

# The Bradford Bridge

COMMUNITY NEWS *for* NEIGHBORS *by* NEIGHBORS

## Election Day Appreciation

From Melissa Cunningham,  
Bradford Town Clerk

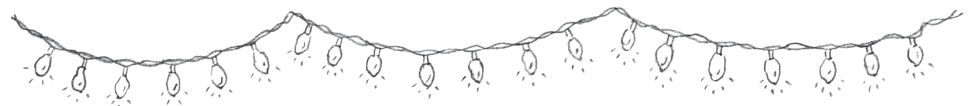
I would like to thank the many people who helped to make the election run so smoothly on November 3rd.

- Erica Gross, Deputy Town Clerk, worked hard to keep track of the 296 absentee ballot requests we sent out, along with processing all of our every-day work.
- Brackett Scheffy, the Town Moderator, helped to implement all the procedures for election day and weekly zoom meetings. While he could not be there on the Election Day he was there for the testing of the machine, counting ballots beforehand, preprocessing absentee ballots and setting up the election.
- Fred Hubley, the Assistant Moderator, was there for all the events leading up to the election and the meetings and covered for the Moderator on Election Day. Fred helped to ensure that things ran smoothly and we had no problems on election day.
- Judy Marshall, Jackye Pehrson and Sandy Paul, our Supervisors of the Checklist, assisted 100 new voters register on election day.
- The selectmen: Jason Allen, Michael James and Marlene Freyler were all present for election day. Jason and Michael helped to direct voters to the Supervisors of the Checklist when needed. Marlene was inside the election room monitoring the tabulator machine when the moderator was busy, directing voters and helping to sanitize voting areas.
- The ballots clerks for the day were

*(Continued on page 3)*

## 2020 Bradford Election Results

Office	Democrat Bradford Votes	Republican Bradford Votes	Elected
President/ Vice President Of the United States	Joseph R. Biden Kamala D. Harris 563	Donald J. Trump Michael R. Pence 478	Joseph R. Biden Kamala D. Harris
NH Governor	Dan Feltes 363	Chris Sununu 674	Chris Sununu
US Senator	Jeanne Shaheen 602	Corky Messer 418	Jeanne Shaheen
US Representative in Congress	Ann McLane Kuster 564	Steven Negron 451	Ann McLane Kuster
NH Executive Councilor	Cinde Warmington 488	Jim Beard 517	Cinde Warmington
NH State Senate District 8	Jenn Alford-Teaster 517	Ruth Ward 517	Ruth Ward
NH State Representative	Tony Caplan 518 Rod Pimentel 499	Thomas A. Dunn 485 James B. Parker 424	Tony Caplan Rod Pimentel
Sheriff	David A. Croft 469	Dennis A. Crawford 547	David A. Croft
County Attorney	Robin A. Davis 496	Paul Halvorsen 504	Paul Halvorsen
County Treasurer	Kathleen G. Donnelly 483	Mary R. Heath 508	Kathleen G. Donnelly
Register of Deeds	Susan Cragin 500	Susan Cragin 490	Susan Cragin
Register of Probate	Jane Bradstreet 526	Scott Maltzie 477	Jane Bradstreet
Bradford Ballots Cast	Regular 800	Absentee 279	Bradford Total 1079



## The Season of Lights

As we all navigate the holidays during a global pandemic, there is so much to consider. We are rerouting and recreating traditions from here to the North Pole! With all that is different, what remains the same for you? No doubt, there will be garlands and decorations and hopefully snow! Take a drive and see what you see. May you all find comfort in the simple joys of the season.

### Main Street and High Streets

Our downtown neighbors always bring a festive flare to the streets! From the white lights to the blow up reindeer, they let the spirit shine for all to enjoy.

### Bradford Center Meetinghouse

Many of us will dearly be missing the Christmas Eve pageant in Bradford Center this year. In place of gathering, the Friends of the Meetinghouse invite you to come and view lights from the Winter Solstice, December 21st through Christmas, December 25th.

### Route 114

After touring through our little town, take to Rt 114 towards Sutton for a show like no other! Just past the Trinity Bible Church you will see a handmade sign directing you to drive down a little dirt road on the right - follow it! Christmas music and a light show that will not disappoint!



# The Bradford Bridge

P.O. Box 463  
Bradford, NH 03221  
bradfordbridge.org  
bradfordbridge345@gmail.com

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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Caitlin Banaszak, Area Events

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**SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION**

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**SUBMISSIONS**

Anyone is welcome to submit articles  
and/or photographs of interest to the  
community. We reserve the right to edit  
submissions.

**PRINTING**

RC Brayshaw & Company, Inc.

## Town Offices

**SELECTMEN'S OFFICE**

Phone: 938-5900  
Monday – Thursday: 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM  
(closed 12 Noon – 1 PM)  
Friday: 8:00 AM – Noon

**TOWN CLERK/TAX COLLECTOR**

Phone: 938-2288  
Tuesday: 8 AM – 12 PM/ 1 PM – 4 PM  
Wednesday: 12 PM – 5 PM  
(by pre-arranged appointment only)  
Thursday: 9 AM – 12 PM/ 1 PM – 6 PM  
Friday through Monday: Closed

Town offices are temporarily located at  
Bradford Area Community Center, 134 East  
Main St. P.O. Box 436, Bradford, NH 03221

## From the Bridge



**Wild Geese**

You do not have to be good.  
You do not have to walk on your knees  
for a hundred miles through the desert repenting.  
You only have to let the soft animal of your body  
love what it loves.  
Tell me about despair, yours, and I will tell you mine.  
Meanwhile the world goes on.  
Meanwhile the sun and the clear pebbles of the rain  
are moving across the landscapes,  
over the prairies and the deep trees,  
the mountains and the rivers.  
Meanwhile the wild geese, high in the clean blue air,  
are heading home again.  
Whoever you are, no matter how lonely,  
the world offers itself to your imagination,  
calls to you like the wild geese, harsh and exciting  
over and over announcing your place  
in the family of things.

Mary Oliver

At this writing, a few days before Thanksgiving 2020, the world offers an array of overly complex imaginations. Nature, so accessible in this place, can give boundless refuge.

This December 2020 edition of the Bradford Bridge brings:

- ★ Election results and Thanks from Melissa to all who participated and made record breaking voting in Bradford a smooth civic responsibility.
- ★ The Monthly Briefing of November Bradford Board activity Devin.
- ★ Sue’s analysis of the SB2/Town Meeting proposal.
- ★ Where to find local, holiday light displays from Leah.
- ★ News of Mt. Sunapee’s Grand Old Forest from Steve.
- ★ Marilyn’s real estate update.
- ★ Lois’s article about new plastic recycling and a “Blue” Christmas at the Transfer Station.
- ★ Announcements of neighbors who have passed.
- ★ Holiday art from Susan.

The news “for neighbors by neighbors” brought to you monthly in the Bridge is made possible by the support of our advertisers. Please visit them often and thank them for their services.

Peace and Joy to you and yours as 2020 ends and 2021 presents new hope.

*Kathleen Bigford, Editor*  
*And everyone who has contributed  
to 30 years of Neighborly news*



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**WELCOME HOME TRELLOTT**  
♠♠♠♠♠♠♠♠♠♠♠♠♠♠♠♠♠♠♠♠♠♠



Letters to Our Editor:

**Letter of Thanks**

I am grateful to live in a town like Bradford where senior citizens are looked after. The day before Thanksgiving, members of the Police and Fire Departments delivered meals prepared by the Applesed Inn to Bradford seniors who had requested them.

Grateful thanks and much appreciation from everyone who participated at the Applesed, Bradford Police Department and Bradford Fire Department for offering this service.

*Harriet Douglass  
Bradford, NH*

**Congratulations to ALL**

Congratulations and profound thanks to everyone who participated in the 2020 General Elections. It was a record breaking year for voter and volunteer participation! Thanks especially to Bradford's Town officials for keeping us informed on How-to-Vote by absentee ballot and What-to-Expect at the polls when we voted in person. And not to be forgotten, our thanks to all the public spirited citizens who ran for public office.

*Audrey Sylvester  
Bradford, NH*

**News from Mountain View Senior Center**

Senior Center activities cannot begin until COVID-19 is under control, but takeout meals on Monday and Thursday are still available. You can take one meal or several meals to enjoy in your home at your convenience. A donation of \$2 per meal or \$10 for five meals is suggested for eligible (60 years of age or older) participants.

Our Christmas holiday meal will be offered on December 17th, with reservations by December 10th.

The menu is pot roast/gravy with mashed potato and root veggies, served with a roll and apple pie. This is a take-out only and reservations are required. Call 938-2104.

**Mask/Facial Covering Required in Public Spaces**

All persons over the age of 5 within the State of New Hampshire shall wear a mask or cloth face covering over their noses and mouths at any time they are in public spaces, indoors or outdoors, where they are unable to or do not consistently maintain a physical distance of at least six feet from persons outside their own households.

*Per order of the Governor,  
State of New Hampshire*

**Election Day Appreciation**

*(Continued from page 1)*

Mary Derry, Denise Renk, Tom Marshall, Garry Kalajian, Eileen Kelly and Tandy Hardford. They did a great job managing the steady flow of voters checking in, as it was the busiest I have seen on any election day. Additionally, we had Jen Richardson, Julie Leonard, Jay Martin and Kim Firth in attendance. The four of them had reached out offering to help in any way that was needed. On Election Day they helped to greet people, direct voters and assist the Checklist ladies when needed.

- I would also like to thank Evan Miller for his help with getting the rooms ready for the election by breaking down tables and setting up election equipment.
- We had Officer Faria and Officer Flanagan from the Bradford Police Department present and also helping direct voters.
- Lieutenant Shaughnessy helped to put up parking signs and take them down.
- Last but not least, I would like to thank the voters. I know that there were a lot of changes for the elections and I appreciate everyone having patience especially while waiting in lines to get in to vote. We had a total of 1,079 votes cast. I am happy to say that we did not have any issues or problems on election day and the ballots were tallied and boxed up just before 9pm.



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## Town Meeting or SB2?

*Editor's note: The opinions expressed in the following are those of the author and do not necessarily represent those of the Bradford Bridge. Readers are always encouraged to submit points of view.*

Whether Bradford should move from a Town Meeting form of governance or becomes an SB2 town recently came up for consideration at a Select Board meeting. There are important differences between the two in the way citizens can influence how their town is managed.

Information offered by the New Hampshire Municipal Association (<https://www.nhmunicipal.org/town-city-article/transitioning-sb-2-form-town-meeting>) explains the differences between a traditional Town Meeting format and an SB2 format. The short version is that Town Meeting has the debates and votes in one session. Warrant articles can be amended both in content and costs unless prohibited by law. Budgets can be debated, explained, and changed according to the will of the people and voted on in one night, one session. SB2 towns on the other hand have two sessions, one called deliberative where people gather to debate budgets and warrants (as in a Town Meeting format) with some complicated restrictions (see RSA 40:13) and then another session where people vote by secret ballot 'up or down' to accept, without further debate, the whole package, warrants and budget.

If the voters fail to pass the whole package, a default budget, that is, the previous year's budget becomes the new budget. There are additional powers given to the governing body i.e., the Select Board to alter, unless prevented by law, what that operating budget can be used for. Usually it's to fill mandated rises in costs not accounted for in the previous year's (the default) budget, necessitating funds being picked from other pockets to cover them. Such items could include increases in retirement, health insurance, interest on loans, pay raises granted per contract, cost of salt, gravel, etc.

While Jason Allen listed what he believes are the positive aspects of becoming a SB2 town in the November Bridge, he failed to mention what might be the negative aspects. So, I will share some of them here:

1. Reduced participation of citizens during the 'deliberative' session.
2. Less participation leads to greater misunderstanding of what is being voted on during the voting session.
3. Due to lower participation at the deliberative sessions, a minority can control what is presented to the voters later.
4. As stated above, if the proposed budget/warrants are voted down, the previous year's budget becomes the default budget with various Town departments cutting other commitments to cover obligations.
5. Our own experience with the Kearsarge Regional School District adopting a SB2 form of government shows the dramatic reduction of citizen participation in determining that budget.

If you listen to the September 21, 2020 Select Board's discussion on this matter, and I strongly recommend that you do, ([https://townhallstreams.com/stream.php?location\\_id=110&id=31917\\_start\\_at\\_1.11:53](https://townhallstreams.com/stream.php?location_id=110&id=31917_start_at_1.11:53)) it reveals that Michael James was in favor of SB2, not because he understood the process, but rather because he thinks current Town meetings are "disgusting" and run by a few bullies with the rest of the public meekly following along to vote with them. Jason

Allen sees it as a way to have more people vote the way they want to vote without worrying "what their neighbors say". It seems neither Michael nor Jason think much of our town citizens intellectual capacity and independence of thinking, nor do they seem to understand what this change involves. Yet both feel a SB2 deliberative session (aka a mini-town meeting) would help with making the public "more aware" despite experiences that state exactly the opposite. Marlene Freyler is opposed to the change.

In March 2019, The Exchange on New Hampshire Public Radio had a program on pros and cons of SB2 (<https://www.nhpr.org/post/town-meeting-traditional-vs-sb2-and-big-issues-year#stream/0>). It seems that deliberative sessions in SB2 towns have lower citizen participation rates than do Town Meetings. Although the voter participation in SB2 towns might be higher than at Town Meetings, the populous are less informed of the particulars on which they are voting and then become aggrieved at what has transpired. The concern expressed by many in SB2 towns is that a less informed public due to lower attendance, allows greater opportunity for a minority to push through ideas that had they been aired at Town Meeting, would never have passed muster. Experience has shown that with less participation during the deliberative sessions, the governing board is assured more power than at Town Meeting.

In large towns, such as Salem, Nashua, and Hudson, where holding a town

at Newbury Harbor



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meeting is cumbersome, it can make sense to have a process where interested parties go to the deliberative session (aka, mini town meeting) and the rest of the public then votes at a later date on the whole package, and its done. In a small town such as Bradford, citizen participation is a hallmark of our democracy, a time to meet neighbors after a long winter, and to allow for spirited debate on how we wish our town to function given our limited resources.

Democracy is not a spectator sport. It requires an informed and engaged citizenry to participate in how we wish our and our neighbors' lives be attended to for the upcoming year. Town Meeting allows for that. SB2 process has shown to limit such engagement. Yes, it can be boring and take a lot of time bringing people up to snuff on the budget, explain the warrants, talking about road repair, the ever-present need for another water pumper/fire truck/police cruiser, kids' sports, etc., etc., etc. But that is an incredibly small price to pay to ensure that "We the People" can continue to have a say and uphold a treasured democratic process.

Be forewarned, be informed, and if and when the time comes, vote No on becoming a SB2 town.

*Sue McKevitt*

## Mount Sunapee's Grand Old Forest

At 2745' Mount Sunapee has long been an attraction for hikers, skiers, and nature lovers. In the middle of the 19th century the mountain was described in this way "... completely forest clad, stern and savage of aspect except when touched by the tender lights of evening, it is not merely a mighty mountain, but a remnant of the primeval wilderness."

Within Mount Sunapee's unique State documented forest is a large percentage of Old Growth forest. These forests have escaped harvesting or other significant human modification over the last 350 years and make up less than one tenth of one percent of New Hampshire's total forested area. It is the only known area of Old Forest in Merrimack County.

The future of Mount Sunapee's Exemplary Natural Community System remains uncertain. Although documented by the State of New Hampshire Mt. Sunapee's Exemplary forested system has not been granted any formal protective status. There are plans within the leased area of the park that would severely impact Mount Sunapee's State documented exemplary forest.



Given the unique status of this wondrous forest, its location within a state park, its accessibility to the public, and the ancient forest areas within that are dependent on the larger mature forest for its survival, it is imperative that the State act to permanently protect this crown jewel of our State park system.

Please write the Commissioner of the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources and urge DNCR to stop all projects within the Exemplary Forest and to permanently protect Mount Sunapee's 484 acre Exemplary Northern Hardwood - Conifer system an irreplaceable part of New Hampshire's natural and cultural heritage.

Write to: Sarah Stewart, Commissioner  
Dept. of Natural and Cultural Resources,  
172 Pembroke Rd, Concord, NH  
03301

Email: [sarah.stewart@dncr.nh.gov](mailto:sarah.stewart@dncr.nh.gov)  
Visit: <https://www.friendsofmountsunapee.org/>

*Steven Russell, President,  
Friends of Mt. Sunapee*

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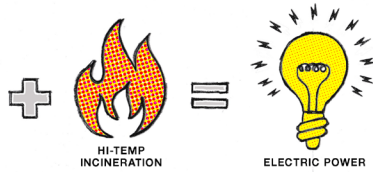
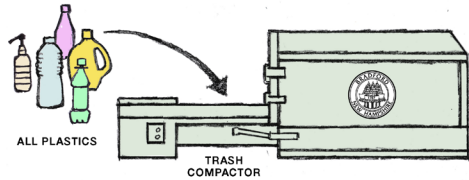
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## TRANSFER STATION NEWS

### Recycling Plastics, But in a Different Way

Due to changing market conditions for plastics, the Bradford Transfer Station and Recycling Center is now recycling all plastics through the municipal waste system. Our municipal waste is shipped to Wheelabrator's waste-to-energy facility in Penacook, which provides power to 14,460 New Hampshire homes, as well as, for its operation. By directing our plastics to be environmentally and safely recycled through the municipal waste system for power, we are assured that the plastics will not end up in the ocean.

Ken and I are asking residents to remove the caps from all plastic bottles and jugs before tossing them into the compactor container. This thoughtful action will enable the compactor to make a more compact load, thus reducing the number and, therefore the overall cost of shipments that must be made.

We are using the baler formerly used for plastic recycling to collect and bale aluminum beverage cans. Using the baler in this way helps to eliminate clutter at

the transfer station, brings in a higher return for the expense of operating the baler, and helps reduce the presence of bee swarms that can pose a serious problem for those forgetting their epi pen.

**It's a Blue Christmas this Year** at the Bradford Transfer and Recycling Center; it is indeed a blue-themed Christmas! Last year a 4-foot Christmas tree was tossed into the scrap metal container. We rescued it, cleaned it up, and decorated it with traditional peppermint candy canes. This year in July a string of new blue minilights came in, and we set them aside. Then, in September a bunch of brand-new blue tree ornaments came in, and we set them aside.

And suddenly, we had an idea for a blue-themed Christmas! The blue theme will be emphasized further with hanging blueberry candy canes, which I have purchased as treats for all the children who visit the Transfer Station. It is interesting how people's discards can spark the imagination and make us create something unique. This year we have transformed last year's discarded Christmas tree with the blue items that were discarded during the year. So, yes, this year it really is a blue Christmas at the Bradford Transfer Station.

*Lois Kilnapp, Manager*

## Halloween 2020



Thank you to everyone who helped make this off-beat year fun and safe on Halloween! Lots of candy, laughs and masks all up and down Main Street.



ONLINE CLASSES

Yoga for Self-care  
with Meghan and Lisa  
12/17 FROM 7-8:30 PM

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& Meditation  
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12/21 FROM 6-7:30 PM

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## Real Estate Update

Two months after my last article for The Bridge, back in September, we are still living with the presence of COVID 19 with no clearly defined “end” in sight (though the promise of a forthcoming vaccine is encouraging).

Despite the lingering uncertainty, the real estate market has stayed strong. There are still more buyers than there are properties for sale; new listings go under contract very quickly. As a company, we hardly have active listings long enough to advertise them! The “experts” still seem to expect this market to be around for a while, perhaps even through 2021. This will be great for sellers, but sellers often are buyers as well, and the lack of inventory really is a Catch-22: If potential sellers can’t find a house to buy, they’ll delay putting their own home on the market. And round and round we go!

During the month of November, we felt that the market might actually be slowing down, but the slow-down was in the numbers of new listings... not in the number of buyers looking for property. In this instance, the holiday season plays into sellers’ thoughts about listing as well. Most will delay until the first of the year.

Hopefully, buyers will have more listings to choose from in 2021.

Best Wishes to All for Happy Holidays and a Wonderful New Year!

Marilyn Kidder  
Broker/Owner



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*It’s hard to believe* that our ad last year at this time was the joint one with Laura Hallahan as she made her announcement about closing Tall Pines and introduced us to Bradford. We hope that Ann has adjusted to retirement! We all know that Laura is extremely successful at any undertaking, and I know that she’s doing well and will be chasing those dreams soon (despite COVID)!

In another local ad reflecting on this season and what Thanksgiving meant to all of us, we featured this quote: “Gratitude helps us to see what is there, rather than what is not.” This is well-suited to our current times, as whatever shape the Holidays take for you and your family, it’s a great time to count your blessings.

We hope that when considering your real estate questions or needs, you will call on us. We would love to help. Whether you are buying or selling, our years of experience, and local knowledge when combined with the broad reach and additional tools of our Better Homes and Gardens franchise, will guarantee you a successful and satisfying transaction.

Warmest wishes to you for the best Holiday Season it can be!

From  
The Milestone Team



*If you’re considering selling or buying, give us a call and put “The Best Team in Town” to work for you!*

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### Bradford Residential Real Estate Transactions from 8/20/20-11/19/20

- 115 Old Blaisdell Road, 1975 Waterfront 4-season home on 1.4A for \$750,000
- 172 East Shore Drive, 3-bedroom 1920’s cabin on .5A for \$290,000
- 27 Old Fairgrounds Road, 4-bedroom home on 14+A with huge barn for \$279,000
- 47 Oakdale Road, Contemporary year-round cottage w/ Massasecum views for \$335,000
- 458 Route 114, Cozy country cape w/ 2 bedrooms, and convenient location for \$170,000
- 49 West Main Street, 4-bedroom, older colonial in downtown Bradford on .27A for \$130,000
- 16 Massasecum Lake Road, Direct waterfront on Massasecum, “as is” cottage for \$215,000
- 34 Maple View Drive, new split level 3-bedroom ranch on 2.39A for \$275,000
- 41 Maple View Drive, Closed, Also a new split level with 3 bedrooms on 1.5A for \$275,000
- 44 Maple View Drive, Custom colonial on 2.63A, open concept, screen porch for \$341,500
- 64 Pleasant View Road, Custom 3-bedroom saltbox on 4.4A, cathedral ceilings for \$392,025
- LAND-17.7A, 86 South Ridge Road for the asking price of \$60,000

# MONTHLY BRIEFING: Town Board Reports

## BOARD OF SELECTMEN

**Town Hall Update** The circulator pumps for the heating system failed and need to be replaced to heat the building. The cost for repair is approximately \$1,000. To get permanent power into Town Hall, Eversource will need to do some tree trimming and removal to place a new power line. Selectmen Jason Allen will reach out to the property owner to seek permission to do the tree work.

**Town Signs** The Board approved motions to accept \$150 and \$475 in donations for new Town signs.

**Alternative Energy** Kathleen Bigford from the Alternative Energy Committee updated the Board on their work to date. In early December, Eversource will be conducting energy assessment audits on the library, Bradford Area Community Center, Fire Station, and Maintenance Building. The reports will be available in early 2021. The committee is looking for more members, especially those with knowledge of the energy industry.

**Budget Review** The Board reviewed revenue and expenses. The Henniker Rescue Contract bill came in approximately \$20,000 under budget. A \$35,000 grant request has been submitted for COVID related expenses and, while this will be received as unanticipated revenue, it will help offset any budget overage.

**Paving** The Board approved a motion to use \$30,300 from the Roads and Bridges Expendable Trust Fund for paving three bridges and multiple culverts that have been repaired.

**Cochran Hill** The Board approved a

motion to fund the Cochran Hill drainage repair project from the Roads and Bridges Expendable Trust Fund.

**Guardrails** The Board approved a motion to replace a portion of the worst section of guardrail on Center Road and install guardrails on a section of East Washington Road for a total of \$28,300 to be paid from the Roads and Bridges Expendable Trust Fund.

**Grant Application** The Board approved a motion to designate Karen Hambleton, Town Administrator, as the authorized signer for a used oil grant application, and approved to accept up to \$600 in funding from the grant.

**Intent to Cut** signed for Map 9/Lot 47.

**2020 Tax Rate** The Board approved a motion to set the tax rate at \$23.86. Municipal \$8.90, County \$2.49, State Ed \$1.67, Local Ed \$10.80

## BUDGET COMMITTEE

**CIP Presentation** Members of the Capital Improvements Program Committee presented the 2021-2031 CIP to a joint meeting of the Budget Committee and Board of Selectmen. The Budget Committee is in favor of the CIP.

## PLANNING BOARD

**CIP** The Planning Board approved the 2021-2031 Capital Improvement Program as presented.

**Site Plan** The Board approved a motion to accept the site plan application submitted by George and Wendy Naughton for Map 6 Lot 99 with the following conditions: Update the site plan for the employee parking area for 7 parking spots or 2 spots for non-permanent trailers, inspections in 2021 during storm water events to validate that there are no run off concerns, the berm on the west is to be cleaned by the applicant, and storage containment areas to maintain the 30-foot setback requirements.

**Subdivision** The Board approved a motion to accept the subdivision application submitted by Susan Murphy for Map 10 Lot 6 with the condition that a mylar will be submitted and the septic will reflect the 75-foot setback from the easement and location of the well.

**Bradford Fish and Game** The Board approved a motion to grandfather Map 2 lot 110 and 111. The prior use of the land of Bradford Fish and Game hunter safety courses 2-3 times a year, with the use of .22 long rifles and archery at the hunter education courses. If any other use is expanded a site plan will be needed.

## CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAM COMMITTEE

**Draft Approval** The Board approved a motion to approve the 2021-2031 Capital Improvement Program draft.

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**ZONING BOARD  
OF ADJUSTMENT**

**Variance** The Board approved a motion to deny the variance application submitted by Rick Deschenes for building a single family two story dwelling on Map 7 Lot 76. The Board’s reason for denial was that the application did not meet all 5 criteria necessary for a variance.

**CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

**Budget** The Commission approved a motion to request \$900 for the 2021 budget.

**Langley Deed** The deed transfer of the two wetland lots behind Pearl Town Forest to the stewardship of the BCC was passed by the Town Council. The Town offices will do the title search.

**Abenaki Project** Ausbon Sargent Land Preservation Trust representatives Anne Payeur, Stewardship Manager, and Andy Deegan, Land Protection Specialist, came before the Commission to discuss the proposed Abenaki Project at the Bradford Springs hotel site. Mr. Deegan expressed support for the vision of the

project so long as it would be compliant with the conservation easement on the property. A Memorandum of Understanding between the Town and the Abenaki Trails Project will be needed. The role of ASLPT is to ensure that it

is in agreement with the terms of the easement on the Bog, and that White Cedar and native plants are protected. The Abenaki Project has hired an architectural landscape design firm to draw up plans for the site, which will be shared and discussed when completed.

**LIBRARY TRUSTEES**

**Vacancy** Trustee Liz Boule submitted her resignation from the Board of Trustees. The Board is actively seeking a replacement.

**Lighting** Hugo’s Electric installed new outdoor lighting at the Libraries front door. The Board approved the \$205 expense.

**PARKS AND RECREATION**

**Swing Repair** The Board approved expense receipts totaling \$97.17 for materials to replace swings.

Minutes of all meetings are on file at the Town Office and online at [bradfordnh.org](http://bradfordnh.org). For an audio file (mp3) of the recordings of meetings, please visit <http://bradfordnh.org/mp3/>.

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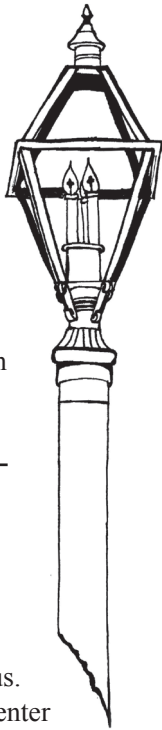
# Library Lantern

## Brown Memorial Library

78 West Main Street  
 bmlbradford@gmail.com

### Library Hours:

Monday 10:00am – 6:00pm  
 Wednesday 11:00am – 7:00pm  
 Friday 10:00am – 6:00pm  
 Saturday 9:00am – 1:00pm



This year has been surreal. I remember when I first wore a mask to Market Basket, and how bizarre and unnatural it felt. I remember feeling self-conscious and conspicuous. Now, it feels almost naked to enter a store without a mask on, and that is also strange. My children no longer ask how much longer we will all have to wear masks, because the answer continues to be very unknown. I don't know about you, but I am fatigued. Fatigued by worry both for our country and our collective health. But, I am also hopeful for both the virus to be contained and for the resiliency of our country to eventually return to a more united vision.

One thing I know to be true, is that I love our community. Halloween was a great night! It was nice the kids were able to participate in something that felt mostly normal. I was so pleased to see how smoothly the process went on Election Day at the polling station, thank you to everyone who made this possible. I feel lucky to be able to get to know so many of our townspeople through the Library. I get to hear what is happening in people's lives and I get to know more about Bradford. I always leave knowing

more than when I arrived.


This holiday season, Santa is making a visit to the Library. The Covid Christmas of 2020 will include an outdoor visit with Santa, Saturday, December 12th from 11am - noon. Santa and his lively helper will be located at the end of the Library walkway. We will have a Letter to Santa Box available for kids to write and leave their Christmas wishes on and we will have a few goodies to hand out. This is going to be a drive by so please come and give Santa a wave and honk!

In other news, we continue to plug along in the digitization of our books. We have finished the Fiction section! Much thanks to Laurie Buchar who is helping us out in the process.

As always, we have our basement books available to peruse and purchase by donation during open hours. Our library greatly benefits from the generosity of donations. We also benefit from the time and energy by our wonderful volunteers. If anyone is looking to engage in a more personal way with the library, Friends of Brown Memorial Library are looking for new members! The Friends group helps to fund raise, bring programming to our library (not this year of course), and assist in ways to better the library. If interested, please email me for more information ([bmlbradford@gmail.com](mailto:bmlbradford@gmail.com)).

Happy Holidays everyone! Be safe and merry!!

*Ellen Barselle, Library Director*



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**Jennifer Wright**  
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## Building Continues on the Bement Bridge

Workers from N.H. Daniels Inc. have been busy reframing our historic covered bridge. The entire structure has been reinforced with steel scaffolding making it strong enough to be rolled up river on the massive steel beams underneath. The original support abutments on the north and south sides are being reconstructed with a combination of poured concrete, new granite and original stone. The bridge itself is being rehabilitated top to bottom; much of the original structure will remain with a few new timbers replacing rotten, broken, or structurally inadequate sections. Work



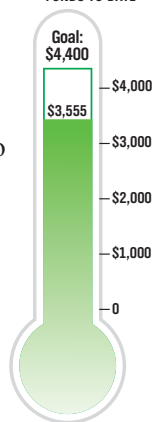
will continue through the winter planning to be completed by late spring 2021. The original 1854 builders would be amazed to see the extraordinary effort that has gone into the preservation of their structure!

## Town Sign Update

Contributions are continuing to roll in for the new Town signs (*read the full story in the August Bradford Bridge*), and it is heartening to see the continuing interest in this project. We are 80% of the way towards funding the four signs that will greet travelers to and thru Bradford at points on 114 and 103. Thanks to all who have contributed!



TOWN SIGN FUNDS TO-DATE



We are really close. Amounts of any size are welcome. Each and every donation is important and offers the satisfaction of knowing that you have helped to raise the new signs!

Checks can be made to: Town of Bradford – and please add “sign donation” on the memo line. Mail to: Town of Bradford, Box 436, Bradford, NH 03221

Thank you!  
*The Bradford Community Gardeners*



*“To appreciate the beauty of a snowflake it is necessary to stand out in the cold.”  
- Aristotle.*

# HILL'S

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# Obituaries

## *Kerry M. Kittredge*

Kerry M. Kittredge, age 62, died at Concord Hospital on September 16, 2020.



Kerry was born July 31, 1958, in Cambridge, MA, to Everett and Mildred (Ingalls) Kittredge. He graduated from Bishop Guertin High School in 1976. He started his own business - Super-glass Windshield Repair of NH. Kerry helped build an off-grid cabin in Pittsburg, NH, where he spent winters snowmobiling. Kerry also enjoyed downhill skiing, hiking, and dirt biking.

Kerry became reacquainted with his high school girlfriend and son which was a great turning point in his life.

Kerry is predeceased by his parents, Everett M. and Mildred L. Kittredge of Bradford, and sister Katherine A. Kittredge. Surviving family members include his partner Diane Y. Maynard, son, Robert R. Maynard, of Manchester; sisters Kimberly S. Kittredge of Corvallis, OR, and Karen J. Kittredge of Arlington, MA; three grandchildren and his dog Yeti.

No funeral is scheduled. Burial will be private. Please send donations to the Warner Fire and Rescue Team, Warner, NH, Pillsbury Free Public Library, Warner, NH or to the Society for the Protection of NH Forests, Concord, NH.

To sign an online guestbook, please visit [www.chadwickfuneralservice.com](http://www.chadwickfuneralservice.com). Chadwick Funeral Service of New London is assisting the family with arrangements.

## *Diane L. Ward*

Diane L. (Gee) Ward, 69, of Hillsborough, died October 3, 2020, at home. She was born in Concord, October 12, 1950, the daughter of Edward A. and Madeline (Avery) Gee.



She graduated from Hillsborough Deering High School and became a LNA. She lived in Bradford for 40 years spending the last 3 years in Hillsborough. Diane was a stay-at-home Mom. She loved caring for people. She was office manager for Dr. Brown in Bradford, secretary for Battles Farm. She received her LNA training at the NH Psychiatric Hospital. She cared for people at the Coos County Nursing Home and Woodcrest Village in New London.

Diane was a member of the East Washington Baptist Church and Christian Clowns group, "On Wings of Joy". She loved singing, had a strong faith and trusted God's plan. Most of all she liked to spend time with her grandchildren.

She is predeceased by her parents and siblings, Linda DeLeon and Edward Gee, Jr. She is survived by her husband of over 50 years, John "Jack" E. Ward III; daughters and their husbands, Tracie and Stephen Gallagher of Hillsborough, and Kelly and Joshua French of Canaan; grandchildren, Derek, Aundrea, Austin and Renee; brother, Robert Avery of FL; nieces, nephews and cousins.

Memorial contributions may be made to Payson Center for Cancer Care, 250 Pleasant Street, Concord, NH 03301.

## *Richard A. Swift*

Richard "Rick", "Grump", A. Swift, 73, of Danbury, died November 1, 2020, at home.



He was born in Winchester, MA, on Feb. 12, 1947, the son of Eric G. and Mildred (Armstrong) Swift.

Rick graduated from Algonquin High School in Northboro, MA, and attended Quinsigamond Community College. He lived in Bristol before moving to Danbury 23 years ago. He worked as a CO Technician for Verizon and retired in 2008.

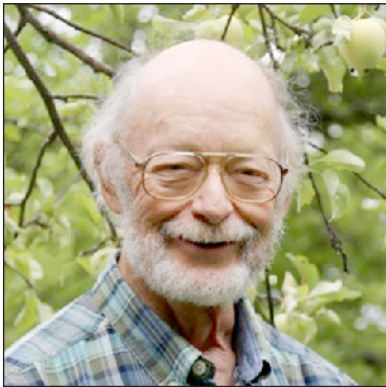
He served in the US Coast Guard and was Retired Deputy Fire Chief of the Danbury Volunteer Fire Department for 20 years. His passions were Isma and Nascar Racing. He enjoyed camping, fishing and loved spending time with his family.

Surviving members of his family include his wife of 46 years, Deborah (Foisy) Swift of Danbury; a son and his wife, Jamie R. and Michelle A. Swift of Bridgewater; daughters, Jody L. Ferreira of Wilton, Christina L. Swift of Manchester, Carrie J. Cornell of Bradford and Holly J. and husband, Tyler Murch of Grafton, and son-in-law, Jeremy S. Cornell of Danbury. He was devoted to his 13 grandchildren.

At the graveside service in Riverdale Cemetery, the firefighter last call and military honors were given. Memorial contributions may be made to the Danbury Volunteer Fire Department, P.O. Box 149, Danbury, NH, 03230. To sign an online guestbook please visit [www.chadwickfuneralservice.com](http://www.chadwickfuneralservice.com).

## Peter M. Bock

Peter M. Bock, 77, died suddenly at Elliot Hospital in Manchester on October 20, with his wife and son in attendance.



Peter was born in 1943 in Leamington Spa, England where his mother Irene, resided, having fled Nazi persecution. His father, Ladislav, served in the British Brain Trust and worked for the International Red Cross in Prague, Czechoslovakia. Peter and his mother immigrated to America in 1950 and were joined by his father some years later due to the Soviet occupation of Czechoslovakia and McCarthy era suspicion of immigration from Soviet bloc countries.

In 1971 Peter married Dina (Bischoff) whom he had met at New England College many years earlier. They had one son, Adam, in 1981.

The family lived and farmed in Bradford until 1982, when they moved to Nottingham. Peter's professional life revolved around books. He worked for two decades at St. Paul's School as the book and retail store manager.

He was active in the community, as selectman, a charter member of the Nottingham Food Pantry, as board member and treasurer.

Peter was a loving, devoted husband and father and was dedicated to his farm and orchards. He was a steward of his land, donating a conservation easement to the Bar Paw Regional Greenways. Contributions in Peter's memory may be made to the Nottingham Food Pantry. Arrangements are overseen by the Purdy Funeral Service of Dover/Barrington, NH.

## Diane Torro Violette

Diane Torro Violette, died October 30, 2020, at home in Warner. Diane was born on September 17, 1941, in Newport. She moved to Bradford during her junior year of high school and graduated from Simonds Free High School in 1959. She moved to Warner in the 1960s where she lived the rest of her life.



Survivors include her children: Daniel Violette of Portsmouth; Paula Brown and husband Michael of Warner; Marc Violette and wife Pennie of The Villages in Florida; a brother, Joseph Torro of Bradford, and Aunt Dee Torro of Watertown, MA. Her grandchildren, the light in her life, include: Lauren Violette of Seattle; Ryan Violette of Concord; William Chandler of Newington; and Olivia Brown of Warner.

Diane was a "pillar of the community," She was Warner's Town Treasurer in the 1980's and 1990's. Her dedication to Warner was the Fall Foliage Festival and Historical Society Barn Sales. She worked at Sugar River Savings Bank for more than 30 years as a teller and assistant branch manager.

Diane loved the beach and traveling to the Caribbean. A self-proclaimed "slot machine queen," she also enjoyed trips to casinos. When not "pulling the slots" she cherished time with family.

Graveside services were held at Sunny Plain Cemetery in Bradford. Donations can be made to your local chapter of the NH SPCA in Diane's name. She loved animals, especially her Golden Retriever, Mollie. To sign an online guestbook please visit [www.chadwickfuneralservice.com](http://www.chadwickfuneralservice.com).

## Katy Jane Keith

Katy Jane Keith passed away unexpectedly, November 4, 2020, at the age of 52.



Katy was born on July 25, 1968, and was adopted by her mother and father Shirley and Donald Keith. Katy struggled with health issues her entire life and fought through a lot of them. Through it all, she did her best to stay positive about her situation. She was a fighter. She found all of her joy with family, especially her children, Amanda and Danny. She recently became a Nana and was so proud of that role. Katy had a big heart and loved animals, especially cats and dogs. She enjoyed going for motorcycle rides and spending time with her son, Danny.

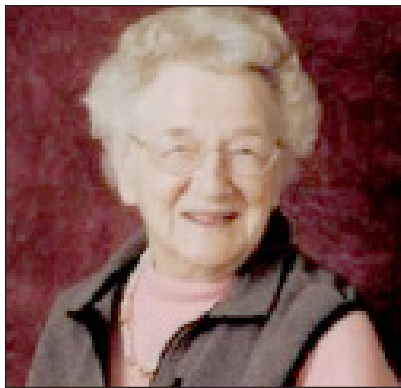
Katy is predeceased by her father, Donald, and mother, Shirley of Bradford, and sister, Kelly of Brattleboro, VT. Surviving family members include a brother Mark Keith, his wife Julie, and their son Keegan; brother Luke Keith, wife Marshaleen and their sons, Bowie and Tyler; daughter Amanda Patch, her husband, Stephen, and their son Conlin; son Danny Richardson and niece, Sarah Keith; and her dear life-long friend, Ed Flinkstrom and other loved ones.

A private sunrise service was held. Burial and celebration of life will take place in summer, 2021. Donations may be sent to: The Friends of Forgotten Children @ FOFC-NH.org. To sign an online guestbook, please visit: [www.chadwickfuneralservice.com](http://www.chadwickfuneralservice.com).

# Obituaries

## Marion Hall

Marion (Hamilton) Hall, 95, of Route 114, Bradford, died October 17, 2020, at Presidential Oaks in Concord, NH.



She was born in Warner, NH on May 18, 1925, the daughter of William D. and Ruth (Flint) Hamilton.

Marion graduated from Simonds Free High School in 1943 and lived most of her adult life in Bradford. She worked for Cressey and Williams in Bradford and then for Merrimack Farmers Exchange as a bookkeeper for several years. She retired from Sugar River Bank after many years of employment. Marion was a valued volunteer for The Bradford Bridge, Bradford's town newspaper, for many years as Treasurer, and person in charge of distribution.

She was a member of The First Baptist Church of Bradford (now Bradford Community Church) and Silver Hill Vesta Relham Martha Chapter No. 34 OES. Marion enjoyed ballroom and square dancing but most of all, loved being with her grandkids.

Her husband of 57 years, Vernon F. Hall, died in 2005. She is predeceased by siblings, Eleanor O'Sheske, Donald Hamilton and Raymond Hamilton. Marion is survived by a son and his wife, Phillip and Kathleen Hall of Bradford; daughter and husband, Jean and Edward Dumm of Manchester; grandchildren, Sheldon, Jeffrey, Ann and Megan; great grandchildren, Andrew, Kyle, Max, Finn, Nathan, Craig, Liz and Tyler; sister, Emma Tiltonson of Concord; nieces and nephews.

A graveside service will be held in Sunny Plain Cemetery, Bradford for the family. Memorial contributions may be made to Presidential Oaks, 200 Pleasant Street, Concord, NH 03301 or the Bradford Community Church, P.O. Box 404, Bradford, NH 03221. To sign an online guestbook please visit [www.chadwickfuneralservice.com](http://www.chadwickfuneralservice.com).

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## Dean Edward Bensley

Dean Edward Bensley of New London, died November 5, 2020, with his wife Clare and family by his side. Dean was born April 21, 1931, in Buffalo, NY, to Edna Strebel Bensley & Dean Poole Bensley. He attended Union College in Schenectady, NY. He spent his junior year at St. Andrews University in Scotland.



After graduating from Union in 1953, he received an advanced degree from MIT's Sloan School of Management in 1955. He worked for Raytheon his entire career eventually becoming vice-president. In 1957, Dean married the love of his life, Clare Jones.

Dean retired in 1981 at age 50 and headed off with Clare to sail for four years on their yacht, "Transit". They completed two transatlantic crossings. Dean and Clare spent 23 years at their home, "Between the Mountains Farm" in Newbury. Dean was active in the community, chairing the NH Audubon Society, Kearsarge Regional School Board, and Newbury Conservation Commission. The couple donated a tract of land for open space conservation to the Ausbon Sargent Land Preservation Trust.

Many Bradford and area residents enjoyed choosing and cutting their Christmas Trees at Between the Mountains Farm each year. Dean and Clare were dedicated supporters of Bradford's Lettvin Concerts.

Dean is survived by his wife Clare Jones Bensley of New London; children: Susan B Reetz (husband Allan) of Meriden, NH, Dean A Bensley (wife Karen) of Kittery Point, ME, Christine B Drain (late husband Paul) of Charlotte, NC, John E Bensley (wife Cindy) of Natick, MA; grand-children: Ethan (wife Lia), Gage (wife Katelyn), Alyssa, Ben, Jason, Kyle, and Adam.

Donations in Dean's memory can be made to the Ausbon Sargent Land Preservation Trust, or Lake Sunapee Region VNA & Hospice. A private family service will be held at a later date.

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## Elisa C. Menday

Elisa C. Menday, 78, of Bradford, NH, passed away at home, September 5, 2020, surrounded by her beloved family.

She was born in The Bronx, NY, to the late John and Violet (Di Cicco) Ruggiero, and was the only daughter of six children. John and Violet moved the family out to Farmingdale, Long Island. Elisa would recount many tales of moving to the country.

At age four, Elisa knew that she wanted to be like Jesus, to care for sick and dying patients. After graduating from Farmingdale High School, she began working at Mid Island Hospital in Bethpage. Her supervisor enrolled her in the Operating Room Training Program. Initially, Elisa did not want to work in the OR, but her supervisor saw her potential in that area.

She cared for many patients at the bedside, in patient recovery and during surgery in the OR. Each person she encountered, she cared for as though they were her own family, showing the love and respect she felt for each person, regardless of race, color or religion.

In 1972, she and a friend took a vacation to Puerto Rico. While on a tour of the rain forest, she met the love of her life, Neville E. Menday. They married in 1973 and honeymooned at Bonny Oaks, VT, where they fell in love with Northern New England. In 1976, after a life of traveling, they purchased and operated the Lakeside Motel on Mascoma Lake in Enfield (renamed, the Family Crest Motel).

Elisa and Neville worked in the La Salette community, and were active in the Lions Club of Enfield. They organized one of the first Christmas parties for children in need of warm winter clothing. Elisa taught Sunday School at St. Helenas Church. In addition to working in hospitals for 50 years, Elisa was a model. She eventually became an instructor with the Barbizon Modeling Company in Boston, MA.

She is survived by her daughter and full time caregiver, Allison E. (Menday) Norton, her husband Dennis and their daughter Violette of Bradford, NH; a son Neville E. Menday of Windsor, VT and his daughter Freya; brothers Michael Ruggiero of Moriches, NY, Richard Ruggiero of Elkton, MD, and John Ruggiero of Camp Verde, AZ; a cousin Linda Roberts of Whiting, NJ and her daughter Michelle of Browns Mills, NJ, many nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by

brothers Louis Ruggiero of Bethpage, NY, and Robert Ruggiero of Tomah, WI.

The family wishes to thank the wonderful Concord Hospital doctors, nurses, ambulance drivers, maintenance personnel and everyone who cared for Momma for the past five years; especially Kelly Wiemer and the staff at Family Tree in Warner, Dr. Jeffrey Lockhart, Elisa's cardiologist, and Dr. Hoke Shirley, Elisa's rheumatologist; the area ambulance services; the Concord Regional VNA and Hospice Care. We are grateful for this gift of time you have given us.

The family suggests that anyone wishing to make a memorial donation to please consider: the Concord Regional VNA/Hospice Care, your local VNA/Hospice Care or palliative care group.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held in September. Burial followed at Sacred Heart Cemetery. For an online guestbook, please visit, [www.rickerfuneralhome.org](http://www.rickerfuneralhome.org).



### Bradford Community Church

*A gateway to encounter God's love*  
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603-938-5313

### December Happenings

Our Sunday Services start at 10 am. In house and live streamed. The first Sunday each month we hold a Communion Service.

At this time, we are unable to hold a Sunday school class in house, please contact the office for the weekly video and lesson to do at home.

We are following the recommended CDC and NH Guidelines and ask that you wear a mask, use hand sanitizer and please stay home if you are not feeling well.

The Bradford Community Food Pantry is looking for Christmas Angels to help us fulfill the Christmas Wishes of our children enrolled in the Bradford Food Pantry. This year instead of asking you to purchase a gift and drop it off, we are asking that you make a monetary donation to help cover the cost of the gift. Donations can be mailed to: Bradford Community Church, PO Box 57, Bradford NH 03221 and memo: Children's Gift. Thank you for helping us make this Christmas a little brighter in Bradford.



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## Out & About: Antlers and Art



Mary Derry sent in this picture and story. I was enjoying the view of the lake out my window when I saw something large swimming past. It turned toward me and I could see that it had antlers. I watched as it walked out of the water and up onto my beach. He just stood there while I snapped a photo. And even though it was twilight and I was behind glass and screen the picture shows pretty clearly what it was.



To the right, seasonal art from local artist, Susan Smith. Her process begins in ink, then is brought to life with watercolors! Have you noticed her creativity scattered throughout the pages of this issue? Her style and peachy personality bring joy to our community! Just like each of you, Bradford wouldn't be the unique town it is without you in it!

Many of you are enthusiastic about recording the beauty that surrounds us. Therefore, I'd like to invite photographers to share images to be included in this article. Of course proper credit will be given. The most interesting photographs will be from Bradford and close-by places. An accompanying caption would be nice. Please submit the images in .jpg or .jpeg format.

*Kathleen Bigford*



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Our pop-up shop will be at 5 Acres Garden Center and Pet Supply and other locations this holiday season.

Follow us on Facebook (MoonMamaHerbals) for dates & times.

Moon Mama Herbals is a new online herbal apothecary and gift shop based in Bradford, NH. We offer you and your family herbal products, workshops, as well as herbal education programs. Shop our store for teas, tonics, tinctures, topical body botanicals, bulk herbs, and more!

Questions? Email us: [info@moonmamaherbals.com](mailto:info@moonmamaherbals.com).



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