



THE BRADFORD BRIDGE

PROFILE

Debra Johnson of
Cedar Hill Computer
see page 7

Volume 4, Number 1

Community News - By and for our neighbors

January 1994

Town adopts inclement weather policy

At their December 27 meeting, the Selectmen approved a "Standard Operating Procedure for Inclement Weather Conditions." This policy is intended to provide residents with an understanding of the parameters under which the Bradford Highway Dept. operates during inclement weather. It was developed with advice from the town's insurer and response to a 1992 state law concerning the liability of towns for accidents occurring on town streets and sidewalks. Copies may be obtained at the Selectmen's office.

While all town employees are responsible for reporting hazardous conditions, Kathy Russell, as Selectmen's secretary, will act as the central contact for alerting the road agent and/or the police department of potentially hazardous conditions created by weather situations.

Snow removal will begin when approximately 2 1/2" to 3" of snow has accumulated on town roads. Exceptions may include situations when freezing rain is predicted to follow snow. Snow may be left on the roads to provide traction. Another excepted condition may be when gravel surfaced roads have not frozen and plowing could create a more hazardous situation.

School bus routes will receive priority maintenance.

Sidewalks will not be maintained.

Facilities Committee selects architectural consultant

The Facilities Committee held several meetings in December to interview the four finalists for the job of consulting on town construction projects, selecting The Turner Group of Concord. Eleven firms had submitted written proposals.

While the primary objective is remodeling the central school, The Turner Group will be consulted on other projects requiring architectural input, including exterior modifications to meet ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) requirements. Factors which led to their selection include their experience with public buildings, including libraries, and the breadth of their in-house staff. To minimize the initial cost of their services to the town, they have agreed to charge their services at cost,

without overhead, through acceptance of the Central School remodeling design at town meeting, 1995.

Health Officer Carey Rodd attended the December 2 meeting to discuss the subject of water testing. Testing of residences along Main Street was discussed, but would be prohibitively expensive. Based on the present concern of the Marketplace gas spill, the committee decided that a letter should be sent to the Selectmen recommending that the water in all Town buildings be tested for hydrocarbons and bacteria, at a cost of \$150 per facility. Joe Battles agreed to find out whether State funds earmarked for the cleanup could be used to cover the cost.

■ See FACILITIES, pg 7

Offices open for candidacy for March election

Filing period: January 21 - 28

- Moderator for two years (1), \$1.00 fee
- Selectman for three years (1), \$1.00 fee
- Town clerk/Tax collector for three years (1), \$1.00 fee
- Treasurer for three years (1), \$1.00 fee
- Supervisor of the Checklist for two years (1)
- Trustee of the Trust Funds for three years (1)
- Trustee of the Brown Memorial Library for three years (2)
- Scholarship Committee for three years (1)
- Budget Committee for three years (2)
- Planning Board for three years (2)
- Zoning Board of Adjustment for three years (3)
- Cemetery Commission for three years (1)

The dates to file for these offices are:

- Friday January 21, 8:00 am - noon
- Monday January 24, 2:00 - 7:00 pm
- Tuesday January 25, 8:00 am - 5:00 pm
- Friday January 28, 8:00 am - noon and 3:00 - 5:00 pm

Susan Pehrson, Town Clerk/Tax Collector
938-2288, 938-2094

Fair Funding of Education campaign begins in Bradford

In response to the Ad Hoc Committee's proposal for a new method of funding education in the Kearsarge Regional School District, organizations and individuals in town are gearing up for a campaign to encourage residents to attend the school district meeting on March 5.

The new funding formula is designed to more evenly distribute the financial burden of supporting the school system. Bradford's tax rate would be reduced \$3.48 (20%), from \$17.50 per thousand to \$14.02 per thousand. All the other towns in the district would see their rates go down, except New London. Today New London pays \$7.05 per thousand. Their rate would go up \$3.44 (49%), to \$10.49. Notice that with the new formula, a house assessed at \$100,000 in New London would still pay significantly less than one assessed for the same amount in Bradford, \$1049 in New London and \$1402 in Bradford.

While the issues are significant and complex, what is important is that residents think about the proposed formula and go to the annual meeting and vote. The goal of this year's campaign is a 50% voter turnout from Bradford.

The campaign will include publicity about the issues, including a Forum on February 16th; a voter registration effort; a telephone campaign to encourage participation and address any needs voters might have; and providing babysitting and shuttle services on March 5. If you'd like to volunteer to help with this effort, you may call Dick Keller at 938-2877 or Debbie Lamach at 938-2095.

Soo-Nipi Audubon Chapter news

Sue Bielski, a representative of the Northern Forest Lands Council Public Outreach, will present a slide program on northern forest issues at the Soo-Nipi Audubon Chapter meeting, Friday, January 14, 7:00 pm, at St. Andrews Episcopal Church on Gould Road, New London. Please note change in meeting time.

Sue will provide information about the diverse issues facing our northern forest lands - one million acres stretching from Maine to New York State - in order to ensure economic stability, sustainable forest production, and protection of recreational and wildlife resources.

For more information, call Sue at the Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests, 224-5945, or Gary Stansfield, 763-7462. --Phyllis Curtiss

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News from the Town Clerk/Tax Collector

Town Clerk's Office:

September 18, 1993 Phillip Byfield III and Sara Vandever Todd were married.

October 20, 1993 Molly Brown Monahan was born to Donna and James Monahan
October 28, 1993 Wendel Fazzina passed away.

December 15, 1993 Ethan Noyes Sylvester was born to Cynthia Noyes and Jeffrey Sylvester.

Tax Collector's Office:

The 1993 second half bill started accruing interest as of December 4, 1993.

Cemetery Trustees public hearing

The Cemetery Trustees will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, January 12, 7:30, at the Town Hall to discuss revised cemetery rules and regulations. Snow date is Wednesday, January 19.

Bradford/Newbury Workshop

Weather permitting, the Workshop will meet on January 13 at Friendship House in South Newbury at 11:00. We will continue working on service projects and cathedral window pillows. If you weren't part of the cathedral window project in December, come and learn how - it's really fun!

After a bag lunch at noon, with dessert and coffee provided by the Refreshment Committee, Mary Feeney, from the Shelter for Battered Women in White River Junction, will make a presentation. She will provide a review of the home's mission to women and tell us how the home uses all the blankets, linens, and other donations the Workshop has made to this worthy cause. If you have any questions, call Lou Doten at 938-2754. --Clare Bensley

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Tom Dimitriadis, M.Ed. 938-2696
P.O. Box 766, Bradford fax 938-2470

Pats Peak Adult Ski Program

Pats Peak is offering an adult ski program beginning the week of January 3. Choose one day a week (Monday - Friday), 9:00 - 12:30, for seven weeks. Program includes a one-hour clinic (ski instruction with maximum of ten students per group) and lunch. Rentals and nursery are available. Call Rosemary Blair at 428-7716 for more information and costs.

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Bradford Rescue Squad will sponsor fund-raising spaghetti supper

1994 is expected to be an exciting year for the Bradford Rescue Squad. The Rescue Squad will be asking the towns of Bradford, Newbury, Sutton and Warner for proportionate contributions toward the purchase of a new ambulance. The existing ambulance is ten years old and, while it has served valiantly, it has reached the end of its projected life. Ten years of frost-heaved trips to the hospital and late night cold startups have taken their toll. Maintenance costs are increasing every year while reliability decreases.

In addition, the Rescue Squad has greatly increased its capabilities, enabling it to provide a higher level of emergency care than it did ten years ago. These increased capabilities bring with them a need for more space and the ability to carry more weight. And with the growing awareness of the dangers of infectious diseases like HIV and Hepatitis, new ambulances are much easier to keep clean and provide better protection for emergency personnel.

Officers of the Rescue Squad have talked to town officials in Bradford, Newbury and Sutton and have scheduled a meeting in Warner in early January. Residents of these towns will be voting on an ambulance warrant article at the March town meetings. Because the cost of the ambulance is divided between the four towns based on the average number of responses to each town over the past several years, town residents enjoy the benefits of this public service as economically as possible.

The Rescue Squad will sponsor an "All You Can Eat" spaghetti supper at the Appleseed Inn Restaurant on Monday, January 17th (snow date, January 18th) to raise money for equipment for the new ambulance. The cost is \$6 for adults and \$3.50 for children under ten. Children under three eat free. Dinner includes beverage and dessert and will be served from 5:00 to 8:30. Please come and support the Rescue Squad!

It's time for VOTER REGISTRATION

With town meeting and school meeting coming up, residents who have not registered to vote should consider doing so. Getting involved in our "participatory democracy" is both a privilege and a responsibility. Those of you who have recently celebrated your eighteenth birthday are now eligible to vote. New residents, too, must register to participate in this year's meetings.

Registering to vote has been made easier by a recent law. Now the town clerk, as well as the Supervisors of the Checklist, may register voters. The town clerk's hours are Monday, 2:00-7:00; Tuesday, 8:00-5:00; Friday, 8:00-noon. The Supervisors of the Checklist will be meeting at the town hall on Tuesday, January 18, 7:00-9:00, both for change of party affiliation and voter registration.

Here's what's involved to register: You will be asked to prove that you are at least eighteen years old and that Bradford is your primary residence. Usually a driver's license is sufficient. If you are a young person without a driver's license, a birth certificate will do. If there is a question about residency, you could be asked for your property tax receipt or some other document with your address.

On January 7th, the current voter checklist will be posted at the town hall and the post office to enable individuals to check on their registration.



Lake Todd Association submits emergency action plan to town

The Lake Todd Association has submitted its state-required emergency action plan to the Bradford Selectmen. The plan, written by Kenneth Barton, was not prepared because of any known likelihood of a failure of the dam, but to define responsibilities and actions to be taken in the event an emergency situation should occur.

Regular inspections and surveillance during flood conditions are required. Notification procedures are outlined, to be used in case of an emergency. Lake Todd certified operators are Peter Fenton and Robert Schneider.

An engineering study estimates that a breach of the dam could "cause an instantaneous flow of 1,530 cubic feet per second. This volume is well below the capacity of the concrete arch bridge on Main Street, estimated at 3,400 cubic feet per second. The foundation of the brick mill building should remain stable because the level of water will be below the sill of the building and because the velocity would be small due to the backwater effects of the bridge opening. No buildings below the bridge would be likely to sustain damages. If the bridge opening became clogged with debris, local flooding conditions could worsen."

The study includes a description of Lake Todd and the Lake Todd Association. Lake Todd is an artificial lake located in the Towns of Bradford and Newbury, NH. Its surface area of about 168 acres lies at 670 feet above sea level. It has a maximum sounded depth of 22 feet, but considerably less average depth due to extensive shoal areas. It was created more than one hundred years ago, by the damming of a watercourse, which was part of the Warner River system of the Merrimack Watershed.

Waterpower created by the dam has been used to operate various types of mill machinery, and at one time powered a dynamo to generate electricity. However, commercial use of the dam became uneconomical in the 1950's and abandonment and/or removal of the dam became imminent. In the meantime, the recreational possibilities of the dam-created lake were recognized, and homes, cottages, and resorts were built along its shore. So preservation of the dam became the concern of many and negotiations were started with dam owners.

In 1959, Edwin and Evelyn Westerberg sold the dam to the "littoral property owners." 32 incorporators then formed the Lake Todd Association.



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Letters

To the editor:

We would like to thank everyone who helped make the recent "Christmas Candle-light Tea" at the Rosewood Country Inn in Bradford a huge success. This year's attendance was the largest ever. Thank you to Carolyn and David Lanctot, Becky and Sarah Marquis, the local media and the area businesses for their assistance in helping to make the evening a time we will all remember. Proceeds from the event aided needy children in the Kearsarge Regional Elementary School. Again, thank you for opening your hearts to this worthwhile event.

Lesley & Dick Marquis, Innkeepers

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Tom Wiegelmann

Paula Morse

Friends of the Library schedules winter book discussions

The Friends of Brown Memorial Library begins its winter program with a book discussion series from "The Book Bag," organized by the New Hampshire Council for the Humanities. Humanist and scholar Patrick Anderson, Profession of English at Colby-Sawyer College, will lead discussions.

The books, selected from the Question for the American Dream series, portray the "dream" which forms the walls of our national consciousness. Cities of gold, fountains of youth, boundless natural resources, unlimited freedoms, opportunities as wide ranging and variable as the people who colonized the continent—these were both the myths and the real experiences that led people to seek asylum and riches across the Atlantic. During discussion, readers will examine whether today, the "dream" still shapes our lives and hopes for the future.

Schedule: All programs begin at 7:00 pm
February 3 *The Great Gatsby* (novel),
F. Scott Fitzgerald

February 17 *The Age of Innocence*
(novel), Edith Wharton

March 3 *Song of Myself* (poem),
Walt Whitman

March 17 *Death of a Salesman* (play),
Arthur Miller

Multiple copies of the books, provided by the New Hampshire State Library, are now available at Brown Memorial Library for persons wishing to begin their reading.

Programs will run from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm. All are welcome. Refreshments will be served. For books, call the librarian at 938-5562; for more information, call 938-5948. —Audrey Sylvester

"NEW YEAR ... A NEW YOU?"

by Molly Clark

The new year brings an excitement of good things to come and new beginnings. This is when we make our promise to lose weight, exercise more, stop smoking, and other changes we promised last year! We all have the best of intentions; yet as time slips away, so do resolutions.

Whatever your fitness goals are for the coming year, time and consistency will play a large part in your success. Behavior modification is a must. Making changes doesn't have to be difficult, but it does require conscious decisions and choices.

EXERCISE OFTEN ... It's best to do 5-10 minute workouts a couple of times per day on alternate days and rest on the day in between.

ACCEPT "OFF DAYS" GRACEFULLY ... We all have off days. You're human, not a robot. Tell yourself you'll do better tomorrow. **THEN DO IT!**

DRESS TO EXERCISE ... If you're dressed to take a quick walk between errands, you'll find adding extra steps to your day easier.

BE DETERMINED ... Your mind set will determine your success. Your decision to improve should be based on your desire to change for YOU, not anyone else. NEVER compare yourself to anyone else. You are special; take pride in that.

ACCENTUATE THE POSITIVE ... develop talents, hobbies and interests. Improve your MIND as well as your body, and stay open to new ideas.

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Budget Committee finalizing town budget for 1994

The review of town department budgets was completed at the December 28th Budget Committee meeting.

The Budget Committee is responsible for comparing the year's actual expenditures with the town-approved budget figures to make sure the town has not overspent its budget. The meetings in January will involve discussion of year-end expenditures after the books are closed for the calendar year. With the actuals, the committee has the information to make final adjustments to line items.

All meetings are open to the public for observation and appropriate comments. The next meeting of the Budget Committee will be held on January 4th at 7:00 pm at the Town Hall.

Any interested groups who intend to submit warrant articles for town vote should contact the Selectmen's office for details. Deadline for submission of warrant articles is February 1. All warrant articles must be considered both by the Selectmen and the Budget Committee and be listed in the Town Report.

As the last legal day for posting the formal public hearing on the budget is February 3rd, all Bradford residents are encouraged to be alert for the posting and to participate in the public hearing. The date will also be noted in the February Bridge.

Police Department will propose four warrant articles

According to Police Chief Al Grindle, his department will propose four warrant articles for this year's town meeting. These are for a part-time secretary, establishment of a capital reserve fund for a new cruiser, a third full-time officer, and a video camera, half of the \$3,800 cost to be refunded by grant monies.

The police department's logs reveal an increase in reported crimes in Bradford over the past year. The overall increase is 25 %, but the areas of domestic abuse, arrests, and motor vehicle incidents have risen significantly more.

Grindle expressed pride in the performance of his department. He explained that they provide on-call coverage around the clock, and patrol coverage 21 hours a day. The patrols were increased after several robberies occurred about 18 months ago. Now they inspect every business every night. Grindle feels that this visibility has contributed to a decrease in burglaries over the past year.

When asked about the mutual aid agreement recently signed by area towns, Chief Grindle explained that eight towns are now fully supporting each other: Henniker, Warner, Bradford, Newbury, Sunapee, New London, Wilmot, and Springfield. However, the Sutton Selectmen signed the agreement under protest. Grindle responded by sending a letter to the Sutton Selectmen expressing his concerns and stating that Bradford's police officers would not respond to a call in Sutton until the matter was resolved. He said that due to the outspoken dissatisfaction the Sutton Selectmen expressed, there are serious questions concerning the participation of Sutton's police officers, as well as questions concerning the liability that Bradford officers could be exposed to.



Library Lantern
by Maggi Ainslie

Two meetings of the Brown Memorial Library Building Committee have been held. On November 30th, goals and objectives were discussed. The enthusiasm shown by the members and trustees made this first step a memorable one. Committee member Gordon Anderson visited the Weare Public Library the very next day for a look at Weare's addition. Everett Kittredge went to the State Library for information. We are off to a great start!

On December 14, the following officers were elected: Co-chairs, Everett Kittredge and Maggi Ainslie; Treasurer, John Forgiel; Secretary, Bliss Dayton.

We will be working closely with the State Library, following a planning process that has worked well for many libraries. We feel fortunate to have this valuable assistance and experience available to us.

In December, Elsa Weir and I attended a three-day workshop designed to pinpoint specific reference questions. We will be using these procedures, with the assistance of a reference intake form, to provide better reference service, which is the name of the game.

On Thursday, January 13, 7:00-9:00 pm, Katherine Paterson, the National Book Award winning author will be at the Unitarian-Universalist Church in Concord. She is also a multiple Newbery Medal winner. She will give a lecture on The Writing Life, followed by a book signing and reception. For more information, contact the New Hampshire Humanities Council at 224-4071.

This is YOUR LIBRARY! Be sure to be a part of the progress, change and excitement during 1994!

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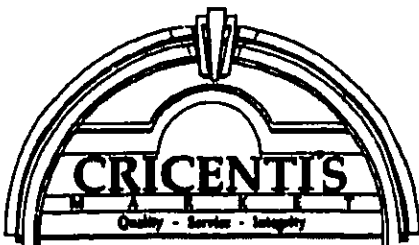
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Church News from Debbie Lamach

American Baptist Women's Ministries meets on Tuesday, January 4, at 7:15 with refreshments. The business meeting will begin at 7:30, followed by a program on the 75 year history of White Cross. White Cross is an organization supported by the American Baptist Women's Ministries that supplies missionaries' needs. Among the projects that church women have worked on are rolling bandages and dressings, providing clothing, hygiene kits, school kits, and fabric squares. The goal of White Cross is to enable people to help themselves.

The Women's Christian Guild will meet on Friday, January 7 at 1:15 to work on lap-ropes for nursing homes. Donated wool squares will be trimmed and crocheted together. A crochet lesson will be given for those who don't know how and want to learn. Members and friends are asked to bring a size E crochet hook and a pair of scissors. Yarn will be provided.

The renovation of the Fisk House continues rapidly and should be ready for occupancy in a few weeks. The septic and water systems have been completed, allowing full speed ahead for other projects. The Board of Trustees has gratefully accepted a donation by the Women's Christian Guild, to be used to tile the kitchen floor. Carpeting will be installed in the conference room, pastor's office, and entryway.

Rev. Pearson, at the request of the Board of Christian Education and Missions and the Diaconate Board, has initiated a baptism class. The class is open to all ages and will begin on the first Sunday of Lent, February 20, at 9:00 am. A service of baptism is planned for Maunday Thursday, March 31. The class is also open to present members who have been received into membership by letter of transfer or profession of faith and who wish to participate in the ordinance of baptism by immersion.

At the Christmas Sunday service, three "angels" were recognized by Rev. Pearson, Joyce Teele, Phyllis Whall, and Debbie Lamach. They, in turn, would like to recognize additional angels: Lucille Shevett, who

faithfully types the bulletin week after week, as well as "mother hens" the coffee fellowship hour; Mim Phillips, who copies the bulletin every week, sometimes under trying circumstances; and Dick Whall, who is always available to solve a problem, assist in many ways, and is generous with his "attaboys." Thanks goes as well to the members of the choir who add so much to the worship experience. It is deeply appreciated! Look for more angels next month!

The adult Wednesday night study group will begin another series in mid-January, date to be announced. The subject of the series will be "Discovering Your Gifts." Lucille Shevett is the contact person for more information.



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Forest Society Events at Conservation Center, Concord

Legislative Preview and Process
Wednesday, January 12, 7:00-9:00 pm (fee)

Forest Society policy specialist Tammar Van Ryn will preview conservation issues in the 1994 legislature. Attorney Dick de-Seve will follow the path of a hypothetical bill through the legislature, pointing out the stages where citizens have the most impact.

New Hampshire's Forests: A Resource in the Balance
Wednesdays, January 5-26, 9:30 -1:30 (fee)

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FACILITIES cont. from page 1

At the December 13 Selectmen's meeting, the committee reported that they had selected Northmark to install the town hall fire alarm system, at a cost of \$4,200. The system, once it is installed in January, will be tied to a monitoring service by an auto-dialer.

The committee has had ongoing discussions with the Selectmen concerning their warrant article for \$50,000 for next year's expenses. They anticipate spending most of the money on the Central School plans and some initial site work. Selectmen have asked that the process be speeded up as much as possible. Joe Battles voiced the feeling that the Selectmen's office should be at the Central School before 1995. Concern was expressed that the total cost of the project be within an "affordable" range. The committee responded that the cost of the project cannot be accurately estimated until the architectural firm has held discussions with the committee. To address both cost and time issues, undertaking the project with a design/build process was discussed. Concern was expressed that the job had to be "done right the first time." From the committee's point of view, this means insulating for long-term savings on heat, replacing the large windows with heat-saving ones, and installing lower ceilings, again to reduce heat costs.

Completion of the first phase of the planned remodelling of the Town Hall should cost between \$6,000 and \$7,000. This will involve installing a unisex handicapped-access toilet. Ungrounded wiring must be grounded. The front and rear staircases will be properly enclosed for fire safety. Then the exterior fire escape will be removed. When these projects have been completed, the occupancy limit of the upstairs meeting room will be increased from 50 to 300.

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At Work ~ At Home

by Audrey V. Sylvester

From a cozy, warm room in her comfortable house on Breezy Hill, Debra Johnson operates her new business, Cedar Hill Computers. Although she sells computers, troubleshoots technical computer problems for others, sets up computers for businesses, sells computer software, and trains and consults, more than half her time is spent teaching people how to use computers. Although eager to help new computer owners learn to use their own equipment, she also offers lessons to non-computer owners at her home.

She became interested in computers because she wanted to enhance her employability as an accountant. Confronting her first computer (a machine she didn't know how to turn on), she devoted a month to reading a manual which she described as written for people who already knew what it said ... the kind of manual she jokingly called "packing material." In spite of the frustration, she became hooked on computers and gave up accounting.



To further her education, Debra attended the NH Technical Institute in Concord, earning an Associate of Science degree in Computer Information Systems with high honors in 1992. In 1994, she will become a certified Novell Network Engineer when she completes her course at the NH Technical College in Claremont.

Since she has the luxury of working at home, Debra is able to integrate her business and the education of her two children, Bree and Bram, who are taught at home. Although her husband Erik works away from home at Pine Tree Castings in New-

port, he shares teaching responsibilities: his subjects are geography, science and natural history; hers are English and mathematics. In their spare time, the family tends a menagerie of dog, cats, chickens, birds, geese, and pot-bellied pig.

Debra predicted that the future of computers will be the INTERNET system, originally established by the U.S. government, linking governmental agencies, libraries, colleges and universities. With capabilities of contacting any country in the world, having access to any news story as it is breaking, or enabling its 30 million users to have conversations with each other on star wars or spiders, the network has enormous communications potential.

Debra and Erik have lived in Bradford for 13 years. Having grown up near the city of Springfield, Massachusetts, Debra loves living in a small town. Before moving here, she thought such a place only existed on television shows. She has made her country experience real by becoming involved in town activities, including Bradford's Bicentennial Celebration, Historical Society, Rescue Squad Auxiliary, and most recently, the Bradford/Newbury Friendship 4-H Club.

In collaboration with the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA), Debra and a group of 4-H'ers (seven 9-13 year olds) are developing a computer program using dBase IV, which will match people with pets. Debra instructs the kids in what the computer can do, then helps them design the program they want. Remembering her early experiences, Debra makes it clear that they must make their program easy for the person who will enter the data. She announced proudly, "The kids are doing a great job."

Debra has learned to talk about computers in plain comprehensible language. She recounted funny stories from her early days as a software firm's technical support representative. One customer was mystified when his 5 1/4" diskette (which he trimmed down to 3 1/2" to fit the other computer slot) didn't work. Another customer, when requested to provide a copy of his diskette, sent a photocopy. With self-experienced understanding, Debra said, "You have to watch out. You assume that people know what you are talking about. It's just as much our fault. I try not to assume anything, but sometimes you forget."

Debra foresees the near future, when people will be able to hook their computers to a telephone or whatever mode of choice there is at the time. Instead of going to the office in their cars, they will go "in their computers," in bathrobes and slippers, no doubt.

Debra-at-home is already preparing!

December Selectmen's meetings

November 29 Carl Olson, representing the Rescue Squad, discussed their warrant article for a new ambulance. Participating towns are being asked to fund the ambulance based on percentages of calls. Bradford's portion is \$45,000, \$25,000 to be raised this year plus a \$20,000 capital reserve fund established last year.

Wil Kranz accepted the Selectmen's appointment as Bradford's representative to the Solid Waste Cooperative, replacing Marcia Keller. His responsibilities include tracking Bradford's weight slips and providing the Selectmen with a recommended figure for guaranteed annual tonnage. Bernie Lamach will continue to serve as alternate.

December 6 Selectmen received a letter from the Facilities Committee recommending that the water be tested in all town buildings. They agreed to get estimates.

A letter was received from the Sutton selectmen expressing their concerns about a law enforcement agreement recently signed by area chiefs of police. The Sutton Selectmen had signed the agreement on behalf of their chief under protest.

December 13 Bruce Sartwell, N.H. Municipal Association, and Andy Anderson, Road Agent, met to discuss writing an "inclement weather policy" for the town of Bradford. Sartwell provided several examples from other towns and discussed the importance of having established procedures. Discussions revealed that Bradford's procedures already meet most of the recommended guidelines. Kathy Russell, Selectmen's secretary, has been designated as the individual responsible for serving as the "clearing-house" for complaints or problems arising during inclement weather. Complying with this state law offers the town a certain degree of protection against liability claims.

In a discussion concerning signs for seasonal roads and load limits of bridges, Road Agent Anderson commented that signs were either being used for target practice or being removed. Sartwell noted that not posting the bridges could expose the town to liability claims.

Dick Hambrecht discussed the establishment of the town employees' retirement

plan. He expects to have the plan in place before the end of the year. He recommended that the town match a certain amount of employees' contributions. The Selectmen responded that their decision on matching any portion would have to be approved at town meeting. Discussions resulted in a decision to budget for a 4% match in the retirement plan and for that contribution to serve as the employees' salary increase for the year.

Selectmen accepted a copy of the Lake Todd Emergency Action Plan, noting that Peter Fenton is acting as the dam operator.

December 20 Police Chief Al Grindle discussed his four proposed warrant articles for a capital reserve fund for a new cruiser, a part-time secretary, a third full-time officer, and a video camera, to be purchased with matching funds from a grant. He provided statistics on police calls which revealed a 25% increase in 1993.

Mark Goldberg and Chris Frey reported that a warrant article will be necessary to meet requirements of a new state law dealing with the organization of fire departments. Any system other than election of the chief by voters or authorizing the selectmen to appoint the chief, must be approved by town meeting. The Bradford Fire Department will request town meeting to ratify their long-standing method of having the chief elected by members of the department.

Frey and Goldberg also reported that the Bradford Fire Department is planning to establish a Firefighters Association. A separate corporation is now required when firefighters conduct fundraising efforts. Chief Goldberg asked the Selectmen to extend liability coverage to the association. The Selectmen will research the matter.

Selectmen reviewed operating procedures for inclement weather conditions with the Road Agent.

December 27 The Library Trustees and the Facilities Committee met to clarify the responsibilities of the Facilities Committee. Janet Sillars stated that the committee had been created by the Selectmen, with no input from the Library Trustees, and so was the Selectmen's committee. And the Trustees, not the Selectmen, have responsibility for the library building. Eastman Steere commented that the committee was confused about what the Trustees want from it. Sillars responded that the Trustees would like to provide the committee with a "shopping list" of what they would like help and advice on. Selectman Keller commented that the Trustees should be sure to address the library's safety issues.

The Selectmen were presented with a request from New Kearsarge Corp. for a second payment from the Community Development Block Grant. Dick Hambrecht relayed his concern that the town still does not have a copy of the insurance policy promised when the first payment was disbursed. Selectmen put the payment on hold until this issue has been resolved.

A list of seasonal roads, not maintained in winter, was reviewed. It had previously been reviewed by the Road Committee and the Road Agent. The list will be posted on the bulletin board.

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

After celebrating the winter solstice and holidays that accompany the shortest day of the year, it's back to the task of sharpening up the gray matter. The rewards of education are somewhat more remote than those we experience in our holidays. They are there, however, and as important in the game plan of our lives. In the case of education, it's something we really do for ourselves; in the case of holidays, we do for and with each other. Could this be why there are 8 school days for each day off during the school year? In reality, 183 school days are balanced by 104 days off, when weekends are included. Thinking of it that way, we should be able to give it our best effort. I can't say I ever thought of it that way when I was in school. Did you?

It is also the time of year to prepare budgets for the 94/95 school year. The increase of 4.39% mentioned in my December article was reduced to 2.01% after the School Board carefully considered possible cuts submitted by Superintendent Richards. The Budget Committee, in its review, reinstated several items, boosting the increase to 2.3%. Part of the increase relates to funds for a math teacher/coordinator at the high school. In her list of cuts, Dr. Richards suggested cutting a full time math teacher and a half-time math coordinator. The School Board voted to retain the full-time teacher, providing both teaching and coordinating within the single position. The Budget Committee opted to reinstate the additional half-time position, to the consternation of both Mr. Lamach, Bradford's Budget Committee representative and myself. The need for coordination is not the issue; the need for an additional half-time position is. Be assured the Board is aware of the need for coordination and will support that effort, but not by throwing more money at the problem.

Funding items to be presented at the annual meeting include any settlement of the 94/95 teachers' contract; \$153,000 to fund costs related to the fact finder's report on the 93/94 contract that remains unresolved; \$140,345 for the second phase of the computer technology program; \$15,000 to fund a preliminary study for an addition to the high school, soon to be needed; and \$20,000 to establish a capital reserve fund for school construction. A figure still missing is the cost of phase one of the overall \$2.4 million package for athletic field construction at the high school.

In total, including an increase to the long-term debt service of the district for the first phase of the athletic field construction, the increase in revenues required would be approximately 5.5%. With an increase in Bradford's ADM (Average Daily Membership) and equalized valuation and loss of

state foundation aid, Bradford's new assessment will increase by just under \$200,000 or approximately \$2.50 per \$1,000 on the school portion of your tax bill. (Figure an additional \$250 for each \$100,000 of assessed valuation.)

Highlights of the School Board meeting on December 9th include a review of revisions to the Municipal Budget Law. An important revision requires that each warrant article involving an expenditure carry a notation of recommended or not recommended from both the Budget Committee (as in the past) and from the School Board (new). A second change gives voters a line item veto at the annual meeting. This comes into play when voters move to reject a specific item in its entirety by "zeroing out a line" from the budget. If a non-mandated item is "zeroed out," the item is out, the budget is reduced by that amount, and other monies within the budget cannot be used for that purpose. A "zeroed out" mandated item reduces the budget by the amount of the item, but other monies within the remaining budget have to be used to meet the mandated obligations. This law covers town meetings as well as school meetings.

Also included was an outline of the auditor's report with several recommendations. Steve Grzelak of Grzelak and Company, the district's auditor, recommended that a value be placed on the district's fixed assets and that the Board's manifest review process (payment of bills) be simplified.

A report on the New London Elementary School heating/ventilation system by The Turner Group, consulting engineers, identified some maintenance needs, along with areas of poor installation. These are now being remedied. Cleaning the ductwork at the high school is a \$22,000 job that needs doing ASAP. Planned maintenance will have to be on the near-term agenda.

"Nature's Classroom," to be held in Silver Bay, New York, was approved and is tentatively set for mid-April. This is the week-long educational program for sixth graders mentioned in the November Bridge. A second trip, Close-Up Program to Washington D.C., scheduled for May 15-21, was also approved. In its tenth year, this program provides a closer look at various governmental functions in the Capitol. Since the number of students participating in this trip ranges from 3-8 out of a class of 85, your Board member could not support the trip. I feel sure the entire class could benefit from some other method of providing this information. Two other trips proposed to Europe, with 6 and 8 students each, were rejected by the Board.

The Board's next meeting on January 4th at 7:30 pm will be a joint meeting with the Budget Committee. The next regular meeting is January 13th. If you would like to address the Board with a specific issue that concerns you, please contact me at 938-2877.

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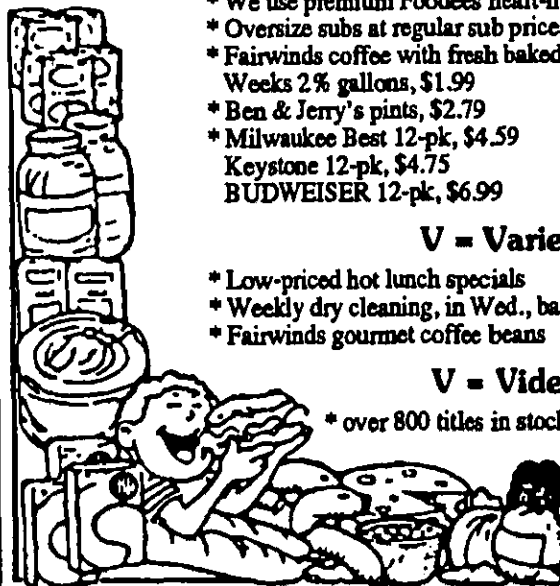
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The Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests makes a difference in New Hampshire

The Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests is a highly visible conservation organization in New Hampshire, contributing to the preservation of the forested landscape valued by residents. In the Sunapee area, the Society operates the John Hay Land Studies Center at the Hay Estate in Newbury, providing courses for area residents. A five-week course entitled "Diversity and the Decision-makers" will begin on January 19 at the Center. Call 800-639-1931 to register.

The Society, founded in 1901, is the oldest and largest nonprofit conservation organization in New Hampshire and one of the oldest in the nation.

Currently supported by more than 10,000 members, the mission of the Society is to conserve land and natural resources, with special emphasis on forests. The Society accomplishes this mission with innovative initiatives on two parallel and complementary tracks: by establishing public reservations and other permanent conservation areas; and by promoting responsible use of renewable natural resources. Primary program areas are land protection, education, advocacy, and forestry.

According to the national group Land Trust Alliance, this distinctive two-track approach has made the Society the most effective statewide land trust in America. To date, the Society has spearheaded the protection of more than one million acres throughout New Hampshire: hundreds of parks and forests, including the White Mountain National Forest, Mount Monadnock, and Franconia Notch...miles of river and lake shorelines...wildlife reserves...hiking trails...scenic vistas. Many of these landscapes have been protected without the use of public funds; most remain productive woodlands, contributing jobs and goods as well as wildlife habitat, scenery, and recreation.

A hallmark of the Society is its commitment to balancing ecological and economic needs by forging consensus among development, conservation, forestry, and business interests. Its work blends the excitement and impact of grand public campaigns with day-to-day persistence. For example:


- While leading the campaign for a National Forest system at the turn of the century, the organization's founders were also pioneering the new science of forestry.
- While pushing for timber tax reform in the 1940's, Society educators were introducing the Tree Farm program to New Hampshire landowners.

- While leading the effort to make open space and natural resource industries affordable through Current Use taxation in the 1970's, the Society was also proving the effectiveness of conservation easements.
- And while nurturing the \$47 million Trust for New Hampshire Lands partnership in the 1980's, the Society was working in an education partnership with the Office of State Planning and the development community.

The Society's award-winning passive solar Conservation Center in Concord houses six other conservation organizations - from the NH Timberland Owners Association to the Sierra Club.

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Youthful Activities,

by Mary Keegan-Dayton

There were seven of us lined up inside with our skis on. Long used wooden skis, heavy black leather boots that tied, stiff animal hide black gloves and stretch pants. We were learning to snowplow indoors. Dry land ski school they called it. That was twenty-seven years ago.

Today families ponder the same issues my parents faced back in the 60's: how can a family living on a tight budget ski? The answers are the same, buy used equipment at garage or ski sales and shop for bargain lessons and discount ticket prices at ski areas.

There are four ski areas within 25 miles of Bradford that offer intermediate skiing with packages to attract families. Back from the brink of bankruptcy, King Ridge Ski Area, with a vertical drop of 850 feet, is open for business. "The Ridge" offers a six-week ski camp program for kids, ages 5 or 6 and up, who can ski. The Saturday program starts January 8. Participants get three hours of lessons and an all-day lift ticket for \$160. Weekend ticket prices have dropped this year to \$14.95 for children 12 and under, and \$19.95 for adults.

King Ridge has a new family center, offering day care for children from four months old. Other types of instructional programs for kids are available, according to Laurie Lauridson, Ski School Supervisor. The White Rabbit (ages 3-5) is \$12 for a one-hour lesson. The Mad Hatter (ages 4-8) and the Rise Program (ages 9-12) offer three-hour lessons and an all-day ticket (equipment included, if needed) for \$42. The Ridge Runners Program (ages 13-15) offers three-hour ski or snowboard lessons and an all-day ticket for \$160 for six sessions.

Ragged Mountain in Danbury has 90% snowmaking on 23 trails, with a vertical drop of 1250 feet. Two of their specials are a \$9.00 ticket price for beginners on the T-bar and children 5 and under ski free with a ticketed adult. Weekend all-day lift tickets for children 7-12 is \$20, \$15 after 12:30. Their day care center, which accepts infants as young as six weeks, charges \$25 per day or \$4.00 an hour.

Carol Dunn, Ski School Director, described Ragged's instructional programs, which begin January 1. Five-week weekend programs are available at \$30 for 3-5 year olds and \$50 for 6-16 year olds. A 1 1/2 hour lesson and morning ski ticket are included. For racing instruction, an eight-week program is available for ages 5-16 at \$75.

Pats Peak Ski Area in Henniker has a vertical drop of 710 feet. The Willi Wau Area has a free pony lift. Children 5 and under may ski free with a ticketed adult. A nursery special is available, \$30 for half day nursery and introduction to skiing lesson. Weekend ticket prices are \$22, ages 6-14, \$30, 15 and over. Group lessons are \$16. Day care is available for ages 6 months to five years, \$15 a day or \$2.75 an hour.

The largest of the four ski areas, Mount Sunapee has a 1510 foot vertical drop. Learn to ski programs are available through the ski school and the ski club, an independent nonprofit group. The Club offers a six-week instructional program Saturdays or Sundays for skiers ages 6-15, beginning January 8. For \$85, skiers get an hour lesson and all-day lift ticket each week. For \$120, racers receive a two-hour lesson and an all-day lift ticket.

Nastar Racing Clinics run \$20 for two hours. The nationally-recognized SkiWee program is also offered at \$50 for a full day of instruction and skiing, ages 3-12.

There's a special Province Area ticket (chair and pony lift) for \$20 and a pony lift ticket for \$6. The pony lift is free midweek and children under age 5 can ski free with a ticketed adult. A cozy day care is available for \$18 a day, children ages 1-6. Weekend ticket prices run \$24 ages 6-12 and \$34 ages 13 and older.

Driving around in my station wagon with skis on top, children's voices rise above the music drifting from my radio as I ponder ski bargains. Pats Peak offers the best prices on day care, King Ridge is the greatest place for beginners to learn and offers the lowest ticket prices. Ragged and Sunapee have the steepest slopes and offer those great five and six-week instructional programs for kids. Become a consumer. You be the judge.

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Oh, Canis Lupus, handsome dog,
It roams the forest, tundra bog;
Is dusky, grey or arctic white,
Howls hauntingly into the night

And shy of man is large and strong.
It lives by instinct, knows no wrong.

The sometime sled dog, sometime lone,
Is loving, loyal to its own.
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--Joan Peterke

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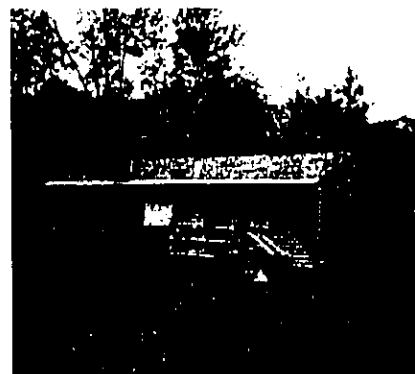
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THE COZY CORNER

by Mildred Schmidt



Now that the holidays are over, it's time to get back to Bradford living. Our blessings are winter's whiteness of snow, fresh crisp air, bluest of skies on a clear day, and the warmth of a fire roaring in the stove. May the new year be good to all of you, health-wise, wealthwise, and most of all, happywise!

P.S. Daylight now increases one minute each day!

Everyone has a favorite recipe for stew ... here's mine.

Beef Stew with Dumplings

2 1/2 lbs stew beef	3 Tbsp margarine or safflower oil
2 1/2 cups water	pinch Bell seasons
1 chicken boullion cube	1 clove garlic, minced
1 bay leaf	1/4 tsp dried Thyme
1 tsp Worcestershire sauce	3-4 drops Tabasco
salt and pepper	

Shake meat in a bag with a small amount of flour. Remove and brown in margarine or oil in large skillet. Add remaining ingredients. Bring to a boil, reduce heat, cover, and cook slowly for one hour.

- 5 potatoes, peeled and quartered, if desired
- 5 carrots, peeled and cut in 1" pieces
- 2 stalks celery, chopped
- 2 leeks or 4 scallions, or 1 onion, chopped

Add vegetables and cook gently for one hour. Add dumplings after cooking 40 minutes. To make dumplings, mix together 1 cup Bisquick and 1/3 cup milk. Drop by spoonfuls into stew. Cook uncovered for 10 minutes over low heat. Cover and continue cooking for another 10 minutes. Makes about six small dumplings. If desired, stir in paprika for a nice color.

A Point of View

by Luanne Mayo

The first card we received this past holiday season had, for me, the most powerful message and I would like to share it with you. It was handwritten, with a bold stroke of the pen, by a ninety-year-old (almost) retired insurance executive:

"My Christmas hope is that all of us place our abundant blessings in proper perspective and be grateful for them.

My New Year's wish is that you and I travel the road ahead in good health, spirit, faith and understanding."

The only thing he left out was our duty to protect the things that are important for the greater good, on all levels (lord, that sounds stuffy). We here in Bradford, in New Hampshire, in the USA, in the NAFTA/GATT world have, this past year, been barraged by news of wars, murders, pillage, disasters, and taxes.

We are about to be shoved into yet another tax fight, like it or not. Even this old war horse finds herself tired and unwilling to rise and fight again.

BUT this may be the battle that we should all enjoin. For the first time, the Selectmen from all seven town in the KRSD have come to an agreement on a way to settle the school district's tax inequities.

The even greater battle is going to be getting out the voters to ratify their agreement. As I understand it, Bradford needs to turn out a minimum of 300 voters at the school district meeting on March 5. IF we can overcome our feelings of hopelessness and apathy, each of us will be, literally, putting money in our own pockets. We may also be taking the first small step toward both resolving the educational dilemma facing our country and the ever increasing budget for our school system.

Maybe, just maybe, if I take three people with me, and you take three people with you to the annual meeting, we together will be able to get this question passed once and for all.

So ... let's go out and lock the barn door, then count our blessings.

Happy New Year!



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GARDENING

by Fred Winch

The New Year brings us lengthening days, afternoons are noticeably longer. By the end of the month, the sun will rise about 15 minutes earlier and set 35 minutes later. More of our comings and goings will be in daylight again.

The effect of that light will be noticeable on the plants on your windowsills. Growth will start to increase. However, the fertility of the soil should be maintained if growth is to be maintained. It is fortunate that clean, odorless plant foods are available to all houseplant growers that can be easily applied as needed in the pots.

Such plant foods as Peters or MiracleGro, used by greenhouse men or home garden enthusiasts, may be dissolved in tap water as directed and applied periodically during the winter months to stimulate foliage or flowers. Without such plant foods, growth of the inside gardens may languish.

Often in the hurry to bring plants into the house in the fall, not enough attention is paid to the potting process. If the soil is poor, or the pot too small, plants do not do well. If so, it would be a good idea to repot those weaker plants. Take the plant out of the pot. Remove much of the soil from the roots. Trim the roots. Repot using a good potting soil, to which you have added humus or compost. Then cut back and thin the top growth, leaving the strongest, though not necessarily the tallest, shoots. Water with the fertile water and continue to feed the plants as they start growing.

The top growth from plants such as geraniums, begonias, and Christmas cactus may be saved and rooted for new plants for the coming year. A very simple way of rooting in a jar of water works well for many plants. Cut the shoot at the base of a leaf, dip the damp end in a rooting compound, such as "rootone" and place in the water.

Rootlets will appear in a short time. Then pot the cuttings.

January is the time to prepare for seedling production. Look through gardening catalogs at the new aids to growing plants. Order seed early, but also perhaps order some of the aids the age of plastic has brought. One is a plastic tray fitted with a soil heating cable, thermostatically keeping the soil a constant 70-75 degrees. Germination seems instantaneous! Growth is fast. With such new equipment, the production of seedlings is easy and rapid.

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Book Review, by Pauline Dishmon

THE GENERAL'S DAUGHTER

by Nelson DeMille

Warner Books, 1992

Available at Brown Memorial Library

This murder mystery focuses on rape and its far-reaching ramifications. Paul Brenner, an undercover agent for the U.S. Army's CID Division of Criminal Investigation, and Cynthia Sunhill, a rape specialist with whom Brenner was romantically linked the year before in Brussels, are assigned to the case.

The story, written in first person, with Brenner as narrator, is a scathing portrayal of military life and demonstrates how neglect of a rape victim's psyche can be more disastrous than the act itself. As the investigation moves forward, Brenner takes a liking to the deceased Captain Ann Campbell, daughter of Lieutenant General Joseph Campbell at Fort Hadley, Georgia.

The story takes the reader through the examination of major characters, all officers except for two civilians. All, supposedly, had been intimate with the deceased. The victim, found on the firing range, her hands and feet bound with tent rope, was naked except for a wristwatch. The watch, computer printouts, and videotapes provide clues.

The author, a lieutenant in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam conflict, presents a realistic story with color, savvy and touches of humor. Here is Brenner's description of live-in female friends: "They fall into two categories," he says, "the organizers and the slobbers. There's probably a third category--the naggers, who try to get you to do things, but I've never run into one of those."

As partners, Brenner and Sunhill are great, but they bicker a lot. She tells him, "You could have been nicer," and he gives her the more difficult assignments, which she carries out splendidly.

Using forensics, experience, tactics, and a knowledge of human nature, they devise a plan to get a confession. Clever plotting.

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January Calendar

Monday, January 3

Selectmen's meeting, 7:00

Tuesday, January 4

ZBA, town hall, 7:00

Budget Committee, town hall, 7:00

Combined School Board/School Budget Committee meeting, high school, 7:30

Fish & Game Club, Lake Todd Clubhouse

Wednesday, January 5

Bradford Business Association, Lumber Barn, 7:00

Thursday, January 6

Facilities Committee, town hall, 7:30

Monday, January 10

Selectmen's meeting, 7:00

Tuesday, January 11

Planning Board, town hall, 7:30

Wednesday, January 12

Cemetery Trustees public hearing, town hall, 7:30 (snow date, Jan 19)

PTC meeting, elementary school multi-purpose room, 7:00
Babysitting available

Thursday, January 13

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

School Board meeting, high school, 7:30

Friday, January 14

Whist Society, everyone welcome. Benefit the Bradford Bridge, Town Hall, 7:30 pm.

Monday, January 17

Civil Rights Day, no school

Selectmen's meeting, 7:00

Rescue Squad spaghetti dinner, Appleseed Inn, 5:00-8:30

Road Committee, town hall, 7:00

Tuesday, January 18

Kindergarten Parents meeting, 6:45

Supervisors of the Checklist, town hall, 7:00-9:00

Conservation Commission, Tillie Wheeler's, 7:30

Thursday, January 20

Facilities Committee, town hall, 7:30

Monday, January 24

Selectmen's meeting, 7:00

Tuesday, January 25

Planning Board, town hall, 7:30

Thursday, January 27

School Board meeting, high school, 7:30

Friday, January 28

Whist Society, everyone welcome. Benefit the Bradford Fire Department, Town Hall, 7:30 pm

Monday, January 31

Selectmen's meeting, 7:00

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

Classified Ads

OVER THE RAINBOW Consignment Store. New and used children's clothing and other items. Located behind the Bradford Town Hall. Now open, Mon, Wed, Thurs, Fri 10:00-4:00; Sat 10:00-2:00. 938-5225.

COLLEGE SELECTION HELP. I can help you choose the college(s) which are right for you. I use Peterson's Directions Software--1994 version. Call Tom at 938-2696.

MUSIC EQUIPMENT FOR SALE OR TRADE. Marshall Lead 12 amp, \$175; Peavey Basic 40 amp, \$125; Peavey Rage amp, \$75; Peavey Patriot guitar, \$100; Hondo Two bass, \$110. For more information, call 938-2837.

APARTMENT FOR RENT. Efficiency with loft, Main Street, Bradford. Share heat, plowing, parking. \$280 per month. References/deposit. Call 938-5425.

APARTMENT FOR RENT. One bedroom, partial heat, hot water, plowing, trash pick-up. \$330 per month. References/deposit. Call 938-5425.

AUTOMOBILES FOR SALE. 1983 Grand Prix, \$1100. 1977 Ford Van, \$300. Call 938-2326.

FOR SALE. Bauer Turbo hockey skates. Size 9, brand new. \$35 or best offer. 938-2940.

FOUND. Blue Casal moped. Owner can claim by identifying. Call 938-2940.

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