

# The Bradford Bridge

COMMUNITY NEWS for NEIGHBORS by NEIGHBORS

# MONTHLY BRIEFING: Town Board Reports

#### SELECT BOARD

493 Center Road Thomas Rose & Lauren Harrington, co-owners of the property at 493 Center Road, appeared to discuss with the Board what they think is an excess of water on their property that is the result of four deficient culverts. The Select Board informed the couple that they should have the situation assessed by a geohydrologist. If that plan shows something that could be solved by the Town, the Town will work with them.

**Conservation Commission** Ann Eldridge appeared to have the Board sign a Memorandum of Understanding between the Town of Bradford and the Nulhegan Band of the Coosuk Abenaki Nation that gives permission for the Abenaki to harvest certain plants at the Bradford Bog. There will be a list of plants kept by the Abenaki and the harvest will be monitored by the Conservation Commission. Ann also had a question for the Board on behalf of the Warner River Local Advisory Committee about the tree cutting done on Transfer Station property near the Warner River. The response was that trees were cleared as part of a plan to make gravel on the site.

Road Agent Steve Hall appeared to inform the board that department heads will be discussing enforcement of weight limits on town roads. He also had a question about the availability of grants and grant writers. The discussion centered around the need for a list of projects as grants often are awarded for specific purposes. The sink hole at the bridge on West Main near the fire station pond will need an engineering plan and a quote. A decision can then be made about how to proceed.

(Continued on page 14)

# Jason Allen Wins Small Business Association Award



The crew at Merrimack
County Customs. Jason Allen
(Center), left of Jason is Rick
Wright, on-call and part-time
employee, and on Jason's right
are Luke Watson, full-time
employee and cat whisperer,
and Sydney Allen holding
Bucko the cat, who will join
the team in May. The award
poster reads, "2023 National
Small Business Week Winner".

The U.S. Small Business Administration has recently awarded Jason Allen, owner of Merrimack Valley Customs in Bradford, the Small Business Association 2023 NH Micro Business of the Year.

Criteria for the award are: Individuals who founded, own, and operate a business with 5 or fewer employees (including the owners). Staying power, increase in sales over 3 years (2019, 2020 and 2021), innovations in product or service offered, contributions to community-oriented projects, response to adversity, and demonstrated creativity and/or commitment to a social mission in hiring policy, and local buying.

Jason has always been passionate about creating and building, starting at a young age. His interest in entrepreneurship comes from watching his grandfather run a general contracting company. Since going out on his own in 2012, Jason has enjoyed the challenge of finding solutions for complex issues, like figuring out how to add a second floor to Lake Sunapee's Lake Queen Dinner Boat and strategically growing his business by purchasing a larger space.

With the support of the SBA 504 loan program Jason acquired through Capital Regional Development Council (CRDC) and NBT Bank, he was able to purchase a facility at 95 West Main Street in Brad-

ford. Previously, this facility was home to Colonial Woodworking, a custom wood stair fabrication company for over 30 years. Moving into this larger space allowed MCC to hire employees and expand its offerings to feature more artistic applications. Jasons' commitment to community is reflected in his efforts with Bradford's Recreation Committee, public schools, and various community events.

Merrimack Valley Customs provides railings and stairs, structural work, custom fabrication and precision metal cutting using a combination of old and new technology to satisfy their customers' needs.

behind all great moms
is a team of more great moms
cheers to the whole team

kb

HAPPY Mother's DAY



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

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Audrey V. Sylvester, President, Jeni Lauder, Treasurer, Mary Keegan-Dayton, Secretary, Marcia Keller, Editor Emeritus, Kathleen Bigford, Don Moss and Harriet Douglass

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Kathleen Bigford

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Devin Pendleton, Monthly Briefing

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To place an ad, call Don Moss at 603-938-2230.

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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 134 EAST MAIN STREET

Phone: 603-938-5900 Monday - Thursday: 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM (closed 12 Noon - 1 PM) Friday: 8:30 AM - Noon

#### TOWN CLERK/TAX COLLECTOR

Phone: 603-938-2288 Tuesday: 8 AM – 12 PM/ 1 PM – 4 PM Wednesday: 12 PM – 5 PM Thursday: 10 AM – 7 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

Today I sneaked out in the sunshine between April showers to catch some of what nature has to offer. The colors!! So uplifting as they brighten the brown background of last year's growth. [Find the whole edition in color at bradforbridge.org]





Hopefully, you too have

been enjoying spring as it unfolds.

We've curated a wide variety of information for you in this May edition of the Bradford Bridge. As you page through it you'll find, as I have, the breadth of Bradford talent. Congratulations and all the best to all the new and reelected members of Bradford's boards and committees. Your hard work sustains us. Also, Congratulations to Jason Allen and Merrimack Valley Customs on their Small Business Association Award!

The Bradford Bridge mission is to encourage communication between Town government and residents and to do all within our power to support a well-informed citizenry. The "Monthly Briefing" gives a taste of Bradford's governmental activities. If you're wondering how neighbors are making decisions to spend our tax dollars, attend a meeting. The public is always welcome. Also, committee meetings are recorded and available for viewing at bradfordnh.org.

I don't want to miss an opportunity to thank all our loyal advertisers who continue to support this free local newspaper. Please think of them when shopping for Mother's Day!

Happy Mother's Day to all!!

Kathleen Bigford, Editor And everyone at the Bradford Bridge

Land Acknowledgement Statement – We are on the unceded land of Nd'akinna which has long served as a site of meeting for Abenaki people from Pagôntegok (Contoocook), O'quasskikonaquan (Newbury) and beyond for thousands of years. Nebizonbik (Bradford Springs) provided healing waters and people exchanged goods at the village site behind Lake Massasecum, calling this land home. The town of Bradford honors, recognizes, and respects these Abenaki, as the traditional stewards of the lands and waters on which we gather today. In that spirit, today we will begin by acknowledging that we are guests in this land. We need to respect and help protect the lands within our use and share of the bounty with our Abenaki partners today.

# **Town Hall Update**

The progress at Town Hall continues to move forward. Discussion about interior colors has been underway and the color theme is a warm neutral. The trim and wainscot on both floors will be painted in Navajo White (the same color the auditorium ceiling was painted). For the sheetrock portions of the wall, the first floor will be Dove White. The sheetrock portion of the auditorium will be a shade of warm grey yet to be determined. The flooring and carpeting choices are not finalized. Light fixtures in an antique bronze have been ordered. Carol Troy has been instrumental in helping us stay true to the historic nature of the building while choosing functional and appropriate color themes.

The electrical, phone and data wiring has been completed. Andrew Pinard donated a great deal of his time and led the installation of specialized audio/visual wiring in the auditorium and stage. Multiple feeds were also run to the first floor to provide spaces on the first floor with A/V capabilities. Security and alarm wiring is also complete.

Insulation has been installed in all of the

#### MASONIC BUILDING PUBLIC FORUM

Be Part of the Conversation! – The Bradford Select Board invites you to participate in a public forum to be held on Monday, May 15, 2023 from 6:00-8:00 pm at the Bradford Area Community Center. The purpose of this meeting is to identify the options for the future of the Masonic Building. Comments may also be emailed to the Selectmen's Office at administrator@bradfordnh.org.

exterior walls. Once the wiring and sprinkler piping have been completed in the attic, that will be insulated. The basement foundation has been insulated as well. The application of AeroBarrier is planned to be completed by the end of April. The sheetrock crew has been onsite and working on areas where old plaster was removed as well as areas that have been newly framed.

In the basement, a hole was cut in the foundation and a pit dug to house the sprinkler pump. In order to have the cisterns beneath the parking lot at an acceptable depth, the sprinkler pump needed to be lowered by approximately three feet. The records storage room has

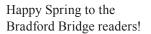
been outfitted for dehumidification as well as heating.

If you have any questions about the renovation, please reach out to the Selectmen's Office (938-5900) or administrator@bradfordnh.org.



Karen Hambleton with Carol Troy consulting on color choices.

# **Legislative Update** from Stephanie Payeur



I wanted to give an update on activities related to reproductive rights and abortion access in the NH General Court. At the end of March, the NH House had back-toback sessions on Wednesday March 22nd and Thursday March 23rd. On Thursday, we heard three significant bills on the floor. CACR2 was a proposed NH Constitutional Amendment that would "Provide that all persons have the right to make their own reproductive decisions". This type of bill requires 3/5 majority to pass the House. The voting motion was for OTP (ought to pass) with 193 yea and 191 nea. This failed because it was not 3/5 of the majority of votes cast. If this had passed, it would have put the question on

the ballot for NH voters to decide. Many polls show that over 70% of NH voters support pro-choice positions on abortion.

The next bill was HB 88 relative to reproductive rights and the Access to Abortion-care Act. Our current state law does not provide an explicit protection for the right to an abortion, unlike every other state in New England. It passed, 199 yea and 185 nea. Unfortunately, it was killed in the Senate on April 13th, with our State Senator Dan Innis voting along party lines of the Republican majority and killing it there.

HB 224 was a bipartisan bill to repeal criminal and civil penalties for doctors under the current 24-week abortion ban from the fetal life protection act (FLPA) passed with the last budget. This bill has had a negative impact on maternal health providers wanting to practice medicine in

NH, and a Republican representative gave a compelling story about the impact to his family due to the current legislation. I voted YES, and the bill passed 205 yea, 178 nea. The bill was also killed in the NH Senate on April 13th, along party lines. It has been well documented with testimony from medical providers at committees that abortions after the 24-week mark are extremely rare and personal, and should not involve the government, but are decisions between a patient and a doctor.

It is my hope that NH voters will come to realize that voting for GOP representation yields a limit on our freedoms and personal decision making on reproductive rights and that we see a different outcome in the 2024 elections.

Representative Stephanie Payer Merrimack County District 8 Bradford, Henniker, Warner

# **Reduce Home-Energy Costs with Plastic Window Inserts**

New London, NH - Two local-area non-profit organizations, Kearsarge Climate Action (KCA) and Kearsarge Neighborhood Partners (KNP), are joining together to undertake a project to lower local home-energy costs under the guidance of a third non-profit, WindowDressers of Maine.

The goal of the project is to provide low-cost insulating plastic inserts to fit inside existing home windows in order to prevent indoor heat from



escaping and outdoor cold from entering. Using measurements made by KCA and KNP volunteers, WindowDressers will provide frames and inserts for assembly and installation locally, also by volunteers. Installation will take place in late fall.

The project will be available to homeowners and renters in Andover, Bradford, Newbury, New London, Sunapee, Springfield, Sutton, Warner and Wilmot. Project goal is 200 inserts, for about 30 families. Cost per insert is roughly between \$30 and

\$100, depending on size and construction material). A KCA/ KNP fund-raising campaign to occur this summer will enable the project to offer windows at lower cost to residents impacted by the current economic situation.

For more information, to place an order, or to offer support in local window-measuring, insert assembly, and/or insert installation, contact the KCA's Joe Kubit at jgkubit70@gmail.com or 603-748-4404.

The mission of KCA is "to increase community awareness of the climate crisis and identify opportunities for regional collaboration to effect change." KNP's mission is "to collaborate with individuals and organizations to create a support network which empowers people to achieve stability in their lives."



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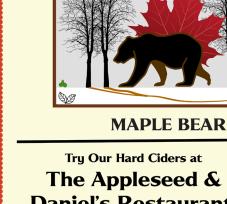
- 1. REPAIR Just because you've gotten used to the cracks in the walls and the rattles in the radiators doesn't mean a buyer will too.
- 2. **NEUTRALIZE** You want buyers to see themselves in your home. If your living room has all your collectibles and personal photographs, this will be much harder for them to do.
- 3. STAGE Home stagers can add small details and décor touches that will bring out the possibilities in the various spaces in your home.

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# My Nest

We frequently get calls asking us, "what's the largest weight capacity of the lift chairs that you can order?" Many lift chair companies have a weight limit of 375#s. Ultracomfort, who we have

dealt with for many years, offers a chair that is rated for a **500**#s (look it up under Ultracomfort, chair #549MW). This chair measures 26" between its arms, has **battery back up** in case of a power failure, comes with arm & head covers and usually is in stock and arrives to us in about 3 days. Check with your **insurance** company to see if they offer any financial assistance.

Don't let your flooring remain boring. We sell and install Carpet, Vinyl, Hardwood and Luxury Vinyl Plank. The plank can be purchased as a glue down, a residential click or a max click (the max is American made) and at this time, readily available. Free measure & estimates.

If you are looking at **bedding** and we don't have it in stock, we get **deliveries** about every 2 weeks. Made in Brockton, Mass.

We're open Monday-Friday 9 to 5 and Saturday 9 to 4:30. We look forward to seeing you.

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# **Economic Development Committee Update**

The Bradford Economic Development Committee reviewed its 2023-24 project plan for status updates. From this list we focused on developing a list of projects to be submitted for consideration to the Central NH Regional Planning Commission (CNHRPC) for its 2023 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) application process.

According to the CNHRPC "It is an important prerequisite to receive designation as an Economic Development District by the Federal Economic Development Agency, enabling the region and its communities to be eligible for funding of certain projects. An important part of the CEDS development is to bring the public and private sectors together to review the regional economy, analyze and interpret data, with an eye towards developing recommendations that target investment

priorities and projects that will strengthen the regional economy."

In addition, the Economic Development Committee reviewed an introductory summary of a potential private/public partnership proposal involving the property known as the Marshall or Naughton property. The Committee agreed to move forward in vetting the proposal and working on a vision plan for the project.

The Committee also agreed to set up a public meeting to invite anyone interested in forming a stakeholder group to assess potential ideas and needs for the theater/top floor of the Town Hall.

Current committee members: Scott Mc-Caskill (Chairman), Jim Bibbo (Vice-Chairman), Mel Pfeifle (Select Board Representative) Joe Torro, Kris Foss, Libby Webb, and Matt Monahan (Central NH Regional Planning Commission)

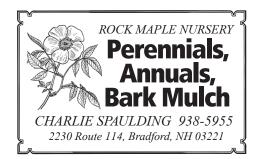
# Planting Flowers to Keep Our Downtown Beautiful!

If you enjoy growing flowers, the Bradford Community Gardeners would love to meet you! We are looking for new volunteers as we gear up for another season of planting and maintaining gardens and planters around our downtown. We are not an official Garden Club. and there are no dues, just a willingness to help with planting, weeding and watering over the course of the growing season in whatever amount of time you have to give. We'll meet later in May (TBA) to plan for a number of locations including the rail trail at Lake Todd, the traffic triangles at the intersection of 103 and 114, the Historical Society, the Tall Pines, and a few other locations and planters around downtown. It's a labor of love that is so appreciated. Just ask Lois and Barb how often people stop to thank them when they are working on the traffic triangles!

We welcome new volunteers regardless of gardening experience – It's a great way to learn! If you are interested in helping this year, please speak to Lois Kilnapp at the Bradford Transfer and Recycling Center or email Susan Moss at srmossl@comcast.net

We also welcome donations of perennials or annuals that you may be starting at home, and they can be dropped off with Lois starting in mid-May. Between the generosity of our fellow town residents and local businesses, we have had a bounty to plant each year. Thank you!





# **Help Us Serve You Better!**





The Bradford Police Department would like to ask local business owners, seasonal residents and any homeowner with an alarm system for a bit of help as we look to update contact information.

Recently, Officer Glen Drewniak has taken on the task of updating all the business contact information we store on our in-house database. The information requested is the name and address of the business as well as contact information for business owners and all keyholders. Officer Drewniak has been able to connect with most, if not all, business owners. Thank you to all who have provided up to date information.

During emergency situations, such as storms and weather-related damage, we have at times tried to contact a seasonal home owner, only to find that we did not have the proper information on file. Either the number on file was a Bradford exchange and no one was home or the landline phone number we did have was no longer in service. It would be helpful to all involved if contact can be made without delay.

As for homes with alarm systems, what happens when your alarm goes off is more than just an audible alarm. Most alarm companies will call you first and then call our dispatch at the Merrimack County Sheriff's Office. An officer is dispatched if no contact is made with you and once on scene, we check the perimeter of the property. If something out of the ordinary is found, it is helpful if we have a way to call to update you. More times than not, the alarm company does not provide a lot of information and a

dispatcher would need to call them back. If we have your information on hand, contacting you will be much quicker and easier, and dispatchers can continue to handle other emergencies that are ongoing in the county.

We would also like to use this opportunity to request any changed information from our local seniors who are currently on, or would like to be added to our "contact list." This is the list of folks the Police Department will contact by phone throughout the year during severe weather events to make sure you have power, heat, food or other necessities.

To update any of the above, please call the station at (603)938-2522 and we can update the information over the phone or email us the information at Bradfordpolicedept@tds.net Business owners will be sent a form to fill out and return with all the information needed. Thank You.

Sergeant Neil Flanagan, Bradford Police Department

### **Highway Department News**

April showers bring May flowers and black flies. By the time this is printed let's hope the roads should be opened back up for unrestricted travel. With the mild winter and the many spring thaws it probably helped the ground to dry out with less mud issues. And it really being warmer helped us all in different ways with less headache and expenses.

We are in the process of spring cleanup trying to clean brush, downed trees and debris from the winter storms. After that we are gearing up for sweeping, road grading, putting out calcium and rolling the dirt roads to compact them and enable us to keep them in nice shape for the summer.

As well as ditching and adding gravel to roads as needed we will be working to get

Fairgrounds Road, Jones Road, and Center Road prepped for paving later on this summer. Of course, all the other projects will need to fit somewhere, but we will continue to move forward.

#### More Highway Department News

In late March, Harry Wright, Karen Hambleton and Steve Hall submitted a proposal to the NH Department of Environmental Services(NHDES) for funding to replace Bradford's 1989 road grader. We voted at Town Meeting to raise \$404k for the grader. Karen recently received word from NHDES that the application has resulted in a grant opportunity of approximately one-quarter of the cost of the grader.

Here's what Karen received from NHDES, "The 2022 NH Clean Diesel Grant Program's Scoring Committee has scored the Town of Bradford's proposal to replace the 1989 grader with a new diesel grader and has selected the project for funding. Congratulations! This is the first step towards project approval. Please note: this notice of project selection does not mean that the project has been approved for funding. We will work with you to develop a formal grant agreement that must be approved by the Governor and Executive Council (G&C). Funds expended prior to receiving a Notice to Proceed from NHDES are not eligible for reimbursement."

Bradford Highway Department





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### KARS FOR KEARSARGE: Paving the Road to Independence

ACCESS TO RELIABLE TRANSPORTATION continues as a challenge to many in our area. Without a vehicle, folks can't get to work, or to important appointments and services. Kearsarge Neighborhood Partners is assisting neighbors in evaluating and affording repairs on an existing vehicle, or matching them with a donated vehicle. Just this week, KNP advocates helped a man get his impaired car back on the road so that he can continue to live independently.

And spring is a perfect time to get that extra car out of the garage! Do you know someone who has a safe, reliable vehicle that they would like to gift to a Kearsarge region neighbor in need of transportation? If so, please email info@KNPnh. org. Monetary donations to help neighbors with vehicle repairs can be made through the KNP website: KNPnh.org

# Go Lightly Consignment



Current, Vintage and Antique
Treasures

255 Newport Road, New London golightlyboutique@gmail.com

# ANNOUNCEMENT!

Go Lightly at 1 Center Road, Bradford is moving to our main location at Go Lightly Consignment 255 Newport Road, New London.

All remaining active consignments will be moved to our New London location.
If you have any questions please call (603) 938-1838.

Why are we leaving our beloved Bradford? Our building is being offered for sale.

We will close the Bradford location on **Sunday April 30th, at 4pm.**(We hope to return soon.)
Holly Fitzgerald, Owner



# TRANSFER STATION SINCE NEWS ...

# Making Bradford More Beautiful

The snow banks have melted, and now trash has become visible along our town and state roadsides. As we are informed about environmental issues, such as trash pollution and its multiple effects on wildlife and human welfare, we have become more aware of the ugliness of the trash strewn along our highways and byways.

Bradford is home to Beth Eldridge, who steadfastly and thoroughly cleans up a large stretch of route 114 in Bradford and into Henniker, as well as many town roads during non-winter months. She comes to the Bradford Transfer and Recycling Center from time to time to refresh her supply of the blue New Hampshire the Beautiful road cleanup bags.

If you would also like to participate in this selfless, environmentally-friendly, and philanthropic act, come to the transfer station to get some blue bags. Ken and I will recycle the items that you gather along the town roads, and if you clean up along the state roads, you may leave the bags along the roadside for the state highway department to pick up.

Just cleaning up the trash that is strewn along the road that you live on can help to make Bradford the most beautiful town in New Hampshire!

Lois Kilnapp, Manager

#### BRADFORD RECYCLES

- + Cardboard + Mixed Paper + (anything that rips) + Plastic #2 +
  - + Clean Glass & Ceramics +
- + Steel Cans + Aerosol Cans + Lids +
  - + Beer Caps + Aluminum Foil +
    - + Aluminum Beverage Cans +
      - + Any & All Scrap Metal +
- + Any type of Battery + Cell Phones +
- + Ink Cartridges + Motor Oil + Oil Filters +
  - + Any liquid plant-based Oil + Brush +
    - + Books + Clothing + Textiles +







# 4 Key Tips for Selling Your House This Spring



Marilyn Kldde Principle Broke

With Spring arriving, more and more people are getting ready to sell their homes. Inventory is still down, so there are still more buyers than there are homes on the market. Though not quite as frenzied as the last few years, the market should still be quite active for those properties offered for sale. Here are 4 simple steps to be sure your house stands out.

- Make sure your house is easy to show. Don't limit the days and times when buyers can have access to see your house. If it's not easily available, buyers will move on to the next, and yours may sit longer on the market... ultimately selling for a lower price.
- First impressions really do make a difference! What will your buyers see when they walk up to the front door? Peeling paint? To a potential buyer that might make them think that you haven't taken care of the rest of the house. It's really worth it to put as much work on the outside of the home as on the inside. Take a good look at your landscaping. It doesn't have to be amazing... appealing works! Good impressions will stick with your buyers as well.
- To capture a buyer's interest, make the inside of your home as appealing as possible. Your home, or anything you want to sell, must look inviting. We're happy to offer advice on staging your home. Something as simple as a fresh coat of paint, cleaning carpets, or decluttering can make a big difference.
- The most important aspect of selling your home is to price it right—Period! A house priced right will sell! If it's overpriced its time on the market will likely increase. Working with a real estate professional is so important. We are in the market every day. We know what is selling and what the factors are which are affecting our market now.

**Bottom line:** we want to help you sell you house for as much as you can, in your preferred frame time, with as little hassle as possible. Give us a call. We can help you accomplish these goals.

Marilyn Kidder



If you're considering selling or buying, give us a call and put "The Best Team in Town" to work for you!

(603) 526-4116 • info@bhgmilestone.com • www.BHGMilestone.com P.O. Box 67, 224 Main Street, New London, NH 03257

Resource: Keeping Current Matters, Inc., 7204 Glen Forest Drive, Richmond, VA 23226

# Library Lantern

#### **Brown Memorial Library**

brownmemoriallibrary.org
78 West Main Street
(603) 938-5562
hmlbradford@amail.com

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:
Greetings from Pass Christian,
Mississippi. I'm here with my
family getting a little R&R. I
picked this location as I adore the
comedian Tig Notaro, who grew up
in this town. I fell in love with the idea
of coming here after I watched her show,
One Mississippi. The town looked so
charming and eclectic, and it is!

So, my husband agreed to me planning a trip down south. One of the best parts of getting away is getting out of our comfort zones as a family. I don't think I've interacted this much with my son, Jonathan, since the last time we went on vacation. We've had some epic ping pong games, tried the local crayfish and po'boy sandwiches, swam in the pool, taken walks on the gulf shore, listened to the soft, lulling sounds of the train whistle, and we're heading for a day trip to New Orleans.

The people have been gracious and

polite, Southern hospitality. The town and surrounding towns of Bay St. Louis, Waveland, Biloxi, are still rebuilding from Hurricane Katrina which happened in 2005. In my walks around the neighborhood many lots have never been rebuilt, just cement pads overgrown with weeds. All the houses are built many feet off the ground with elevators from base to house, but the houses are not cheap around here nor is the flood insurance.

When you go on vacation do you picture yourself living there and wonder what your life would be like? It's fun to do this, but also nice to return to the regularly scheduled program.

We have several interesting programs for you to attend during the month of May.

Wed. May 10th @ 6:00pm Pollinator Gardens with Suzanne Paul.

Thurs. May 11th @ 7:00 am. Morning Bird Walk with Gary Kalajian at Hoyt Brook Trail Head (Jewett Road).

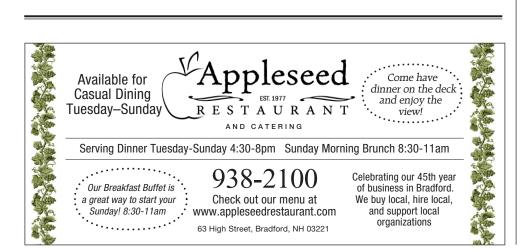
Sat. May 13th @ 11:00am Civil War Stories with Bill McKinley.

Sat. May 20th @ 11:00am Beekeeping 101 with Kearsarge Beekeeping Association.

Sat. May 27th from 9:00-1:00pm. Memorial Day Plant & Book Sale.

Book Group: May 24th @ 7:00pm, *The Night Tiger* by Yangsze Choo.

For more details on these programs please visit our website or Facebook page.







The Brown family were among the one hundred plus people who showed up for another brisk and beautiful Easter egg hunt at Brown Memorial Library. Thanks to the Friends of the Library and the fourth grade students who stuffed nearly 400 eggs for the (ahem) Easter Bunny to hide, and little kids to enjoy. No cuter sign of spring than toddlers with baskets at our cheerful local library.

Join us for story time every Monday at 10 am.

### **Coming Soon to Your Home: Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) Rebates & Tax Credits**

Slowly information is emerging on consumer tax credits available now and rebates that will start this fall for energy efficiency projects and purchases. The Bradford Energy Committee is following these opportunities and will share information when practical.

While this may seem a little daunting at first, it is very worth looking into. The IRA seeks to move us towards utilizing electric energy vs carbon-based fossil fuels in our daily lives. This is a transition that will occur over years.

Think of this as money you can access to defray your costs over time as you make decisions about where you live, what you drive and how you use energy. These changes cost money up front and the rebates and tax credits are designed to help reduce those costs. The savings come when your energy use and expense is reduced going forward. This gets Bradford closer to reducing our carbon footprint.

There are rebates available for purchases and installation costs on items like windows, doors, appliances, and heat pumps. To learn more about this and start the journey on what you may qualify for, this link will get you started with information and FAQ's. A qualifying calculator that estimates the amount of rebates you qualify for is here: https://www.rewiringamerica. org/app/ira-calculator

There are tax credits available for home energy efficiency improvements and purchasing electric vehicles. The tax credits are complicated but they do reset annually. If you can use the tax credits in 2023, you will be able to use them again for different energy efficiency projects and purchases in the following years. These credits are available starting in 2023 through 2033.

The Bradford Energy Committee thinks this is a good time to consider a plan and learn about how these tax credits and rebates can maximize your savings as you transition in ways that are best for you. Renters qualify for some of these as well so it is worth a look.

Bradford Energy Committee



#### LOCAL HIRINGS

**Sweet Beet Market** + **Cafe** now hiring! Various opportunities, part time and full time hours available. Weekends needed most, but weekdays also needed. We feed our team! 25% discount on all products for employees and a meal credit with every shift! Learn more and apply: www.bit.ly/KFHapply or come in to 11 West Main Street in Bradford, NH for an application.

The Town of Bradford is accepting applications for a part-time Attendant at French's Park. Attendant's hours are: 11 am – 5 pm on Friday, Saturday and Sunday beginning in early June and running through Labor Day Weekend. Duties will include checking parking stickers, maintaining Park cleanliness and other duties as assigned. Minimum qualifications: Completion of two years of high school or its equivalent. Ability to work outdoors and interact effectively with the public. The Town of Bradford is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Applications can be picked up at the Town Offices located at 134 East Main Street, Bradford, NH 03221, or found on the website at https:// www.bradfordnh.org/





Assisting young people and individuals with disabilities to discover their inner strengths so they may lead positive, fulfilling lives.

Sunset Hill Educational Institute (SHEI), a nonprofit organization located in South Sutton, has paid job openings and community service opportunities for local youth and young adults.

#### SHEI Property Maintenance Person (paid position)

Looking for an eligible individual to provide weekly work on the SHEI property outside. Flexible hours, 8 hours per week.

Job responsibilities include: a variety of property maintenance work, such as gardening and outside grounds upkeep; physical labor using small equipment, like electric weed whacker and hand tools; tidying and organizing the barn and outside surroundings; special projects, like fencing, bird houses, trail maintenance; and preparing the grounds for SHEI events. Guidance will be provided.

#### **COMMUNITY SERVICE Opportunities at SHEI**

Will provide learning experiences with nature, health, and connecting with people. High school students can assist with preparing and/or being actively involved with program offerings this summer.

Please reach out to <a href="mailto:carol@sheinh.org">carol@sheinh.org</a> or call (603) 938-2562 for more information, and check out our website at www.sheinh.org.

## **Bradford Fire: Evening of Gratitude**

On March 27 the Bradford FD hosted their Evening of Gratitude where firefighters and supporters were recognized. The sign pictured below recognizes the support The Appleseed Restaurant and the Fenton Family have given to Bradford Fire & Rescue.

All three selectmen were in attendance as well as representatives from Mutual Aid towns, Fire Marshal's office, and the Capital Area Coordinator.

The following individuals were recognized for their contribution to the Fire Department and service to the town.





Retired Chief & active member Mark Goldberg, 52 years ~ Retired FF Chris Frey, 52 years ~ Retired Deputy Chief Preston Starr, 28 years ~ James Raymond Deputy Chief, 49 Years ~ Steve Hansen, 47 Years & Forest Fire Warden ~ Carl Goldberg, 43 Years ~ Felicia Starr, 24 years ~ Bruce Edwards, 16 years ~ Steve Snyder, 13 years ~ Brook McCandlish, 12 years ~ Robert Green, 8 years ~ Matt Gerald, 4 years ~ Mark Dowd, 4 years ~ Emily Roy, 2 years ~ Parker Resling, 1 year ~ Nathan Nichols, 1 year ~ Neil Donnenfeld, 1 year ~ Tom Gleason, 1 year ∼ Bryan Nowell, Chief, 1 year ~





# -OUTSIDE-



#### NO MOW MAY

Nellie is a guard dog with a cloudy past and an overly sensitive temperament. After spending some time in her pasture, I eventually, tentatively, convinced her that I may be trustworthy. On the ground at her level, this gave me plenty of time to study both the dog and the pasture.

Like most of us, I don't know much about grasses. We mostly just stand on them. Their flowers rarely feature in glossy seed catalogues. There are a lot of them and they often lack memorable common names, leaving us with self-conscious mispronunciation of the Latinized two-part scientific name – if we can identify them at all. Grass doesn't care.

There seemed to be about a dozen different species where the dog and I sprawled. There's a lot going on there in an understated fashion: tall grasses hog the sun over short grasses; tough ones claim the bare, sandy spots because they can; small grasses creep in on the edges; agile, aggressive species leap to any disturbed spot; some are favored and clipped short by the sheep. I know that most or all came from some other continent a long while ago. There was a paucity of native grasses suitable for livestock when the Europeans arrived.

A small movement snagged my attention as the cautious dog finally relaxed into a tentative doze. A methodical spikey red and blue larval ladybeetle was rolling effortlessly up and down the blades in pursuit of an insect meal. A tiny, grassgreen blob – possibly a larval moth or butterfly – carefully shifted its position in response. This was a vegan interrupted in

its own grass-grazing. A behemoth of a ground beetle raced past in the shadows low to the ground. Recent technology has demonstrated that it's noisy down there. There's shouting and murmuring and perhaps love songs. Plants make weird clicks or buzzes when stressed. We're missing a lot at our height and with our hearing.

The field gives Nellie her purpose in life and is feeding a lot more than sheep. At this moment in time in New England, we spend less effort in building cows and sheep from grass than we do on our strange desire to nurture lawns. Lawn grass is entirely foreign - Kentucky blue grass is not from Kentucky. Lawn seed consists of species that can survive the attentions of a lawn mower and perfect lawns are often augmented with herbicides, fertilizers, and pesticides. As you already know, they require watering and consistent shaving. Lawns count as impervious surfaces in some circles and are ecological dead zones as they support very little life when they are fashionably maintained.

Consider these related but seemingly unrelated facts: as of 2005 there were 40 million acres of land devoted to lawns in the United States - the size of New England; there are 85 million acres in the National Park System; insect populations have collapsed worldwide by 45% since 1974 due to night lights, habitat destruction, agriculture, warming temperatures, insecticides and other causes; bird populations are plummeting, especially those species (which is most of them) that feed their young on insects; one pair of chickadees requires 6,240-9,120 caterpillars to fledge a single nest of offspring; oak trees support 557+ species of insects whereas imported ornamentals support perhaps 0-3; insects pollinate over 90% of flowering plants (including trees and food crops).

What we can do: convert those parts of our yards that we don't regularly use to native wildflowers and shrubs and plant native trees. Oddly, we need to encourage plants that are attacked by all sorts of insects if we want to bring back some semblance of balance and diversity of wildlife. Consider joining the No Mow May effort to allow the blossoming of those first tiny ephemeral flowers that may be hiding in your yard in order to give a boost to emerging spring insects like bees. Check out the Homegrown National Park initiative.

It's necessary, of course, to mow the lawn where you use it most. Ticks, which were hard to find just a few decades ago, proliferate where rodents abound because rodents are the main requirement in the first two stages of a tick's life. It may be true that lawns provide less than perfect rodent/tick habitat but there are also studies that indicate that loss of habitat and the resulting decrease in rodent predators - fox, weasel, bobcat, owl, coyote, hawk, shrew— is increasing the tick problem. We've learned to brush our teeth dailythe best course might be to similarly train yourself and your kids to a constant vigilance no matter where we are.

Land conservation traditionally focuses on places where we aren't. It is imperative that we concentrate on the places where we live. There are global problems that have grassroots solutions.

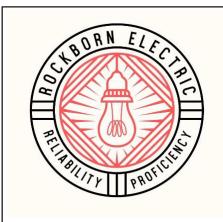
Ann Eldridge



# Why mow less in the spring?

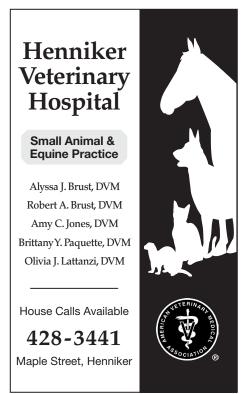
The start of the growing season is a critical time for hungry, newly emerged native bees. Floral resources may be hard to find. By allowing it to grow longer, and letting flowers bloom, your lawn can provide nectar and pollen to help bees thrive. Mowing less throughout the spring creates habitat and can increase the abundance and diversity of wildlife including bees and other pollinators.

See https://beecityusa.org/no-mow-may/ for all the FAQs.



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"The only true wisdom is knowing you know nothing."

- Socrates



#### Mountain View Senior Center

Located in the Bradford Area Community Center 134 Main Street, Bradford, NH • 603 938 2104 Monday - Friday, 8 am - 2:30 pm

Among the valuable services provided by the Mountain View Senior Center (MVSC) are the monthly Wellness and Foot Care clinics offered by the Lake Sunapee Visiting Nurses Association (VNA). On the third Wednesday of every month, a registered nurse from the VNA comes to the Center to meet with Bradford seniors. From 9 to 11 am, there is a Walk-in Wellness clinic during which the nurse checks your vital signs, answers medical questions you may have and

performs a glucose reading, if required. There is no fee for these services and no appointment is necessary.

Then from 11:30 - 2 pm on the same day, there is a Foot Care clinic during which time the nurse will trim and file your toenails as well as soak, clean and put lotion on your feet. These services are provided by appointment only at a charge of \$30 per visit. To schedule an appointment, call (603) 748-1731. (Please note that she/he is not able to remove calluses, treat in-grown toenails or remove corns.) Another great service provided by the MVSC! How valuable it is to have such needed clinics right here in Bradford rather than having to travel longer distances or wait weeks or even months for an appointment.

Maria Storm



#### MVSC WEEKLY ACTIVITIES\* ALL ARE WELCOME!

Mondays	8:45-9:30	Strong Living: Bodybuilding and weight training for seniors
	1:00	Bridge Group, beginners are welcome!
Tuesdays	9:30-12:00	Quilters Group, all skill levels, group & individual projects
	12:30-3:00	Mahjong and other games
Wednesdays	1:00-2:00	Therapeutic Yoga and Balance Class (\$5)
Thursdays	12:30	Dominos
Fridays	8:45-9:30	Strong Living: Bodybuilding and weight training for seniors
WELLNESS & FOOT CARE CLINICS - Call 603-748-1731 to make an appointment		
3rd Wednesday of every month	9:00-11:00	Wellness Check (free)
	11:30-2:00	Footcare Clinic (\$30)
FOOD SERVICES - Call 603-938-2014 to make a reservation		
Tuesdays	12:15	Lunch
Thursdays	11:30	Lunch
1st Fri. every mo.	9:30	Brunch
Monday-Friday	8:00-1:30	Grab and Go Take Out - frozen meals are available
Mon., Wed. & Fri.	By Appointment	Meals on Wheels – Sign up for a delivery, call 603-938-2104

\*Holidays may influence this schedule



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## MONTHLY BRIEFING: **Town Board Reports**

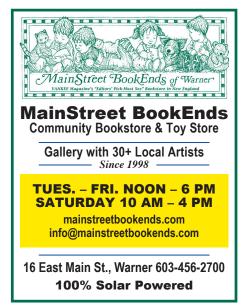
(Continued from page 1)

Town Hall Update As of the end of March, the project has been underway now for about 6 weeks. The project team meets weekly to discuss and resolve issues. The final part of the demolition phase was completed in early February. With demo complete, the interior framing has begun and the drawn plans have come to life. In preparation for the electricians' arrival on site, the location of electric outlets and data cable connections were finalized. The plans for the doors and door hardware were reviewed with an eye to security and functionality. There will be a combination of doors with keyed locks and doors with swipe access. Lastly, the site plan is inching closer to finalization. There are many factors influencing the final plan – the location of the septic, the depth and placement of the sprinkler cisterns, a decision optimizing the underground electric feed to the building and lastly, the accessibility ramp.

#### **Board Chair and Meeting Schedule**

The Board elected Beth Downs as Chair and decided to keep the present meeting schedule of the second and fourth Mondays of the month at 6:00 pm in the meeting room at the Bradford Area Community Center.

Fire Chief Bryan Nowell appeared to report call statistics saying that there were slightly fewer calls in 2023



than in 2022. The purchase of new personal protection equipment to replace expired and new hire equipment was discussed. This will be funded by the Fire Department Expendable Trust Fund monies available in July. Bryan made the Board aware of unsafe conditions at an unnumbered property on Bible Hill Road. Lastly, now that the snow is gone, burn permits are required and burning will only be permitted after 5:00 pm.

**Emergency Management Director and** Health Officer The Board recommended Bryan Nowell for these two positions.

Town Hall Update Wiring is almost 100% in, insulations is starting, the safe door is moved, water line is installed, septic plan is approved and deposit is made, plans for underground propane take need to be finalized, current furnace is not usable as a larger-capacity furnace is needed. Plans are being made to sell the current furnace.

Dispelling misinformation Karen Hambleton would like to raise and correct misinformation at Select Board meetings. The following issues have come to her attention recently:

- Fire chief submitting petition for razing Mason Hall: Not true. As a non-resident the Fire Chief could not submit a petition. Members of the Fire Department and residents submitted the petition.
- Election results were not posted in a timely fashion: On the evening of March 29 results were posted on the BACC doors, on the wall outside of Town Clerk office, posted everywhere they needed to be. Technical difficulties with layout on the website took a little longer.

- Septic system under the Town Hall: The Town Hall will not be lifted and put back down again. The septic system, cisterns, and electricity conduit will all be placed under the parking lot.
- Demolition waste: The Select Board and Transfer & Recycling Center Manager will work with Naughton & Sons to make arrangement for demolition waste to be deposited in a safe and timely fashion.

**Select Board Representation on Com**mittees The Board agreed to keep current committee assignments.

**Town Employee Evaluations and Raises** The Board is working with department heads to complete employee evaluations. The Board agreed that 5% raises would be awarded based on 3% cost of living allowance and 2% merit, decisions made by department heads.

#### **BUDGET COMMITTEE**

Membership and Chair members are Jen Richardson (Chair), Laurie Colburn, Justin Dohrn, Tim McKenna, Beth Downs (Select Board Rep), Kimberly Firth. The committee will invite one more member

#### **Budget Committee Transparency:**

Members discussed several options to inform residents about the budget and how to participate in the process. First and foremost, residents are encouraged to attend and contribute to the meetings. Kim Firth proposed sending a survey to residents to collect information and priorities. Kim also suggested a regular article in the Bradford Bridge expanding on items of interest. Beth suggested a "This is your tax money at work" article. Laurie would like a "big picture" docu-



ment available to show graphically where tax \$\$ go. Moving forward Kim will research other town surveys and reach out to committee members to design a survey for Bradford.

The Budget Committee meets on the third Thursday of the month at 6:30 in the meeting room at the Bradford Area Community Center.

#### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT **COMMITTEE**

Recreation Improvements Proposal Committee member Kris Foss discussed the proposal from the Ellie and Woodward James Foundation for the Naughton Property. The proposal includes purchasing the Naughton property and the Brown-Shattuck property/ball fields from the Town of Bradford. The fields are adjacent to the property the foundation already owns which includes the community garden. The vision is that the Brown

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Shattuck Park and ball fields would be upgraded and made adjacent to a children's natural playscape being built behind the community gardens. Across the street the Naughton property would be developed to include parking to support current and future main street businesses and space for recreational activities. The Bradford Historical Society would be able to have a long-term lease, allowing them to plan long-term and increase fundraising activities. This project is estimated to be a five to ten-year plan to be completed in phases.

#### ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

**Membership** Welcome new members Laura Beaton and Jim Varney. Secretary Kathleen Bigford, recording secretary for the Town, will serve as meeting secretary.

#### PLANNING BOARD

Pine Crest Cabins Dan Higginson appeared before the Board for a preliminary consultation for Ashley Miller, 3087 State Route 114, Map 11 Lot 58, resurrecting the Pine Crest Cabins. The Board determined a site plan is required. The Board has concerns regarding sanitation, water, and parking. Dan will fill out a site plan application and be put on a future Planning Board agenda.

**Relax and Company** Jim Bruss of 120 East Main Street, Bradford, came before the Board to discuss a 2- phase expansion of Relax and Company, a construction landscape office. The Board determined that a site plan is required. There is currently no site plan on file. Jim will try to get the required information together in time for a public hearing on the first phase (turning current living space in the existing building into office space) at the April 25th Planning Board meeting. Phase 2, adding new building(s) in the rear of the property, will be addressed later.

#### PARKS AND RECREATION

French's Park Cleanup is scheduled for May 21, 2023, at noon.

**Independence Day Update** Bradford Country Squares will be at the event from 5-6:30 for a square-dancing demonstration.

#### KRSD SCHOOL BOARD

**Security** The Board approved a motion for the sole-source purchase recommendation for additional interior cameras for the Middle School from Tasco Security in the amount of \$19,040.00.

Well Sampling The Board approved a motion for well sampling from GZA in the amount of \$12,600.00.

Lead Levels Brett Paré, Facilities Director, apprised the Board that the State has passed legislation that changed the acceptable lead levels in drinking water. He noted that there is lead present in the water of all the schools and that they are working on a remediation plan. The Superintendent noted that the lead isn't in the drinking water. The increased levels are a result of lead being present in some faucets and connectors in the schools.

**Bradford Preschool** The slab for the modular unit is planned to be in place by the first week of June.



# Obituaries



Thomas William Dugdale, Jr.

Thomas William Dugdale, Jr. passed away peacefully at home on April 14, 2023, with his wife, Patty, and daughter, Wendi, at his side. He was born November 8, 1933, in South Bend, IN, the oldest of Thomas and Anna Lois (Elsey) Dugdale.

Tom distinguished himself as a precocious musician and an excellent student. Following in his father's footsteps, he enrolled at Purdue University in 1951 where he met his first wife Helen Kay (Harris) and took a detour from his original ROTC scholarship track. In 1953, he left Purdue and enlisted in the U.S. Navy. After completing Boot Camp, he attended an eleven-month Fire Control Technician school in Washington, D.C. where he learned to operate and maintain the radar and computer systems used to control ships' guns. Finishing first in his class earned him first pick of the available assignments. He selected the destroyer USS Eversole DD 789 out of Long Beach, CA, and set off to see the world, which he did—at least that part between California and Japan! He was honorably discharged in 1957 as a First Class Petty Officer. After a short stint as a technical writer at Douglas Aircraft Company with the NIKE-Ajax guided missile systems, he returned to Purdue to complete his Electrical Engineering degree.

Upon graduation from Purdue, he joined Control Data Corporation (CDC), a leading developer of mainframe computers and associated peripheral equipment. He spent the next 17 years with CDC in the design, manufacture, and OEM sales of high-performance disk drives and magnetic tape transports.

He earned many awards in his assignments, which included Minneapolis, MN; Amersfoort, Netherlands; and Waltham, MA. Looking for a retirement area, he drove up to the Lake Sunapee area. It was love at first

sight. With a purchase and sales agreement on a plot of land on Lake Todd in Newbury dated that very day, he and his friend Patty, who would become his second wife, dreamed of the home that they would "stick build" themselves.

Not being good at retirement and having caught most of the bass in Lake Todd, Tom founded and operated Lake Station Realty until 2019. Tom was humble and modest concerning his many talents—playing the trumpet and baritone, painting, and writing. He developed his business website and dabbled in video-editing. He enjoyed reading, his yard and gardens, cherished looking over the lake and listening to birds and waterfowl. In later years, health problems limited his mobility, but his mind remained sharp as he kept current on sports, news stories, Celtics or Patriots broadcasts. Tom's family is extremely grateful for the medical care provided by his many doctors, nurses, allied health professionals, and hospice personnel over the years.

Tom was predeceased by his parents and younger siblings Martha (Tom) Brovont and David (Suzee) Dugdale and his first wife Helen Kay (Harris), with whom he maintained an amicable relationship until her death in 2015. He is survived by his second wife of over 40 years, Patty (Fuller); children, Tom (Tina) Dugdale III, Paula Dugdale, and Wendi (Ken) Roy; siblings DaveMcKinley, Lois Wozniak, Ned (Dottie) Dugdale, and Mary (Larry) Pio; sister-in-law Suzee Dugdale and numerous grand- and great-grandchildren. The family requests that donations be made to the charity of your choice in Tom's memory. info@intertownrecord.com.

# Marjorie Messer

With profound sadness we announce the passing of Marjorie Messer, our loving, devoted mother and friend to all the many lives she touched, on March 22, 2023. Born Marjorie Edwards on July 20, 1934 in Holywell, North Wales, United Kingdom, to George and Winifred Edwards. She met and later married Richard H. LaPorte on February 23, 1953, while he was stationed in Birmingham, England with the US Air Force. After that relationship dissolved, she later met and married Robert A. Messer of Bradford, NH, on April 8, 1978.

Marjorie loved spending time with friends



at her knitting and quilting groups at the Bradford Community Center, and shopping at thrift stores, always looking for that great find with her friend Harriet. She loved gardening and baking cookies to share with everyone including her friends at the bank. Antiques were her passion. When we were younger, mom's great friend Rita Caswell would take her out to old cellar holes to dig for old bottles and other goodies that they might find. She would bring her new found treasures home. That's when we started calling her and Rita "Dump Pickers."

Marjorie was happiest when she met and fell in love with Bob. Their home was surrounded by beautiful views of the open fields with a stream and swimming hole in the backyard, where they both enjoyed watching birds and wildlife, and even a periodic encounter with bears. Marjorie was the kindest person we have known and we will miss her terribly. Until we meet again!!

Marjorie was predeceased by her parents George and Winifred, siblings Stanley, Neville, Josephine, Frank, George, Winifred, Christine, James, John and Alan, her loving husband Robert, step-children Rick Messer and Sandra Messer Toomey and grand-daughter Alyx. She is survived by her daughter Doreena Jillson and her husband Jim of Merrimack, NH, son Richard LaPorte and wife Alesia of Newbury, NH, step-daughter-in-law Kathy Messer of Bradford and step-daughter Carol Messer Radulski and her husband Mike of Brookline, NH, grandchildren Rob, Joey, Kyle, Nate, Martha and Tommy and great grandchildren Darienne, Caitlyn, Bristol, Remington, Layla, Nathan, Liam, Ian, Carter, Lyndon, Marabella and Eli.

Services were held on April 15, 2023 at the Bradford Community Church. To sign an online guestbook, visit: www.chadwickfuneralservice.com.

# **Kudos for KRES at Bradford**

Unity and collaboration... that was the focus of recent events at KRES-Bradford. Each year, the school holds Theme Week just prior to spring vacation. This year the students learned all about West Africa and teamed up with the Akwaabe Ensemble, led by Theo Martey, a native of Ghana. Theo has won numerous awards across the state of New Hampshire resulting from his twenty years here promoting cultural diversity and harmony through music. He is the current NH Artist Laureate and has conducted over 5,000 workshops in his career so far.



Kids Yoga
Sunday, May 7th 11-11:45am | In-Studio | Register by May 6

#### Mother Lovin'

Sunday, May 13th 9:30-11am | In-Studio | Register by May 12

# Hatha Yoga

Sundays 8:30-9:30am | In-Studio with Judy

# **Kelax & Restore**

Thursdays 9:30-10:30am | In-Studio with Val

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The Akwaabe Ensemble performed vibrant drumming, dancing and singing at KRES-Bradford to kick off the celebration. This was followed by workshops conducted in every grade throughout the week, culminating in a school-wide concert on Friday that propelled the school community into a well-deserved vacation, fueled by their collaborative efforts.

Financial assistance for this residency was provided by the Center for the Arts of the Lake Sunapee Region through their school grant program.

Akwaabe means "Welcome" in the Akan language and their music certainly draws in the listener. Using organic elements like gourds, drums, a wooden xylophone and cowbells, players mimic the sounds of nature... and even the human heartbeat. Theo says, "Keep focused, create good music, and your hard work will surely pay off. We all speak music and rhythm, even if we don't speak the same language. I want students to find the happiness by connecting with their peers and enjoying time together."

With Theo's uplifting music and message ringing in her ears, first grader Brooklyn Mace (pictured here with her classmates) said "When I was drumming, I felt the vibration all over and when we stopped I felt so light that I thought I might fly." The entire class was grinning with goodwill and the thrill of playing a variety of





instruments. Each child eagerly took turns soaking up new culture and sounds, a real hands-on learning experience.

Meanwhile, Brown Memorial Library is gearing up for the annual Summer Reading Program with the complimentary slogan "All Together Now." Like many libraries across the state and nation, they will be offering programs about friendship, unity, and kindness on Wednesdays throughout July. Reading logs will be available at the end of the school year. What a perfect slogan to bring us all together no matter the age, socio-economic status, or political climate. Come find a book to fit your interests and maybe make some friends in the process. Keep your eyes open for more details of the fun to be had at your public library this summer.

May the messages of cooperation, consideration and hope offered by Akwaabe Ensemble and local libraries resonate in our children's minds. It is they who will make our world a better place

Laurie Buchar



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# 🞇 BRADFORD COMMUNITY EVENTS 🜿

All events take place at the Bradford Area Community Center (938-6228) or the Mountain View Senior Center (938-2104) unless otherwise noted. Call to confirm dates and times in case any changes have been made.

#### Monday, May 1

8:45 am Strong Living Exercise

10:00 am Storytime, BML

10:00 pm Cemetery Commission

1:00 pm Bridge Group

5:30 pm Driver's Ed School, LR

#### Tuesday, May 2

10:00 am Quilting Group

12:30 pm Mahjong Group, LR

5:30 pm Driver's Ed School, LR

6:00 pm Eco. Development Committee

#### Wednesday, May 3

1:00 pm Yoga

4:30 pm Girl Scouts

5:30 pm Driver's Ed School, LR

7:00 pm Zoning Board

#### Friday, May 5

8:45 am Strong Living Exercise

#### Monday, May 8

8:45 am Strong Living Exercise

10:00 am Storytime, BML

1:00 pm Bridge Group

5:30 pm Driver's Ed School, LR

6:00 pm Selectmen's Meeting

#### Tuesday, May 9

10:00 am Quilting Group

12:30 pm Mahjong Group, LR

5:30 pm Driver's Ed School,LR

#### Wednesday, May 10

1:00 pm Yoga

4:30 pm Girl Scouts

5:30 pm Driver's Ed School, LR

6:00 pm Pollinator Gardens with Suzanne Paul, BML

#### Thursday, May 11

7:00 am Morning Bird Walk with Gary Kalajian, at Hoyt Brook Trail Head (Jewett Road)

5:30 pm Parks & Rec

#### Friday, May 12

8:45 am Strong Living Exercise

#### Saturday, May 13

11:00 am Civil War Stories with Bill McKinley, BML

#### Monday, May 15

8:45 am Strong Living Exercise

10:00 am Storytime, BML

1:00 pm Bridge Group

5:30 pm Driver's Ed School, LR

6:00 pm Masonic Building Public Forum

#### Tuesday, May 16

10:00 am Quilting Group

12:30 pm Mahjong Group, LR

5:00 pm Energy Committee

5:30 pm Driver's Ed School, LR

7:00 pm Conservation Committee, BML

#### Wednesday, May 17

9:00 am Footcare Clinic, MVSC

1:00 pm Yoga

4:30 pm Girl Scouts

5:30 pm Driver's Ed School, LR

#### Thursday, May 18

6:30 pm Budget Committee

#### Friday, May 19

8:45 am Strong Living Exercise

#### Saturday, May 20

10:00 am Mental Health Awareness Brunch

11:00 am Beekeeping 101 with Kearsarge Beekeeping Association, BML

#### Monday, May 22

8:45 am Strong Living Exercise

10:00 am Storytime, BML

1:00 pm Bridge Group

5:30 pm Driver's Ed School, LR

6:00 pm Selectmen's Meeting

#### Tuesday, May 23

10:00 am Quilting Group

12:30 pm Mahiong Group, LR

5:30 pm Driver's Ed School, LR

7:00 pm Planning Board

#### Wednesday, May 24

1:00 pm Yoga

4:30 pm Girl Scouts

5:30 pm Driver's Ed School, LR

7:00 pm Book Group, "The Night Tiger", by Yangsze Choo, BML

#### Friday, May 26

8:45 am Strong Living Exercise

#### Saturday, May 27

9:00 am Lake Todd Village District

9:00 am Memorial Day Plant & Book Sale, BML

#### Monday, May 29

8:45 am Strong Living Exercise

10:00 am Storytime, BML

1:00 pm Bridge Group

5:30 pm Driver's Ed School, LR

#### Tuesday, May 30

10:00 am Quilting Group

12:30 pm Mahjong Group, LR

5:30 pm Driver's Ed School,LR

#### Wednesday, May 31

1:00 pm Yoga

4:30 pm Girl Scouts

5:30 pm Driver's Ed School, LR

#### Calendar Abbreviations

BACC **Bradford Area Community Center** 

BCC **Bradford Community Church** 

всмн **Bradford Center Meetinghouse** 

BHS **Bradford Historical Society** 

**BML** Brown Memorial Library

LSVNA Lake Sunapee Visting Nurses Assoc.

LR Learning Room

MVSC Mountain View Senior Center

SR Senior Room

YR Youth Room

Zoning Board of Adjustment



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### May 2023 Happenings

We are happy to announce that Rev. Lynne Hubley is now serving as our part-time pastor.

Our Sunday Services start at 10 am. Communion Service is held on the First Sunday of the month. Sunday School meets in the Friendship Room for ages 4-12 after the Time with God's children during worship service. Office hours are Wednesdays and Thursdays, 9 AM to Noon.

- Spring Cleaning & Breakfast, May 6 at 8 am in the Friendship room. We are having a joint breakfast for men and women and then we will be cleaning the inside and outside of the church.
- Sister to Sister (women's bible study). May 13 at 8:30 am in the church office building.
- Hymn Sing will be held on Sunday, May 14th 9:50 to 10 am.
- Prayer Gathering to pray for our church, community, and world – Sunday May 28 at 8:30-9:30 am in the office building.
- Church Picnic will be held on Sunday May 28th after church. Corn Hole will be played. Please bring a salad or dessert to share. Hot dogs and drinks will be provided.
- Bible Studies: Tuesday mornings at 10 am "The Word of God" in the office building.
- Wednesday Night Bible Study-- Genesis −6-7 PM in the Friendship Room at church.
- AA meets every Sunday night at 7 pm in the Friendship Room.

The Bradford Community Food Pantry is open the 3rd Wednesday of every month, 5:30-6:30 PM in the church office building (located to the right of the church), if you need help between our open times, please call the church office (603-938-5313) for an appointment. Donations needed: tuna, juice, and cereal can be dropped off during office hours (Wednesdays & Thursdays 9AM-Noon) or in the collection box outside the office door. We do not accept clothing at this time.



#### **BRADFORD EVENTS**

Wednesday, May 3, 7:00 pm. Book Group at the Brown Memorial Library. The book of the month is *The Darling* by Pulitzer-nominated author Russell Banks. More information, http://www.brownmemoriallibrary.org.

Sunday, May 21, 12:00 pm. Join the Community Cleanup Day at French's **Park.** Let's take pride in helping keep our beautiful park looking its best for the season. Pizza will be provided for the volunteers. More info https://www. facebook.com/bradfordparksandrec.

#### NEIGHBORING TOWNS

Friday, May 5, 5:30 pm. New Hampshire Telephone Museum's 2023 Open**ing Celebration.** Join us for a festive evening as we unveil our 2023 Special Exhibit. More information and to register, https://www.nhtelephonemuseum.org/ calendar-of-events.html.

Sunday, May 7, 1:00 pm. The Mt. Kearsarge Indian Museum in Warner, NH will host Founders' Day. The day is to celebrate the contributions of Bud and Nancy Thompson made in creating the museum. Special guests will be the Dineh Tah' Navajo Dance Troupe, who will perform traditional Navajo dances. More information, and to register, indian museum.org/events.

Tuesday, May 9, 10:00 am. The Plant Stand Opens for the Season at the John Hay Estate at The Fells, Newbury, NH. More information, https://thefells.org/.

Wednesday, May 17, 6:30 pm. Composting at Pillsbury Free Library, Warner, **NH**. If you aren't already composting, come find out why you should be and how easy it is to get started. More information, https://www.facebook.com/pillsburyfreelibrary.

Sunday, May 7, 3:00 pm. Community Reading of Charles Simic Poems at the Hopkinton Town Library in Contoocook, NH. More information, call 603-370-0034.

Saturday, June 17, 2023, 12:00 pm. Black Heritage Trail of New Hampshire's highly anticipated Reggae Festival, "Chanting Down Babylon: Redemption Songs of the Diaspora." The Reggae festival is held at Strawbery Banke Museum's park in Portsmouth, NH. Tickets go on sale May 1. More information, https://blackheritagetrailnh. org/reggae-festival/.

HAVE AN EVENT TO SHARE? SUBMIT HAPPENINGS TO BRADFORDBRIDGE345@GMAIL.COM

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# Out & About: Sprouts & Foxes



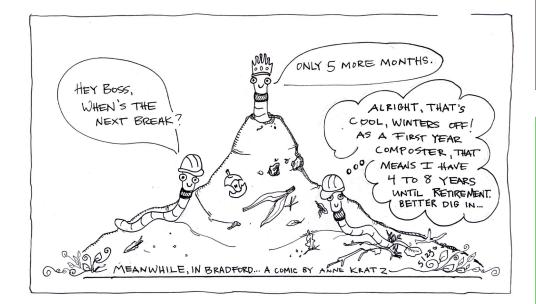
The closeup of the forest floor from Libby Curtis with her reminder, "So much green all over our landscape as Spring awakens. Don't forget to slow down and appreciate the little sprouts too!"



In late March, Carol Meise caught this fox rolling

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. An accompanying caption would be nice. Please submit the images in .jpg or .jpeg format.

Kathleen Bigford



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