](mailto:bradfordbridge@mcttelecom.com).

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## Bradford Happenings

### Bradford Women's Club

#### HAPPY NEW YEAR

The 3rd Annual Holiday Party was a big success and we had twice as many women attend than last year. Laughter and food is always a good mix. The winners of the Sophie's Raffle at the Annual Holiday Craft and Antique Fair were Marilyn Gordon, Marion Hopkins, MaryBeth Fenton and Susan Barksdale.

Santa and his elves were a big hit with the youngsters at the library. The pictures were great and can be picked up at the library. A special thank you to Mr. M for the help.

With the holiday behind us, we can reflect on the wonderful year we had in 2008. Several new members have joined us and have been busy with all the projects. We were able to assist several families, donate to the local food banks, give the BACC a new microwave and award our \$1000 scholarship to a deserving young woman. This has only been possible with the hard work of our members and the support of the people in Sutton, Bradford and Newbury. This deserves a special THANK YOU.

Our next meeting is a Chinese Dinner at the Baptist Church on January 20th, 4:30. February and March are off because of the snow and the snowbirds. We'll be back in April.

### First Friday Brunch

On December 5th the Senior Center First Friday Brunch was entertained by the superb music from the Kearsarge Regional High School Chorus. The brunch was well attended with well appreciated food and prizes.



Music by the Kearsarge Regional High School Chorus



Marcelle Richards,  
winner of the quilt  
raffle.



From left:  
Jackye Pehrson,  
Harriett Douglas,  
Marge Messer.

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**Correction:**

In last month's real estate article about the "Hope for Homeowners" Program of mortgage assistance for homeowners at risk of foreclosure, the end date was listed as September 30, 2001. The correct end date is September 30, 2011.

**Area Happenings****Newbury****Upcoming Events at The Fells**

**Tuesday, January 6:** Knee-High Nature Series- "Animals in Winter At The Fells" Gatehouse, 10-11:30am. Join Lauren Cole-Johnson in this preschool program designed to increase children's awareness of, curiosity about and appreciation of the natural world through investigation, creative and interactive play and direct outdoor experiences. Dress appropriately for indoor and outdoor activity. Member child \$2, nonmember child \$5, (caregiver free). To register call 603-863-4789 x3, The Fells Gatehouse, 456 Route 103A, Newbury, NH. [www.thefells.org](http://www.thefells.org)

**Wednesday, January 14:** 10-11:30am "Planning a Woodland Native Plant Garden". Join Thelma Hewitt, New England Wild Flower Society Trustee and Native Plant Garden Designer and Consultant, in this introductory class which reviews various styles of woodland gardens and maintenance requirements, site evaluation and locating micro climates, how to get started and sources of plant material. Members \$12, nonmembers \$15. To Register call 603-763-4789 x3, limit of 30. Meet at the Fells Gatehouse, 456 Route 103A, Newbury, NH. [www.thefells.org](http://www.thefells.org)

**Wednesday, January 28:** 4pm (snow date: Feb 4) New Hampshire: Crosscurrents in its Development. Historian-author and Colby-Sawyer College Professor Ann Page Stecker traces the colorful political and economic crosscurrents in New Hampshire history and discusses her approach to its study. Free. Meet at Newbury Town Office, 937 Route 103, Newbury, NH. Sponsored by the NH Humanities Council. For more information go to [www.thefells.org](http://www.thefells.org)

The Stewart Clan convened at the Appleseed on November 30th for the 50th wedding anniversary of Addie and Bob Stewart. Congratulations!



## Conservation Easement Completed for Bradford Bog and Bradford

It is a pleasure for the ASLPT to announce that we have completed our 97th project with the signing of the 177.8 acre Bradford Bog and Bradford Hotel and Springs conservation easement. We have worked closely with the Bradford Conservation Commission to assist them in their goal to offer perpetual protection to these two town owned parcels.

In addition to a quaking bog, the Bradford Bog easement protects an Atlantic white cedar swamp which is an increasingly rare habitat with only 500+- acres remaining in NH. The public can enjoy trails in the area and a board walk which leads to the bog and an observation tower, providing impressive views of the open area and the hills beyond. The Bradford Hotel and Springs parcel on the south side of East Washington Road includes the site of the historic Bradford Springs Hotel, marked by cellar holes, a kiosk and a plaque. Guests came to the region starting in the late 1830's until 1917 to partake of the medicinal sulfurous waters at the octagonal springhouse.

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### Community Cornerstones

As announced in last month's Bridge, it is time to revisit the 21 Community Cornerstones selected by Bradford residents in 1991. This was part of a program developed by the Governor's Commission on New Hampshire in the 21st Century to identify and protect important features of the town as the new century approached. The "21cornerstones" were tallied and the top choices photographed, documented and displayed. The Bradford Historical Society has the completed display as well as all the documentation on the selections. Thanks to Milly Kittredge for her assistance with this project.

The first Cornerstone is, appropriately, Bradford Center where the Town Hall was first erected. See page 21 for our first Cornerstone.

### Trouble with Snail Mail?

Does your copy of the Bridge not reach you in Baluchistan? Do the elk in Murmansk munch on your mail before you can read it? You can get the Bridge e-mailed monthly as a PDF even before it hits the streets and send it on to friends in Botswana, Brno or wherever. E-mail us at: [Bradfordbridge@mcttelecom.com](mailto:Bradfordbridge@mcttelecom.com) and we will put you on our list.



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## **Application**

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Please check all that apply       low income       senior citizen       disability

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Directions to your home (from Interstate 89, please be as specific as possible) \_\_\_\_\_

Describe the work you would like to have done \_\_\_\_\_

## Kearsarge Area Preschool News

by Karen Hambleton



*Preschoolers with their new books!*

In December, we began our exploration of winter. Children learned how different animals prepare for the long winter and how they adapt to the cold. We talked about how some animals hibernate and how others store food to get through the winter. Then, as the holidays approached, we discussed the different ways the holidays are celebrated around the world. We learned about Hanukah, Kwanzaa and Christmas and talked about the meaning behind each celebration. To wrap up the holiday theme, we had our own holiday celebration and book swap. We also commemorated and learned about the Solstice by having a Dark Day. The room was darkened and children wore pajamas and brought flashlights to school.

Our winter theme will continue in January and now that it has arrived, we will explore snow. We will make snowmen from a variety of materials – paint, fiber-fill and of course, snow! Children will learn about snow through play and experiments. They will learn about melting snow and how icicles form. January also brings the 100<sup>th</sup> day of school which we will mark by counting and sorting by 10s. Later in the month, we will explore monsters by reading stories about them, making them with craft material and pretending to be them. We will wrap up the month by reading “Where The Wild Things Are,” by Maurice Sendak.

Happy 2009!

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HAPPY  
NEW  
YEAR

## Selectmen's Highlights

### Conservation Commission:

Chairman of the Commission Ann Eldridge presented documents for selectmen's signatures relating to a conservation easement for the Bradford Bog property on East Washington Road. The signatures were notarized and will be recorded at the Register of Deeds.

### Cemetery Commission:

Superintendent of the Cemeteries Dick Moore discussed equipment requests for the 2009 budget. Request is for a new rider. Prices will be sought from several businesses.

**Highway Department:** Road Agent Steve Lucier reported on several highway issues: requested purchase of a sickle bar mower to eliminate need to rent equipment; Bement Bridge has been capped to get it through the winter; asphalt to reclaim Sunset Hill Road has

been priced; a 1978 pickup truck will be sold.

Prices for re-roofing Bement Bridge have been sought. Milly Kittredge stated that metal roofs were used in the 1840's so this would not be contrary to the historical status of the bridge. Both the Sunset Hill project and re-roofing Bement Bridge were suggested as warrant articles for 2009.

Progress continues on the highway garage. Nate Kimball and Flickstrom Brothers have contributed volunteer work to the project. Water has been hooked up to the building. The Building Inspector has been observing the work. Costs have increased since the onset of the project and contractor Mike Sailer suggested a non-public session with the selectmen to discuss the situation.

**Community Center:** Director Kate Dubrowski advised of several problems that need to be addressed: an elevator cable that will cost \$625.00 to repair, leaking pipe in the boiler for \$262.50, and a parking lot light at \$500 – to come out of the 2008 budget.

### Ice Storm Emergency:

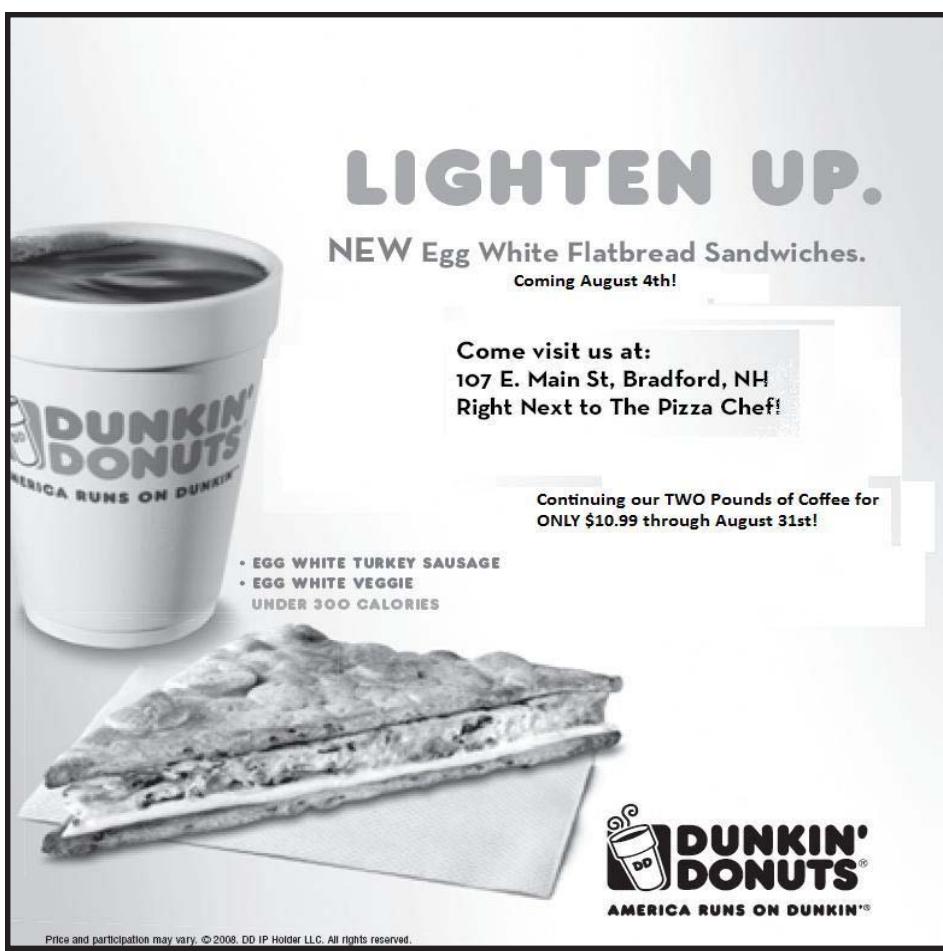
Selectmen discussed the ongoing situation created by the ice storm. At the time of their meeting, power was still out in some parts of the town. The Community Center served as an overnight shelter and meals provided from food donated by the public. The lack of showers in the building was noted as a problem. The Fire Department offered use of showers in their building.

### Emergency Management:

Director Bruce Edwards discussed the situation with the selectmen and stated that a generator at the school would be helpful in a future emergency.

Chair Peter Fenton stated on behalf of the selectmen that everyone in town made a great effort during this emergency – the

*continued on next page*



**LIGHTEN UP.**

**NEW Egg White Flatbread Sandwiches.**

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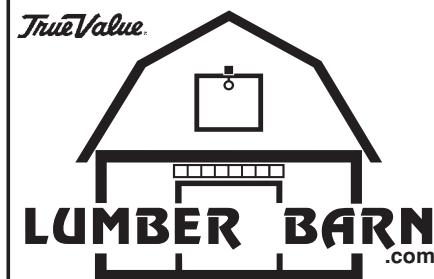
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Rte. 10  
M-F 7-5 & Sat. 7-3

**I-JOIST FLOOR SYSTEM PLANNING**

**Selectmen - cont'd from page 8**

Community Center, Kate Dubrowski, Selectmen Pinard and Meany were out around town, the Fire Department, Police Department, and Highway crew.

**Solid Waste/Recycling:** Transfer Station Manager Ken Anderson and Recycling Committee members Bindy Glennie and Marcia Keller provided the selectmen with wording for three signs to be posted at the Transfer Station. These would spell out the mandatory recycling requirement for use of the station, the materials that should be recycled, and the fee schedule for deposit of bulk items that cost the town additional funds to dispose of safely. After discussion, the selectmen suggested some changes to the wording and stated that a public hearing to approve the fees should be held before that sign can be finalized.

**Zoning Amendment Petition:** Selectmen will discuss a petition warrant article for zoning changes with the Local Government Center. The petition would change the wording to reduce two buildable acres to two acres.

**Budget:** The Board of Selectmen continued work on the 2009 Budget.

**Non-Public Session:** Minutes for a non-public session held on December 23, included a motion by Andrew Pinard that the selectmen meet more frequently than twice a month. No second, no vote taken.

Discussion ensued regarding Sam's Club card usage.

*Minutes of all selectmen's meetings are on file at the town hall and on the town website: [bradfordnh.org](http://bradfordnh.org).*

**More Ice Storm Pictures**

A broken limb over a driveway on Marshall Hill Road



Utility Trucks in front of Pizza Chef



A utility crew from Torrington, Connecticut takes a break

**10 Questions - cont'd from page 1**

First off, I have to express admiration and thanks to Bruce Edwards, our Emergency Management Coordinator. Bruce was in charge during the emergency. He made sure the generator at the community center was working. He coordinated at the state level and between the fire department and other municipalities. He found beds for people to sleep on and generally was in charge. I guess I didn't have time to react because I was at the community center helping out and backing up Bruce's efforts.

**Q. The ice storm left many people without power for anywhere from four to seven days. What do people need to know about getting help quickly in the event of another outage event or disaster?**

It's important to know where your local point people are like the community center, fire/rescue and police departments so that you can update information. Also, make certain that you have back up supplies like water and non-perishable food supplies. The community center was ready and equipped. We served food to 16 to 30 people each night. People came for water and even to charge their cell phones. We had less than a dozen people from Bradford coming in but we had people from neighboring towns. I spent about 50 hours at the shelter and Bruce was there three nights.

**Q. The question people wanted answered most urgently was a sense of when power would be restored? My own experience was frustrating when Public**

**Service had only a recorded message and there was no television and nothing on battery radio disseminating information. How is emergency information released in Bradford? Is there a system in place, a radio station that informs local towns about what is happening?**

PSNH issued regular bulletins as far as I know. However, the state is evaluating whether or not they did a good job. This was an unparalleled event. PSNH was really not prepared for this emergency. Any organization has its priorities and trying to get power back was more important than telling people when it would come back. Their priorities were hospitals and places like that.

**Q. Does the town maintain a list of vulnerable people: the sick, elderly or disabled who are contacted in an emergency to make sure they are okay? If not, wouldn't it make sense to initiate such a list?**

The senior center does have a list. The police and fire departments do not have that information. It would make more sense to have a physical address if the phones are not working. A list is important but there is a privacy issue. I believe there have been attempts to put together such a list but nothing like it exists now.

**Q. Are there emergency contact numbers that should be available to assure public safety?**

The first numbers are police and fire department numbers. The "911" emergency number is not good because it's not that type of emergency. I can only think that the community center's number,

938-6228, is the important one to call for assistance and any information.

**Q. As a town official, what would you like to see happen in the form of public preparedness for any type of emergency? I had recently read that New Hampshire was high on the list of being prepared for emergencies. After this recent experience, I wonder where that information came from? Should there be a core of trained volunteers who could respond to an unanticipated disaster?**

I'd like to see us get battery generators to the town hall and police station. Bruce Edwards has a list of people he can call as needed. If people want to volunteer and get involved then Bruce Edwards is the one to contact, (938-5667).

**Q. The community center was available for people to get warm, sleep over and get hot food. How was this important information released?**

I'm not sure that people were aware that the center operated as a shelter. Bruce and I have talked about getting a mailing out to let people know about this shelter and its offerings, perhaps putting the information on a post card so people can have it handy in an emergency.

**Q. Is there a network of neighboring towns helping one another in a disaster? What are the duties of our emergency coordinator? The firehouse was offering water and showers but if you didn't pass by the firehouse, how would you know?**

I don't know if the fire department has ever offered showers before. There is a network and Bruce is involved in that. He attends regular meetings on emergency preparedness. We are talking about how we can improve services to the public. The town will look at available grants to help with this.

**Q. As a selectman, are you aware of some of the topics that are being discussed about preparedness in the future? Do you have your own ideas about how things can be improved?**

I think the biggest deficiency is communication. We need signs outside the community center to let people know when it's open and other information. We need more generators and additional showers at the center. We need to build up our infrastructure in town.

**Q. During the storm, was your phone ringing constantly?**

My phone didn't ring much but the center's phone was busy. Local volunteers helped as needed.

*Editor's Note:*

*We are grateful to all the volunteers from the BACC, Fire/Rescue and Police Departments, road crews, municipal employees and fellow townspeople who worked tirelessly to provide assistance to those affected by the storm and its aftermath. We offer a special thanks to Bruce Edwards for his coordination and management of relief efforts.*

**Openings For Candidacy  
For March 10, 2009 Election To Be Held At The  
Kearsarge Elementary School At Bradford  
8:00 a.m. To 7:00 p.m.**

**Moderator For Two Years (1 Opening)**

**Selectman For Three Years (1 Opening)**

**Town Clerk For Three Years (1 Opening)**

**Trustee Of The Trust Funds For Three Years (1 Opening)**

**Trustee Of The Brown Memorial Library For Three Years  
(2 Openings)**

**Scholarship Committee For Three Years (1 Opening)**

**Budget Committee For Three Years (2 Openings)**

**Planning Board For Three Years (2 Openings)**

**Zoning Board For Three Years (2 Openings)**

**Cemetery Commission For Three Years (1 Opening)**

Anyone wishing to sign up for these positions may do so at the following times at the town clerk's office:

**Friday - January 23, 2009** – 8 to noon and 1 To 5

**Monday-January 26, 2009** – noon To 7

**Tuesday-January 27, 2009** – 7 To 11:30 and 12:30 To 5

**Friday - January 30, 2009** — 8 To noon And 1 To 5

**Supervisors of the Checklist**

The Supervisors of the Checklist will be in session on Saturday January 3, 2009 from 11:00am-11:30am to register new voters and update the checklist. This will be held at the Town Hall. Please bring proof of residency and age

The Kearsarge School District meeting will be held on Saturday January 10, 2009 at 9:00am at the High School.

Supervisors of the Checklist:

Ann Lucier, Judith Marshall Ruth Marden

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## January Calendar

### Thurs. Jan. 1

#### **HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL**

6:00-8:00 PM Yoga Class

### Fri. Jan. 2

7:00 PM – Book-to-Movie, *Emma/Clueless*, BML

### Sat. Jan. 3

11:00 -11:30AM Supervisors of Checklist  
register new voters and update the  
checklist. TH

### Mon. Jan. 5

8:45AM Mountain View Senior Center Fitness  
10:00AM Ceramics with Doris  
10:30AM Yoga with Fran  
12 Noon Senior Community Dining  
1:00 PM - Bridge Group

### Tues. Jan. 6

9:00 AM – 12:00 noon – Fuel Assistance. Call  
456-2207 for appointment  
10:00AM Stitches From the Heart  
12 Noon Senior Community Dining  
6:00 PM - Yoga Class – call Fran at 456-3099 for  
information  
6:30 PM – Cub Scouts #76

### Wed. Jan. 7

3:15 PM - Brownies  
6:00-7:30 PM - Girl Scouts  
6:00-8:00 PM – Bradford Library Stitchers, drop-  
in fiber art group, BML

### Thurs. Jan. 8

9:30AM Foot Massage  
12 Noon Senior Community Dining  
3:00 – 8:00 Census 2010 Testing  
6:00-8:00 PM Yoga Class

### Fri. Jan. 9

8:45AM Mt View Sr. Ctr. Fitness  
11:30AM First Friday Brunch  
7:00 PM – Movie Night – for teens and older –  
free

### Sat. Jan 10

9:00 AM KRSD Annual Meeting – first  
(deliberative) session - KRHS Auditorium

### Mon. Jan. 12

8:45AM Mt. View Sr. Ctr. Fitness  
10:00AM Ceramics with Doris  
10:30AM Yoga with Fran  
12 Noon Sudoku and Bag Lunch  
1:00 PM - Bridge Group  
7:00 PM - Rural Heritage Connection

### Tues. Jan. 13

10:00AM Stitches From the Heart  
12 Noon Senior Community Dining January  
birthday celebration with cake and ice cream  
6:00 PM - Yoga Class – call Fran at 456-3099 for  
information  
6:30 PM – Cub Scouts #76

### Wed. Jan. 14

4:30 PM - Bradford Area Community Center –  
Committee Meeting  
5:45 PM - Parks & Recreation committee meeting

### Thurs. Jan 15

11:00AM – 12:30 PM Blood Pressure Clinic  
Free  
12 Noon Senior Community Dining  
6:00-8:00 PM Yoga Class

### Fri. Jan. 16

8:45AM Mt. View Sr. Ctr. Fitness  
7:00 PM – International Movie (China), BML

### Sat. Jan 17

10:00 AM – Bradford Improvement Association

### Sun. Jan 18

1:00-4:00 PM – Girl Scouts

### Mon. Jan. 19

8:45AM Mt. View Sr. Ctr. Fitness  
10:00AM Ceramics with Doris  
10:30AM Yoga with Fran  
12 Noon Senior Community Dining  
1:00 PM - Bridge Group

### Tues. Jan. 20

9:00 AM – 12:00 noon –Fuel Assistance. Call  
456-2207 for appointment  
10:00AM Stitches From the Heart  
12 Noon Senior Community Dining  
4:30 PM BWC Chinese Dinner - Baptist Church

## January Calendar

6:00 PM - Yoga Class  
6:30 PM – Cub Scouts #76

### Wed. Jan. 21

3:15 PM - Brownies  
6:00-7:30 PM - Girl Scouts  
6:00-8:00 PM – Bradford Library Stitchers, drop-in fiber art group, BML

### Thurs. Jan. 22

11:00AM – 12:30PM Blood Pressure Clinic by Lake Sunapee Region VNA.  
12 Noon Senior Community Dining  
3:00 -8:00 PM Census 2010 Testing

### Fri. Jan. 23

8:00 AM - NOON & 1:00 – 5:00 PM File for local offices TC @ TH  
8:45AM Mt. View Sr. Ctr. Fitness  
7:00 PM – Movie Night – for teens and older – free

### Mon. Jan. 26

8:45AM Mt. View Sr. Ctr. Fitness  
10:00AM Ceramics with Doris  
10:30AM Yoga with Fran  
12 Noon Senior Community Dining  
NOON – 7:00 PM File for local offices TC @TH  
1:00 PM - Bridge Group

### Tues. Jan. 27

7:00 AM - 11:30 AM & 12:30 – 5:00 PM file for local office TC @ TH  
10:00AM Stitches From the Heart  
12 Noon Senior Community Dining  
6:00 PM Yoga Class  
6:30 PM Cub Scouts #76

### Wed. Jan. 28

10:30AM – 12:00PM Blood Pressure Clinic  
LSRVNA North Road Senior Housing in Warner.  
6:00-7:30 PM - Girl Scouts

### Thurs. Jan. 29

12 Noon - Senior Community Dining  
6:00-8:00 PM Yoga Class

### Fri. Jan. 30

8:00 AM - NOON & 1:00 – 5:00 PM file for local offices TC @TH  
8:45AM Mt. View Sr. Ctr. Fitness



All events take place at the Bradford Area Community Center (938-6228) or the Mountain View Senior Center (938-2104) unless otherwise noted.

Please call to confirm dates and times in case there has been a change to the submitted information.

**BML**- Brown Memorial Library

**FGC**- Fish & Game Clubhouse -Gillingham Drive

**KAP**-Kearsarge Area Preschool

**KRES**-Bradford Elementary School

**MVSC** -Mountain View Senior Center

**TH** - Bradford Town Hall

**ZBA**-Zoning Board of Adjustment

## Ongoing Events

**CHILDREN'S STORYTIME** - WEDNESDAYS AT 10:30 PM. BML

**CEMETERY COMMISSION** - 2ND THURSDAY AT 6 PM - CALL 938-5539 FOR INFORMATION

**CONSERVATION COMMISSION** - 3RD TUESDAY 7:00 PM - TOWN HALL OR BML

**FISH & GAME CLUB** - 1ST MONDAY OF EACH MONTH - 7 PM FGC

**FIRST FRIDAY BRUNCH** - 11:30 AM MVSC - RESERVATIONS APPRECIATED, CALL 938-2104

**HISTORICAL SOCIETY**-OLD P.O BUILDING, OPEN MOST SATS. 1:30-3 PM OR CALL 938-5386

**LIBRARY TRUSTEES MEETING** - 1ST MONDAY 7:00 PM - BML

**PLANNING BOARD** - 2ND & 4TH TUESDAY 7 PM - TOWN HALL

**RURAL HERITAGE CONNECTION** - 2ND MONDAY 7 PM - BACC

**SELECTMEN'S MEETING** - 1ST & 3RD TUESDAY 6 PM - TOWN HALL

**ZONING BOARD** - 1ST TUESDAY 7:30 PM - TOWN HALL



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## Sandy Luckury

### Braided Rugs



The Bradford Art Group presents an exhibition of braided rugs by Sandy Luckury, opening January 12, 2009 in Brown Memorial Library.

Sandy Luckury has been braiding rugs for over 20 years. She began braiding rugs for her home and soon discovered that it was more than just a hobby. After retiring from banking, she began to pursue her dream of starting a business.

Sandy apprenticed with master braider Barbara Fisher who developed the braiding methods she uses. The precision of this method takes all the guesswork out of braiding. Each row of the rug is counted, then butted and attached to the rug as a complete ring. Using this method allows rugs to be made in unusual shapes, such as rectangles, hexagons and octagons. Sandy enjoys working with the color and design of a rug to customize each piece for a client's needs.

Sandy became a juried member of the League of NH Craftsmen in the spring of 2004, and in 2007 was awarded Best in Fiber for a rectangle rug displayed in Living With Crafts at the annual Craftsman's Fair. She is a Certified Instructor of the *Braiding with Barbara* rug braiding methods and teaches rug braiding at the Dorr Mill Store in Guild, NH. Sandy lives in Bradford, NH and can be reached at [sluckury@conknet.com](mailto:sluckury@conknet.com).

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## Library Lantern by Meg Fearnley

Brown Memorial Library staff and trustees would like to extend a warm thanks to our volunteers and those who donated services this past year. The library would struggle to function as effectively within our budget without our generous donors and volunteers.

The library will be open our usual hours (from 10-8) on Martin Luther King Day, Monday, January 19.

Our monthly activities continue in January. The Bradford Library Stitchers drop-in fiber arts group meets the first and third Wednesday evenings from 6-8pm. This month's book-to-movie discussion on Friday, January 2 at 7pm is of Jane Austen's Emma as it compares to the movie Clueless. The International Movie on Friday, January 16 is from China (the one we had to cancel last month).

New books added to your library in December:

### For Adults:

*The Charlemagne Pursuit* by Steve Berry

*Outliers* by Malcolm Gladwell

*A Mercy* by Toni Morrison

*The School on Heart's Content Road* by Carolyn Chute

*The Superorganism* by Bert Hölldobler and E. O. Wilson

### For Children:

*The Leanin' Dog* by K.A. Nuzum

*Masterpiece* by Elise Broach

*A Giant Problem* by Tony DiTerlizzi

*How to Heal a Broken Wing* by Bob Graham



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## Obituaries

Clara E. Digilio

Clara E. (Heselton) Digilio, 86, of Rowe Mountain Road, died Wed., Dec. 10, 2008 at her home. She was born in Bradford, NH on June 10, 1922 the daughter of Walter A. and Geraldine (Adams) Heselton. Mrs. Digilio lived her whole life in Bradford.

She graduated from Keene State College and taught school for 44 years in Marlow, Warner, Franklin and Concord. She received Teacher of the Year Award and was a member of the Bradford Historical Society. Upon retirement she and her late husband traveled extensively throughout the US. Her flower gardens brought her as much pleasure as did the abundance of vegetables she grew and canned each summer.

An avid bird watcher, Mrs. Digilio delighted in the families of bluebirds which occupied her nest boxes every summer. In quiet moments she relaxed with her crossword puzzles and her cat. Her husband, Robert Digilio, died in March 2008. She is survived by a brother and his wife, Harry and Pat Heselton of Warner, NH; two nephews, Harold Heselton and his wife Laura of Washington, NH and Churchill Heselton of Bradford, NH; grandnieces, grandnephews, and cousins.

A funeral service was held on Sunday, Dec. 14, 2008 at 2:00 P.M. at The First Baptist Church of Bradford, NH with The Rev. Lynne Hubley, pastor, officiating. Burial will be in Pond Cemetery, Bradford, NH in the spring. In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made to the Bradford Rescue Squad, P.O. Box 381, Bradford, NH 03221.



## First Baptist Church News

From Lynn E. Hubley

**Unhanging of the Greens:** We will be taking down the church Christmas decorations on Sunday, January 4 immediately following the Worship Service.

**Mom's Group:** Our moms will meet every Thursday in January beginning January 8 from 8:45 - 9:45 a.m.

**Youth Group:** Youth who are in grades 5-8 will meet at the Fisk House for Youth Group on Friday, January 9 and January 23 from 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

**Ham and Bean Supper:** Our annual Ham and Bean Supper will be Saturday, January 10 from 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. (This has been rescheduled from December 13)

**Food Pantry:** The food pantry will be open Wednesday, January 21 from 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. Food can be picked up at other times by calling the church office at 938-5313.

**Hunger Dinner:** Our mission committee will have their annual Hunger Dinner (soups and breads) immediately following the Worship Service on Sunday, January 25. Proceeds will benefit Heifer International.

### Tribute to Galina Leonas

Congratulations to Bradford resident and former concert pianist Galina Leonas who celebrated her 101<sup>st</sup> birthday on October 17, 2008 quietly at home with her son Al and daughter-in-law, Annette. For last year's 100<sup>th</sup> celebration, the entire family gathered from around the country. As Bradford's oldest resident, she is the holder of the Boston Post Cane.



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## Letters To The Editor

### Letter to the Editor

As New Hampshire residents struggled for days with the loss of electricity, many people coped in their own homes as Yankees do during bad weather, never publicly grumbling. The 2008 December ice storm was so widespread and prolonged that people needed more than individual stamina. We needed our community: to maintain contact with others and to receive the most up-dated information possible.

In Bradford, the emergency management team did a fantastic job. Many thanks go out to those who spent numerous hours at the Community Center and/or the fire station providing services to those in need. Now that the hours of training for a widespread emergency response have been put to the test, we, as a community, might want to think of ways to continue to improve our communal response to future serious, enduring emergencies.

For example, even in our small town, a basic problem during the ice storm was a lack of information and communication. Many people we talked with found out about the services provided (food and shelter at the Community Center, water and showers at the Fire Department) after the electricity had been restored in our part of town. Those among us who had operating telephones could have managed a “telephone tree” neighbor-to-next-door neighbor sharing news of the community’s available services.

As stated before, the response in Bradford was wonderful. However, let’s share with each other those things that were “done right” so that more people may be reached and served if such a situation arises again. One recommendation is to have the

Bradford Selectmen and Bradford’s Emergency Manager hold a public forum to gather the lessons learned so that we are even better prepared in the future.

Marge Ginepra, Audrey Sylvester, neighbors

### To the Editor

Please note the fine work the Emergency Management coordinators/teams throughout the state did during the ice storm. Shelters were set up fast, and the town officials called many people to check if they were alright.

Milly Kittredge

## Planning Board Notes

### Conceptual Consultation

Denise and Jeff Renk, owners of the former Mountain Lake Inn on Route 114, advised the Board that they hope to reopen as an inn in the future. For the present, they plan to offer mosaic lessons for six students at a time. The Board reviewed the criteria for a home business and determined that what the Renk’s propose qualifies as a home business. As future plans are developed, a site plan would be required.

**Gravel Pit:** Robert Stewart Jr. represented Peter Isham to discuss the requirements to continue to operate the gravel pit on Pleasant Valley Road. Since the previous permit for this site was dated July 9, 2002 and expired two years after that date, the Board determined that a new application needs to be filed for a permit under the existing regulations. Chair Phil LaMoreaux advised that the Board would like to be apprised of the applicant’s process as it moves forward as they do not wish to consider this pit abandoned if a new application is to be filed.

**Ledgewood Pines:** Several issues regarding language in the Declaration of Covenants and easements for the “over 55” subdivision on Old Warner Road were discussed with Mark Brunell. The amount required

for a road bond will need to be verified. A three month extension until March 10, 2009 was approved by the Board.

### Subdivision Regulations

**Amendments:** Following a public hearing, the Board approved several amendments to the Subdivision Regulations. A definition of “Active and Substantial Development” and criteria to qualify under the provisions of RSA 674:39 was added. Any approved subdivision or site plan shall be exempt from any changes in the Subdivision or Site Plan Regulations or Zoning Ordinance for a period of 4 years provided that “active and substantial” development has occurred. The amended regulations also require an applicant to provide an electronic copy of proposed and final plans.

**Zoning Amendment :** The Planning Board scheduled a public hearing for January 13, 2009 in response to a petition for a warrant article to amend the Zoning Ordinance to amend the lot size requirement to read “minimum lot size required is 2 acres” and delete the word “buildable”.

*Minutes of all Planning Board meetings are on file at the Town Hall*

## Casey Family Services Offers Help

Casey Family Services of Concord, NH and Trinity Bible Church, of Sutton, NH plan to bring up to 450 teenagers and adults to the following communities: Bradford, Sutton, New London, Andover, Warner, Wilmot, Sunapee, Springfield, Newbury, and Grantham to improve the homes of local residents. Elderly, handicapped, and lower-income residents of these identified areas in the Kearsarge Region will get free home repairs.

In the identified Kearsarge areas, as many as 80 local residents will benefit from the work of a projected 450 adult and teenage volunteers at the Kearsarge Workcamp in July 2009. The workcamp will provide free home repairs through the Group Workcamps Foundation program, sponsored locally by Casey Family Services and Trinity Bible Church.

The Group Workcamps Foundation is a non-profit, interdenominational Christian volunteer home-repair organization headquartered in Loveland, Colorado. This summer, an anticipated 30,000 young people and adults will participate in 64 Workcamps in communities across the United States and Canada.

At each workcamp, teenagers and adults—all members of church youth groups—volunteer a week of their time to repair homes throughout the community. “This represents about 12,000 hours of volunteer labor—worth at least \$80,000 to the community,” said Ed Rennells, director of Casey Family Services. “These really are remarkable young people,” said Joel Fay, Vice President of Group Workcamps Foundation. “Each one is actually paying for the privilege of working in your community. Workcamp registration fees are used to cover our costs for food, insurance, and building materials.”

The workcamp will be housed at Kearsarge Middle School with workcampers sleeping on classroom floors, eating in the cafeteria, and enjoying evening programs in the gym. “This service to the community would be impossible without the wonderful cooperation of the Kearsarge School District,” remarked Doug Dean, pastor of Trinity Bible Church. Group Workcamps Foundation will reimburse all costs to the lodging facility.

Casey Family Services is a fully licensed and accredited non-profit child welfare agency providing a broad range of programs to meet the changing needs of at risk children and families. Casey Family Services believes that families are most successful when surrounded by a caring, responsive, protective community. We believe that the Kearsarge 2009 Work Camp is one of the many programs which help to support this mission. Trinity Bible Church, founded in 1977, is solidly based on the reliability and authority of Scripture. The church is led by a group of elders whose collective task is to “shepherd the flock.” Among them is Doug Dean, Trinity’s fourth pastor since 1991.

The idea behind the workcamps started in Colorado in 1977 when residents suffered from the Big Thompson River flood in which hundreds of homes were damaged or destroyed and over 140 people lost their lives. Church youth groups of many different denominations came from across the country the next summer to help. In 1978, the program went nationwide to include other disadvantaged areas throughout the country. This summer, 64 workcamps will take place in many different states, including, but not limited to Florida, Virginia, Montana, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Illinois, Kentucky, New York, Tennessee, and Minnesota. Many workcamps will also take place internationally. Now in its 31st year of service, Group Workcamps Foundation has hosted nearly 300,000 volunteers who have worked on almost 45,000 projects across the U.S., Canada, Belize, and Puerto Rico.

Repairs offered through the workcamp include interior and exterior painting, weatherization, porch and wheelchair ramp construction and other work. Residents interested in applying to receive assistance may contact Doug Dean of Trinity Bible Church at 927- 4213.

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## A Culinarian's Column

by Caryl Walker

As winter really sets in, I begin to think of comfort foods—hearty soups, stews, and casseroles. Mmm—Mac and Cheese. My mother always thought that casseroles were the best for entertaining, so that you could have everything done and be able to be with your guests. She had an arsenal of casserole recipes. I've been thinking about this one, have made it for a buffet at school (which was a huge hit), and am thinking about making it real soon. Want to come for supper?? Or better yet have a neighborhood get-together and make this dish the main attraction.

## Macaroni Beef Royale - 6 Servings

8 ounces small elbow macaroni  
 6 ounces cream cheese with chives  
 1 pound ground beef  
 16 ounces tomato sauce  
 1 teaspoon sugar  
 1 teaspoons salt  
 2 onions, sliced thinly  
 2 tablespoons butter  
 1 egg  
 1 cup sour cream  
 ½ teaspoon salt

- Cook macaroni in a large pot of boiling, salted water until al dente. Drain macaroni and mix with cream cheese. Put in 1 ½ to 2 quart dish.
- Brown beef. Stir in tomato sauce, sugar, and salt Spoon beef mixture over macaroni.
- Saute onions in butter until softened. Spread over meat layer.
- In a small bowl, beat egg well. Blend in sour cream and ½ teaspoon salt. Spoon over onion mixture. Bake at 350 F. for 45 minutes.

**Notes:**

- Cook pasta in plenty of water—a gallon of water to a pound of pasta. Add a couple teaspoons of salt to the boiling water. Be sure to stir the pasta in the beginning to prevent clumping. Boil uncovered. (I cannot tell you how many times the students have put a lid on the pot and walked away, only to have a frothing foam running down the sides of the pot and turning the blue flame into an angry orange flame.)
- “Al dente” literally means “to the tooth”, which means “firm to the bite”. Pasta goes from done to mush very quickly and since the macaroni will cook further in the oven, it is important to undercook the pasta.
- Feel free to add a cup or more of grated sharp cheddar, gruyere, or your choice of cheese to the mac and cheese mixture. Add some garlic or shallots and a few red pepper flakes to the onions for a little more punch.
- To safely slice an onion, take a small piece off the stem and root ends, cut onion in half from stem to root end, peel off skin. Place onion, flat-side down, on cutting board with stem-root ends perpendicular to you. Now slice.

Hope you enjoy this casserole with family and friends.

Happy New Year and God Forsettning (Swedish for Good Fortune)

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## KEARSARGE REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Time for cautious stance.....

return to budget fundamentals.

Sound familiar? The news headline reads: "New unemployment claims surge to 26 year high". We're approaching the close of 2008 and we all know that officially we are in a recession, companies are closing their doors or laying off hundreds if not thousands of workers on a monthly basis, foreclosures remain at record levels, the State budget is running a \$250 million dollar deficit, and our 401k and retirement savings have seen 35% + reductions.

We are in for a rough ride. The smart steps to take now are virtually the same whether you think what's coming is a run-of-the-mill downturn or a once-in-a-lifetime cataclysm.

So what do we do? Answer: Return to the fundamentals. Remember that day, hopefully not that long ago, when we were taught that you did not spend more than you brought home, to save at least 10% of everything you earned and to pay yourself first. Good logic that seems to have lost its way.

Why do I bring this up today? Recently the MBC (Municipal Budget Committee) of the Kearsarge Regional School District completed its annual task of finalizing the 2009-2010 budget and making its recommendation to the district. No easy task given the economic environment we live in today. The result was our recommendation of a \$35,375,765 budget, an increase of 4.23% over the prior year's budget. Depending on your viewpoint, one might see this increase as reasonable, acceptable or excessive. Let me outline the details so that you can draw your own conclusion.

Over the past six months the MBC, as our District's charter requires, held an extensive review of each area of the School District's proposed 2009-10 budget. The committee members have reviewed and examined over 400 pages of financial data and supporting reports. Publicly announced meetings were held each Tuesday evening at the High School in Sutton during the months of October, November and December and at these sessions detailed reviews by each principal and department head, including Special Education, Technology, Food Services and the SAU administrative budget itself were conducted. In addition, the committee also undertook a review of anticipated revenues through federal and state sources for the upcoming year.

Through this process and candid conversations with the School Board, the initial proposed budget was reduced from a 7.37% overall increase to a 5.93% increase in the School Board's Version 5 recommended budget.

Given the overall economic climate prevalent in our nation, state and local communities, it has been made clear to us that the citizens of our district are experiencing the stresses and pain being placed upon them beyond levels experienced in the past. The MBC, after much discussion and an examination of the history of our district, determined that further reductions should be undertaken in an attempt to ease the stresses of the upcoming year as best we could.

It is clear that this year's increase in the budget is mostly influenced by two major cost factors: the

*By: Joe Conway, Chair  
Municipal Budget Committee*

implementation of the last year of the teacher's CBA (Collective Bargaining Agreement) which was approved by voters two years ago and the debt service associated with the recent addition to the high school and the construction of the new middle school. In the committee's view, the school administration has taken obvious care to minimize or lessen the increase. However, this is a year where all-embracing atypical steps need to be considered.

The MBC has examined every aspect of this budget and has come to the conclusion that all items have been reduced to fragile levels and any added reductions could jeopardize the delivery of the education our students deserve. However, the MBC did decide to reach beyond the norm with a budget reduction proposal.

The theory behind the MBC's proposal is to have everyone in the district: teachers, staff, administrators etc., (no exceptions), plus the taxpayers - share in the burden to reasonably reduce this budget and still not adversely affect the delivery and integrity of education in the district to our students. As we so clearly understand, our students are our future.

The following comprises the resulting 4.23% increase:

- CBA Wage increases are reduced to the 4% increase level. The emphasis is that the teacher's union agrees and chooses to participate voluntarily. If they choose not to, then cuts will need to be made to positions and/or programs to meet this reduction.
- Non-teacher wage increases are reduced to the 2.0% level. It is

not fair to have this group bear the whole burden.

- Retirement contributions are reduced based on the reductions in salaries.
- Operating costs are reduced another \$53,500 – all non essential costs, blackberries, paving/sealing and special projects within all schools.

This proposal reduces the budget to a level the MBC hopes is acceptable to the majority of the taxpayers.

The history in our communities is one where the taxpayer for the past 10 years has graciously supported the initiatives of the district from the high school expansion, the teachers CBA contract and the building of the new middle school. It is our belief that this support is a two-way street. The success of the MBC proposal and the continued success of our district hinges on the notion of cooperation. We believe now is the time for all to join in and exercise this spirit.

Given the economic climate and recessionary conditions that we all must adjust to, it is not too much to ask. Our district has proven to be a jewel; this proposal attempts to maintain employment in the district across the board, keep the educational process moving forward and be fair to the taxpayer.

The MBC has chosen to embrace the fundamentals and support our future. I would encourage everyone to consider the same.

I invite you to join us at the Deliberative Session, on Saturday, January 10<sup>th</sup>, starting at 9:00 a.m. in the High School Auditorium. Your vote will make the ultimate decision.

### Community Cornerstones #1 - Bradford Center



From the late 1700's to the early 1800's, the Center on Rowe Mountain. Road was not only the geographic center of town, it was also a civic and business center with a store, nearby blacksmith and post office. The Meetinghouse was built in 1797, the School in 1793, the Congregational Church in 1838, Town Pound in 1789 and Old Burial Ground which contains the graves of many early soldiers and settlers.

The Meetinghouse was dismantled and reassembled as the Bradford Town Hall in its present location in 1863. With industries and roads located and especially the railroad construction in 1840, the center of town evolved to the present area.

The church has seen very little change; the interior stencils have been refurbished. The schoolhouse, which was use until 1937, has been restored with both buildings being reroofed within the past year. Many people have volunteered time, energy and finances over the last few years to maintain these buildings as a charming bit of the past. Both public events and weddings are still held in the buildings and on the Common.

The Old Center is listed as one of the NH Historical places and was established as the Bradford Historic District by a vote at the 2005 Town Meeting. .

*Pictures courtesy of Bradford Historical Society*

## From All of Us at the Bradford Bridge



**May the holidays bring  
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It's not too early to start thinking about Spring Sports!!!

Bradford Newbury Sutton Youth Sports is ready to start the new year. Our program is growing by leaps and bounds with more and more children keeping active by participating in our programs. In 2008 we had 115 participants in baseball and 40 girls for softball. Our soccer program this year hosted 60 summer campers and 130 fall soccer players.

Volunteers are what make this program work for our children. In 2008 we saw a marked decline in volunteer help and those that did help out felt the pinch. We are in need of volunteers in all programs and in 2009 will begin requiring 5 hours of volunteer efforts from each family whose child or children participate in the program. There is a lot to do, and many hands make for lighter work. Whether it be helping to clean up the fields, coaching, umpiring or refereeing a game, manning one of the snack shacks, mowing or lining the fields - we need your help. Please help out wherever you can!!

Softball and Baseball registration will begin in January. Check our website for all the details, including printable registration forms. Registration deadline is March 1st, 2009. Early registration is GREATLY appreciated as it helps us plan our coaching and equipment needs before the last minute.

BNSYS Softball and the NEC Pilgrims Softball Team will again host a softball clinic at the New England College in Henniker in February. The attendees last year had a great time honing their skills and really enjoyed the chance to play alongside the NEC Pilgrims Girls Softball Team. Watch our website for the date and sign up for a session.

Also watch for our annual 100 INNING GAME announcement. This event is generally held in late April (depends on the snow!) and is always a fun kickoff to the spring ball season, not to mention a good fundraiser for the program. We are currently raising funds to build a new T-Ball field for our youngest participants to enjoy.

Think Spring!

BNSYS  
P.O. Box 291  
Bradford, NH 03221  
[www.bnsys.org](http://www.bnsys.org)



# Outside

by J. Ann Eldridge

The people who by profession wonder where and when and how bats came into being have had some revelations based on analysis of new found fossils. In the Eocene (33-55 million years ago) temperatures were rising. Plants were explosively diversifying and the ever-inventive insects were enthusiastically doing the same. At that time, few other creatures were making a meal of the fluttering, crawling hordes of nocturnal insects. And thus, relatively suddenly in evolutionary terms, an arboreal insectivorous mammal leapt and flew.

New evidence indicates that echolocation evolved after flight, as did diet-specialization into bats that eat solely fish, fruit, nectar, blood, pollen, etc. Advanced DNA technology has shown that bats, once thought to be perhaps related to lemurs (primates), are actually included in the ancient group that includes such creatures as shrews, whales, and wolves. Bats are not at all closely related to gnawing rodents.

If you were to accurately name every kind of mammal now living, one of every five would be a species of bat, a global success, barring Antarctica. There are bats the size of bumblebees and some nearing a six foot wingspread. Cold NH has a dearth of bat forms, only nine species, and all insectivores.

Bats sadly do not usually fall into the "cute" category. Their eyes are small, though their vision is quite good. Our night vision is poor and thus bats tend to startle us. They fly as erratically as their prey. Their perceived ungainliness makes us uneasy, we aren't sure what they can or might do. It's all the same bones however. Imagine your collar bones and sternum strengthened and keeled to support impressive chest muscles. Your tail bone gets a bit longer as your legs shorten. A bone spur forms at your heel. Your upper arm stops growing and your forearms shrink a bit. Your thumb is fine, but your finger bones grow like Pinocchio's nose. Connect these points with a thin, leathery skin and, if you lost a few pounds, you too could fly. You'd look pretty gawky too.

Echolocation is more difficult to grasp – seeing with sound. Bats shriek into the night sky with smoke detector intensity but a pitch so high that our deficient

ears fortunately prevent us from hearing most of their conversation. With astonishing accuracy, a bat can analyze the rebounding echo and not only identify the object's size and properties, but can place it precisely in spatial terms. They can modulate the decibels and the kilohertz with speeds measured in thousandths of a second. Emitting a loud, high-pitched sound at lightning speed, a bat must have muscles to simultaneously protect its ears, preventing self-deafening. A blindfolded bat can find its way home over hundreds of miles. They do not casually bump into people and it is very, very difficult to contract rabies from a bat.

The local bats are now in cold self-storage. This is largely how they achieve their long life spans, relative to their body size. The little brown bat (*Myotis lucifugus*) may live for twenty three years. Over the eons bats have adapted to specific winter shelters where they'll maintain a temperature near the freezing point. This will keep them in suspended animation until the bugs emerge in the spring. Too cold and they'll die, but too warm or aroused to wakefulness and they'll use up their fat reserves and starve.

Mycologists are stumped by the recent appearance of an unusual cold-loving fungus that is killing tens of thousands of bats in their winter caves. It seems to have originated in the vicinity of Albany NY and is possibly part of a more complicated syndrome of other causal factors. In just two years 'white-nose fungus' has spread from cave to cave by bats, cavers, or bat enthusiasts themselves. It could soon become a global issue. That this many creatures may go missing from the earth is not only a sadness but likely a serious problem to the interconnected flora and fauna remaining as populations adjust to the void.

If you should see a winter-flying bat, or other unusual behavior or injuries, please report this to US Fish and Wildlife Service at 223-2541 or NH Fish and Game at 271-3017. If you would like to donate to an emergency fund to study the disease, contact Bat Conservation International.

*For further information at the Brown Memorial Library: Winter World by Bernd Heinrich, Owls Aren't Wise and Bats Aren't Blind by Warner Shedd, or Wild Mammals of New England by Alfred Godin.*



## Bradford Historical Society



The Blacksmith and Woodworking Shop will be completed in the late spring with a gala raising. The timbers and purlings have been stored inside for the winter.

## Classifieds

For Sale: Men's oxblood red leather chair with ottoman, has a few scratches. \$195. Call 938-5281.

## Bradford Transfer and Recycling Center Receives “Reward”

**New Hampshire the Beautiful** rewarded the Bradford Transfer and Recycling Center with 800 narcissus bulbs! Fifty bulbs were planted at the Women’s Club Park, 300 bulbs were planted at the Bradford Elementary School, and 50 bulbs were planted around the Bradford Transfer and Recycling Center sign. Bindy from the Recycling Committee planted 100 bulbs at the Bradford Community Center; she also planted 300 bulbs in various places around Bradford that are a secret until we see their delightful colors in the spring.

**New Hampshire the Beautiful** has indicated that it will contribute 800 more bulbs next fall and Bindy has already volunteered to help plant bulbs next year.

The Bradford Transfer and Recycling Center has become the “Road Cleanup Headquarters.” We have some great volunteers cleaning up the roadsides in Bradford. One enthusiastic resident living near Lake Massasecum brings us large, heavy garbage bags loaded with recent and vintage bottles and cans and other debris that have littered his neighborhood.

When spring comes and the roadsides are visible again, others can help by cleaning up the litter along their own roads, collecting the litter in a bag, and bringing the bag to the Transfer Station. Lois and I will separate out the recyclable items for you. Bradford has a no-littering ordinance, yet it is amazing how much trash and recyclables are regularly discarded along our roadways.

Residents have been asking why plastic caps cannot be recycled. Plastic caps are not made of the same plastic as the plastic bottles and containers and, if they should be mixed in with the bottles and containers, they would contaminate the whole load. Also, plastic caps can become caught in the recycling equipment and cause damage requiring expensive repairs. For these reasons, plastic caps are discarded with the regular compactor trash.

We appreciate all of the volunteers who are participating in Bradford’s beautification!

Sincerely,

Kenneth Anderson, Manager