



THE BRADFORD BRIDGE

PROFILE

Chris Lincoln
Forester
see page 13

Volume 4, Number 12

Community News - By and for our neighbors

December 1994

Holiday Festivities in Bradford on December 3 by Deborah Lamach

On Saturday, December 3, Main Street in Bradford will be the center of activity for holiday festivities. The day begins at 10:00 am at the First Baptist Church, with their annual Advent Crafts Program for children of all ages. Crafts available include making evergreen swags, Christmas ornaments, and candy and cookie making.

At 1:00, the Friends of Brown Memorial Library will host New Hampshire author Mary Lyn Ray, who will present a program and book signing for children grades K to 4 at the Library.

Santa's Outlet, a shopping opportunity geared to children, will be open at the Town hall from 2:00 to 6:00. Gift items are priced for children's pocketbooks. Sponsored by the Bradford/Newbury Kindergarten, they will also have refreshments available.

Bradford's traditional holiday story-telling hour will be at the library at 3:00.

The "Hanging of the Greens" will take place at the First Baptist Church at 4:30.

At 4:00, Santa will visit the Town Hall, with cocoa and cookies provided by the Bradford Women's Club. Lighting of the Christmas tree on the library lawn will be at 5:00.

A ham and bean supper will be served at the church beginning at 6:00, sponsored by the House Committee of the First Baptist Church. The day will close with the singing of Christmas carols in the sanctuary of the church following the supper.



This view of Bradford Center is taken looking south, probably early in this century, during the period when much of the local area was cleared. From Steve Hansen's collection. See related article on New Hampshire woodlands, page 11.

Business Visitation Program to help Business Association by Sherry Ciomitz

Cary Gladstone of the NH Business Visitation Program spoke at the Bradford Business Association meeting, held on November 21 at the Candlelite Inn. After his presentation, members unanimously voted to pursue the Business Visitation Program. The Board of Directors will decide how to proceed at its next meeting and report back to the membership at the next regular meeting on December 19.

Gladstone reiterated help first described at the Bradford in the Year 2000 Forum. The program, a part of the State of New Hampshire Dept. of Resources and Economic Development, is sponsored by a number of New Hampshire businesses. According to its brochure, "The Business Visitation Program is a locally implemented business retention and

■ See VISITATION, page 16

Lumber Barn burglary still unsolved

On November 16, another Bradford business was burglarized. The Lumber Barn sustained a major loss when it was broken into in the early hours of the morning. The alarm was activated at 1:52 am, while the State Police were covering the town. They were unable to respond immediately because the troopers covering this area (Lebanon to Hooksett) were involved with an arrest in Concord. When the State Police arrived at approximately 2:30, they reported that "The premises are secure." and left the area. When John Mock arrived to open for business, he discovered the break-in and contacted county dispatch, who in turn contacted Chief Grindle. Mr. Mock lost a large number of tools, including several chain saws, and an amount of cash.

This burglary, again, occurred while the State Police were covering for the town and no Bradford officer was on duty. Even though

■ See BLUE, page 10

Two volunteer to head Master Plan update

Responding to the Planning Board's ad for a program manager to coordinate updating Bradford's Master Plan, Glen Mayo and Dick Whall offered to serve as co-managers for the project. They met with the Planning Board on November 8 to discuss the job requirements and officially offered their services — and had them accepted — at the meeting on the 22nd. Mayo and Whall are in the process of developing a method of approaching the project, which they will present to the Planning Board for its consideration on December 13.

The Planning Board also discussed its proposed 1995 budget on the 22nd. Tammara Van Ryn submitted a two-year appropriation plan for the master plan project, which was agreed to by the Board and will be submitted as a warrant article.

Living in Bradford

More Bradford Christmas Events

Messiah Sing-Along
December 11, 3:30
First Baptist Church

Room in the Inn Musical

December 10, 7:00
Sutton Town Hall

Christmas Tea
Rosewood Country Inn
December 10 & 11, 4:00
Call 938-5253
for reservations

News from Soo-Nipi Audubon Chapter

"It's a Wild, Wild Winter." Join Audubon Society of New Hampshire field biologist Mark Suomala for this slide program on recognizing the clues and signs left in the snow by New Hampshire wildlife. The chapter meeting will be held on Friday, December 9, 7:30 pm, at St. Andrews Episcopal Church on Gould Road in New London. Suomala will discuss basic tracking terms and show examples of various track groups. Included will be natural history highlights of many wildlife species.

On Saturday, December 17, the Soo-Nipi Audubon Chapter will participate in its fifth annual Christmas Bird Count in a program sponsored by the National Audubon Society. The results of this census will be listed in a publication entitled, "American Birds." Teams of observers will be scheduled to cover the towns of Sunapee, New London, and Newbury. More volunteers are always needed, especially to establish bird counts in neighboring communities. This exercise is not physically demanding as travel is by automobile, with participants stopping to observe birds in fields, roadsides, waterways, and feeders. Volunteers may elect to spend the day tracking birds at their own feeders. Contact chairman, Gary Stansfield at 763-7462 if you can help. --Phyllis Curtiss

We cordially invite you to attend a
**CHRISTMAS
CANDLELIGHT
TEA**

Saturday, December 10 at 4:00 pm

OR

Sunday, December 11 at 4:00 pm

at the

ROSEWOOD INN

Holiday music by ..

"Simple Gifts" -- Harp & Flute

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Proceeds to benefit KRES

Post Office, Bradford

Have you been to the Post Office in the past two months? Have you seen a change or noticed a new employee behind the counter? If not, you will in the weeks ahead, because the Bradford Post Office has lost two of its part-time clerks, Barbara Burns and Judy Whitney. Each had ten years of experience in Bradford. Barbara is going to the Contoocook Post Office and Judy is going to Concord.

As Postmaster, Mr. Ripberger said that these were two of the best employees he's ever worked with, always trying to give their customers the best service. Remember that minute when the door was being locked and you needed your mail ... they'd hold the door open and even retrieve a package. Barbara and Judy, "Thank you" and "good luck" with your new jobs.

Address changes: Yes, the Bradford Post Office is changing the mailing addresses from RR 1 Box # to your house number and street name, as of January 1, 1995. The addresses are coded already in the postal system and you can use them even today. This is a very good time to give your family and loved ones your new mailing address when you're mailing out Christmas cards.

Just remember that in your address, there will be no more using RR 1 or the word "box." "Box" will only be used by post office box holder customers.

The Bradford Post Office will be open additional hours during the holidays. On Saturdays December 10 and 17, the post office will be open from 7:30 am to 1:00 pm. Also, between December 12 and 22, window service will be open through the lunch hour, closing only 1:00-1:30 for our lunch. We hope this will help you, our customers.

**DUMONT'S
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Wednesdays 8:00 -6:00

Main Street Denis Dumont, Owner

News from the Town Clerk & Tax Collector's office

TOWN CLERK

There were no vital records to report for the month of November.

TAX COLLECTOR

The second half tax bills are due on December 2, 1994. Interest at 12% will start accruing on the 3rd. The taxes have been coming in at a brisk rate. Back taxes are also being paid off with some regularity.

TAX COLLECTOR/TOWN CLERK

Marilyn and I wish you all a very merry holiday season, and hope Santa makes all your wishes come true.

Office hours: Monday, 2:00-7:00; Tuesday, 8:00-5:00; Friday, 8:00-noon. Telephone 938-2288, 938-2094. --Sue Pehrson

DICKENS VILLAGE

Foxchase Retirement Home cordially invites young and old to see a model of 1840's London, featuring characters from Dickens' novels. Open housees are Sundays, December 4, 11, and 18 from 2:00-4:00 and Wednesdays, December 7, 14 and 21 from 2:00-4:00 and 7:00-8:00. Groups may call for other times. Voluntary donations benefit Lake Sunapee Area Visiting Nurses Association Food Pantry. (Foxchase is located on Route 144 in South Sutton. Telephone 938-5111.



Bradford Bridge Subscriptions

For those wishing to receive the Bradford Bridge by mail, the annual subscription price is \$10. To subscribe, please send a check to the address below.

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PUBLIC DISCUSSION

Needs and Possibilities for Water and Sewer in Bradford

Tom Clark, Rural Community Assistance Program

**will be at the Town Hall
Thursday, December 8 at 7:30 pm**

at the invitation of the Selectmen.

All residents are invited to come and participate.

Children's author comes to Bradford library

New Hampshire children's author, Mary Lyn Ray of South Danbury, will be the featured speaker at the Friends of the Library's "Meet Your Neighbors" program on Saturday, December 3 at 1:00 at the Library. Ray will talk with children (designed for grades K-4) about writing stories. She will also read from her new books, *Pianna* and *Alva and Arvilla*.

Mary Lyn Ray was born in Louisiana and grew up in Little Rock, Arkansas. She left the south when she came east to school in 1964. In 1968, she received an A.B. in American Studies from Smith College. In 1970, she received an M.A. in Early American Arts and Culture from the University of Delaware, where she was a Wintertur Fellow.

For ten years, she worked in several major American museums, enjoying her involvement in the visual and performing arts, membership and education programs, and exhibit design. "But," she said, "writing finally won. My nose has always smelled the craft and art in writing; I've always felt some mysterious link with language. As a child, I loved to hear the song in words."

Her first book, *Pumpkins*, came out in 1992 - a story which is very autobiographical, except that the story comes quickly to a happy ending. She commented, "Real life requires believing enough to persevere when things don't work out easily in 32 pages."

The free talk and book signing is one of several events happening on December 3 during "Christmas in Bradford" festivities on Main Street. For more information, call 938-5948.

428-7076

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Henniker Mini-Mall Nancy Wright
Main St., Henniker Manager

First Annual Messiah Sing-Along

On December 11 at 3:30, all are welcome to join neighbors and friends in singing Handel's *Messiah* at the Bradford Baptist Church. Ernie Mills, choirmaster at the high school, will be the conductor and Joe Chapline, from the Concord Episcopal Church, will be the organist. The event is free. Come as you are and come join in!
-Sherry Chomitz

BWC Update

If you think you missed it, you didn't ... the Bradford Women's Club Fair, that is. The BWC had an exceptionally good fair Thanksgiving weekend. Because we still have some very reasonable crafts, we will be open every day until Christmas. Come buy or browse, find a gift, or just stop to say hello. We have handmade gifts, dried arrangements, greeting cards, candles, and "Sweet Patch" gifts. Open weekdays when Ann is there, weekends 12:00-3:00.

Winners for the chance prizes were: Kathy McKenna, live decorated Christmas tree; Clare Bensley, gingerbread house; Elinor Harris, stuffed hippo; Peg Wurtz of Warner won the door prize, a hanging poinsettia donated by Marlene's Florist Shoppe. The hand-painted milk can will be raffled later in December. Chances are still available.



Alabama comes to the BWC Holiday Fair, by Clare Bensley

The Bradford Women's Club Holiday Crafts and Antiques Fair, held November 25 and 26, once again heralded the start of the Christmas season.

The fair, which is the Women's Club's main fund-raiser, has been held in recent years at Ann Hallahan's real estate office by the Bement Bridge. This year approximately 30 people consigned crafts and antiques to be sold at the fair. A percentage of sales is taken by the Women's Club to support its many community projects ... lighting the Christmas tree by the library, preparing holiday gift baskets for shut-ins, providing swimming lessons for young children, and awarding a \$1,000 scholarship annually for higher education.

Among the exhibitors this year was Martha Von Redlich, who arrived in Bradford this past June from Montgomery, Alabama. She spent 13 years in Alabama as Director of Arts and Crafts at two Air Force bases. Martha is a skilled artisan, specializing in ceramics, large stuffed animals, and horse models. During her professional career, she even ran a 20-bay auto body repair shop.

Martha has always loved horses and her two favorites can be seen grazing the fields by her home on Pleasant View Road. She specializes in miniature horse replicas, many of which she ships to horse fanciers all over the world.

Ever since Martha graduated from high school in Manchester and moved from the area, she has been planning a return to New England. After retiring from the Civil Service, Martha has finally arrived back home, where she plans to continue her craft work and horse raising.

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State House News

by Marcia Keller

Before the new Legislature takes office for the 1995/1996 Biennium in January, several laws enacted by outgoing legislature may be of interest. You have already seen two of them implemented. The recent tax bills contained a notice regarding possible tax exemptions for which certain residents may be eligible. The new law (Chapter 45) was enacted to call taxpayers' attention to existing and possible exemptions. Forms for application and details on the criteria for each type of exemption are available at the Selectmen's office.

Adoption of the exemption for totally and permanently disabled, as provided by RSA 72:37-b, requires approval by Town Meeting. An article requesting this approval must be placed on the warrant, either by the selectmen or by petition.

The November ballot included the question required by Chapter 106 asking whether or not the voters wished to have the polls for State elections open at 8:00 am rather than the town's usual 10:00 am opening. A majority of Bradford voters chose the earlier time. The decision must now be made whether to also open the polls at 8:00 am for local elections.

Additional authority was provided to boards of selectmen by two new laws. The first, Chapter 80, establishes a procedure to designate a portion of a Class VI road an "emergency lane," thus permitting minimal maintenance. A public hearing and a finding of a "public need" is required prior to such a designation.

Chapter 99 allows boards of selectmen to vote to license cats, as dogs are now licensed. Such a requirement would also involve some form of identification, such as a tattoo, collar, or ear tag. Effective January 1, 1995, Chapter 353 requires veterinarians to send a copy of rabies certificates to the town clerk and expands the clerk's duties regarding notice of unlicensed dogs to owners and local law enforcement officers. Licensing fees and fines are increased by this law.

Chapter 364 provides a far-reaching opportunity for communities to improve the collection and disposal of waste oil. A grant program, funded by a new fee assessed on automotive oil imported to the state, can be used to pay up to \$1,500 toward the cost of establishing or improving used oil collection centers at public facilities. Research into the use of such a grant could be very beneficial to the future handling of this material.

Room in the Inn

Area families are invited to a benefit Christmas musical, featuring children from Bradford, Warner, Sutton and Newbury. The "Compassionate Kids" will present the traditional Nativity story as seen through the eyes of today's homeless. Singing of carols will precede the program. Bradford youth performing in this play include Bree Johnson, Rachel Brooks, Melissa Herbert, and Tate Sweetbrown.

There is no admission charge, but donations will be gratefully accepted for the benefit selected by the children. They would like to help local families in need who are expecting a baby by supplying used cribs.

Join your neighbors this holiday season at the Sutton Town Hall in Sutton Mills on Saturday, December 10, 7:00-8:00.

--Laurie Sweet Brown

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Bradford-Newbury Community Workshop

The Bradford-Newbury Community Workshop will meet on Thursday, December 8 at 11:00 at the So. Newbury Friendship House. This month's project is to make gift packages for the homeless.

At noon, we will have our Christmas potluck luncheon and holiday celebration. New members are always welcome. --Clare Bensley



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**Santa's Outlet presented by
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Penlights, screw drivers, marionettes and dinosaur stamps will be available for purchase at Santa's Outlet on Saturday, December 3 from 2:00-6:00 at the Town Hall. Santa's Outlet is an event geared for children ages 4 through 10. Children may come to the kindergarten room to purchase small gifts for family members, play, and sip warm cider with their parents.

The public is invited to attend our annual holiday sing at 6:30, December 13 at the Town Hall. This is a chance for grandparents, parents, aunts and uncles, cousins and friends to hear the preschool and kindergarten children sing songs taught to them by Mrs. Kingsbury and their music teacher, Kathy Lowe Block. The children will also be singing for the residents of the Fox Chase Home on December 20.

Our Thanksgiving fund-raiser was a great success. Ginny Farnsworth of Bellows Falls, Vermont was the grand winner of the Thanksgiving holiday food basket. A warm thank-you to everyone who purchased raffle tickets and our homemade pies. We are again indebted to our friend and local businessman, Bob Raymond, for his continuous support of our school. Thanks, Bo!

All the staff, parents and children at BNKP wish everyone a warm and wonderful holiday. --Mary Keegan-Dayton


**Friday night community center will
open in January**

The Bradford Recreation Committee will sponsor a community center at the town hall on Friday nights, beginning January 13. The center will be open from 7:00 to 10:00 pm and all are invited to participate. Committee chairman Debra Johnson describes the purpose of the community center to bring Bradford people of all ages together in a relaxed atmosphere with games and music. There will be a CD player available and people are invited to bring their favorite music.

The committee has acquired one ping pong table and would like another one. Other donations they would gratefully accept include a television, VCR, CD player, card tables, chess sets, checker sets, and board games. If you have any items to donate, ideas for the center, or are interested in helping, please call Debra Johnson at 938-2837.

Secretarial Services

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Patricia Dugdale 938-5407

**Every child deserves a merry
Christmas**

Thanksgiving is over. As the first snowflakes start to fall and the temperatures dips, the weather puts us all in the holiday spirit. The kitchen smells of gingerbread and cinnamon ... and there's a crackling fire in the fireplace. On the table is a stack of gifts waiting to be wrapped as Handel's *Messiah* plans in the background. Yes, it's a "wonderful life" ... but it isn't everyone's. Not all children get to tape a wish list on the frig. For some children, it won't be a merry Christmas. There won't be any gifts under the tree on Christmas morning.

Hard to imagine, but some children have to stay inside during recess and lunch because they don't have a warm jacket, or a hat and mittens. Through the generosity of local businesses and neighbors, the Rosewood Country Inn was able to donate \$400 in proceeds from the 1993 Christmas Tea to needy children in the Kearsarge Regional elementary schools. In the "spirit of the season," please help. We need your support. This year's Christmas Teas will be held on Saturday, December 10 and Sunday, December 11. Call Lesley Marquis at the Rosewood, 938-5253, to make reservations to attend one of the teas or to make a donation.

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Historical Society open Saturdays

The Old Post Office Bradford Historical Society building will continue to be open on Saturdays, 1:30 - 3:00 ... weather permitting ... and other times "by chance." Call 938-5386 for "by chance" times.

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Church News

from Lynne E. Hubley

Another busy month in the life of the church is upon us. It doesn't seem possible that December is here. Family Advent Day is Saturday, December 3. From 10:00 until noon, residents are welcome to come to the church vestry and make evergreen swags, homemade candy, Christmas cookies, and ornaments. From 4:30 to 5:45, we will be decorating our church home for the Christmas season. At 6:00, the House Committee is putting on a Ham and Bean Supper. Cost for the meal is \$5.00, adults, and \$3.00, children. A Christmas hymn sing will follow the dinner.

On December 4, we will be receiving a special offering for retired ministers and missionaries. Membership classes will be held on this date, as well, at 7:30, at the parsonage. Six people have expressed interest in joining our church family.

Our Wednesday evening support group will be taking a break for the holidays. Their last meeting for 1994 will be December 7 at the home of Carolyn Grindle for a holiday party. The group will resume meeting on January 4, 1995.

Our youth groups have been very active. They met twice during November and enjoyed the following activities: Thanksgiving treasure hunt, make-your-own pizza party, a Mad Relay, sharing about our Thanksgiving traditions, an Advent Treasure Hunt, games of Christmas Confusion, Christmas Trivia, and Wink. Special trips are being planned for December. On De-

ember 10, grades 4-6 will go to see a Christmas movie (hopefully Miracle on 34th Street). On December 11, grades 7-12 will travel to Strawberry Banke in Portsmouth to see the Christmas lights.

The American Baptist Women's Ministry will visit the Shrine of La Sallette in Enfield on Sunday, December 11 at 3:45. They are also planning for the next fair and are asking members to bring jewelry to their December 6 meeting.

The Women's Christian Guild will meet Monday, December 19 at 10:00 am to wrap presents for their Christmas family. The gift wrapping will be followed by a pot luck luncheon and delivery of the Christmas gifts. "Christmas Customs in Other Lands" will be the topic of discussion. Members are asked to share their knowledge of different Christmas traditions. Guests are always welcome.

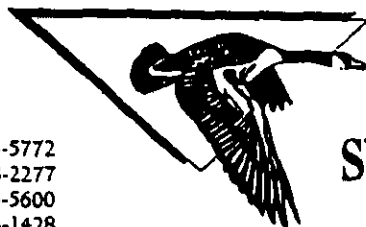
This month we nominate as Angel of the Month our own Lucille Shevett. Lucille has been instrumental in seeing that the coffee fellowship hour flourishes with food and hospitality. Lucille is a member of the Diaconate Board and a member of the House Committee. Lucille is a great lady with a great sense of humor. We thank her for all the things she does.

We have started naming a "Special Friend of the Month," someone in our community who is not able to get out. This month, Lena Bagley is our special friend.

On December 24 at 7:00 pm, we will have our Christmas Eve worship service. The Christmas story will be told through a Children's Christmas Pageant. There will be a mini Christmas message as well as lots of Christmas hymns.


On behalf of First Baptist Church, we wish you all a wonderful holiday season.


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Bradford Business Association counts its blessings, by Sherry Chomitz

'Twas the season to be thankful at the November 21 meeting of the Bradford Business Association, held at the Candlelite Inn. President Peter Fenton took pause and counted up the list of accomplishments this baby organization has produced in its scant ten months of existence. To wit, we start with former president Perley Strout's legacy: the Welcome to Bradford brochures listing BBA members and providing an introduction to all tourists and newcomers to town. Early on, the group arranged for Welcome Wagon baskets to be delivered to new residents and flower barrels to brighten up Bradford's byways. Welcome to Bradford signs and the upcoming Adopt-A-Highway on Route 103 show everyone passing through that the organization cares about its town.

Summer activities were highlighted by the BBA-sponsored band-on-a-float in the

Fourth of July parade. And who can forget the first annual Cow Flop?! On a more practical note, the Bradford Business Association is now producing an information sheet for residents and donated advertising to the recent Rescue Squad calendar. Speakers figure importantly in members meeting, allowing useful information to be passed from Dave Carrier (speaking on legislation affecting small business), Glen Wallace (providing insight into the currently raging emissions debate) and Cary

Gladstone (offering FREE help from the state on identifying and correcting business concerns).

Winter activities will include both a Christmas decorating contest for business and residential buildings and a skating party with bonfire to be held in January. The association also celebrates its first birthday in January. The next monthly meeting will be held at the Rosewood Country Inn on December 19 at 7:00. Keep up the good work, Bradford Business Association!!



Winter festivities in Bradford are an old tradition. Winter carnival was a popular event every February between 1927 and 1946 or later. The carnival included a parade with floats, most pulled by horses. The 1934 parade had 57 floats and extended for more than a mile. Competitions were held, including ski races, skating contests, snow shoe races, and wood chopping contests. In the evening, there was a masquerade ball, at which a Carnival Queen was crowned. This photo, probably taken in the mid-30's, shows a portion of the parade, extending from the church down Main Street toward Dodge's Store. Photo from Steve Hansen's collection. Steve is assembling a display of winter carnival photographs, to be exhibited in the library.

Merrimack Farm & Country Store

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Main Street

A Point of View

by Luanne Mayo

It's only 22 days until the winter solstice, when each day will be a bit longer. Perhaps this natural phenomena will start to lift our spirits. I do indeed know that December the 22nd is the beginning of winter and that most people dread the deep freeze and the nasty weather. To me it is a beginning that leads into spring.

Perhaps this year the lengthening days will lead me out of the malaise that has descended upon my spirits. The political and global disasters that have been our daily fare have been thoroughly depressing to me. Our world is, at this time, the host of over 32 wars (not my statistics). We sell, then ship, weapons, to almost anyone who has the cash or will to buy. This certainly is not altruism, it's finance.

Politicians started slinging mud, and any other handy weapon, at each other long before the fall elections. This certainly wasn't either instructive or valuable to the voters ... it was for power, not necessarily for our good.

The "media" no longer reports the news; they report whatever is the most sensational - whatever will sell. They have become "news makers." This certainly isn't to inform, it is finance and power.

Suspects in any sort of crime are guilty until proven innocent. Throw them in jail and lose the keys! This certainly isn't the way our forefathers meant our laws to be interpreted or executed.

We the people seem to have lost the way and are allowing "them" to set the stand-

ard. We, the people as a whole, seem to have lost our pride, our self determination, and our will to make sure that whatever is done in our name is done correctly and legally. ... Wow, I knew my spirit had sunk, but I had no idea it was that bad!

We had an interesting experience last week when we attended a musical show. At the end of the presentation, the band launched into *God Bless America*. To my great astonishment the audience, as a whole, rose to their feet and sang. They really belted out the words. For me it was overwhelming. I just sat there like a dummy with tears running down my face.

So, the spark is still there! The days will get longer! There will be a star in the East. And if we are vigilant, perhaps there will be Peace on Earth.

Selectman Marcia Keller elected to NH Municipal Association Executive Committee

At the November 1994 New Hampshire Municipal Association annual meeting, Marcia Keller was elected to serve on its Executive Committee. The Association is governed by the Executive Committee, which is made up of officers and 22 local officials, including at least one from each county, elected at the Association's annual meeting.

The Municipal Association was incorporated in 1941 by a group of town and city officials as a non-profit and non-partisan membership organization of municipalities. NHMA was initially organized for the purpose of exchanging information and experience in the interest of better local government through periodic meetings of officials, which served both social and governmental purposes. Over its history, NHMA has evolved into an aggressive service and action arm for New Hampshire local governments and an organization recognized throughout the state for its unique services to communities and their citizens.



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In and About the KRSD, by Dick Keller, Bradford School Board Rep

With Thanksgiving over, it won't be long before Christmas. Just four weeks and the school doors close for the long vacation. But that's jumping ahead, so let's go back for a moment to all the activities of this past month. November's full schedule required overlapping to work everything in.

Among the highlights of school activities was the Colonial Fair put on by the 6th grade on November 17, followed by the Middle School Drama Club's presentation of *A Little Princess* on the 18th and 19th. The High School Drama Club's offering was *The Jury Room*, also on the 18th and 19th. If you were among those attending, you know what a great job our students and staff do with these extra curricular activities.

An outline budget was presented to the Board on the 17th. A \$210,864 or 1.6% increase over last year reflects proposed increases in instructional supplies and materials, enrichment programs, special education and administrative salaries. The proposed instructional salaries account is down. Adjustments for salary increases for teachers, special programs, and revised debt service for the proposed addition to the high school were not included in this outline. The special programs, which include expansion of Mindstretch, an additional first grade teacher at Simonds, linking into a computer communication network, updating the high school science labs, and additional special education aides, would add another \$210,000 to the budget.

Holding the School Board salary line increase to zero was made in jest, but this approach, considering the background [ongoing apportionment] problems still to be resolved in the District, may need to be applied across the board.

The High School Building Study Committee met three times during the month. On the 17th, architect Clint Sheer outlined the project to date for the Board. Based on interviews with staff and administration, re-

views of the present facility, projected needs, and standard space guidelines, 35,200 square feet will need to be added to the present 77,300 square feet. The design shows the building fronting on Mastin Road, with what is now the front facing athletic fields modified from last year's proposal. Sheer refused to venture into project costs at this early phase of the planning process.

Is the addition needed? At the present time, high school enrollment is at the recommended capacity of 500 students. The next four year group, currently in grades 5-8, has 678 students. Will this be the trend for the District, with a gradual increase in population, or will we be accommodating a bubble? Not only will we have a problem over the foreseeable period, but logic would support an increase in population. As the proposal develops, public meetings will be scheduled throughout the District. Remember, all committee meetings are open to the public. See the *Bridge* calendar for time and place.

A dinner meeting of Early Childhood Connections was held at Colby Sawyer College on the 18th. This organization, jointly sponsored by the District and the area kindergartens, was formed to provide a medium for communication among the kindergartens themselves and between the kindergartens and the District. In addition to the valuable interchanges that occurred before and during the dinner, the group heard from Maureen Prohl, District speech/language pathologist, and Dr. Margaret Copeland, faculty member at Wheelock College and an expert on early childhood development.

The Board was treated to a presentation of the JTPA/KARP summer program. JTPA (Job Training Partnership Act) and KARP (Kearsarge Area Recreational Program) merged in 1993 to provide job training for young counselors in connection with the six-week summer camp experience offered for young children. The program is the recipient of the Exemplary Performance

award given by the NH Job Training Council.

Superintendent Jean Richards was recognized this past month as a participant at a national conference, held in Monterey, California, that focused on school assessment. As chair of the NH Assessment Council for Administration, Dr. Richards represented the state.

Other Board business included approval of the promotion/retention policy and the field trip policy, grades 1-8 curricula for language arts and physical education/health, and job descriptions for school psychologist and middle school assistant principal.

With the elections over, the State Board of Education released the results of the state-wide grade 3 tests that were given back in May. Proficiency was rated at four levels: advanced, proficient, basic, and novice. 140 students took the language arts test. Student ratings were: 0 advanced, 15 proficient, 83 basic, and 42 novice. 144 students took the mathematics test. Student ratings were: 6 advanced, 36 proficient, 70 basic, and 32 novice.

Testing for grade 3 will be conducted again in May 1995, along with pilot testing for grades 6 and 10 in English/language arts, math, science, and social studies.

The District will soon distribute the first edition of the Kearsarge Chronicle, another step in the attempt to communicate what is happening in the District. Be on the lookout for this new publication.

I'd like to wish each and every one of you a very happy holiday season and a fulfilling 1995.

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Blue News, continued from pg 1
by Kathy Grindle

the PD has staggered its schedule so that the same hours are not covered by State Police each week, there still remain periods of time when no Bradford officer is available.

The PD is continuing its investigation into the recent burglaries. We have contacted several departments concerning similar incidents in other towns. As of now, there are no suspects. Anyone who may have information is asked to contact the PD. All information will be kept confidential.

The Chief has also been in touch with the Bradford Business Association to try to schedule some time at an upcoming meeting to discuss these recent problems.

On November 23, the house of a part-time resident was entered, though nothing was taken. The incident was reported to the PD by a neighbor, who noticed a door ajar.

101 incidents have been reported in November through the 28th. This includes 14 assists to other departments, rescues, etc.; 8 unsecured premises; 5 animal complaints, and 2 domestic incidents.

The Bradford Police would like to wish all of you a safe and happy holiday season.

Bicentennial Quilt takes a rest
by Frances Winch

Some of you may have noticed that the Bicentennial Quilt is gone from the Town Hall. It is in storage, wrapped in a sheet. Several people had mentioned to me and other members of the Quilt Committee, that it was dusty and seemed to be fading. In short, something needed to be done.

Those residents who were here during the Bicentennial celebration remember that Betty Cilley wrote to several of us who were quilters and charged us with coming up with a wall hanging that would reflect the town and its history. So, we met and designed what you have seen hanging in the Town Hall stairway. Its execution took six of us, plus many individuals who designed and quilted a single square, three years to complete. We urge everyone to go to the library and look at the notebooks Shirley Scribner made of this project. She recorded every meeting, complete with the hostess, day's temperature, and a recipe for what was served with the coffee. More importantly, she wrote just how these squares came out of ideas and designs from the people who made them.

Now we are researching what should be done to preserve it safely, clean it where necessary, and fund both the money and the know-how to make a plexi-glass case so dust will not be a factor again. The NH Historical Society has been very helpful and sent us do's and don'ts for preserving textiles. So—we are working and hope to get it back on display in a few months.

MEANTIME, be thinking about it and just where we can get the necessary financing for this important historical document, which is housed in a National Register building. Yes, **OUR TOWN HALL IS ON THE NATIONAL REGISTER!**

**ALLEGRO
CON
MOTOR**



by Chris Chomitz

By now you may have noticed that a few vehicles in town have sprouted huge yellow protuberances. This occurrence in nature (as we see it) usually brings about very cold weather and snow.

Winter is one season only, marginally covered by the phrase "all season" (i.e. tires). Real winter tires are what's needed to go — or especially to stop! — in snow. While the advent of front-drive cars has increased everyone's ability to get out on the road in near white-out conditions, stopping while staying in control and without the assistance of immovable objects is still a chore.

Snow tires help. A great deal. The decision to use snow tires was once easy: Two ... on the back ... studded or not usually depended upon how loud the radio could be played. Then they changed the cars. Sure, for a while it just means that the two tires went on the other end. Simple. Forget the studs though. Aside from being louder and affecting steering, studded front (only) snow tires meant that you could be afforded a panoramic view every time you touched the middle pedal. The rear wheels, with no traction and little weight, would simply stop rotating ... oops!

We needed a new technical buzzword or two to fix this problem. How about AWD? A.B.S.? Aha! All-wheel-drive, all-season tires, great match. Now we can venture out in weather we never dreamed of taking on before. But if you prefer to do your skiing on the slopes, rather than on the highways, snow tires still help when it's time to stop. Now, though, you need four.

Is your vehicle equipped with A.B.S.? If it is, not only do all of your tires need to be of equal size and wear, but when using snow tires, you **MUST** use four. This method is necessary so that the A.B.S. system will not be fooled into operation too often (by a skidding rear wheel, perhaps) during winter driving. It's a great system for maintaining control when it becomes necessary to stop A.S.A.P., but when it operates under otherwise normal conditions, the distance it takes to come to a stop is greater. Is it worth the expense? The initial cost can be high, but remember you'll be reducing the wear and extending the life of your "regular" tires. They'll also be rotated at least once a year to optimize wear patterns and extend useful life.

The decision, of course, is up to you. I do know one thing, though. The snow plows are in bloom and winter weather can't be far behind.

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**The Forests of New Hampshire ...
a growing resource**

Here in New Hampshire, forests surround us. We drive to work on tree-lined roads. Many of us lived on wooded lots. It's easy to take trees for granted. But in this month when many of us will make a balsam fir or a scotch pine the centerpiece of our holiday festivities, it seemed a good time to take a closer look at our New Hampshire woods.

New Hampshire is the second most densely forested state in the country (Maine is number one), but it wasn't always so. For its first 200 years, settlers, farmers, and loggers cleared our forest land, turning it into pastures, farms, small communities, and barren open spaces. By 1850, 70 percent of the state south of the White Mountains was cleared for farming. Then, as they gained easier access to the Midwest, farmers abandoned the rocky New Hampshire land for gentler terrain. Industrialization was also a factor contributing to the decline of farming. And the renewal of our forests began.

Between 1850 and 1900, the abandoned fields and pastures provided ideal seedbeds



Photo by Luanne Mayo

for the relatively light-seeded white pine. Sawmills were then established to harvest this timber. The forest industries also moved into the White Mountains and northern New Hampshire during this period. "Letting daylight into the swamp" was the common term for this large-scale cutting.

Then during the early 1900s, extensive forest fires swept through the cutover areas. Government officials and the general public were alarmed. The public outcry was a factor in the 1910 formation of the New Hampshire Forestry Commission. The efforts of that commission resulted in the establishment of the first N.H. State Forest and a statewide fire warden system. During this same period, the White Mountain National Forest was created, containing 705,798 acres in New Hampshire and 47,283 acres in Maine.

Heavy forest cutting continued through the 1920s. But, with the onset of the Depression in 1929, the demand for building materials declined as did timber harvesting. That meant a period of forest growth during the 1930s. Previously clear-cut areas

and abandoned fields which had seeded to white pine were now approaching maturity.

Then came a major natural disaster, the 1938 hurricane. This September storm blew down two billion board feet of timber in New England, mostly shallow-rooted white pine. An emergency program was initiated by the U.S. Forest Service and N.H. state foresters to salvage an estimated one billion board feet of downed timber. Most of the sawn lumber went into the war effort in the early 1940s.

During World War II, there was a strong demand for wood products. The primary product was wooden boxes for transporting munitions. Sawmill activity increased, and large-scale timber harvesting again accelerated. In the late 1940s, annual cuts of more than 350 million board feet of white pine were common. More than 700 sawmills were active in the state. As the timber supply declined in the 1960s, the number of sawmills dropped to 135, and the timber harvest was reduced to 150 million board feet per year.

Today our forests are denser and occupy more land than at any other time since pre-colonial days, 87% of our total land area. They are the basis of our state's fourth largest manufacturing industry, and a major attraction for tourists and vacationers.

\$87 million worth of trees are harvested each year, and still our forests grow by 2-3% per year. In fact, the timber cut this year will be replaced by more than twice as much new growth. The amount of quality sawtimber in our woods is double what it was in the '60s.

With 74 species native to New Hampshire, there is more diversity in our forests than almost anywhere else in North America. White pine of extraordinary high quality makes up more than one fourth of our timberland. Furniture, flooring, paper, toys, siding and pallets ... everything from baseball bats to tongue depressors, rough construction lumber to fine cabinet veneer, can be made from the many types of trees that flourish here.

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Selectmen's meetings in November

October 31 Edna and Jane Herbert met to voice their concerns about the increase in taxes reflected in the October tax bills. Edna commented, "The increase is outrageous. The elderly will have problems staying in their homes." Selectmen expressed sympathy, but said this reflects what was approved at town meeting. Selectman Keller commented, "We told people that increases would result from each vote. What else can we do?"

After weeks of discussion and corrections to the map of town roads with their names and classifications, Selectmen finally approved the map. A copy will be posted in the Town Hall for residents to review.

November 7 Doug Newton, Warner logger working for Conrad Szymkowicz, met to discuss the bond required by the Selectmen for the project on Dunfield Road. Newton commented that bonding is hard on small operators and an unnecessary expense for landowners. Selectman Pickman explained that the reason for the bond is to protect the town. The town cannot work on a class VI road. If a logger leaves a class VI road in need of repair, the town has to hire the work done and the bond covers the cost. If the road is left in acceptable condition, the bond is returned to the landowner. Selectmen denied his request to reduce the bond.

Selectman Signorino reported on the November 3 Facilities Committee meeting. They had just received plans from the Turner Group for regrading the Central School grounds to eliminate a moisture problem in the cellar. The Facilities Committee expressed concern that its role not be as a maintenance committee. Selectmen took under advisement the possibility of having to hire an individual part-time to handle routine maintenance. Signorino reported that the committee is trying to get a

clarification from the state concerning whether the fire chief could waive the requirement for sprinkling the town hall if the staircases are fire-rated.

November 14 Cemetery trustees discussed their 1995 budget, which includes a request for an assistant to Dick Moore to paint fences.

Library trustees discussed their budget, which includes a 4% raise for employees and a warrant item to add to the capital reserve for the library addition.

Jerry Holloway, Car Care of Bradford, met to discuss town ordinance requirements for upgrading his facility to add a second business, a weekly auction. Holloway had been told by the ZBA and Planning Board that a special exception and variance would be required. Code Enforcement Officer Perry Teele commented that the application process had been streamlined to make it easier and quicker to complete. Holloway commented that these regulations reflected an attitude that businesses were not welcome in Bradford. Selectmen responded that that was an unfair assessment, that the regulations were in place to treat everyone evenly and fairly. The discussion ended with the Selectmen encouraging Holloway to proceed with the auction plans, but saying they could not help him because the regulations were not under the authority of the Selectmen.

Police Chief Al Grindle met to discuss his budget requirements, which includes the need for an animal control officer. He has had to deal with four sick raccoons in the past month. The Police Department will propose two warrant items, one for a new cruiser and the other for a third full-time officer.

Selectmen reported on their meeting with Provan and Lorber concerning completing

the administration of the CBDG grant. The meeting was called to respond to a letter of concern generated by the Office of State Planning. Provan and Lorber has agreed to finish the record keeping and other matters necessary to make the final disbursement.

November 21 Dave Harling met to discuss maintenance on East Washington Road. He expressed concern that it would wash out again this spring unless the roadbed is built up soon. He was directed to express his concern to the Road Committee.

Selectman Signorino reported that the Facilities Committee had received word from Turner Group code expert Daisy Dunham that many towns face the same problem of not wishing to sprinkle an old town hall and that some town fire chiefs do waive the requirement. Decision was made to ask Fire Chief Mark Goldberg to meet with the Facilities Committee and the Selectmen at the December 1 Facilities meeting to address this matter.

Selectmen discussed the school apportionment proposal presented by the New London Selectmen at the Joint Selectmen's meeting. New London proposed that, if the school budget was reduced to 95% of this year's figure, they would agree to support an adjustment of the formula 5%, from 75:25 to 70:30. The Selectmen agreed that this was an "insignificant concession," but voiced the desire to find some improvement to the formula to present to the voters in 1995.

The Road Committee met to discuss their plans for 1995 road work and the highway budget. Road Agent Anderson discussed his department's need for a new heavy-duty truck.

■ See SELECTMEN, page 13



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SELECTMEN, from page 12

November 28 Steve Griffin, Municipal Resources, Inc., met to discuss the school apportionment issue. The message the Selectmen gave him to take back to New London was, "Go talk some more, and then come back with a real compromise."

Bernie Lamach, a member of the KRSD Budget Committee, asked for input from the Selectmen concerning the New London request to reduce the 1995 school budget to 95% of 1994's operating budget. Selectmen responded that holding the budget to 0% increase was probably more realistic.

Selectmen received a letter from Eastman Steere, chairman of the Facilities Committee, stating that Fire Chief Mark Goldberg would not consider waving the sprinkling requirements for the Town Hall and would not attend the Facilities Committee meeting on December 1. Selectmen agreed that the building still must be upgraded to meet codes, even if the upstairs meeting room cannot hold more than 88 people.



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At Work ~ At Home

by Audrey V. Sylvester

As one of 11 foresters in New England Forestry Consultants, Inc., Chris Lincoln travels throughout New Hampshire and Vermont advising private landowners of small holdings on the best ways to maintain healthy, productive forests. The Consultants' parent organization is the New England Forestry Foundation, the first nonprofit forestry consulting group in New England (formed in 1944) to provide services and public education on forest and land use management.

In preparing a Forest Management Plan for a client, Chris's first task is to make a detailed inventory of the forest through a field survey. He creates systematic plots, measures tree diameters and height, assesses their quality and condition. From this information, the volume of timber per acre and its value is calculated. He draws a forest map which contains information on the land's location, soils, access, wildlife, recreation potential, cultural resources and endangered species. Usually when clients pay for plans, they hire the forester consultant to supervise the recommended work. Chris has observed that during the past five years, many landowners' interests have evolved from harvesting timber into land stewardship, an approach that improves wildlife habitat, protects water quality, and harvests trees.



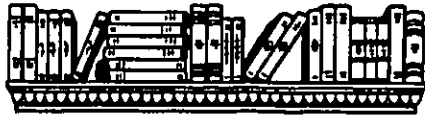
In his senior year of high school, Chris settled an internal debate—to become a forester and work outdoors won over being a journalist and working indoors. After 10 years in the field, he is content with his decision. He said that most of his colleagues went into forestry to be outside and to do something positive in the forest. "Studying has two effects," he commented, "either you fall in love with it, or you fall out with it, because you object to cutting

down trees. I guess I fall somewhere in the middle." Chris completed a dual degree in Forestry and Forest Biology in 1985 from the State University of New York's (SUNY's) Environmental Science and Forestry School, operating on Syracuse University's private campus. Chris met his wife, Tammara VanRyn, while she was completing her forestry degree on the Syracuse campus.

After graduation, they began a complicated journey of finding employment. They each patched together full-time jobs which were, in a sense, uncertain (the economy was taking a downturn and they had applied for the Peace Corps). From 1987 to 1989, they accepted a Peace Corps assignment in Ecuador. Chris found Ecuador to be a fascinating country—geographically, culturally, vegetatively, and climatically very diverse. The size of Colorado, Ecuador has beaches on the Pacific Ocean, some of the highest mountains in the world, the Amazon Rain Forest, and the Galapagos Islands. Chris climbed one of the lower mountains, Tungurahua, reaching the summit at 16,457'. Although he is an avid White Mountain hiker at home, he is in no hurry to climb New Hampshire's 48 4000-footers. Just to be different, he set his own goal—hiking all one kilometer-high (3281') mountains.

When not in the forests or wilderness, Chris finds himself in the garden where the couple grows all their own vegetables. One indoor activity Chris finds intriguing is brewing beer. The varieties in beer making appeal to his independent and inquisitive nature. He compared making beer to making bread—after a while, you no longer need a recipe. Finding unusual ingredients and researching equipment which he equates to a "chemistry set for adults," Chris enjoys the experiments and the end results. Since he began brewing beer one year ago, he has made pilsners, stouts, wheat, strawberry and blueberry beer. He is eager to exchange beer recipes with other brewers.

After returning from the Peace Corps, Chris and Tammara had jobs in Concord and Lebanon. In searching for a permanent location, Bradford seemed to be a convenient. "We're really happy here," he said. "We've felt welcome from the start. We have compared our experience of being a newcomer with friends who have moved into other towns where they have found strong sentiments—outsiders versus natives. We've never felt that distinction in Bradford. We have felt that people were happy to see new faces."



BOOK REVIEW

by Pauline Dishmon

CHRISTMAS AND ITS CUSTOMS
by Christina Hole
M. Barrow & Co., 1958
Available at Brown Memorial Library

Many of our Christmas customs have their roots in pagan ceremonies and this small, dated book takes a reader into past centuries to describe their origins and changes. According to Hole, there has been much controversy about the proper date of Christ's birth and she provides the evolution of the subject.

Our forefathers decorated their houses with evergreens at the winter solstice and lit bonfires in high places to strengthen the reviving sun. In early times, there was a week of celebration called Saturnalia, when candles and green wreaths were given as presents and the streets were crowded with noisy processions ... men and women wearing garlands and carrying lighted tapers.

In the 16th and 17th centuries, pagan origins offended Puritans, who closed churches and disallowed services. During that period, December 25 became an ordinary working day. Those who persisted in treating it as a holy day were fined or imprisoned.

The word "carol" originally meant a ring dance accompanied by a song, unrelated to Christmas. The Christmas carol appeared at the end of the 13th century or early in the 14th. Christmas hymns, however, had existed before, but were in Latin and dealt

with the theological rather than the human aspect of the Incarnation.

The custom of sharing Christmas plenty has prevailed throughout the years. Silesian peasants carried wheat to church on Christmas Day, afterwards feeding it to poultry as protection against evil. In southern Germany, corn was strewn on rooftops. In Sweden, corn was often laid on a wheel on top of a high pole for wild birds.

The book discusses the customs of kissing under the mistletoe, lighting trees, Christmas cards, and special foods, as well as superstitions, i.e., if the first rays of the rising sun struck through apple trees on Christmas morning, a good crop could be expected.

GOOD READING AND HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

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UNH Extension planning 'Master Gardener' efforts in 1995

Are you interested in reviving your green thumb? Do you enjoy sharing your "growing" skills with others?

UNH Cooperative Extension invites you to participate in its successful Master Gardener Program. For the 1995 season, the program will be held in eight counties, including Merrimack.

Applications are now available for this program, with the 15 weeks of training classes scheduled to begin January 17, 9:00-noon, in Concord. Selected participants will be given 45 hours of classroom instruction, receive a Master Gardener handbook, and do some hands-on training.

Classes focus on a variety of topics, from basic botany and soils, to insects and diseases, fruits and vegetables, indoor and outdoor flower gardening, tree and shrub selection and care, and more. Cost for the training and handbook is \$45.

After successfully completing the course, participants are required to volunteer 45 hours of gardening-related activities coordinated through the Cooperative Extension office in the county where they live. Volunteer projects are designed to further extend the horticultural outreach of UNH Cooperative Extension and use the interests and talents of program participants.

To receive an application, contact Charles Williams, Master Gardener coordinator, at UNH Dept. of Plant Biology, 862-3200.

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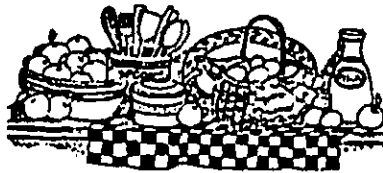
MAIN STREET, BRADFORD

938-2255 OR 938-2256



THE COZY CORNER

by Mildred Schmidt



The magic and excitement of the holiday season is upon us. The recent snow signaled the arrival of winter. The aroma of baking gingerbread cookies adds to the atmosphere. Enjoy the baking as well as the eating ... and have a very merry holiday season.

Gingerbread Kids

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 4 Tbsp butter or marg | 1/2 tsp ground cloves |
| 1/2 C firmly packed brown sugar | 1/2 tsp ginger |
| 1/2 C dark molasses | 1/4 tsp nutmeg |
| 1/4 C water | 1/2 tsp cinnamon |
| 5-6 C flour | raisins |
| 1/2 tsp salt | |
| 1/2 tsp baking powder | |



In a large bowl, blend together the butter and sugar until creamy. Add the molasses and sugar and mix well.

In another bowl, stir together the flour, salt, baking powder, cloves, ginger, nutmeg, and cinnamon. Add one third of the flour mixture to the molasses mixture and mix well. Add half the remaining flour mixture and mix well again. Then add the rest and mix well again. Form the dough into a ball and wrap it in plastic wrap. Chill it in the refrigerator for at least an hour.

Heat oven to 350°. Lightly grease a baking sheet. Divide dough into three portions. Put two portions back in the refrigerator until you are ready to use them.

Roll out a portion of dough onto a lightly floured board, with a lightly floured rolling pin. Roll the dough until it is about 1/8 inch thick. (Measure thickness with a ruler if you like. Cookies that are too thick may not hold together well after baking.)

Cut the dough with a gingerbread man cookie cutter that has been dipped in flour. With a wide spatula, place cookies on prepared baking tray. Decorate before baking with raisins. You can make each gingerbread "kid" look different by bending its arms or legs a little. Repeat rolling and cutting process with other two portions of dough.

Bake cookies 8-10 minutes. Remove from oven and allow to cool slightly. Then remove from baking sheet and cool on wire rack.

When cookies are cool, they can be decorated with icing.

Note of thanks

Recently Mary Mitchell and her daughter Kelly, of High Chairs and Teddy Bears, showed me an act of generosity and kindness. I have a six-month-old son and was unable to find adequate day care. Mary went beyond her business walls to find a solution. For this I want to publicly thank her for her kindness and patience to ease a frantic mother. As she will agree, I was at my wits end and chose not to return to the work force. Again, *A million and one thanks to them both.*

Diane L. Gadoury, Eli's Mom



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 Holidays**

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Chris & Sherry Chomitz

Main Street, Bradford

Library Lantern

by Maggi Ainslie

As '94 draws to a close, we look back on quite a year! I would like to thank my trustees for the hours and hours they give here. Elsa Weir, Assistant Librarian, always gives that special X-tra, finding the source, filling the bill.

A year with the Building Committee represents the dedication and commitment needed to bring forth whatever it takes for us to grow. The kindergarten class was here the morning the perc test was conducted on the front lawn. When I told them it was a step towards making our library bigger, they were so excited and couldn't wait to go home and tell their parents. I hope before they finish at KRES-Bradford, we will have what we need. This is a very exciting time for BML. All that we have done this past year I see as steps toward our goal. Thank you for your support, encouragement and enthusiasm. Together we can do it !!!

Library hours: Monday 9:30 - 8:00,
Wednesday 9:30 - 5:00,
Saturday 9:30 - 1:30
Telephone: 938-5562

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Visitation program, continued from page 1

expansion program whose goal is to stimulate local economic growth by assisting businesses which are already in operation. How does the program work? By helping local companies and communities to identify and resolve business problems."

How does the Bradford business community identify individual needs? Cary Gladstone called it "front porch economics." Small neighbor businesses can help each other by participating in the process. It begins with a local task force charged with coordinating the effort. Their first job is preparing a questionnaire. Under strict guidelines of confidentiality, volunteers administer the questionnaire to local business owners to pinpoint their needs and concerns. The results of these efforts are assembled into a report by the state BVP office. It collates and presents the information back to the task force with recommendations of matching needs to resources.

What kind of help could be available to local businesses? Money is out there on guarantee basis by the Business Finance

Authority, Small Business Administration, Community Development Block Grants, and the Farmers Home Administration. Business loans require some kinds of plan of use. How is a business plan put together? Help is available from the Small Business Development Center, SCORE (retired executives), Industrial Research Center, and the University of New Hampshire, Office of Economic Initiatives, to name a few. How do new employees become trained to make use of these new funds? The NH Job Training Council, the University of New Hampshire Continuing Education, the six technical colleges, and the Department of Employment Security all offer training assistance.

What's the catch? What does Bradford have to lose? There seems to be nothing to lose and everything to gain if this town is to retain a viable business community. Local comment and support is asked of the community at large. Please address questions, concerns, and comments to any BBA board member.



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GARDENING

by Fred Winch

Spring is on the way ... if you believe your mailbox. Last year just before Thanksgiving, the first seed catalogs arrived. This year, the first ones arrived in early November! Sort of like the first stores with their Christmas merchandise on display well before Halloween. The gardening catalogs can easily get lost in the multitude of Christmas catalogs.

This fall has been a repeat of 1993 - short on rainfall - long on drying winds. October brought less than one inch of rain. This means that if you have planted trees, shrubs, or perennials in the last two months, it behooves you to water them well and frequently before the ground freezes so that there is ample moisture in the soil for the winter. I would also say that an adequate mulch be placed around all newly planted material. The fall has been warm and apparently the mice, moles and voles have enjoyed the weather and are very numerous. There have been few hawks about and I expect the fox population is reduced due to the rabies epidemic; they have not been visible. Any tasty young woody shoots of trees and shrubs should be protected by wire screening or plastic tree guards. Roses will probably be severely damaged this year, no matter how we seek to winterize them.

The fall has been a great one for living off the remnants of the vegetable garden. Certain varieties of broccoli have continued to produce tasty side shoots, which rival the taste of the earlier heads. Kale, too, has grown well, late planted carrots have put on growth and are very sweet.

If you are fortunate to have a fenced garden, highly fenced that is, and perhaps a dog, the deer may have left you alone. It has been a fight to protect my garden. Deer make nightly forays, but I have saved some by covering the plants with chicken wire. Several hunters have been in the area, but no shots have been fired, nor has anyone seen more than a flashing flag of a vanishing deer. Fruit trees, hedges, and Christmas tree plantings are also targets for deer. An acquaintance from "up north" reports that she has bought boxes of highly perfumed, inexpensive soap bars, such as motels use for their clients, and hung these on her trees and shrubs, "with considerable success."

Recycle your Christmas greens, Christmas trees, and decorative material. Use the trees as shelter near the bird feeder. Prepare for this by driving stakes into the ground, before freeze-up, to tie the trees

to. If you have a woodlot that has thickets of pine or spruce, thin out the less desirable small trees for this use. You may be happily surprised at the increase of birds visiting your feeder.

The past two months are usually rather hard on the potted plants you brought in, especially if they were repotted. The roots have been reduced, the daylight has been reduced, and probably the food supply has been reduced too. Light can be increased by using growlights, length of day may be increased by using timers. Food supply may be adjusted by using water soluble plant foods. One thing many indoor gardeners frequently neglect is the in-house dryness of the atmosphere, especially if stoves or hot air circulating heaters are used. The problem may be overcome, at least to a degree, by using plastic trays partly filled with crushed rock or small stones. Place plant pots on inverted plant pot saucers placed on the rocks. Partially fill the trays with water (just barely covering the crushed rock). Evaporation will then rise up to moisten the air and growth will be increased. If the area containing plants, a bay window, alcove, or even a whole room, can be closed off from the dry heat, healthier growth will occur.

Within the home, one can seldom match the humidity of the commercial greenhouse the Christmas gift plants come from, but by working at it, a healthy moist atmosphere may be approached in at least part of the home.

As the number of catalogs increases, we know that the time for seed lists is approaching -- happy browsing.

Budget Committee reviewing town department budgets

The Budget Committee met three times in November and has two December meetings scheduled to review budgets submitted by town departments. Once the proposed budgets have been finalized, a public hearing will be held in January to solicit public input. Voters at the March Town Meeting will be asked to consider a number of major expenditures.

Police Chief Al Grindle has submitted a request for a new cruiser and a third full-time police officer. Road Agent Andy Anderson is soliciting bids in order to submit a warrant article for a heavy duty dump truck.

The bridge inspection report, being prepared by Hoyle Tanner & Associates, is due on December 1. Selectmen expect to learn that between one and three bridges will require rebuilding in 1995.

The Facilities Committee has been working with the Turner Group to develop plans for the Central School remodeling project. Last year's town meeting charged the committee with preparing bid specs for submission to the 1995 town meeting.

The Planning Board is beginning the process of updating the town's master plan. A warrant article is being discussed to provide some funding for the project.

These are just some of the items under discussion as the budget is prepared. Each one will need careful study and consideration, so the choices made will best serve the town's needs for the future. Budget Committee meets in December on the 6th and 13th at the Town Hall at 7:00 pm.

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December Calendar

Thursday, December 1

Facilities Committee, town hall, 7:30

KRSD Budget Committee, high school, 7:15

Saturday, December 3

"Christmas in Bradford," day-long festivities; see page 1 article

KRSD Budget Committee, high school, 8:30 am

Monday, December 5

Cemetery Committee, 8:00 am. Call 938-5386 for info.

Selectmen's meeting, 7:00

High School building committee, high school, 7:00

Library Bylaws Committee, library, 7:15

Tuesday, December 6

ZBA, town hall, 7:00

Budget Committee, town hall, 7:00

Conservation Commission, Tillie Wheeler's, 7:30

Fish & Game Club, Lake Todd Clubhouse, 8:00

Wednesday, December 7

Library Board of Trustees, 7:15

Thursday, December 8

Community Workshop, So. Newbury Friendship House, 11:00 am

KRSD School Board meeting, high school, 7:15

Friday, December 9

Whist, town hall, 7:30

Saturday, December 10

Benefit tea, Rosewood Country Inn, 4:00
For reservations, call 938-5253.

Benefit musical by Compassionate Kids, Sutton Town Hall, 7:00

Sunday, December 11

Messiah Sing-Along, Baptist Church, 3:30

Benefit tea, Rosewood Country Inn, 4:00
For reservations, call 938-5253.

Monday, December 12

Selectmen's meeting, 7:00

High School building committee, high school, 7:00

Tuesday, December 13

Budget Committee, town hall, 7:00

Planning Board, town hall, 7:30

Wednesday, December 14

PTC, KRES Bradford, 7:30
Babysitting available

Thursday, December 15

KRSD Budget Committee, high school, 7:15

Facilities Committee, town hall, 7:30

Monday, December 19

Selectmen's meeting, 7:00

Bradford Business Association, Rosewood Inn, 7:00

Road Committee, town hall, 7:00

High School building committee, high school, 7:00

Tuesday, December 20

Kindergarten parents, church vestry, 6:45
Call 938-5480 for babysitting

Wednesday, December 21

Order of Eastern Star at St. Peters Lodge, 7:30

Thursday, December 22

KRSD School Board meeting, high school, 7:15

Tuesday, December 27

Planning Board, town hall, 7:30

To list events for the month of January, call Lou Signorino at 938-2608.

Classified Ads

MEMBERS WANTED. Join the Warner Food Cooperative. Local produce and products available in addition to a full line of natural grocery products and organic produce. For information, call Janet at 938-2195 or Mary at 938-2868.

FOR SALE. 6' green artificial Christmas tree. Looks real. \$20. Pick-up truck tool box, fits Ford Ranger or similar truck, \$20. Call 938-2876.

CHILD CARE AVAILABLE. If you are in need of a clean, warm, loving atmosphere for your child/children during winter or spring vacations from school, I am your mom. Call 938-2482.

WANTED. Local piano teacher to teach a 10-year-old beginner. My house or yours. Call 938-2483.

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FOR SALE. 1983 4X4 Chevy S10 pick-up, good condition. \$1,000 or B.O. Call 938-5371, ask for Renee.

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