



THE BRADFORD BRIDGE

PROFILE

Meet Your Neighbor
Priscilla Danforth
See page 13

Volume 6, Number 7

Community News - By and for our neighbors

July 1996

INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION

Saturday, July 6

- 7:30-10 **Full Breakfast** - Masonic Lodge
Baked Goods Sale - Order of the Eastern Star
- 8:30-11 **5 K Road Race** - Town Hall
Walkers & runners, all ages;
Registration 8:30; race start 10:00
T-shirts to first 100 entrants; prizes & trophies
- 9-3 **Church Fair** - Church grounds
(rain location, Town Hall)
White Elephants, Dolls & Crafts, Bakery, Cookies, Children's Table, Tools, Plants, Gramps' Woodcraft, Grandma's Antiques etc., Books, Jewelry, Youth Group's Sundaes, Handmade Quilt Chances, Goat Cheese, Jellies, Maple Syrup and More!!
- 9:30-1:30 **Flea Market** - Library lawn
- 10:00 **Police "Safety Demonstration"** - Town Hall
- 11:00 **UNH "Little Red Wagon Caravan"**
Kids' show - Church grounds
- 11:30-3 **Church Fair Luncheon**
- 1-4 **Quilt Exhibition** - Candlelite Inn, Thistle and Shamrock Inn
- 3:00 **Raffle drawing** for handmade quilt
- 4:00 **PARADE** - "50's Flashback"
(July 7 rain date)
Firemen & Firefighting Equipment, Floats, Kearsarge Community Band, 50's cars, Andover One-Wheelers, Hobo Minstrels, Oldies 99 Green Machine, Surprises & More!
- 4:00 **Midway Opens** - Brown Shattuck Field (July 7 rain date)
Games, Booths, Food, Vendors
- 5:30 **Firemen's Famous Chicken BBQ**
plus Raffle, Music & More!
- Dusk **FIREWORKS DISPLAY**

Sponsors: Bradford Fire Dept., First Baptist Church & Town of Bradford

See pages 10 & 11 for more info on the festivities.

Robert Raymond named Citizen of the Year

Robert "Bo" Raymond, owner of the Bradford IGA, has been selected by the Bradford Voters Coalition as its Citizen of the Year. This award recognizes his lifetime of work for the Town of Bradford.

In Bo's case, "volunteer" is not an accurate description. His store is a central element in the life of the community and through the store, he supports the community ... donating food to both organizations and families. He does his good works with little fanfare, so those not directly touched are often unaware of his generosity.

But Bo's efforts extend much wider than just feeding the community. Bo graduated from part-time to full-time employee when he graduated from high school in 1972. His instinctive willingness to help surfaced soon after. He joined the fire department in 1973 and today serves as deputy chief. Not only does he fight fires, but he encourages his employees to do the same. He has served as a deputy forest fire warden since 1977. He also found time to be a part-time police officer for 13 years and to serve on the rescue squad. A good example of his responsive nature was the donation of his office to Lake Sunapee Bank when the bank closed for several months due to gasoline fumes.

He gets excited when he describes his responsibility for Bradford's fireworks display. He has earned a pyrotechnician's license and is responsible for designing the display, selecting the fireworks, and putting on the show. He's enthusiastic about this year's event. He ordered some larger fireworks and intends to set off some spectacular series, as well as tighten the show to reduce its duration.

Of course his service nature extends to activities involving his three sons. He is a board member of the Bradford-Newbury Youth Sports organization and a baseball coach. He also was a cub scout and boy scout leader for five years.

When asked about the IGA's economic situation, Bo says the business grew steadily until 1992 (he became the owner in 1984 when his uncle, Carl Danforth, died).

■ See CITIZEN, page 16

Combined library & town offices building under consideration

In an effort to explore all town facility possibilities, the Selectmen have asked the Library Trustees to consider the feasibility of building a single structure on the Central School property to house both the library and town offices. A joint meeting was held on June 18 to discuss the matter. Library Trustees expressed willingness to consider the possibility and asked the Selectmen to submit a written proposal by July 15.

Trustees expressed concern over whether the Central School site was suitable for such a large building. Parking and traffic flow were discussed, particularly the issue of the safety of children walking to the library. Architect Peter Tennant was asked whether the savings from shared services was substantial. He said there would be some savings in site prep, electric, septic, heat and water, as well as long-term maintenance costs. Janet Sillars expressed her view that the town hall, an historic building, was the best place for town offices.

Selectman Joe Conway asked that all remember that the needs of the town are paramount and the town doesn't have the resources to fund multiple facilities projects. He said this effort is an attempt to develop more than one proposal for consideration at the 1997 town meeting.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Town of Bradford will be holding a public hearing on Monday, July 15, 1996, at 7:00 pm in the Town Hall for the Police Management Study of the Bradford Police Department. The public is invited to provide comments to the Review Committee regarding the Bradford Police Department. The public may also submit comments in writing to Chief Stephen MacKinnon at the Salem Police Department, 9 Veterans Memorial Parkway, Salem, NH 03079, or call him directly at 890-2350.

OBITUARY**Leonard E. Sargent**

Leonard E. Sargent, 89, who lived at the corner of Main Street and Gillingham Drive, died June 19 at his home.

Sargent was born in Waltham, Mass., the son of Edgar and Lillian (Isenor) Sargent.

Most of his career was with Burroughs Wellcome (now Glaxo Wellcome) pharmaceutical company as a medical research chemist. He had also been employed by Standard Oil of New Jersey. He had lived in Mount Kisco, N.Y., from 1946 to 1970 and moved to Bradford in 1971.

He was a member of the First Baptist Church of Bradford and served on the Diaconate. He was a member of the Bradford Conservation Commission and the Historical Society.

He was predeceased by his wife, Doris (Fuller) Sargent, who died in 1986.

He is survived by two daughters, Jean Morgan of North Salem, N.Y., and Judith Snyder of Bath, Mich.; seven grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; a niece, a nephew, and cousins.

Memorial contributions may be made to the First Baptist Church, P.O. Box 57, Bradford, or to Nursing Services Homecare, 46 Newport Road, New London, 03257.

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OBITUARY**Walter G. Richard**

Walter Gilbert Richard, 75, of Route 114, died June 7 at Concord Hospital.

Richard was born in Pembroke, the son of Philius and Gertrude (Welch) Richard. He married Marcelle Mottin in 1947 and they settled in Bradford in 1971.

He served with distinction in the U.S. Army during World War II, obtaining the rank of Master Sergeant. He was awarded the Bronze Star, Military Valor Cross, and Legion of Merit Ribbon.

He graduated from Benjamin Franklin University in Washington, D.C. He worked for 27 years as an international financial consultant for World Bank International. His assignments often took him and his family to the Far East, Africa, and the Caribbean Basin.

He is survived by his wife; a son, Gregory Richard of Las Vegas, Nev.; a daughter, Maryse Conway, and son-in-law, Joseph Conway, of Bradford; seven sisters, Sr. Berta, Estelle, Christine, Eleanor, Pearl, Dorothy and Madeline; and four grandchildren.

He was predeceased by a son, Philippe Marcel Richard.

Memorial donations may be made to the Bradford Rescue Squad.

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**News from the Town Clerk and
Tax Collector's office****TOWN CLERK**

The owners of any dogs not registered must see the Police Dept. to get their registrations.

Vital Statistics:

Walter G. Richard died June 7.

Joseph Michael Porter was born June 12 to Stephen and Lyn Porter.

Leonard E/ Sargent died June 19.

TAX COLLECTOR

The first half tax bills are due on July 12, 1996. After that date, unpaid balances will accrue interest at 12%.

OFFICE HOURS: Monday, 2:00-7:00;
Tuesday, 8:00-5:00; Friday, 8:00-noon.
Telephone: 938-2288, 938-2094.

Sue Pehrson, Town Clerk/Tax Collector

From the Cemetery Commission

The Bradford Cemetery Commission would like residents to remember that cemeteries are either private property or town property. Do not take plants from cemetery grounds to landscape your yard. For a copy of the Bradford Cemetery rules and regulations, including placement of flowers and shrubs, inquire at Town Hall, or of the Sexton or any cemetery trustee.

Call 938-5386 for time and date of July meeting.

Bradford Bridge Subscriptions

For those wishing to receive the Bradford Bridge by mail, the annual subscription price is \$12. To subscribe, please send a check to the address below.

The Bradford Bridge

P.O. Box 463

Bradford, NH 03221

Telephone: 938-2286

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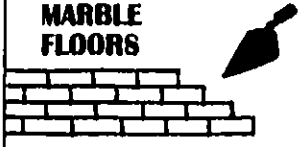
BBA series on Main Street area

The Bradford Business Association is embarking on its summer meeting schedule with optimism and energy. The theme of the educational portion of the meetings will be Main Street, the heart of our business community. Due to the importance of this topic to the community at large, residents are encouraged to attend and take part in these discussions. The July meeting will be held Monday, the 15th, at 7:00 in the church vestry.

The first speaker in this series will be Steve Ensign, President and CEO of Lake Sunapee Bank. Steve will explore the whys and wherefores of banking in Bradford. He will focus his expertise on business development and community awareness related to Bradford's current economic climate. The second program, August 19, will feature a roundtable with Bradford's three selectmen, Dave Pickman, John Signorino and Joe Conway. At the September 15 meeting, Stuart Arnett, Director of Planning and Development for the City of Claremont, will discuss accessing outside economic resources and developing a positive business climate.

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MASONRY**

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REFERENCES
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Notes from the Road Committee

Work has been completed on Forest Street under a contract with Rowe Brothers Construction. Trees were cut, ditches improved, culverts replaced with larger ones as needed, and much gravel spread. All was accomplished within the \$14,600 bid price and reimbursed by federal and state funds because of damage to the road by flood waters last October. Forest Street will not be plowed for winter travel, but is now open and will be maintained as a "summer road."

Committee Chair Bob Stewart Jr. reported on an inspection meeting held at the Fairgrounds Road bridge project. He and Hoyle Tanner's site engineer outlined details that must be addressed by United Construction before the project is completed.

The next two bridges to be renovated under the state 80% aid program are on West and Fairgrounds Roads, on either side of the current project. Seven engineering firms submitted letters to the Selectmen as the first step in choosing a firm to design these bridges. The Road Committee agreed to screen the letters and report to the Selectmen.

Road Agent Andy Anderson has engaged Dennis Hisler to replace railings on the Breezy Hill Road bridge over Melvin Brook.

The Committee also discussed Anderson's concern about horses damaging newly paved portions of Fairgrounds Road.
--Marcia Keller

NOTICE

The Town of Bradford requests that horse owners demonstrate caution both for town roads and their animals by keeping to the shoulder when high temperatures soften the pavement.

Strawberry Night - Shortcake and Band Concert July 26

The Bradford Historical Society's scheduled July meeting will be substituted in favor of an old tradition, slightly updated. STRAWBERRY NIGHT will be held at Bradford Center, with the Hopkinton Town Band playing at 6:00 pm. The concert is free and all are welcome. Shortcake for a pittance will be served from the Schoolhouse; all proceeds to provide a new, secure door for the building. **COME ONE, COME ALL**, come early with a picnic, blanket or chairs, and make it a family affair.

The Union Congregational Society and the Historical Society enjoyed a delightful, insightful talk on the history of meetinghouses at a joint meeting in June. Our thanks to Karl Salathe.

AUGUST DATES TO NOTE: On August 16, 17 and 18, Ted Lettvin and his friends will concertize at the Meetinghouse. This now eagerly awaited summer tradition will benefit the Bradford Center Restoration. So save the dates and watch for details to come.

And on August 28, the Bradford Historical Society will host a Center Schoolhouse Alumni Reunion and Picnic on the lawn at the Center. Again, more to come.

Historical Society Headquarters will be open on Saturday afternoons during the summer from 1:30 until 3:00 pm or by appointment (phone 938-5386). --Nancy Hibbard



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Furniture by Conrad Szymkowicz selected for exhibition

Conrad Szymkowicz was one of fourteen craftsmen whose work was included in a joint exhibition of contemporary furniture presented by the New Hampshire Historical Society and New Hampshire Furniture Master Association. One of Conrad's entries was a handsome screen made from Pennsylvania walnut and dichroic laminated glass containing more than a thousand pieces of wood and a thousand pieces of glass arranged by glass artist Thomas Meyers of Antrim.

In an unusual two-year collaboration, the exhibition culminated in an auction on June 29 by John Hays, Senior Vice President and Head of Christie's American Furniture and Decorative Arts Department.

In the catalog's essay, James L. Garvin wrote: "New Hampshire cherishes a proud tradition as a cabinetmaking center.....today, New Hampshire revels in a reinvigorated cabinetmaking tradition. A new generation of craftsmen is applying intelligence, self-discipline, aesthetic sensitivity, and great manual skill to create furniture as fine as that ever made anywhere."

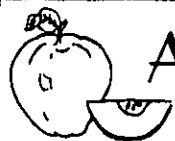
Other area master craftsmen in the exhibit were Ted Blachly of Warner and William Thomas of Hillsborough. --Audrey Sylvester

RASPBERRIES

Gene's raspberries should be ready by July 15.

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Letters

To the editor:

I would like to thank all the people in Bradford who helped to surprise me on my 55th birthday. The Bradford Women's Club, the Bradford Historical Society, the Union Congregational Society, the Country Capitalists, the Bradford Rescue Squad, and so many friends and neighbors were able to keep the secret. And in a small town where news travels fast, that was not an easy trick to pull off.

Thank you to the Bradford IGA for the delicious food trays and to Jackie MacLeod for the yummy and beautiful cake. Thank you for all the many cards and gifts. Most of all, thank you to my adorable husband of 33 years, Dick, and to my children, Christine, Stephen and Richard, for putting this whole surprise party together.

Sue Vitale

Thanking our town and its residents....

We wish to thank the Bradford Rescue Squad and Police Department, who so promptly and professionally helped us on the evening of June 7th. We personally thank Parker McCartney, Preston Starr, Mike Dunn, Felicia Bagley and Officer Richard Simmons for the incredible efforts they made in staying with my father as he was rushed to Concord Hospital that night. It is with great appreciation that we realize how fortunate we are to live in such a special community. Let it be not only when such tragic situations occur that we remember the very thoughtful and caring people we are proud to call our neighbors and friends. Thank you all for your help, support and compassion throughout these very difficult times.

Joe and Maryse Conway

A BIG THANK YOU FROM BNKP FOR YOUR DONATIONS TO OUR SPRING RAFFLE

Sweet Patch, Appleseed Inn, Lake Sunapee Bank, Bradford IGA, Family & Friends Garage, Merrimack Farm Store, R.L. Dodge, Dickie's Outdoor Sports, Pizza Chef, Accommodating Beauty with Lannie, Cobble Pond Farms, Video Pursuit, Bradford Police Dept., Tayo Sands, Lyons Nursery, Flash Photo, Donut Factory, 14 Carrots, Bald Sunapee Garden Center, Skinners, LisAnns, China City, Family Video, Christie's Indoor Garden, Visions and Dreams, Best Western, Home Hill Inn, C.B. Coburn, Little Chinese Restaurant, Perry's Boathouse, Rainbow Garage, TransMedic, Young Horizons, Serendipity, Huberts, Little GabriAnnah, and Clarke's Hardware.

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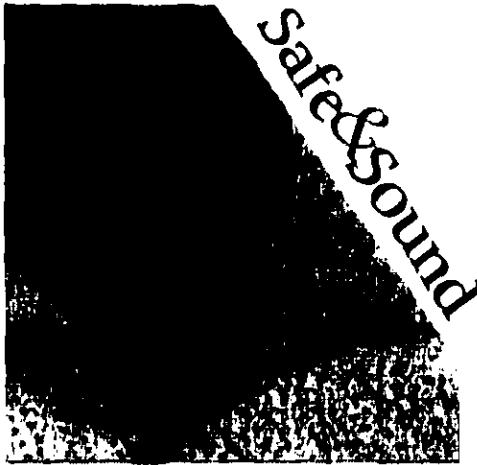
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Bradford Women's Club News

The Women's Club is donating a banner with the new Town Insignia to the Town of Bradford. It will be seen at the annual Independence Day Parade. The 5'x3' banner will then be hung at Town Hall, outside the business offices. It is hoped that in the future all organizations in town will stand unified under one symbol. This was the intention of the Insignia Committee, to bring a little cohesiveness to "Our Town." We now have town vehicles, police department and official stationery with this insignia. It would be nice to see it put to use by all businesses.

At this time of year all dues should have been received by our treasurer. If you have not paid, please mail them to Nancy Hibbard. Our yearbook will be going to print the end of the month, and it is hoped everyone will be current. For any changes, deletions or additions, call Jane Lucas.

We remind all members that at the July 6 parade, BWC will be selling sausage and pepper subs from our food booth at Brown/Shattuck Park. Bring friends and guests for a treat after the parade.

Fair workshops have been scheduled for this month. Anyone intending to come is asked to call the hostess. Scheduled workshops are July 17, Jean Gaitto 938-5964; July 24, Doris Tremblay 938-5260; July 31, Jane Lucas 938-2570. Meetings start at 10:00 am.

--Lu Signorino

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Patricia Dugdale 938-5407

Bradford-Newbury Kindergarten and Preschool news

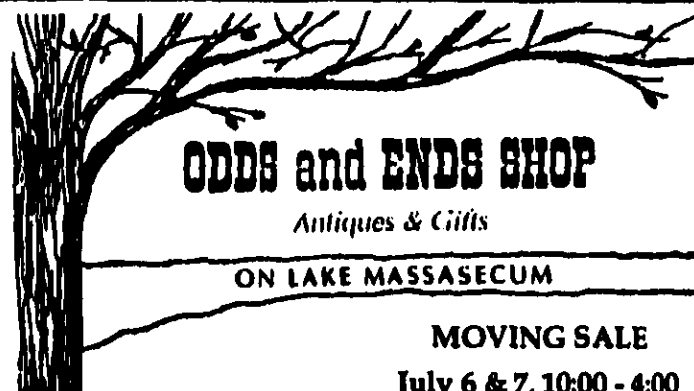
Twenty children graduated from our school this year before a packed audience. Parents, grandparents, friends and family watched as graduates received diplomas and balloons from their wonderful teachers, Susan Kingsbury and Jonas Cosgrove. The children demonstrated their knowledge of sign language by signing the alphabet, singing songs and playing instruments under the direction of our music teacher, Kathy Lowe Block. Refreshments and the drawing for our annual spring raffle closed out a delightful evening.

We offer our most grateful thanks to all the businesses who donated items and services to our spring raffle. Grand prize winners were Ben Benedict, winning a one-night stay at the Best Western, and Josh Perkins, with a stay at the Home Hill Inn. Other winners were Lauren Newell, Cheri Carso, Dave Leathers, Caroline Forgiel, Nancy Alibrandi, Frank Teel, Alan Harris, Ellen Van Cura, Ginny Shea, Eleanor Wanders, Maggie Dayton, Michelle Fellows, Neil Martin, Lillian Sejkousky, and Dianne Archambeault.

This fall BNKP is offering an afternoon program for three-year-olds. The class will meet Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, 1:00 to 3:00, at the Town Hall; tuition is \$40 a month. For information or to register, call Janet Bauer at 938-2195.

New board members were elected at our last parent meeting. They are: Tracey Barker and Marcia Jenkins, co-presidents; Janet Bauer, secretary; Michael Marr, treasurer; Donna Marr, assistant treasurer.

Thank you to all who donated to our Capital Fund Campaign! Your donations are helping greatly. As always, we wish to thank everyone who supported our school: the Selectmen, families of our students, and friends in town during our 25th year. We will continue to need your support in the coming years. See you in the fall. --Mary Keegan-Dayton



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MOVING SALE

July 6 & 7, 10:00 - 4:00

Furniture, loveseat, old trunk, Boston rocker, and other household goodies. Come and find your treasures.

Union Congregational Society's Summer Sunday Services

The Union Congregational Society is excited about its summer Sunday Services and hopes you will be too!

On Sunday, July 14, we will be privileged to have Father Joseph with us at 11:15 at the Center Meeting House. Father Joe, as he is known to his parishioners, comes to us from St. Patrick's and St. Joachim's Catholic Churches in Newport and Sunapee. It is possible that this service will be a folk Mass. Note the later hour for this service.

Please plan to join us for this and for the three services that will be held in August. The visiting preachers and your historical societies go to great lengths to make these services possible; you can show your support for their efforts by joining us for these events in the Meeting House. The services are open to everyone and provide an opportunity to learn more about your own and other faiths.

More about the August services in next month's *Bridge*. Here are the dates and the churches represented:

August 4 - Kearsarge Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

August 25 - Bradford Baptist Church.
--Clare Bensley



Church News from Lynne E. Hubley

CHILDRENS NEWS. Vacation Bible School will be held the week of July 22-26 from 9:00 - 11:30 am. The theme is "Friendship Adventures with Jesus." All children ages five and up are welcome to attend. Join us for games, snacks, Bible stories, skits and lots more.

Five of our young people will be going to Camp Sentinel in Ossipee this summer on almost full scholarships. Camp Sentinel is an American Baptist camp.

WORSHIP NEWS. 1st Sunday of the month -- Communion is served and 2 youths serve as acolytes and light the candles.

2nd Sunday of the month -- Prayer Request Sunday. We pass out prayer request cards and invite people to write down a request. All requests go into a basket and people take another request and pray during the week.

3rd Sunday of the month -- Invite a Friend Sunday.

Last Sunday of the month -- Hymn sing 5-10 minutes before service begins.

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP. Next meeting is Wednesday, July 17 at 7:30 pm at the home of John Harris (mill house on W. Main Street). Agenda for evening: badminton, croquet or take a sauna and relax.

BOARDS AND COMMITTEES. All our boards and committees will be taking a much-needed break during the month of July.

FOOD PANTRY. Food pantry committee will meet July 3 at 6:00 to wash shelves and stock the food pantry with food from upstairs kitchen. The food pantry will open on Wednesday, August 21. (See August *Bridge* for more details.)

FELLOWSHIP. Sunday, July 28 at 5:30 -- Potluck (bring your own utensils) and hymn sing -- praise music and traditional hymns.

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Legislative Report

by Representative Bernie Lamach



Last month's column was written just before the last session of the Legislature, which dealt with the Governor's vetoes and miscellaneous business.

The vetoes were not over-ruled, even though a majority supported each issue. Two-thirds majority is needed to override. Goals 2000, the educational grant program, and HB1525, the bill that would allow law suits to consider damages in addition to actual for wrongful death, were defeated by the veto. A modification of the Goals 2000 program by the federal government now will allow local school districts to file grant applications independent of the state board, so as it turns out, Kearsarge is now in the process of a direct grant application. I had the privilege to comment before the school board on June 27 relative to their planned application. We should be able to hear by September or October whether the Kearsarge application is chosen for award.

I did not vote for the bill setting up a possible distribution of funds to promote kindergarten. This bill, in my opinion, falls into the "feel good" category, as it proposes to provide \$500 per student IF the state is not deficient in funds. We now average more than \$6,000 per student in the Kearsarge district, this would place an extreme burden on the local property taxpayer to initiate a program in KRSD, even if the money materializes.

June 18th voters were asked to motor to the high school to vote on the merits of HB141, the measure that allows school district charter commissions to develop proposals to provide for local ballot voting on budget ap-

proval. Less than 200 people showed up, and the issue passed by about ten votes. The school board is now mandated to proceed with election of a charter commission to prepare materials for a future voter decision.

I for one was greatly disappointed over the small number of voters who decided the issue. Many area people will remember the very close votes I've experienced in my race for the legislature. I cannot emphasize too much the need for all voters to seriously consider their votes, as every vote counts. We cannot allow ourselves to get too casual in our attitudes toward civic duty.

One accomplishment of which I'm proud is the passage of a bill to study and recommend improvement in electronic communication and information in state departments and to the public. I was the sponsor of this bill (HB1110) and even though it was modified, it did manage to get passed into law.

Work I did on the electric deregulation bill, the hard of hearing telecommunication bill, and the offset of auto emission testing were also highlights.

I look forward to a summer reprieve, even if I'll still be attending study committee meetings. I have several pieces of legislation in mind for next year.

I'd like to return for another term, so I encourage comment and ideas from all interested individuals as I should be "around town" and accessible more this summer. Enjoy the July parade and festivities, and invite your friends!

Cheryl Kordas elected president of Concord chapter of women's business association

Cheryl Kordas of Bradford was elected president of the Business and Professional Women's Association, Concord Chapter. Another member from Bradford is Julie Friedline.

The association addresses the political, professional, and personal concerns of women; gives \$1,300 in scholarships annually; and holds open program meetings on the first Wednesday of each month at 5:30 pm at the Holiday Inn in Concord. (Membership is not required to attend meetings.) For information, call 485-1491.

Updating the Master Plan Update

The Planning Board's Master Plan Committee has enlisted volunteers and begun the process of mapping construction since the last Master Plan was written. Please, if you notice unusual activity on or near your property, don't shoot; it's probably townspeople doing a good community service.

As recently reported, the Committee will have a draft of the Master Plan's goals and objectives in the hands of the Planning Board on August first. --Nancy Hibbard

July Square Dance

STARS and STRIPES, a plus level square dance, will be held on Saturday, July 13, 8:00-11:00, at the Bradford Town Hall. Casual dress. The caller will be Red Bates; cuer, Sally Lennox. \$4 per person. Refreshments. For more information, call 863-9775.

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In memorium...to Walter G.

Richard

by Maryse (Richard) Conway

Most of us are not prepared for the sense of mortality that hits us when a parent dies. In a sense, parents provide a buffer between us and death. When a parent is still alive, there is protection between us and death. But with death, we come face to face with the fact that we're next in line. Although this is just one of the countless dynamics going on, we realize that the relationship we have just lost has a life of its own. The death of a parent shakes the very foundations of our lives. Daily routines are disrupted, assumptions about life and death are jolted, and values change.

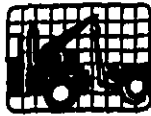
The recent death of my father is unlike anything I have ever experienced. It was (and is, to this day) overwhelming! At that moment I grew up. I was initiated into full adulthood ... the invisible umbilical chord was severed.

I am learning that grief does not take care of itself, that it is important to grieve fully, to completely experience the emotions, to let go of that parent, and to say 'good-bye.' In the process of grieving, we can find a new sense in living. The death of a parent gives us one last gift: a rite of passage which activates primal energies that we can work with to create unprecedented changes in our lives. In a sense, that death gives us again the gift of birth into a new life. There is a brief window of opportunity right after a parent's death when the family is open to change. It is then that we choose to participate in creating new patterns that are healthy for us and those around us.

My dad's presence will always be a part of my life and that of my family's. He touched and influenced many people during his life; he was a wonderful man. What follows is a letter I wrote to him the day before he died. Unfortunately, he did not read it. In hoping to spend a last Father's Day with him, this letter would have been his gift. Instead, I am sharing it with the residents of a town he lived in for the past 25 years, a town he shared with his family and was proud to call his home, a town he will always be a part of

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pictured left to right, Dick Violette, John Blitzer, Amy Blitzer, John Signorino, Ted Young, Tillie Wheeler, Sue Vitale, Mary Hopwood.

Tree planting commemorates Merrimack County Telephone's 100th anniversary

June 6, 1996 wasn't the official Arbor Day, but nevertheless, Bradford received the gift of a new tree. The tree was donated and planted by Alderic O. "Dick" Violette to commemorate the 100th anniversary of telephone service to Bradford.

Merrimack County Telephone was started in 1896 with a single telephone line between Bradford and Sutton. Bradford's 62 customers and 6 lines in 1902 have expanded to more than 6,800 access lines throughout four exchanges over a 220 square mile area of Merrimack County.

To commemorate this anniversary, Dick Violette generously provided a Bradford pear tree, which he planted at Lafayette Park. Representatives of the Selectmen's office, the Conservation Commission, and the Bradford Historical Society looked on.

Mr. Violette also provided handsomely printed brochures detailing the history of telephone service in Bradford. Copies are available at Brown Memorial Library and at the Bradford Historical Society. --Suzanne Vitale

You have been the gentle Giant in my life.
You have shown me the quiet ways of living life to its fullest.

You have taught me the value of patience, love, courage and strength.

You have instilled in me the ways of the world; you have shown me many horizons.

You have passed onto my daughters your tender ways, your free spirit and your golden heart.

I shall cherish all of the things you cared for, your love of nature and the beauty of the outdoors, like the sounds of a June morning. I thank you for all of the things you have given me, but most of all for having been a part of my world.

There is a place in my heart that will always be with you ... no matter how far you are, you will see it shining through.

As you go onto a new world, remember me, as I will always remember you.

Sleep in peace among the Angels.

I love you, Daddy.



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One of Bradford's oldest houses is home to the Bells

by Clare Bensley

One of Bradford's oldest, authentically correct, and most well preserved homes is the classic gem belonging to Bob and Beth Bell up on Rowe Mountain Road. Built in 1787 by Offin French, this home has been owned and loved by many Bradford families for more than two hundred years.

Offin French came to Bradford in 1786 after serving in the Revolutionary War. He was born in 1761, so would have been a teenager at the time he served. According to the records, he rode into town on horseback (probably by way of Hillsborough) with his new bride, Susanna Pressey. He bought his "wild" piece of land, which he cleared, then built the home where all 12 of the French children were born. He lived here to the end of his days, in 1811.

Offin built his house on the same basic old-fashioned plan which is seen so often throughout this area. It consisted of a central front door, two windows on either side, with the inside divided into four basic living areas. A large centrally located fireplace and chimney heated all four rooms. In many houses this basic plan can still be discerned, even though the houses have been added onto and renovated with central heating. In Offin's house, the large timbers were hewn by adz and held together with wooden pins. The old fashioned fireplace has been restored to heat the living room, but traces of the fireplace openings can still be seen in the dining room and kitchen.

Clearing the land was a slow arduous task back then. Trees were sawn by hand, rocks were removed using oxen (if the farmer was lucky enough to own a pair), pigs were pastured to root out the stumps left from logging. Finally, the land had to be tilled with simple tools before it could be turned into fields and pasture. One of the chief winter chores was building stone walls around the cleared land with the removed rocks so that animals could be confined. Often the walls



tumbled from frost, thus releasing the penned animals; hence the need for a town pound where animals could wait to be reclaimed.

While living in Bradford, Offin French probably voted with the town to erect a Meeting House in Bradford Center. But he would have died without seeing it completed, in 1838. He would, no doubt, have participated in the building of the Town Pound in 1789 and the School House in 1792. We would assume that some or all of his children attended the old School House; and in those days of stone walls and wooden fences, possibly some of his animals might have strayed and been impounded nearby.

Offin spent the remainder of his days in the home he created for himself and his family. His children married locally and many of the names we associate with early settlers appear in the family records: Cressy, Peaslee, Muzzy. Two of his sons married Eaton daughters, Phebe and Hannah. Offin French is buried in the fields he worked so hard to nurture. His grave is marked with a brass plaque and the symbol of one who served his country in the Revolution. Each spring the

American flag that marks his grave is replaced by the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Offin French supposedly wrote his own epitaph:

Beneath these stones lie Offin's bones
He did no good nor evil.
He lived like a hog and worked like a dog,
and now he's gone home to the devil.

Bob and Beth Bell have had the privilege of enjoying their home for 19 years. They've worked together to restore many of its early features and compile records of previous owners. They've added a large screened porch across the back where they take their meals in pleasant weather while looking out on the colorful gardens they've created in the fields. Like other families who've lived here since Offin French, Bob and Beth have loved this home and preserved it to be enjoyed by the many families who will live here in the future.



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Kearsarge High School band travels to Disney World

On April 18 at 3:15 pm, two coach buses filled with 90 members of the band and chorus and chaperones from Kearsarge Regional High School left the high school parking lot. Of these students, Rebecca Cullen, Sarah Levine, Tim Fenton, Francis Page, Mary Kate Bowie, Jon Garcia, Eliza Jones, Ben Leo, and Jen Fryler are Bradford students.

After many hours of practice and rehearsals, these enthusiastic students were on their way to Disney World in Florida, where they were to perform two concerts.

They arrived in Florida after a 28-hour bus ride. The student/musicians had a rehearsal, and then played and sang at their scheduled performances during the week at Magic Kingdom and Fantasy Land. They were presented with recognition awards after their performances.

After a week at Disney World, these students arrived back at the high school at 6:00 pm on Friday, April 26, all smiles and seemingly as enthusiastic as when they left.

They were very well received at the Travelodge in Kissimmee where they stayed. Disney World and all of their bus drivers were extremely complimentary of their promptness, courteous behavior, and enthusiasm.

It is very rewarding to hear and see students (OUR STUDENTS) today who are commended for their performance. This is a tribute to their families and to their music teacher, Mr. Ernest Mills, as well as Kearsarge Regional High School, for which we say thank you.

It should be noted that these students paid for this entire trip themselves through special projects and their personal funds.
--Marge Cilley

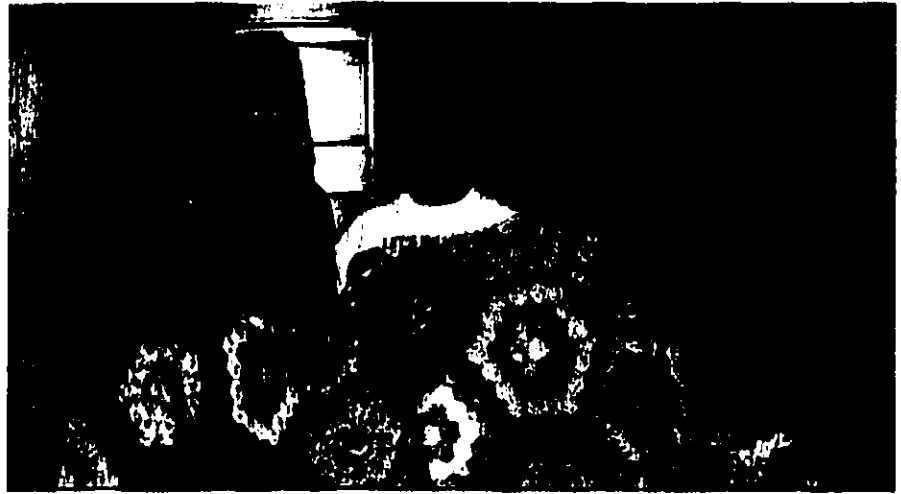
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Left to right, Lynn Horgan, Thistle and Shamrock Inn; Bunny Herman, workshop instructor, and Marilyn Gordon, Candlelite Inn.

Quilt exhibit at local inns

Quilts ... most of us have grown up with these snipped fabric wonders. But unless you take the time to look beyond the stitches, you might miss the magic of imagination. Designs run from traditional to abstract. Mostly it was a matter of what was available that determined how your quilt turned out ... "never waste good fabric." Part of that quilt belonged to the dress your Aunt May wore as her Sunday Best. Another piece came from the play clothes you'd outgrown. A piece of red fabric in your Grandmother's Garden quilt was found on the roadside as your mother was returning home from her trek to the grocery store. It was carefully washed and pressed, becoming a part of the family. Quilts are so much more than fabric and thread. They are bits and pieces of our family memories.

The Candlelite Inn and Thistle and Shamrock Inn have joined forces to host a quilt exhibit during the Independence Day celebration. From 1:00 to 4:00 on July 6, both inns will display quilts that have been generously donated by Bradford residents. We humbly thank each and every one who has allowed us the use of their treasured quilts. Stop by either or both inns and enjoy a delightful quiet respite from the festivities.

This fall the inns will offer many workshops, including traditional quilting. Watch for information regarding schedules.

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Festivities abound for Independence Day celebration

As the Bradford Independence Day celebration nears, the parade committee is pleased to announce some new entertainment and excitement for your enjoyment.

The Bradford Police Department will be welcoming the newly equipped and fitted 911 Van. The unit and displays will be set up in the Town Hall parking lot. They will be presenting information and hands-on telephones for the children. This is a wonderful way for your children (and yourself) to learn about the 911 system in a fun way. This Van and those manning it comes to us from the State 911 office. Please welcome them and learn about the 911 system.



Alejandro's OLDE TYME MAGIK SHOWE is a wonderful blend of classical magic and comedy guaranteed to entertain the whole family. With his zany brand of humor and zest for fun, Alejandro will enchant and amuse the whole family, often with the aid of volunteer assistants from the audience. Alejandro's Olde Tyme Magik Showe has been featured all around New England and at First Night New Hampshire

for the past four years. You will find Alejandro in front of the Baptist Church at 2:00.

Enjoy the 4th of July the way it was meant to be ... travel back in time to a bygone era! From 1:00-3:00, Enchanted Horse Drawn Carriage Rides will be departing from the Thistle and Shamrock Inn. The 18th century Cinderella-style carriage will take lovely 7-10 minute journeys down Gillingham Lane for only \$1.00 per person (children under 2 ride free).

The parade committee would like everyone to know that it's not too late to put an entry in the float contest ... which has a \$200 cash prize. Don't have a float? How about an animal or two? Maybe a tractor or other farm equipment? If you think you have something that would add interest to the parade, please contact Mary Mitchell at 938-5268.

Kids, get those bikes ready, pull out those doll carriages and find your wagons! Use your imagination and decorate like mad!! Don't forget there's a \$25 cash prize for the best entry in this category. On the 6th, please find Suzie (in orange vest) in the field to the right of the Post Office. She will take your name and phone number and give you a number to wear for the judges. If you win, you will receive a call. Hopefully you'll be able to come and collect your prize at Brown Shattuck Field before the fireworks.

This parade is going to be wonderful!!!
--Mary Mitchell

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TWO GRAMPS ... Roy Parsons (l) and Ray Hamilton, with some of their wooden things that will be available for sale at the Baptist Church Fair on July 6, 9:00-3:00 during Bradford's Independence Day celebration.

Third annual boat parade on Lake Massasecum

The third annual Boat Parade, sponsored by the Lake Massasecum Improvement Association, will be held Sunday, July 7 at 4:00. As in previous years, participants will congregate in front of Snow's cottage at 3:30. There is no registration or fee to join in and we hope families will decorate their crafts (not mandatory, but fun) to help to celebrate the Independence Day holiday.

The permit for the parade does not allow fireworks or flares and all boating safety regulations must be observed. At the finish of the parade, which takes about an hour, all participants are invited back to the Snows' home for cold drinks and a social time, a chance to get acquainted and enjoy the camaraderie.

For information, call Tom & Judy Marshall at 938-2336.

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We will be CLOSED on July 4th - Have a great holiday!

A Point of View

by Luanne Mayo

Have you ever come to, one morning, and realized that you've not been mentally in gear for a period of time? After I shattered my hip last January, my mind seems to have been semi-disengaged. I did a lot of free floating and looking at my world with different eyes, from a different perspective. Things that had seemed important had taken on much less significance; priorities have shifted; and some been reassigned. It took me quite a time to accept the fact that I really had disabled myself and that it would take months to work through the problems I'd created.

My first jolt into this new reality was living with, and watching, the sheer raw courage and perseverance of patients at the rehab hospital. One morning a room filled with people having therapy fell silent and held their collective breath as they watched a fellow patient pull himself off a floor mat and into his wheel chair. Everyone cheered and clapped and some of us cried, for ourselves, for each other (he had been told that he would never move again). If he could pull off such a monumental feat, what the rest of us had to accomplish was sissy stuff, and there was certainly no room left for self pity or moaning.

My second cause for wonderment was the tremendous out-pouring of love and concern that came to me. It was "awesome." It made me realize how deficient I have been over the years. How downright selfish; no, thoughtless, I have been in extending myself to others who have been in need. We both thank all of you who fed us, flowered us and made us both feel so loved and nurtured, and kept us from feeling isolated from the main stream of everyday life ...

This past week our town has lost one of its most generous neighbors, Leonard Sargent. Leonard gifted so many people with his love and caring. He was always available to help, and to extend himself, at odd hours, for people he didn't even know well. Hundreds of Bradford children will carry a piece of Leonard with them for life; he was the man who took pictures of multitudes of kids in their Halloween costumes each year. He was the one who drove people to chemo treatments and to pharmacies and grocery shopping and to the post office. Leonard was the embodiment of the goodness that pervades this little town of ours.

I asked a woman in Florida once why she had literally taken me into her home. Her answer was that she had a daughter about my age and that some day she might need help and she hoped that some one would come to her aid. She had an unshakable belief that good deeds (not her words) went round in circles and eventually came back to those in need. There is no real way to thank these generous folks, except to pick up the torch and carry on the thread of goodness that flows through our little community. How blessed I feel living here in Bradford

Can you guess who the little girl is?



Hint: She grew up to be president of the Bradford Women's Club. Please join her family in wishing her a Happy Birthday on July 25th. Believe it or not, she'll be 60!!! (if you really don't know, the answer is on page 16)

Charles Smith

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Report on June Planning Board meetings

At the June 11 meeting, Doug Sweet of Bristol Sweet & Associates met to discuss subdividing land of Louise Hall on Route 114 (approximately 41 acres).

Board discussed Library thrift shop and whether it should be excluded from site plan regulations. Library Trustees will be asked to come before the Board.

Status of Blake's Garden Center was discussed, resulting in discussion of value of recording site plans. Tammara Van Ryn said that it would be in the best interest of the town if the plans were recorded, indicating conditions of the approval. No action was taken.

At the June 25 meeting, Bob Stewart submitted two requests for voluntary merger of lots, both on High Street. In both instances, High Street runs through the proposed combined lots, resulting in a question of whether the lots are "contiguous." Board recommended that Stewart establish that the waterfront lots are unbuildable and apply for tax abatements. If the results are unsatisfactory, he can return to the Board and continue his application for voluntary merger of lots.

Library Trustees met to discuss thrift shop set up in old Central School. Board discussed whether Library qualified as town organization, exempting it from town regulations. Trustees stressed this was a temporary activity which would be closed around Labor Day. Perry Teele said this "commercial" activity was not a normal library operation, and so he felt it required submission of a site plan. Board agreed to consult with legal counsel. If it is determined that a site plan is required, Library Trustees will be notified immediately to speed the application process.

Reviewed request for voluntary merger of lots from Pierre and Diane Planchet, Cressy Road. Planchets will be asked to get a new confirming deed covering the merged lots.

Selectmen returned Sludge Ordinance to Board after review, with no comments. Public hearing will be scheduled.

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Meet Your Neighbors

by Audrey V. Sylvester

Priscilla Danforth lives in one of Main Street's immaculately kept village houses. Painted white-white with black barn door and trim, her 1800's home (noted for its hand-carved pineapple baluster) sits on a generous portion of land, where back garden and lawn provide a setting for neighborly friendship out of the public eye. She thoroughly enjoys her neighbors--the McKenna family. She said, "We have a lot of fun out there, planning the garden." She marvels that the McKenna babies who once were crawling around in the garden when their folks were trying to plant it, are now in college or just about to graduate from high school.

A modest, private person, Priscilla began the interview by stating, "I'm not much for telling about myself, but I have had wonderful and varied experiences in my life."



"Born in Lynn, Massachusetts, on September 21, 1907, she graduated from the Forsyth Dental School as a dental hygienist. After practicing for a limited time, she changed professions to follow her true love--the outdoors and sports. For 17 years, she was Director of Physical Education at the Mary Burnham School, formerly in Northampton, MA, now the Stoneleigh Burnham School of Greenfield,

MA. Eventually, she was invited to be Dean of Women at New England College in Henniker specifically to develop and implement women's sports programs. With a characteristic lack of "braggadocio," Priscilla allows herself to smile with inner pride as she mentions that New England College established a student award in her name. Since 1976, the *Priscilla C. Danforth Athletic Award* has been given annually to the "outstanding senior girl in sports." She hastily added the NEC Danforths are not related to her, but as colleagues, they used to joke about swapping bills if they didn't like their own.

Before Priscilla moved to Bradford, she knew the town. As a young girl, she had visited Bradford with her parents who summered in Sutton. Remembering dances at The Casino on Lake Massasecum, she said, "My mother sat upstairs overlooking the dance floor to keep an eye on all of us," she said, with a hearty laugh. She remembers trains coming to Bradford from Boston, dancing to the music of Stewartson's Orchestra on Lake Massasecum, and her grandfather cutting ice on the lake.

She lamented the demise of the Marshall House (diagonally across the street from her front porch). The house, frequently featured in antiques magazines, was one of the state's outstanding examples of Victorian architecture. When she mentioned the owner, Eleanor Marshall, Priscilla showed a sense of humor by telling just enough to capture the situation. She said, "Oh, poor Eleanor. She thought a lot of us and my kids, you know, but every morning she would come around with a pogo stick, go all around the building picking up all the pieces of paper and everything she saw. She couldn't stand a bit of paper. She'd have that place painted every year." "The Place" had a spiral mahogany staircase transcending to a turret roof-top lookout and a baby grand piano in the entry hallway. Bedrooms with individually colored marble fireplaces (pink, white, beige, or green) had hand sinks discreetly hidden in paneled closets. When the place burned, Priscilla watched from her living room, terrified that her own house might catch fire also. The enormous horse and carriage barn remains.

As she contemplates her 89th birthday, Priscilla is still creating her life journey. She worries how she will manage when she gives up her car and what the future will bring for her son, Tommy Pitts who shares her house. In spite of an unspoken sadness which casts shadows in her smile, she carries on a grand New England tradition--independence and self-sufficiency--a life lived with great dignity.

Report on Kearsarge Regional School District by Mike Hague, Bradford School Board Rep

GRADUATES. Congratulations are in order for Bradford's graduates from the high school. They are: Todd Matte, Sandra Coyle, Stephanie Roberts, Karin Rennellis, Mark Leonas, Melanie Jones, Ian Beaton, Steve LaDuke, Maori Stanton, Benjamin Smith, David Bow, Nathaniel Sironen, and Makaih Shultz. Melanie Jones, Mark Leonas, Benjamin Smith, and Maori Stanton have plans for college in the fall. By completing the rigors of high school, these young people have established themselves as ready to participate fully in the risks and responsibilities that are adulthood. Congratulations also to their families for their critical support and sustenance.

L. D. AIDES. During the May 30 meeting of your school board, the board was reminded that the three (special education) learning disability aides at the middle school were not being reinstated due to a reduction in the 1996/97 budget. Because the middle school staff felt strongly that the aides are a valuable help to the classroom teacher, Dr. Richards offered a compromise way to fund those positions half time. Comments from the audience were also all in favor of retaining the aides. So the board, in a close vote, voted to table the issue so it could be studied further. I voted with the majority. The issue will be brought up again at the July 18 board meeting at the high school, beginning at 7:15 pm. Contact me about your opinion or come to the meeting, or both. This will also affect the L. D. aide at the Bradford school. The school budget is so tight some hard choices will have to be made on this issue as we struggle to ensure quality education within a strict spending limit.

HOUSE BILL 141. By a vote of 98 to 88, district voters have decided to establish a

commission to study how the district handles its annual meeting. This commission will have two representatives each from Warner and New London, and one from each of the other towns. The commission will recommend to the voters, after a year of study, a way to approve school funding that is most appropriate for this district. It could be the same way we have been doing it for years, or it could be a different way (such as using electronic voting). The commission will be elected on September 10.

SCHOOL TO WORK PROGRAM. Kearsarge Regional School District has a grant-initiated school-to-work program that this year had 19 students "job shadow" local businesses for one week as part of their business class. Students saw first hand what their career interest was all about and are, therefore, more able to make a realistic choice about their own careers. Program development in the future provides for more applied academic courses in partnership with vocational courses open to more students. According to a recent survey of high school and middle school students, there is great interest in a vocational program. Future vocational courses could include culinary arts, graphic arts, and health occupations.

FOOTBALL. Football was approved by the school board as a high school club sport to begin in the fall 1997. It will not cost the district anything to run as the total cost will be borne by the Lake Sunapee Youth Football Association. Practices and games will not use district fields. After one season, the program will be evaluated to see if it should be supported by the district. There are 44 students from the district who have played in the recently established leagues for 10 to 14 year olds and another 50 or so Kearsarge students who expressed interest when surveyed. It is a sport that can attract students who are not involved in fall activities and one in which students do not have to be good athletes to excel. On the other hand, it could add about \$30,000 to the budget and though it may not cause a lot of injuries, it does cause the most serious ones. What do you think?

MISCELLANEOUS. Work on the high school addition and renovation is on target and on budget. The interest rate for the bonds sold to finance the work came under the expected rate of 6.2% ... it is 5.67%, which is good news for us taxpayers. Goals 2000 grant money will be applied for to use to better train teachers in a wide range of skills and to provide more time for planning. There will also be money used to set up a parent training center for teachers to help parents and their kids with academic studies after the school day is over.

Enjoy the summer weather. My phone number is 938-2722 and I welcome your comments and suggestions.

Bradford



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Selectmen's meetings in June

June 3. Police Chief Al Grindle reported on his survey of street lighting needs, saying that High Street requires additional lighting for safety.

Grindle announced that part-time officer Richard Simmons has resigned to take a full-time position in Laconia.

Three bids for tiling the new bathroom were reviewed, with the contract awarded to low bidder LaValley Building Supply. To finish the bathroom construction, Selectmen ordered fixtures and will install them when they are delivered.

A Request for Qualifications package for reconstruction of two bridges was reviewed and approved by Selectmen. The package will be sent to 13 bridge engineers, with a deadline of June 21.

Selectmen discussed space needs at the Town Hall and agreed they should have alternate plans to present at town meeting. Selectmen will solicit input from all offices housed in Town Hall concerning space needs.

June 10. Marcia Keller met to discuss installation of a swim line around the beach area at Lake Massasecum. She reported that the Town has received a swim line permit from the State and recommended purchase of necessary materials. Money was allocated in the Town Recreation Committee's budget and the Bradford Women's Club has volunteered to donate some funds to the project.

Selectmen reviewed and approved a draft Sludge Ordinance submitted by the Planning Board.

June 17. Police Chief Al Grindle responded to the Selectmen's request for space needs information with alternatives ranging from immediate needs to a "wish list" for a separate facility. He said immediate needs in-

volve the issue of confidentiality. The police office must be soundproofed and a way found to keep juveniles separated from adults, in an area that is at least 850-1,000 square feet.

Chief Grindle and Perry Teele, chair of the Planning Board, discussed the status of Bradford's Emergency 911 project. The next step involves submitting a corrected map to the State 911 office. Teele agreed to serve as the designated 911 coordinator for Bradford.

A public hearing has been set for July 15, 7:00 pm, at the Town Hall, for the Police Management Study Committee to receive input from residents.

Ken Anderson has agreed to maintain French's Park on a weekly basis. Community service youth, supervised by Officer Robbie MacLeod, will clean up the park. Selectmen Signorino and Pickman will place poles to mark the parking area.

Selectman Signorino reported that the Fairgrounds Road bridge was inspected by representatives of Hoyle, Tanner & Assoc. and United Construction, Bob Stewart, Jr. of the Road Committee, and himself. Several minor corrections were agreed to. Once completed, the bridge will be "signed off" by the engineers.

June 24. Ken Anderson met to discuss the five applications received for the Transfer Station assistant position. Selectmen agreed that Anderson should select an individual able to work all required hours, rather than rely on multiple substitutes.

Anderson reported that unauthorized dumping continues to be a problem. He suggested that a gate be installed between the upper and lower areas.

Bernie Lamach reported on his research concerning the Town electric account selected for retail wheeling. He discovered the account is for the blinker light on Route 114 at Main Street, which has a monthly charge of approximately \$36. After subtracting the me-

ter charge and other costs, he calculated that the savings to the Town by switching to an alternate electric source would be about \$1.50 a month! However, he said he was puzzled that the Town was paying for a light maintained by the State. Selectmen accepted his offer to research whether the State should pay the bill before determining what electric company to use.

Mary Mitchell discussed locations of portable toilets for the Independence Day celebration, reviewing which groups had agreed to pay for them. Selectmen expressed concern about communication among the various groups participating in the festivities and wondered whether a town parks and recreation committee could coordinate the process.

Thanks were expressed to Dave Pickman and Officer Robbie MacLeod, who, with Community Service participants, cleaned up French's Park on Saturday. Selectman Joe Conway volunteered to install the swim line during the week, and Ken Anderson will put out the picnic tables and secure them.

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WALK-INS WELCOME

Blue News ... report from the police department by Kathy Grindle

The Enhanced 911 has now been in effect for almost a full year and is proving to be quite successful. The town, in cooperation with E911, has been working on the map of all homes in Bradford to be used in emergency situations. They have, however, been running into a problem with the lack of house numbers on some homes in the area. All residents are asked to please have their house numbers easily visible from the STREET. If you have a long driveway, it does no good to have the number on the house where it cannot be seen from the street. Put the number on your mailbox if you have one, or on a post, facing both up and down the street so it is easily visible from either direction. The numbers should be at least 3 inches high and of contrasting color to the background. Remember, the inability to find your home can cost valuable time and possibly mean the loss of life or property in the event of an emergency.

We have had several complaints from residents this past month about dogs being loose, especially in the Old Sutton Road area. Please restrain your animals and do not allow them to run free. You can be assessed a fine or have the dogs impounded at your cost if your animals are found loose or are considered a nuisance.

We have also received numerous complaints concerning drivers not stopping at the stop sign on Center Road where Jones Road enters. There have been several accidents at that location in the past year and a half and many close encounters. This area will be **strictly enforced** and violators can be assessed a fine of \$72.

Officer MacLeod would like to thank the young lady who was so kind as to bring him dessert for the evening. Your culinary talents were greatly appreciated and much enjoyed.

We hope to see everyone at the festivities on July 6th. Enjoy!!

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CITIZEN, from page 1

The recession that devastated New Hampshire reduced his volume of business. With the opening of Warner's Market Basket a year ago, business has dropped about 60%. His response has been to reduce employees, from 20 to 9, cut back on inventory, and try to pay the bills. His frustration with the situation reflects his commitment to serve again ... "I'm disappointed to only be able to hire two students this summer; I like to give the local kids work."

The Bradford Voters Coalition is proud to have selected Bo Raymond as Citizen of the Year and hopes that Bradford will continue to benefit from his generous nature for years to come.

Two Democrats join race to serve as Bradford and Henniker reps

Democrats Barbara Conner French and Peter Bakke are running for the two State House seats representing Bradford and Henniker. They announced their intentions in front of the Bradford Elementary School. "We want to show our support for education in our towns and how vitally important it is for our children and for our state's future," Barbara French said. Both candidates strongly back Goals 2000 and support having school districts apply for the federal money it provides.

French and Bakke also support the school's position in the so-called Claremont law suit against the state. "The New Hampshire Supreme Court ruled favorably on this very issue three years ago," French pointed out. "I don't understand why the state is fighting it and spending all this money on litigation. Let's educate, not litigate."

Barbara French served as a NH Legislator 1993-94 and is a retired school nurse. Peter Bakke runs the Meeting House Inn with his family and is a former computer analyst for IBM. The candidates can be reached at 428-3366 (French) and 428-6334 (Bakke).

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BOOK REVIEW

by Pauline Dishmon

JOHANNA

A novel of the van Gogh family
by Claire Cooperstein
Scribner, 1995

Available at Brown Memorial Library

Art enthusiasts are familiar with Vincent van Gogh and his supportive brother, Theodoor, but few think about Theo's wife and her part in their lives. Johanna Bongers van Gogh is the major character in this novel, the person who kept the memory of the brothers alive following early deaths.

According to Cooperstein, her book is "faction" ... a combination of fact and fiction. The story is chiefly a product of her imagination and, to the reader, reasonable and logical. The diary begins December 24, 1888, shortly before Johanna's engagement party. Theo doesn't attend the party because he is visiting a comatose Vincent in a French hospital after he mutilated himself.

Following Theo's death in 1899, many of Johanna's diary entries are thoughts of him. Example: "Last night I cried myself to sleep because today was our wedding anniversary and although I tried and tried, I could not recall your face, your voice, your touch ..."

As a widow with a small child, Johanna opens a boarding house in Holland. Her father wants to hire a wet nurse for her and the child. Knowing acceptance of this gift would mean the death of a poor mother's child, Johanna says no.

Wanting to carry on as Theo would, she strives to gain recognition for Vincent's work, at the time little understood. Letters to and from artists and exhibitors tell a reasonable account of her steadfastness and successes.

Interspersed between letters and diary entries are flashes of history during Johanna's lifetime. An October 1894 entry speaks of the Alfred Dreyfus trial in France. A February 1899 entry refers to a book by Freud about dreams.

Cooperstein, an honorary member of a group of Dutch expatriates who socialize and practice their mother tongue, credits these folks for helping her with the Dutch language.

The book is a fascinating and sensitive study.

It's Jane Lucas, in a picture taken with her father in 1939.

Library Lantern

by Maggi Ainslie

The Trustees Annual Book and Bake Sale will be held at the library on Saturday, July 13, 9:00-1:00.

The summer reading book club sign-up begins on Wednesday, July 10. Reading.... The Only Game in Town is the theme. We are still looking for someone to share games of yesteryear with us.

The Trustees and the Building Committee have been asked by the Selectmen to consider adding the town offices to our plan for a new library building. We hope to make a decision by August 7.

We need help pinpointing the exact location of our well on the front lawn. Water came to BML in the late sixties. The pump and well need to be worked on and we need to know the location of the well before we dig up the front lawn!

Sue and Marty Bunis, managers of the Library Thrift Shop located in the former Central School, reported a great opening day! (Hours are Th & Fri 10-1, Sat 9-2.) The response to items needed and the growing list of volunteers is absolutely wonderful. We thank everyone for their support and generosity. The public consensus is that it's a great idea. Call us if you have items to donate or would like to volunteer a few hours.

Titles recently purchased

Accordion Crimes, by Proulx
Combat, by Rudman
Exclusive, by Brown
Golden Rope, by Schaeffer
Historical Society Murder Mystery, by Landrum
Knight and Day, by Nessen
Like Father Like Son, by Fulghum
Old Life, by Hall
Promises, by Plain
Officer Buckle and Gloria, by Rathmann
Midwife's Apprentice, by Cushman
Eventful History of 3 Blind Mice, by Homer.

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

In the Woods

by Chris Lincoln

Why do we manage forests? Trees seem to grow just fine without our help. The ideal forest, one that is biologically rich in plant and animal species and is primordial and wild, is one where there are no people and thus no forestry. The fact is: forests don't need us, but we do need forests. If we are going to continue to cut trees to use them for everything from toothpicks to telephone poles, we have to manage them wisely.

Forestry management practices were developed because people use trees. The techniques used today were first developed in Europe more than two hundred years ago in response to exploitation during the Middle Ages. Much of the land had been cleared for farming. The forests that remained were cut over repeatedly to harvest the most valuable trees, leaving less desirable trees to grow. Through most of history people simply extracted whatever material they needed, with very little concern for how harvesting trees would affect the future forest. A similar pattern of exploitation later took place in the United States as the land was settled. The forests in Bradford are no exception, as evidenced by the many stands of only low-quality trees with little value.

It is fortunate that trees are a *renewable* resource, which means that through careful management, trees can be used and then replaced, or renewed, for future use. What is forest management and how is it practiced today? In a nutshell, the goal of forest management is to extract a resource, such as wood, on a sustainable or continuous basis. This implies that the forest cannot be cut faster than it can grow or produce wood. "Sustained yield" forestry is the traditional focus of forest management. Today however, forest management must also consider many other resources, factors and goals. We must sustain and protect wildlife, soil, water, scenery, and recreational resources.

It is largely through logging that the forester manipulates conditions to create the desired type of forest. By cutting trees, a forester can

influence what types of trees will seed in and develop. For example, creating small openings in an existing forest will encourage the establishment of trees adapted to growing in shady conditions, such as sugar maple and beech. Larger openings will encourage trees adapted to growing in full sunlight, such as white pine, white birch and aspen. The growth rate of a tree can be increased by cutting surrounding trees that compete for sunlight and moisture.

Wildlife habitat can also be managed by cutting trees. Young aspen sprouts for ruffed grouse to nibble and sapling browse for deer to eat are just two examples of critical habitat that can be created by cutting trees. Landowners interested in wildlife can often incorporate habitat improvement projects into a timber sale.

Because of the variety of factors that must be considered in forest management, compromises must be made. The best *timber* management may not always be the best *forest* management. Good timber management may dictate that all large, rotting trees with big cavities be cut down so better quality trees can replace them. However, this may not be good forest management. Unless we ensure that all ecological systems continue to function and all resources are maintained or improved, we have not done a good job. From this standpoint, some large and rotting trees should be left standing for the numerous animals and birds that use them for nests, dens, and feeding sites.

By balancing the many uses and values of the forest, a knowledgeable forester can ensure that, in the future, there will be high quality trees, as well as homes for wildlife, clear streams to fish in, and scenic trails to hike and explore the forest. Next month we'll look at the role of the private consulting forester in forest management.

Chris Lincoln is a consulting forester with New England Forestry Consultant, Inc. and lives and works in Bradford.



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News from the Building Inspector

There continues to be record numbers of applications for building permits, which is keeping our office very busy. There seems to be some confusion as to when a building permit is required. If you are re-roofing your house, you should have at least a repair permit and if you are structurally changing or repairing your roof, you should have a building permit. Also, if you are doing major interior renovations, you must have a permit. There are some new electrical codes involving GFI's and 20-amp service in bathrooms. Home electricians should check on this before doing any home wiring. If you have any questions, please contact the office.

This is a very busy time of year for building inspections, and I personally am very busy. For this reason, I am temporarily designating my wife, Michelle, as my assistant. You will be able to contact her at the same phone number and she will communicate with me if any questions arise. Have a nice 4th and keep a-building. --Chip Meany

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THE COZY CORNER
by Mildred Schmidt



July is here! Raspberries begin to ripen and we start to feel the festive spirit ... fairs, neighborhood parties, and family picnics. Favorite foods play a big part in these gatherings and fresh raspberries add sparkle to our meals -- summer happiness! Look for our beautiful new flag. Can't miss Gene's raspberries! This recipe reminds me of Black Forest Cake, but it's even better!

Chocolate Raspberry Cake

- | | | |
|------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Cake: | 2 C flour | 2 C sugar |
| | 2 sticks butter or marg | 4 Tbsp cocoa |
| | 1 C water | 1/2 C buttermilk or sour cream |
| | 2 eggs | 1 tsp baking soda |
| | 1 tsp vanilla | |
| Frosting: | 1 stick butter or marg | 4 Tbsp cocoa |
| | 4 Tbsp milk | 4 C powdered sugar |
| | 1/2 tsp vanilla | |
| Filling: | 4 Tbsp raspberry preserves | 2 C fresh raspberries |

Preheat oven to 350°. Mix flour and sugar in large bowl. In a small saucepan, combine butter, water and cocoa. Bring to a boil. Pour chocolate mixture over flour and sugar. Mix well. Mix buttermilk, eggs, soda and vanilla together and beat until smooth. Add to chocolate mixture and beat until smooth. Pour into 13" x 9" cake pan, greased and dusted with flour. Bake for 35-40 minutes or until toothpick inserted in center comes out clean. Do not overbake. Remove pan from oven and place on wire rack.

While cake is baking, melt butter and cocoa for frosting in saucepan. Stir in milk. Do not boil. Remove from heat. Add powdered sugar, mix well and blend in vanilla. Spread raspberry preserves over cake. Place fresh raspberries on top of preserves and flatten carefully with a fork. Spoon frosting over raspberries and spread carefully with a knife. Cake should be frosted while warm.

This cake is wonderful warm right out of oven. It can be spooned into bowls and served with a scoop of vanilla or coffee ice cream.

**July hikes sponsored by the SRK
Greenway Coalition**

Saturday, July 13 - an intriguing evening hike, 6:00-8:00 pm, led by Dave Anderson. The hike will be on the Kearsarge Valley Trail in Sutton, entitled "Walking with Three Naturalists." Contact Don Davis, 927-4925.

Saturday, July 27 - hike up a new trail on the west side of Mt. Sunapee, another segment of our Greenway trail system. Dick Martin, 763-2464, and Ken Ames, 938-2589, are the contacts for time and meeting place.

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GARDENING

by Fred Winch



Since last October, we have been blessed with more than adequate precipitation. You see evidence of the abundance when you cast your eyes toward the green hillsides of Bradford. If you have an established home orchard, you will notice long growth shoots. Another sign is the generally deep green color and large size of the leaves of maples, elms and oaks. It is indeed as if water in quantity has dissolved the soil's latent nutrients and the roots have transferred those elements to the tree's factory, the leaves, which have been working overtime. This is, in fact, the case. We have not seen such a natural growing spurt on trees for many years. It makes one wonder at nature's ability to take advantage of what may well be a single "rainy year."

Our native trees have never looked so good. Old dooryard trees, oaks and maples ... the favorites of those who established the old farmsteads, planted the street trees and the trees around the commons ... have a new lease on life. Attacks of insects and old age are not visible this year. It gives us the urge to plant some new trees.

Planting new yard trees is an expensive effort and supplies of desirable long-lived species are not readily obtained. However, nature can supply the varieties that were selected by the settlers as much as two hundred years ago. Then the favorites were mostly growing in the back lot or fence row -- sugar maple, elm, and red oak. All were favored for their rapid growth and proven long-lasting quality.

We can do what our predecessors did. It takes a little forethought, but now is the time to start the process. Select the easiest one, a sugar maple growing in reasonably good soil, about one inch in diameter. By August, dig a narrow trench about a foot or eighteen inches away from the stem, the same distance deep, cutting all the roots cleanly. Refill the trench, leaving a couple inches of unfilled depth. Water the refilled material several times till early fall. The cut roots will be stimulated to send out more hair roots. In late fall, drive a spade deeply at the outside of the cut, then fill with hay or straw. When the ground thaws next spring, you can dig the tree with much of the soil held by the new roots and replant in the site you selected.

This come and go spring has made it difficult for seeds and seedlings to get a foothold. Some have needed replanting, but cool weather plants, such as lettuce and other greens, have done well.

The pollinators, domestic honeybees, bumblebees and "little" bees -- workhorses in the garden -- have been fewer this spring. To date it is hard to tell the effect of the lack of bees on backyard crops, but when you have to look long and hard to see but one honeybee on a big lilac, it bodes ill for the pollination of cucumbers, eggplant, and peppers. Beekeepers are fewer today as the U.S. now depends on foreign honey sources. We depend for more and more of our food supplies on farmers in South America, Australia, and Europe. So if you want real "American" food, by all means persist in gardening. The problems of the past couple of months may be overcome in the next few months. There is still time for good crops. Hang in there!

HISTORICAL GLIMPSES from the Kearsarge Independent

selected by Sandy Wadlington

ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO - July 1896

The patriotic Fourth was celebrated admirably by the boys who were brought up in town, of others we have nothing to say but wish them well.

These are days of sensations, but the letter recently published by Miss Smith, president of the Ladies Rescue League, was entirely uncalled for and against the facts. If any lady within our compass has read it, let her peace and pleasure be undisturbed. Bicycle riding is pure, hygienic and is productive of beneficial results, quite the reverse of which she has pronounced.

FIFTY YEARS AGO - July 1946

The eighth grade graduating class - Sally Thompson, Grant Milner, Frank Jones and Richard Cilley, recently enjoyed a visit to the Benson Animal Farm in Hudson. On June 11, they had tickets for the Red Sox - Washington baseball game at Fenway Park, Boston.

... and from Bradford Historical Society materials

selected by Milly Kittredge

In July 1896 the telephone line was being strung from Bradford to Sutton. What a change in daily living! Faster than the horse. A voice on the other end. Easier than the telegraph. News from a distance. From the limited call phones in a town, where one had to be found and reconnected, to a neighborhood phone, to one in the convenience of one's own home, should one desire. The party line; when the fire alarm blew, every receiver on the line went up while someone called the operator to find where the fire was. What a wonderful instrument for an emergency. And for entertainment ... sometimes it wasn't easy to lift the receiver quietly, and the voices faded with the number of receivers clicking open. Remember the easy numbers? 42 ring 3, 42 ring one long and two short it was a different life without the telephone. And so on to satellite hookups circling the earth and the Net.

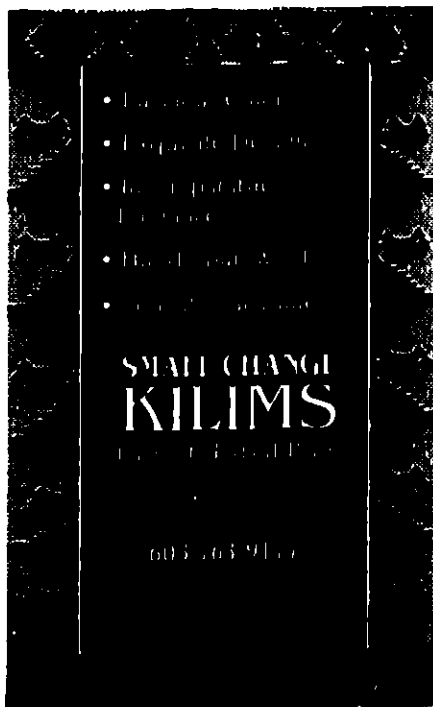
July 1898. Wm. Carr has wired his store for incandescent lights.

July 1966. Loch Lyndon golf course, which opened in May, is very busy.

July 1976. The Rescue Squad will hold their annual auction at Champ's Barn on Jones Road.

July 1977. Chief Rich completed his first year as Police Chief.

July 1978. Bill Tonks was elected the Regional commander of the VFW.



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- Handmade Baskets
- Handmade Trays
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July Calendar

Monday, July 1

Selectmen's meeting, Town Hall, 7:00
Cemetery Trustees, call 938-5386

Tuesday, July 2

ZBA, Town Hall, 7:00

Wednesday, July 3

Library Trustees, 7:15. Public welcome.

Saturday, July 6

Independence Day Celebration

Monday, July 8

NO Selectmen's meeting

Tuesday, July 9

Planning Board, Town Hall, 7:30

Wednesday, July 10

Revolving Loan Committee, Town Hall, 7:00

Thursday, July 11

KRSD School Board 7:15, High School

Friday, July 12

Whist, church vestry, 7:30
Sponsored by Bradford Bridge

Saturday, July 13

Library Trustees annual Book and Bake Sale, 9:00-1:00.

Historical Society Headquarters open 1:30-3:00, or by appointment. Call 938-5386

Sunday, July 14

Church service at Center Meetinghouse, 11:15 am with Father Joe.

Monday, July 15

Public hearing concerning Police Management Study, town hall, 7:00

Selectmen's meeting follows public hearing

Bradford Business Association, church vestry, 7:00

Tuesday, July 16

Conservation Commission, 7:30

Wednesday, July 17

BWC Fair Workshop, 10:00 am.
Call Jean Gaitto 938-5964

O.E.S. St. Peter's Lodge, 7:30

Road Committee, Town Hall, 7:00

Saturday, July 20

Historical Society Headquarters open 1:30-3:00, or by appointment. Call 938-5386

Monday, July 22

NO Selectmen's meeting

Tuesday, July 23

Planning Board, Town Hall, 7:30

Wednesday, July 24

BWC Fair Workshop, 10:00 am.
Call Doris Tremblay 938-5260

Friday, July 26

Strawberry Night, Band Concert. Bradford Center, 6:00 pm

Whist, church vestry, 7:30.
Sponsored by the Food Pantry

Saturday, July 27

Historical Society Headquarters open 1:30-3:00, or by appointment. Call 938-5386

Monday, July 29

Selectmen's Meeting, Town Hall, 7:00

Wednesday, July 31

BWC Fair Workshop. Call Jane Lucas 938-2570

To list events for the month of August, call Lu Signorino, 938-2608.

Classified Ads

WANTED. Two concerned Bradford residents, willing to serve on the Zoning Board of Adjustment. Training available. Contact Erin DiBello, 938-2883, or Marcia Keller, 938-2877, for information.

FOR SALE. Freezer lamb -- lean, tasty, tender. Avg 40 lbs; cut and wrapped to your order. \$2.50/lb. Call Sillars & McCandlish at 938-5354.

FOR SALE. Upright freezer, 12 c.f., like new, \$200 or will swap for refrigerator in like condition. Voit treadmill, never used, \$125. Call 938-2876.

REGISTRATION continues for Bradford-Newbury Kindergarten and Preschool for the 1996-1997 academic year. Five, four and three-year-olds may register. For information, call Janet Bauer at 938-2195.

OPPORTUNITY. If you could eliminate your long distance phone bill AND make money at the same time, would you be interested? If so, call 927-4297 or 526-4120 and leave a message.

GARAGE SALE. July 6 & 7, 9:00 am till ?? 45 Sunset Hill Road. Furniture, youth bed, antique tools, automobile accessories, dishes, clothing, linens, stained glass lamp, oriental rugs.

VENDORS. Mark your calendar! Arts and Crafts welcomed at South Newbury Union Church Country Fair on August 10. Call Fair Chairman, Jim Tinker, 763-4276.

FOR SALE. 1989 Chevrolet Suburban, 3/4 ton 4x4, 9 passenger. Silverado interior, running boards, 144K miles, \$6,400. Call 938-5028.

FOR SALE. Large contemporary living room couch, beige with brown stripes and walnut trim. Custom-made, L-shape. Musee see. \$400. Pine rocker, \$25. Baby Sassy seat, \$3. Call 938-2676.

WANTED. Brown Memorial Library thrift shop is in urgent need of clothes racks. We have lots of clothes to see, but have run out of display space. If you have a clothes rack to donate or loan temporarily, please call Marty Bunis at 938-5051.

Remember your elementary school days? Did you have a playground with a basketball hoop? Bradford Elementary needs one. The cost is approximately \$500 and I'm raising money to buy a hoop for our children. Donations would be greatly appreciated. Please make checks payable to Jeanne Circosta, 42 West Meadow Road.

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