

# The Bradford Bridge

COMMUNITY NEWS *for* NEIGHBORS *by* NEIGHBORS

## MONTHLY BRIEFING: Town Board Reports

### BOARD OF SELECTMEN

**Police Department Update** Lieutenant Edward Shaughnessy reviewed the 2020 budget with the Board and spending is expected to be under budget. The Police department plans to hire a fourth full time officer and the Select Board instructed the department to move forward with hiring for the position. The Board congratulated Lieutenant Shaughnessy on his promotion to Commander of the Central New Hampshire Special Operations Unit.

**Town Signs** The Board approved a motion to accept \$400 in donations for new Town signs.

**Bement Bridge** A request for extension was requested by Neil H Daniel's Construction on the substantial completion date for the Bement Bridge. There is no anticipated impact to the Town on the project cost. The Town will recommend Daniel's shutdown for the winter later this month and resume when conditions allow.

**Budget Review** The Board reviewed the general budget and warrant articles. The Total General Budget request is \$2,411,667. The Select Board recommends \$2,343,673. The total for 2021 warrant articles is \$541,252.

**Emergency Repair** The Board discussed waiving the purchasing policy for an emergency repair for a front-line highway vehicle repair. All Board members agreed.

**Intent to Cut** signed for Map 7 Lot 57.

*(Continued on page 8)*

## Town Positions Open for the Election on March 9th, 2021

Budget Committee  
*3yrs – 2 positions*

Cemetery Commission  
*3yrs – 1 position*

Cemetery Commission  
*2yrs – 1 position*

Planning Board  
*3yrs – 2 positions*

Scholarship Committee  
*3yrs – 1 position*

Selectman  
*3yrs – 1 position*

Town Clerk / Tax Collector  
*3yrs – 1 position*

Treasurer *3yrs – 1 position*

Trustee of the Brown Memorial Library  
*3yrs – 2 positions*

Trustee of the Trust Funds  
*3yrs – 1 position*

Zoning *3yrs – 1 position*

File declarations of candidacy at the Bradford Town Clerk's Office during the following hours:

Wednesday, January 20th  
by appointment between 12-5

Thursday, January 21st, 9-12 & 1-6

Tuesday, January 26th, 8-12 & 1-4

Wednesday, January 27th  
by appointment between 12-5

Thursday, January 28th, 9-12 & 1-6

Friday, January 29th, 3-5pm

Melissa Cloutier,  
Town Clerk/Tax Collector  
[TC@BradfordNH.org](mailto:TC@BradfordNH.org)  
603-938-2288

## Drive-by Santa 2020



*Thank you Brown Memorial Library!*



## New Years Resolutions

You'll find thoughts and wishes for the coming year from The Bradford Bridge board members and contributors here and scattered throughout this month's edition. Take a moment to reflect and set your own intention for 2021!

*Live each day so I can  
celebrate December  
2021 with those I love.*



Audrey V. Sylvester, President

*To stay closer in touch with  
friends and family by  
phone.*



Harriet Douglass, Board Member

*(Continued throughout)*



# The Bradford Bridge

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

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Audrey V. Sylvester, President,  
Jeni Lauder, Treasurer, Mary Keegan-  
Dayton, Secretary, Marcia Keller,  
Kathleen Bigford, Don Moss, Leah  
Cummings & Harriet Douglass

### EDITOR

Kathleen Bigford

### REPORTING

Devin Pendleton, Monthly Briefing  
Caitlin Banaszak, Area Events

### DESIGN

Leah Cummings, Graphic Artist  
Don Moss, Advertising Coordinator

### ADVERTISING

To place an ad, call  
Don Moss at 938-2230.

### BUSINESS MANAGER

Jeni Lauder

### SUBSCRIPTION/DISTRIBUTION

Harriet Douglass, Nola Jordan

### SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION

To receive The Bridge by mail,  
please send a \$25 check  
to cover mailing costs to:  
P.O. Box 463 Bradford, NH 03221

### 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

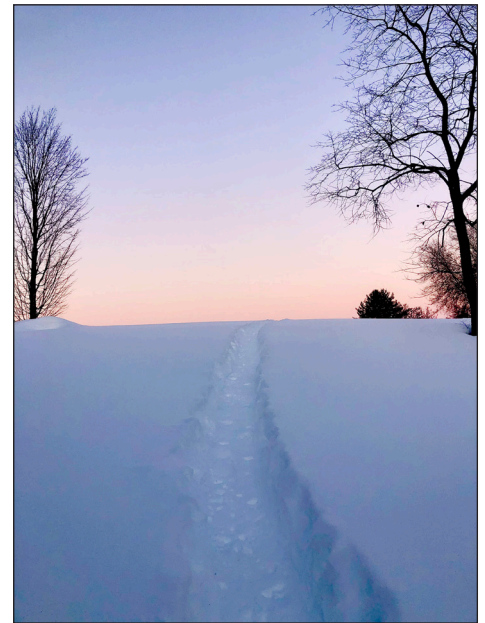
Phone: 938-2288

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

You've gotta have heart  
All you really need is heart  
When the odds are sayin  
You'll never win  
That's when the grin should start  
You've gotta have hope  
Mustn't sit around and mope  
Nothins half as bad as it may  
appear  
Wait'll next year and hope  
When your luck is battin zero  
Get your chin up off the floor  
Mister you can be a hero  
You can open any door  
There's nothin to it but to do it . . .



*Lyrics from "Heart" from the Broadway musical Damn Yankees,  
Jerry Ross and Richard Adler Composers Photo by Trinity Bigford*

From the last days of 2020, I'm predicting that 2021 will bring heart and hope.

Here's some of what's in this January 2021 edition:

- December's Monthly Briefing by Devin.
- Unexpected help at the Transfer Station from Lois.
- Ellen's Brown Memorial Library update.
- Ann's "Outside" about meadow mice.
- "Take a Break #1 and #2" from Kathleen.
- Jason's take on SB2 vs. Town Meeting.

In an era of vanishing local newspapers the Bradford Bridge begins its 31st year of news of neighbors by neighbors. All the while this little monthly publication has had strong support from local businesses. And over the years the editorial work has been shared by committed volunteers. It's a pleasure to report that the Bridge is strong and looking to a bright future.

Thank you for reading, and, as always, please support our advertisers who face daily challenges to keep our local economy vibrant.

Happy New Year!!

*Kathleen Bigford, Editor*

*And the dedicated crew that pitch in monthly to publish neighborly news*

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## Letters to Our Editor:

### Dear Editor,

For so many of us, this time of year is spent reflecting on the things for which we are most grateful. At the top of my list of blessings is my incredible sister: Meg Raymond, lifelong resident of Bradford and owner of Meg's Cut Above in Newbury. Meg is one of the most giving people I have ever known, and that goes far beyond her family.

A few years ago, while suffering a broken arm that had her business closed for a few months, the local community rallied around her. She received donations towards bills, gift cards so that she could buy Christmas gifts, and countless get well soon cards.

Perhaps that experience is why she is so passionate about giving back. Meg's home and business both double as (unofficial) drop-off locations for the New Hampshire Coalition to End Homelessness. Countless bags of donations have been left at her doors, and she is always overjoyed. She is always excited about the hours that she spends sorting the donations, organizing them by condition, size, season, etc. She pours over the new rules and regulations for donations as they change throughout the pandemic. She gets a thrill over spending her days off filling her car from top to bottom with vacuum bags full of donations.

She dedicates so much of her time to helping others, never waiting for a "please" or expecting a "thank you." So Thank you, Meg, for all that you do.

*Kathryn Raymond, 603.748.2705  
Newbury, NH*

*Remember the  
cardinal directions:*

*I'm sorry.  
I was wrong.  
I don't know.  
I need help.*



Kathleen Bigford, Editor

### Dear Editor,

In the November Bridge, members of the Select Board (via Jason Alan) asked for feedback whether to place a warrant on the next Town Meeting regarding Bradford becoming an SB2 town. In the December Bridge I wrote an extensive article explaining why I thought this a bad idea. Since that publication I have received numerous responses thanking me for clarifying the process and agreeing that becoming an SB2 town is not a good idea. I am grateful for the kind words and positive feedback. However, I'm concerned that the same feedback is not getting to the Select Board. One doesn't have to be eloquent in offering your opinion. A simple written statement to the Board saying you are opposed to placing an SB2 warrant on for the next Town meeting is sufficient. My belief is that elected representatives are there to serve the will of the people. The Board can't do that unless they know what that will is. Silence tends to be interpreted as agreement. If you agree that we should not have a warrant about becoming an SB2 town, please write to the Board accordingly. In a free and democratic society, people should never be afraid of expressing their opinion. If that fear is there, I believe we have a bigger problem here in Bradford than SB2.

*Sue McKeivitt, 603.938.2401  
Bradford, NH*

## Save the Date

Bradford Fish and Game is moving forward with plans for the Annual Kids Ice Derby on Sunday February 21, 2021. There will be some changes such as no breakfast or lunch served and mask requirements on approach to and inside the building. Bathrooms will be available. Ice fishing is an easily socially distanced event! More info to come in the February Bridge.

## Photos and Submissions for 2020 Town Report

It's that time of year. The Selectmen's Office is gathering information for the 2020 Town Report. If you have photos of the Town's faces, places or events that you would like to share, please forward them to [administrator@bradfordnh.org](mailto:administrator@bradfordnh.org). Old and historic photos are welcome too. Be sure to include the photographer's name (if known) so proper credit can be noted.

Similarly, if you represent a local organization and would like to submit an update of your 2020 activities for the Town Report, please forward it to [administrator@bradfordnh.org](mailto:administrator@bradfordnh.org). Please include photos of your organization's 2020 events as well!

Submissions must be received by February 5th.



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# ~OUTSIDE~



## Meadow Mice

Meadow mice, meadow voles, *Microtus pennsylvanicus* – you’ve seen them padding down their grassy runways in the tangled fields of summer. Voles are heftier versions of a mouse but without the funnel-pointed noses. Vole ears are buried in fur and they only have half a mouse’s tail length. Voles sometimes work the dayshift and mice, always, the night. They don’t so often care to move in with you as mice do. They may chew your shrubs in winter and your garden in spring.

I know what it’s like to live like me after a couple of feet of snow falls – what would it be like to spend the winter as a meadow vole?

It would be dark, mostly, tunneling under what must seem the sudden arrival of a glacier. Living short lives of less than two years, this would be a novel experience and yet one for which, as a vole, you’d be mysteriously prepared. As winter comes on, you’d lose weight. You’d also lose hormones and with them, your solitary nature and the urge to argue with or seduce your neighbors. Instead, you’d be curled companionably

in a warm, furred huddle just under the duff, not knowing quite where you begin and your new mates leave off. Breath crystallizing the walls.

Would snowfall disturb the sleep of a vole? They sleep but are not profound hibernators like the woodchuck or the meadow jumping mouse. A vole would feel the changes in air pressure and humidity – and sense the muffling of their world. Surely, they’d take note of a slight temperature rise as the deep, relative warmth of the earth rises to meet the superb insulation of the snow. The subnivean world rarely falls below freezing. And if the top layer melts into glassiness, they might find themselves in bright and even warmer greenhouse conditions.

Because voles don’t hibernate, they must make withdrawals from their seed caches or else go forth and forage. Trips to the fridge are not done en masse – turns are taken so that a tiny mammal heater or two remains to keep the bedroom from cooling down uncomfortably.

If you were a munchie-driven vole, you’d rouse yourself for a very dark run down your well-known web of tunnels, balancing off the walls with your vibrissae – those terribly cute long whiskers. With your finely tuned sense of smell, you’d sniff your way to the pantry. Occasionally, you’d risk coming to the surface to check the time of year and conditions. Possibly this is a recalibration of your internal clock, calendar, and chemistry.

Those private tunnels may be horrifyingly invaded by the deadly white ermine or the venomous short-tailed shrew. Voles listen carefully for the footfalls of fox, coyote, and bobcat. They’ll never hear the descent of the hawks and owls.

Come spring, there will be fewer voles to warm the den due to their important place on the lower edge of the food chain. One reporter describes them as ‘animated pompoms’ of a ‘snackable size’. Not just food for others, voles redistribute seed stock in a field and play a significant but invisible role in the mycorrhizal connections between plants and fungi. As the weather warms and days lengthen once more their biology resets and territories are forcefully defended. Their temporarily stalled prodigious breeding program restarts – thus restocking the population and keeping the thrum and bustle of a meadow cycling.

And so it goes.

*Ann Eldridge*



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## To my fellow citizens of Bradford,

In the November issue of The Bradford Bridge, our Town Select Board sought feedback on a format change from the annual town meeting to an SB2 format. I would like to ask my fellow citizens to avoid this change. For 375 years the state of New Hampshire has been holding town meetings in the form our town uses currently. This tradition runs deep and is one I was certainly excited to participate in, as Secretary of State William M. Gardner stated in 2014 the town meeting is the “purest form of democracy”<sup>1</sup>.

In the Select Board’s article, there was some information about the State Legislature’s 1995 institution of the SB2 town meeting. However, the article did not mention that this change was adopted out of concerns that in modern times people would find it difficult to attend town meetings. However, this reasoning rings hollow, I would submit that 300 years ago it was more difficult for citizens of Bradford to navigate their way to the town meeting location, and yet they did. Today we are aided by well-paved roads, GPS navigation, and automobiles, we conduct the town meeting in a well-heated and well-lighted building and with the aid of audiovisual technology. If our citizens of the bygone era could find time to participate in their

civic duty surely we can carve out some of our precious time to do the same.

Since its adoption, only 63 SB2 communities exist in New Hampshire and those communities are mostly in the southern most-populated towns in the state<sup>1</sup>. This thankfully still leaves 161 communities upholding the town meeting tradition that is in our modern age unique to our geographic location. There are town’s that even go as far as allowing aldermen or the select boards to decide on town warrants and articles further removing the citizenry from the governance of the town.

A change to the SB2 format is a dangerous slope that could move Bradford in a similar direction and weaken the voices of us the citizens and deprive us of our civic duty and rights. I make this statement because out of the few town meetings I have had the privilege of attending I must admit my disappointment in regards to how few of our citizens attend. Considering how few chose to show up at the town meeting to participate in their civic duty I would argue that far fewer would show up at a deliberative session (it remains to be seen if this session would be held in a location large enough to accommodate all of the town’s voters), this would further weaken the voice of the citizens of the town and many would show up at the second session ill-informed or perhaps not at all.

It would not be surprising to then one day awake within the town and wonder where our tax dollars are being spent or why certain measures and warrant articles are in place and the answer would be that the minority is now in charge of the majority. The true solution to the town meeting would be to have greater participation, not less. In each of the town meetings I have attended all that wished to speak had the opportunity to do so. Mr. Scheffy as moderator does an exceptional job maintaining civility and order, I have never witnessed an instance of voter suppression or derision toward a citizen’s input.

Yes, the town meeting can drag on and at times there are calls to proceed to the vote if the discussion is beleaguering the point but that is democracy! In the country’s current partisan environment our civic duty is more important than ever. We must stand as a beacon for democracy and demonstrate to the country that bipartisanship and true democratic ideals can be upheld and effective.

Therefore, my fellow citizens, I implore you to please resist the urge to move our town meeting into the shadows of an SB2 format, and that every one of us attend the town meeting (in a safe and COVID mitigated environment) in March of 2021.

*Humbly submitted,  
Jason S. Grey*

Footnote 1: <https://www.nhmagazine.com/town-meeting-and-other-relevant-nh-government-relics/>

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## Bradford Historical Society

A Happy New Year from Bradford Historical Society.

Thank you to everyone that has continued to support us this year. We look forward to 2021 and being able to have public events again! This year as always, has continued to surprise us with wonderful donations to the collection. This year has included some wonderful pieces from the collection of Jim Denoncourt. Also we just received two 78 records of original recordings of Frank Fortune Square dances called in Bradford.

At our annual meeting, the following officers were elected for 2021-2022:

Tracey Quigely and Steve Hansen,  
*Co-Presidents*  
Harry Wright, *Vice-President*  
Susan Allen, *Treasurer*  
Linda Cansler, *Secretary*

Honorary Life Memberships were given to members who had previously been missed, Audrey Sylvester, Diane Whalley, Dick and Marcia Keller and Louise Clark.

Our winter project to sort and collate our photo boxes is going ahead. If you are interested in helping and haven't been contacted yet, please email us and we will give you details. We had hoped to hold a working workshop to set these up but are unable to in the current conditions. We can however give instruction one on one for those who wish to get started! Please email us at [bradford-historicalociety@gmail.com](mailto:bradford-historicalociety@gmail.com).

*Diane Whalley*

*Be more positive and spend more time in the woods!*



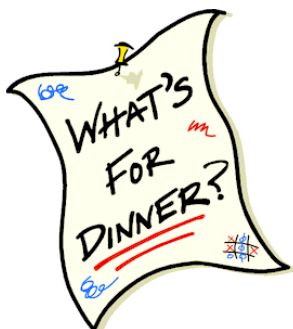
Don Moss, Advertising Coordinator

*Declutter my home and my mind.*



Caitlin Banaszack, Area Events

## Take a Break # 1 –



## Meals to Go

During these confined times cooking has become a wonderful and (usually) delicious distraction. There are times, however, when it's a relief to give the pleasure of this task to one of our local food service establishments. It's a win-win: Home cooks get a break and restaurants get needed income. Here is a listing of our in-town advertisers and others eager to provide meals to pick up or to be delivered.

**Appleseed Restaurant and Catering.**  
Menu at [appleseedrestaurant.com](http://appleseedrestaurant.com).  
603 938 2100

**Rosewood Country Inn.** Menu at <https://rosewood-country-inn.square.site>. 603 938 5253

**Feast of New Hampshire.** Menu at <https://www.feastofnewhampshire.com>. 603 938 5554

**Bradford Market.** 603 938 2662

**Nourish.** <https://www.nhnutrition.com/meals>, 603 526 6687

**Pizza Chef.** Menu at <https://pizzachef.com/bradford-nh-pizza/>. 603 938 2600

**Newbury Palace Pizza.** Menu at <https://newburypalacepizza.com/>. 603 938 5050

**Dunkin' Donuts.** Menu at <https://www.dunkindonuts.com/en/menu>. 603 938 2232

**Bubba's,** [bubbabarandgrill.com](http://bubbabarandgrill.com). 603 763 3290

**Country Spirit.** <http://www.henniker-countryspirit.com>. 603 428 7007

**The Local.** <http://www.thelocalwarner.com>. 603 456 6066

*Kathleen Bigford*



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Never has a New Year been more welcome than 2021,  
And never will a year be less missed than 2020!

*Our best wishes to you all!*



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## Reminders From the Road Agent

To keep our community safe and assist our Highway Dept. in winter maintenance, please remember the following.

**No Parking** is allowed on sidewalks at any time.

**No Parking** on Town of Bradford streets or roads from November 1 to May 1 between the hours of midnight to 6am.

**No Plowing** of snow in or across Town roads or depositing snow within the traveled portion of Town roads. Any person who violates these provisions will be subject to a \$100.00 fine. Subsequent offenses shall be subject to a fine of up to \$500.00.

Pursuant to RSA 236:20, RSA 47:17, paragraph VII and RSA 41:11, it shall be unlawful to plow snow across any and all Town roads, including Class 5 & 6, or to deposit snow within the traveled portion of Town roads. Across town roads- shall mean pushing snow from one side to the other, where snow would be deposited within the right of way of any road. Traveled Portion- shall mean any part of the roadway in which vehicles would travel or within the shoulders of said roadway.

Please see the complete Snow Removal and Ice Control policy at:

<https://www.bradfordnh.org/departments/highway-department/sop-snow-removal-and-ice-control-eff-120109/>

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## MONTHLY BRIEFING: Town Board Reports

*(Continued from page 1)*

**Timber Tax Warrants** signed for Map 10 Lot 43, Map 7 Lot 69, and Map 11 Lot 49

### BUDGET COMMITTEE

**Budget Presentations** The Budget Committee continues to review budget presentations from department heads. The Committee is targeting on or before February 4, 2021 to hold a public budget hearing.

### PLANNING BOARD

**Lot Line Adjustment** The Board approved a motion to conditionally approve the lot line adjustment for Map 7 Lot 68 for Jay Martin with the condition that the mylar and overlay is not within the 100-year flood line and the survey pins are set.

**Bradford Fish and Game** Concerns were brought up regarding the wording of the motion made and approved at the November 10, 2020 meeting. Laurie Colburn motioned to ask the Board if they would like to reconsider the motion identified concerning what qualifies as expanded use. The motion was not seconded and did not stand.

**Planner** The Board received an estimate for planning assistance services from

Central New Hampshire Regional Planning Commission for \$12,000. Service would include 218 hours of general planning assistance that would undertake the review of subdivisions, follow up calls with engineers and applicants, assistance with guidelines and applications, and work with the recorder as a teaching opportunity.

### CONSERVATION COMMISSION

**DES Shoreland Correspondence:** A complaint was received regarding the Bradford/Newberry Fish and Game property, Map 22/ Lot 111, involving increased cutting in the parking lot area. The Commission approved a motion to visit the property and report findings to the Department of Environmental Services.

**Budget** The Board approved a motion to deposit the remaining \$50.86 of the 2020 budget into the Land Protection Account.

**Carbon Cash Back Petition** The Board approved a motion that the Bradford Conservation Commission support a Town warrant article to endorse the carbon cashback petition. The Carbon Cashback petition encourages people to contact elected state representatives to enact carbon pricing legislation.

**Champion Tree** The Southern Stripped Maple State Champion Big Tree lives

on Doug and Barb Southard's property.

### CEMETERY TRUSTEES

**Maintenance** A request for proposals was released for Cemetery Maintenance. Proposals are due to the Selectman's office by December 29, 2020.

### LIBRARY TRUSTEES

**Vacancy** Trustee Laurie Farrell submitted her resignation from the Board of Trustees. The Board is actively seeking a replacement. Liz Bouley will be staying on the Board of Trustees.


### PARKS AND RECREATION

**Events** A stargazing event will be held on Friday, January 8, 2021 from 6pm to 8pm at the field behind the Bradford Area Community Center.

### KRSD SCHOOL BOARD

**Propane** Bus Refilling Station Irving Energy will include installing the pumps and tanks, provide service and electricity in exchange to the district accepting a 5-year fuel purchase contract. The Board approved a motion to approve a 5-year fuel purchase contract with Irving Energy.

**Annual School District Meeting** Deliberative Session will be held on January 9, 2021 at 9am at the Kearsarge Regional High School.

*I will work less, and do more of the things I enjoy!*  
 Jeni Lauder, Treasurer

*Eat more local foods!*  
Leah Cummings, Graphic Artist 

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G&A Automotive LLC 454 North Road, Sutton, NH 03273 G.automotivellc@gmail.com



*2021 School District  
Warrant article summary:*

*Article 1* Raise and appropriate the Municipal Budget Committee’s recommended amount of \$46,343,295 for the support of schools, for the payment of salaries for the school district officials and agents, and for the payment for the statutory obligations of the District (School Board recommends \$46,485,550).

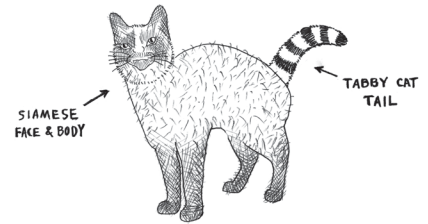
*Article 2* Raise and appropriate up to

\$25,000 for Special Education Expendable Trust Fund, funded from unassigned fund balance (surplus funds) remaining on hand as of June 30, 2021.

*Article 3* Raise and appropriate up to \$50,000 for School Buildings Maintenance Expendable Trust, funded from unassigned fund balance (surplus funds).

Minutes of all meetings are on file at the Town Office and online at *bradfordnh.org*. Some meetings are now streamed live - check website!

# TRANSFER STATION NEWS



## An Unexpected Helper In Our Time of Need

Some residents are noticing our new helper at the transfer station and recycling center. He is quite exotic looking as he patrols the grounds. He is a completely feral cat that appears to be three-quarters Siamese and one-quarter Tabby. Kenny named him Dillinger, because he is a born killer. Dillinger’s dedicated service of vigorously killing rodents has been fantastic. His name fits him well and he is diligent!

Dillinger, Ken, and I appreciate the donations that kind hearted residents bring to the transfer station. After we leave the station, we check the live video surveillance and watch Dillinger devour leftover fresh salmon, codfish, meatloaf, beef, and chicken. What a great way to recycle leftovers! Ken has made Dillinger a warm safe home for the winter. He put an old sleeping bag inside a large dog crate that arrived without a door, and then he covered the exterior with a deflated vinyl boat. He tucked it away in an area that is sheltered from the worst weather elements.

At the end of each day Kenny puts food in Dillinger’s “castle” as well as food and water for him in the main building. We have welcomed Dillinger, and he “meows” a big thank you for the home and job we have given to him.

*Lois Kilnapp, Manager*

*To be kind to all  
and full of hope.*

Laurie Buchar, Proofreader





## Your Local One Stop Shop For All Your Winter NEEDS

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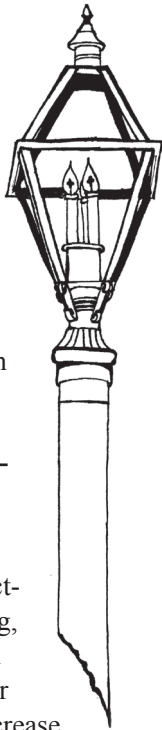
# Library Lantern

## 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



### From the Director's Desk:

Who here is ready for a new year?? I am! I'm not sure exactly what the new year will bring, other than an end to 2020. I'm hopeful that with a vaccine our country will begin to see a decrease in infection rate and positive cases, but I don't know if this is going to be the end of masks, and I so wish we had a date to celebrate the end of wearing them! On New Year's Eve, I may implore the Irish tradition of opening up my back door just before midnight to let the old year out, and then opening my front door to let the New Year in! Might be a bit chilly, but it's worth a try.

Books I look forward to reading in January:

1. *Hamnet* / Maggi O'Farrell. Hamnet, a story that follows the son of William Shakespeare, has been widely praised by critics, it appears on many top ten list for the year. BML readers have returned with only positive praise about this book. A must read.

2. *Nomadland* / Jessica Bruder. I have been feeling ridiculously guilty purchasing through Amazon, and I'm working on ways to buy more from local businesses and other online sources knowing I may be inconvenienced but my conscience will be better off. *Nomadland* tells the story of people trying to make a living without being tied to a home, mortgage, and rent. Their life is on the road, and the book brings to life the great difficulty of living on minimum wage and working for giants like Amazon. The movie will be released in February of 2021.

3. Another notable book for the year that looks a bit lighter is *The Book of V.* / Anna Solomon, a fiction novel about three women's lives that overlap.

There are no plans for January programs here at the library. For now, I am just pleased to have the library open for patrons. Friends of the Library are looking into some virtual programming through New Hampshire Humanities, but haven't settled on a particular program yet. For those of you who would like to get more involved in town, the Friends of the Library are looking for new members. Please email, Connie Brooks at [constance.brookes@gmail.com](mailto:constance.brookes@gmail.com) or look for them on Facebook. Friends of the Library helps the library with programming and fundraising.

The library will be closed on New Year's Day and Martin Luther King Day, 1/18/21.

*Ellen Barselle, Director*



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Alyssa J. Brust, DVM

Robert A. Brust, DVM

Amy C. Jones, DVM

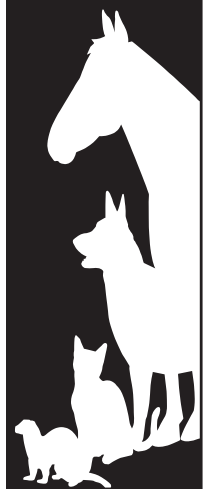
Brittany Y. Paquette, DVM

Olivia J. Lattanzi, DVM

House Calls Available

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## Friends of Brown Memorial Library

The Friends of Brown Memorial Library are looking for some new members and volunteers. The Friends group is a support for the Library, raising funds for programming, special projects and items not normally covered by their budget. Friends also volunteer at the library when needed.

We are presently looking for someone to help with the book delivery program. This has been single handedly run by Bea Howe for the past few years. We are extremely grateful to her for dedication to this program. Once the program is able to resume, we will need a new volunteer to deliver books to patrons of the library who cannot get to the library personally. If you are interested

in helping with this, please email us at [bmlibraryfriends@gmail.com](mailto:bmlibraryfriends@gmail.com).

We are also looking for volunteers who like to craft. Once the weekly playgroup can restart, volunteers are needed to prepare and help the children with a craft. If this is of interest, please get in touch at [bmlibraryfriends@gmail.com](mailto:bmlibraryfriends@gmail.com).

We hope in the spring to offer some virtual programming, until such time that we can all meet again in person. Watch our Facebook page for details. If you would like to be on our email update list, send us a note to [bmlibraryfriends@gmail.com](mailto:bmlibraryfriends@gmail.com) and we will include you in the list. Here's to a great 2021 and hope to see you soon at the Library!



### Find the Bradford Bridge

You may now find paper copies of *The Bradford Bridge* at these locations if they have reopened. Please stay safe!

#### In Bradford

Bradford Post Office  
 Pizza Chef  
 Bar Harbor Bank & Trust  
 Brown Memorial Library  
 Applesed Restaurant  
 Town Office  
 Community Center Senior Room  
 Bradford Market  
 Lumber Barn  
 Transfer & Recycling Center  
 Massasecum Casino (summer)  
 Sweet Beet Market

#### In Warner

Warner Pharmacy  
 Sugar River Bank  
 MainStreet BookEnds  
 Pillsbury Free Library

#### In Newbury

Meg's Cut Above  
 Bubba's  
 Bar Harbor Bank & Trust  
 Newbury Library

#### In Sutton

North & South Sutton Post Offices  
 Sutton School  
 Sutton Free Library  
 Vernondale Store

#### In Henniker

Henniker Pharmacy  
 Henniker Farm & Country Store

Or, find a digital copy at [www.bradfordbridge.org](http://www.bradfordbridge.org)



*I will try to practice mindfulness and pay attention  
 (hard for me) in the present moment without judgement.*



Mary Keegan-Dayton, Board Member

**at Newbury Harbor**



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# Obituaries

## Guy Eugene Conkey



Guy Eugene Conkey, age 85, died on Nov. 16, 2020, in Bradford with his family by his side. Guy

was born in Deshler, Ohio on Oct. 3, 1935, to Norma (née Wingate) and Ray Conkey. He spent his childhood on his family's farm in Napoleon, Ohio. Upon graduating high school, Guy enlisted in the United States Navy, earning his Dolphins in 1954. While stationed in Newport, RI, Guy met the love of his life, Marcella Elizabeth Healey. Guy and Marcy married and established their first family home in East Providence, RI, where they raised five children: Raymond, Guy Joseph ("Joe"), Christopher, Kathleen, and Stephen.

Guy began his career with R.J. Reynolds Tobacco International in the 1960s as a Port Salesman. He held a business degree from Johnson and Wales College and became Director of Sales for North American Tax-Free. Guy and Marcy created homes in Louisiana, Virginia, and North Carolina. They traveled extensively, but cherished family time at their cottage on Blaisdell Lake and at their final residence in Englewood, FL. A member of the West Barrington Men's Club in Rhode Island, he served as the Club's President from 1977-1978. He was quick with a joke and a story, often intertwining the two to create anecdotal plots ending in a dry, knee-slapping punchline.

Guy is survived by three children: Christopher Conkey and wife, Susan of Newton, MA; Kathleen Forgiel and husband, John, of Bradford; and Stephen Conkey of Raleigh, NC. He is survived by grandchildren, Elizabeth, Matthew, Lindsey, Caroline, and Alex,

six great-grandchildren; many nieces and nephews. He is predeceased by his wife of nearly sixty years, Marcy; his eldest sons, Raymond and Joe; his parents, Norma and Ray Conkey; his siblings, Audrey ("Kay") Parsels, Carole Lowery, William ("Bill") Conkey, Bud Kernan; and his eldest grandson, Adam Conkey.

Guy's family is comforted by the exceptional care he received from the staff at Family Tree Health Care in Warner, and Concord Hospital after his unexpected illness. Concord Hospice (CRVNA) provided thoughtful guidance to his family during his last few days of life.

Donations may be made in Guy's honor to Concord Regional VNA, 30 Pillsbury, Concord NH 03301 ([online-crvna.org](http://online-crvna.org)) or to Tidewell Hospice, Port Charlotte, FL ([online-tidewellhospice.org](http://online-tidewellhospice.org)). Holt-Woodbury Funeral Home & Cremation service, Henniker, is assisting the family. Visit: [www.holtwoodburyfh.com](http://www.holtwoodburyfh.com)

## Donald J. Martel



Donald J. Martel, aka "Luan Don", "The Silver Fox" or "Big daddy", died Nov. 30, 2020, at the Tilton Veterans Home.

He was born in Concord, NH, on Jan. 27, 1935, to Joseph & Lillie (Boisoneau) Martel. Don started working at a very young age picking celery. Later he was employed in the kitchen at NHH.

Despite leaving school in 8th grade, he became an aircraft electrician during his service in the Air Force. After returning home to NH, he met and married Madelin Reed. They purchased their family home and farm in Loudon. They raised four children and took in numerous borders as well as the developmentally disabled.

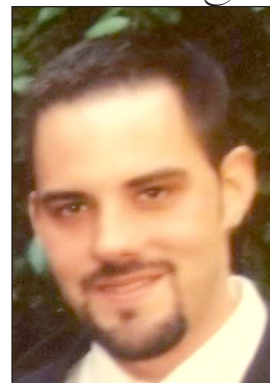
Don and Madelin were a great team, working tirelessly on the farm in addition to full-time jobs. Don ran a successful Veal farm, creating innovations in cleaning and feeding operations earning him a feature in an Industry magazine.

After retiring he spent many years enjoying racing, dancing and taking on more projects with his companion Jean Elliott, until her passing in 2018.

Don is predeceased by a brother, Joseph Martel and niece Barbara Petersen. He leaves behind his children David Chase of Lancaster, Brian Martel of Bradford, Linda and Eric Rodd of Mapleton, ME, Michael Martel and Tracy Merrill of Loudon, and an extended family.

A private memorial will be held at a later date. Arrangements have been made by the Cremation Society of New Hampshire- Boscawen.

## Francis P. Magistro



Francis "Frank" P. Magistro, 44, of Old Sutton Road, died suddenly on Dec. 5, 2020.

He was born in Malden,

MA, on Sept 18, 1976. Frank moved to Bradford at an early age and attended Kearsarge Regional High School and earned his Associate's Degree from NHTI. He had been a diesel mechanic for Caterpillar, Inc. in Contoocook. A good friend to many, Frank was always willing to help anyone in need. He enjoyed music, especially playing the drums.

Frank is survived by his son, Gavyn Magistro of Bradford; parents, Patrick and Patricia (Walton) Magistro of Bradford; brothers, Anthony and his wife, Rebecca Magistro and their



daughter, Gabriella and Michael and his wife, Abby Magistro and their daughter, Quinn Kathryn all of Bradford; grandmother, Anna Magistro of Malden, MA; uncle and Godfather, Salvatore Magistro of Bradford; aunts, uncles and cousins. He is predeceased by his grandmother, Patricia M. Walton.

A graveside service will be held in the spring in Sunny Plain Cemetery, Bradford. Memorial contributions may be made to Frank's son, Gavyn, for his college education, P.O. Box 500, Bradford, NH 03221.

### Ona Ruchti

Ona (Knight) Ruchti, 94, of Deer Valley Road, died Dec. 10, 2020, at home.

She was born in Marlborough, NH, on Feb. 22, 1926, the daughter of Rolon and Mildred R. (DeBelle) Knight. Ona graduated from Marlborough High School. She was employed as tax collector for the City of Keene and worked for the Cheshire National Bank.

She lived in Bradford more than 50 years and worked at the IGA (Danforth's Store) for many years. Ona was a member of the South Newbury Union Church, a member of Silver Hill Chapter The Order of The Eastern Star for more than 50 years, and had been involved with the Girl Scouts years ago. She loved to dance.

Her husband, Cardon Ruchti, died in 1995. She is predeceased by sons, Charles Warren Castle and Joel Knight Castle; two grandchildren and siblings, Leslie Knight, Phyllis Ellison, Norma Lamoureux and Carl Knight. Members of her family surviving include a daughter, Elyce Reny of Bradford; brother, Frank Knight of Marlborough, NH; eight grandchildren; 15 great grandchildren; nieces and nephews.

A memorial service will be held in the spring at the South Newbury Union Church and burial will be in Graniteville Cemetery, Marlborough, NH. Memorial contributions may be made to the Marl-

borough Federated Church, 16 Pleasant Street, Marlborough, NH 03455. Chadwick Funeral Service of New London is assisting the family with arrangements.

### Hazel Morse



Hazel Morse, formerly of Bradford, died unexpectedly in Concord Hospital on Dec. 3, 2020, at age 88. She had been living with her husband George in the Granite Ledges, an assisted living home at the time of her death.

She was born on Sept. 23, 1932 in Boston, MA to Fern and Selma Annis. She graduated from the Massachusetts College of Fine Art in 1952 with a degree in art education.

She married George Morse, Jr. in 1953 after his tour of duty in the Korean War. After moving to Bradford in 1959, Hazel and George made a home for their three children, Steven, Susan and Andrew, while Hazel worked as a substitute teacher, teaching art to young children.

She was talented at many forms of art

(pastel and oil painting), but was most adept at hooking rugs. In 1987, Hazel and Shirley Scribner shared their artistic talent with the community when they planned Bradford's BiCentennial Quilt and invited Bradford quilters to participate. Hazel designed the quilt. She quilted designs around each square that were originally historical stencils she discovered on a historic house's wall on West Road. Hazel's square was "The Marshall House" a historic house no longer standing, currently the location of the Bradford Historical Society.

She is predeceased by her only sibling, Coral of Dexter, ME, who died in 1999. She is survived by her husband George "Bud" Morse, and their three children.

A graveside service will be held in the spring on a date announced at that time. Condolences can be sent to her husband George Morse, Jr., care of Granite Ledges, 151 Langley Pkwy, Concord NH, 03301, or to the family in care of her son Andrew Morse, 304 North Rd. in Deerfield, NH 03037. Donations can be made to the Pope Memorial SPCA, 94 Silk Farm Rd, Concord NH 03301.

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



Words cannot express how grateful we are to the community for your support especially over the past several months.

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## Always Delicious Lamb Shank Stew

From Kiskanari Grass-fed Lamb

The basic recipe is always delicious, and you can modify it by adding different vegetables, herbs and spices, as your fancy takes you. Any bone-in, stewing cut will do, but lamb shanks are especially good. Make a big batch; it's one of those dishes that just gets better every day, or you can freeze the extra.

Day 1

Put into a stock pot or a good size crock pot

meaty lamb shanks (can be frozen)

a few aromatic vegetables, whole or in big chunks -- an onion, 1-2 celery stalks, 1-2 carrots

(optional: bay leaves; peppercorns; bouquet garni)

Cover with water (and/or stock, red wine, cider, or beer)

Bring to boil, then let it simmer covered for at least 2-3 hours, until meat is tender, adding liquid if needed to keep the shanks covered.

Allow to cool; then refrigerate or put on cool porch overnight (ok if it freezes).

Day 2

Remove excess fat from surface, if desired, while cool.

Strain the meat, bones, veg, and optional herbs from the liquid, saving all the broth.

Put the broth back into your pot, and bring to a simmer.

Take the meat off the bones, and save it for later. Discard the bones and the veg!

This last may be counter-intuitive, but your stew will be the better for it. Know that you will be adding more veg later, and you have already cooked all the goodness out of the initial batch and into the broth.

Prepare new vegetables and cut into bite size chunks for example: potatoes, carrots, celery, onions-- whatever you have and have room for.

Simmer the vegetables in the broth, adding each in order so they will be tender but not over-cooked: 45 min -1 hour for potatoes; 30-40 min for carrots, etc., 20-30 min for celery and onions. If needed, add just enough liquid as needed to keep the veg covered. Stir occasionally as needed.

Cut the meat into bite size chunks and let it simmer in the stew for the last 5-10 min.

Add salt and season to taste before removing from the heat.

Serve in bowls. Garnish if desired with chopped greens, yogurt or sour cream, grated or shaved cheese, vinegar, hot pepper.

The variations are boundless. Use the vegetables that you have and that you like -- cabbage, kale, beans, tomatoes, mushrooms, garlic, sauerkraut, etc... Vary the cuisine with French herbs, cider or wine vinegar, mid-eastern or Mexican spices... wherever your imagination takes you.



## Bradford Community Church

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## December Happenings

January 2021 Happenings at Bradford Community Church, 88 W. Main St., Bradford NH- 938-5313

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

A Great Big Thank You to all who generously donated to the food pantry. Due to your generosity, we were able to provide 30 families with food baskets and over 30 children with Christmas gifts. Thank you for helping us make this Christmas a little brighter in Bradford.

Donations can be mailed to: Bradford Community Church, PO Box 57, Bradford NH 03221 and memo: food pantry.



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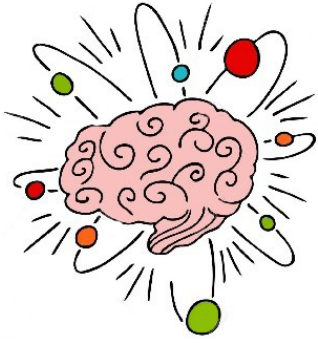


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## Take a Break #2 –



### Brain Break

Adjust. Adjust. Adjust!! As the pandemic continues and surges new decisions pop up by the moment. Then there is the thinking needed to prepare and accommodate “normal” winter life. Brains are stressed and it’s so important and easy to care for this incredibly hard-working organ by giving it a break.

Dr. Nicole Buerkens, a leading holistic child psychologist, has this to say about breaks. “Taking a break from whatever you’re working on for just a few minutes helps your brain refocus to the task at hand, allows you to better absorb new information, and reduces the physical effects of sitting for long periods of time. When we feel like we have too much work, we often forget to take care of ourselves. This can prove detrimental in the long run, because a healthy body means a healthy brain! Providing ourselves and our children with short “brain breaks” is one of the best ways to encourage happier, healthier learning habits. Plus, it can be a lot of fun!” <https://www.drbeurkens.com/>

Here are some of her suggestions for all ages. See a list of 25 ideas at <https://www.drbeurkens.com/25-awesome-brain-breaks-for-kids-and-adults-while-stuck-at-home/>

**Squiggle Drawing:** This one is great for kids and adults. Start out by drawing a random squiggle on a piece of paper. Then, turn that squiggle into a work of art! Be creative and see what pictures you can come up with. This can also be a fun cooperative game where you and your child each take turns adding a single line to the picture to create something together.

**Exercise Break:** One easy way to quickly get the blood flowing into your brain is to do some simple exercises for a couple of minutes. Jumping jacks, wall push-ups, and running in place are easy ones to start with.

**Dance Party:** Who doesn’t love music? Turn on a favorite song and have a mini dance party. The more you move, the better. Show off some of your epic old-school dance moves to entertain the kids!

**Weightlifting:** For this break you don’t have to do anything flashy. Grab a one-pound can for each arm and take a couple minutes to lift them. Not only will this help your brain, it will also help you become stronger.

**Bounce on a Ball:** Bouncing around the house on an exercise ball or toy is a great way to have some fun and get out a lot of energy.

**Yoga Poses:** Try out some yoga poses.

Start simple and increase the challenge as you go. The best part is that you don’t need any equipment and anyone can learn! Here are some links to get you started if you don’t already know some basic poses: <https://www.kidsyogastories.com/kids-yoga-poses/> and

<https://www.purewow.com/family/yoga-poses-for-kids>

**March Around the House:** High-stepping or marching around the house is an easy and fun way to mix up the normal routine. Mix in some skipping or jogging for extra fun.

**Rock, Paper, Scissors, Math:** Here’s a fun counting game for two players. Each person calls out “rock, paper, scissors... math!” and hold out a number of fingers instead of the normal symbols. The first player to say the correct sum of both players’ numbers wins! Try mixing in other operations for older kids or to make the activity different each time.

**Draw a Picture:** Fill a jar with ideas for different things to draw, like family members, pets, or places. When it’s time for a brain break your child can randomly pick one and draw it. For more challenge and fun, they can pick multiple cards and combine them into one masterpiece.

**Work Standing Up:** This one is very straightforward. Use boxes or books to raise whatever you’re working on high enough so that you can stand for a bit while you work.

**Breathing Awareness:** One easy trick to refocus our brain is to focus on one aspect of our body. This draws the brain away from distracting thoughts. Try breathing in deeply while counting to 4, holding for another 4-count, exhaling, holding, and so on. Deep breathing is a very useful habit to develop, as it increases productivity and self-awareness.

**Stretch Break:** Take a moment to stretch out. It’s never good to sit for a long period of time, so even just taking a minute to stretch your back, arms, and legs can be really helpful for keeping your body healthy.

**Just Sit Still:** Challenge yourself to spend two minutes just sitting (or lying) still, with your eyes closed. It’s amazing how easily this can reset your brain! For littler kids, try it for one minute first.

Kathleen Bigford



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## Out & About: Treasures from Trees



Photo by Ellen Barselle

While decorating the Christmas tree this year, Sarah Barselle found a bird's nest! This joyful image brings to mind a quote from John Muir,

*"In every walk with nature one receives far more than he seeks."*

It speaks for itself! I encourage each of you, dear readers, to spend more time in nature. Let us know what you find!

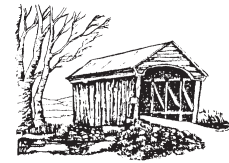


Photo by Kathleen Bigford

This yellow spotted lizard sculpture can be found in Hancock, NH on the trails accessed at the Harris Center for Conservation Education. It measures about 3 feet in length and is carved from a fallen tree. The lizard and two other sculptures are the work of an artist spending COVID time in the woods. Take the West Side Trails to view the pieces and continue to the summits of Skatutakee and Thumb Mountains. Visit [harriscenter.org](http://harriscenter.org) for maps.

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



The Bradford Bridge

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email: [bradfordbridge345@gmail.com](mailto:bradfordbridge345@gmail.com)

## CLASSIFIED

FOR SALE  
Oval floral hooked rug 3x5' \$50,  
Wrought iron tea kettle \$50,  
coral necklace & earrings set in  
original box (new) \$100.  
(603)938-2965

Classified ads are free to individuals offering employment or personal items for sale that are under \$250. Text only. Businesses are not eligible. Deadline is the 20th of the month, email your ad to: [bradfordbridge345@gmail.com](mailto:bradfordbridge345@gmail.com)

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Master Electrician - New Hampshire Licensed  
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For All Your Residential Electrical Needs - Family Owned Since 1926

To complete the resolution made for 2020.

Marcia Keller, Board Member



- OPEN -

Weds. - Fri: 12-6pm

Sat.-Sun: 9am-3pm

**Sweet Beet Market**

More Than Veggies, All Year Long!

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The Sweet Beets take a Holiday!

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