

THE BRADFORD BRIDGE

COMMUNITY NEWS BY NEIGHBORS FOR NEIGHBORS

Volume 11, Number 12; Issue 126

December 2001

Planning Board considers applications

Two continuing issues came before the Planning Board at meetings in October and November. Robert Cole, representing Therapeutic Behavioral Inclusion (TBI), discussed a possible purchase of Sunshine Farm to be used for a day school for severely learning disabled children. Bea Gilcrast, Program Director, provided the Board with an outline of the State process for approval and permitting of such a school. Students are placed by their home districts, which are responsible both for the cost of the education and for the transportation. TBI has an option to buy the property and will begin the process of developing a site plan for review by the Board. Cole will attend subsequent Planning Board meetings to discuss details. When an application for Site Plan Review has been submitted, abutters and the public will be notified before the Planning Board begins its formal consideration.



An LD day school at Sunshine Farm?

Bob Stewart, Jr. of RCS Designs presented an application on behalf of Timberstand Investments for a five-lot subdivision of property currently owned by Jane Symmes. Some

items on the checklist were not submitted pending comments from the Board; these included State Subsurface Division (septic) approval required for lots less than 5 acres, driveway access permits, and a written authorization from the owner. A "purchase and sale" agreement is underway.

The parcel has frontage on both Center and Cressy Roads. Three lots will require driveways on Cressy Road; two lots plus a remaining 25-acre parcel will require access from Center Road. Concern for the dangers of driveways leading onto Center Road at that location were expressed by members of the public, Board members, and Selectman Chris Frey. Stewart said that the driveways will meet State safe sight distance requirements. He also showed a potential future subdivision plan for the 25-acre parcel that would create five additional lots. The further subdivision is very tentative and may or may not be proposed in the future.

The Board voted to accept the application as complete, but placed the following conditions on the acceptance: 1) ownership/authorization must be clarified, 2) road agent input required for the drive-



Extensive land clearing has already occurred at proposed Center Road subdivision.

ways, 3) 1500 sq. ft. restriction for house size, as proposed in the application, will be noted on the final plan as well as included in the deeds. The Public Hearing on the merits of this application will continue at future Planning Board meetings until the required information is received and the Board begins to discuss the approval.

In other business, the Board decided to delay any major changes in the Zoning Ordinance until the Master Plan has been reviewed for any necessary updates.

—Marcia Keller

BBA sponsors annual decorating contest

The Bradford Business Association will again sponsor the Christmas Decorating contest. All residents and businesses in the Bradford area are eligible and copies of the application can be picked up at Bradford businesses. The contest will be for exterior decorations only, with the residential winner receiving \$100, \$50 for the runner up, and \$25 for third place. The business winner will receive a plaque that can be displayed. The judging will take place on the 14th and 15th of December, and the applications must be received by the 10th. Winners will be announced at the BBA Christmas party on December 17 at the Candlelite Inn.

—Bob Foor



'Tis the season...

On Saturday, December 8, the library will host a special children's story hour at 3:30pm, followed by a visit from Santa at 4:00 and the lighting of the tree at 5:00, sponsored by the Bradford Women's Club. There will be a ham and bean supper at the Baptist Church next door at 5:30pm, \$6 for adults, \$4.50 for children under 12.

THE BRADFORD BRIDGE



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Subscription Information

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

Advertising

The Bradford Bridge is a free community newspaper supported by advertisers. To place an ad, call Denise Fairbank at 938-2973 or send a FAX to 938-5263. Ad deadline is December 20.

Submissions

The Bradford Bridge is written by neighbors, for neighbors. Anyone is welcome to submit articles and/or photographs of interest to the community. Send articles or letters to Lyn Betz at the address, FAX number or e-mail address above by December 20.

Selectmen's Update

The year is almost over and so much has happened here in Bradford. This is just a sampling of things accomplished. If we left any one project or person out, please forgive us, it was unintentional.

For the first time ever the town is in the process of developing a Capital Improvement Plan. It is a long-range plan that is required after a Master Plan is approved. Volunteers have contributed many a Saturday in collecting information from the various organizations and departments in the town and collating that information. We are looking to plan for the needs of the future to make the quality of life in Bradford better at a reasonable cost to the taxpayer.

The revaluation of the town went very smoothly. The tax cards for every piece of property are now computerized, as is the tax map. This will make the job of tracking property values extremely easy thereby increasing efficiency in the tax collector and the selectmen's offices.

Energy conservation has been an ongoing priority at the Town Hall and throughout Bradford. New lighting has been installed in the Town Hall. A rebate will be forthcoming from PSNH that will help pay for the change and the cost of electricity will be reduced. All the streetlights in town were replaced last month with 50% savings in energy cost to the Town. Insulating of the Town Hall and a more efficient heating system are next on the agenda.

The Fire Department purchased a new utility truck at no cost to the taxpayers. All this from your generous donations.

The Bradford Area Community Center is up and running with many programs available to the surrounding communities. All through the generous donation of time and effort by many volunteers.

There is ongoing work on the project of using the "Naughton Property" for recreation. Dedicated volunteers have accomplished much in meetings with the state and planning sessions during the year.

The Friends of the Library and the trustees have done a wonderful job of making the Brown Memorial Library a showcase of what a small town library should be. They should be congratulated. Again, volunteers all.

Roads have been paved, bridges have been repaired and replaced.

We have a new Police Chief and the Police Department is becoming active in the community for our safety.

It has been a good year, but much remains to be accomplished. We are in the budget season and we highly recommend that you attend the budget hearings when they are posted. Before we know it, Town Meeting will be upon us and it will be time to vote on the town budget. We need your input and participation.

Thank you to all the volunteers and all of our staff for the great job you have all done this past year. Have a happy and prosperous New Year!

—Dick Vitale for the Board of Selectmen

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The Sound of Music Fills the Air at BACC



Eleven children of the Kearsarge Home Schooler group presented a delightful program of music for seniors at the Bradford Area Community Center on Monday, November 19. The audience was amazed at the ability and professional bearing of all participants in the concert. Instruments included guitar, violin and piano and the length of study varied from two months to seven years, ages ranged from 6 through 13.

The performers were Jemima Bentley, Kelly and Tristan Buckley, Sean Brake, Hanna Carlson, Rhett, Sadie and Sophie Courser and Mae McCarthy-Tiella. The children come from Weare, Henniker, Deering, Bradford and Warner. Our prediction is they will go far in the world of music.

Free Monthly Programs for Children at the Library

The Friends of Brown Memorial Library are sponsoring free monthly after-school programs on Wednesdays for elementary school students. *It's a Small World—Appreciating Cultural Diversity through Folktales*, features a half-hour video (using the TV-VCR that the Friends helped BML purchase several years ago) as well as a brief discussion and drawing activity to follow-up the viewing. The December video, *Princess Scargo* (North America) is scheduled for Wednesday, December 12 from 3:15 to 4:15pm. The series features folktales from Italy, France, Denmark, Japan, Africa, India, and South America.

It's a Small World After School Programs have been arranged by Laurie Buchar. Jan Riley and Sue Morse will lead the Wednesday programs. Participants may borrow the videos (free of charge) and also may choose books from the Brown Memorial Library's collection. All videos are produced by Rabbit Ears featuring the talents of quality vocal artists. For more information, call Laurie Buchar at 938-5372.

A Friends planning meeting (open to all) will be held on Thursday, December 6 at 6:00pm in the Brown Memorial Library. For more information, call Audrey Sylvester at 938-5948.

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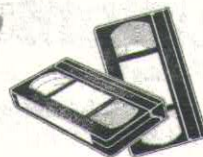
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Local inns receive recognition

Two of Bradford's inns were noticed in the press outside of town recently.

The Rosewood Country Inn was featured on Chronicle, the WCVB-TV Channel 5 television program on life in New England on Tuesday, November 6. Producer Dick Amaral and a Boston film crew interviewed innkeeper Leslie Marquis and toured the restored Victorian inn. They sampled a multi-course breakfast, walked the grounds, and stayed in one of the inn's well-appointed suites.

The Rosewood, an 11 suite inn built around 1850, offers fireplaces, whirlpool tubs, sunlit porches and inviting common rooms. In the early 1900s, Jack London, Gloria Swanson, Mary Pickford, Charlie Chaplin, and the Gish Sisters were among the famous celebrities that signed the Inn's guest register. The inn has also been selected as "One of New Hampshire's Eight Most Romantic Inns" by Chronicle Books and as "Inn of the Year" by the State of New Hampshire.

Local innkeepers Les and Marilyn Gordon, owners and operators of Bradford's Candlelite Inn, have announced that their establishment was voted as a winner in the category of "Inn with the Friendliest Innkeepers" in *Arrington's Bed & Breakfast Journal's* Book of Lists contest. Inn-goers across the country cast their votes to recognize their favorite inns in 50 different categories.

Arrington's Bed & Breakfast Journal is a national monthly trade publication for members of the Bed & Breakfast/Country Inn industry. "This is so exciting for us and another feather in Bradford's cap," Marilyn said. "We're very thankful to our guests for voting for us."

Home repair for qualifying residents

If you live within thirty miles of the Kearsarge Middle School in New London, you may qualify for home repairs to be done by a team of teenagers under adult supervision next summer. The Trinity Bible Church is sponsoring the group in this area in cooperation with the Group Workcamps Foundation. Teenagers will arrive in July (14th through 20th) and live at the Middle School, and will be working on various projects throughout the day. Some of the repairs they are prepared to do are wheelchair ramps, painting (interior/exterior), weatherizing, light carpentry, siding repair or replacement, gutter repair and replacement, etc.

To receive an application in the Bradford area, contact Cheryl B. Frey at 938-2630. Please note that this is not just a program for the elderly. It is also available to the disabled or lower income residents. It is suggested that you submit your application early as a limited number of applications will be available per community. Once completed, applications should be sent to Trinity Bible Church, P. O. Box 566, South Sutton, NH 03273. Applications must be received prior to December 31. We are assured that your participation does not in any way obligate you, materials will be provided free of charge. Contractors will evaluate each home. Liability insurance is carried by the Workcamp Foundation.

Obituaries

EDWARD RAYMOND, SR.

Edward P. Raymond, Sr., 72, of Warner died Friday, November 16 at Concord Hospital after a long illness. He was born in Concord, the son of Edward and Vinie (Morris) Raymond. He lived in Penacook and attended Penacook High School, then lived in Warner for 37 years. He served with the United States Army during World War II. He worked at J.C. Pitco Frialator Co. for 37 years, retiring in 1989. He was a member of the American Legion Post 31 for 48 years; a member of the Friday night church league at Boutwell's Bowling Alley; founded the Bradford Little League in 1962 and was also the coach; and was a past member of the Bradford Fire Department. He was an avid fisherman and also loved hunting, golfing and playing cards. Survivors include his longtime companion, Barbara Willett of Warner; three sons, Edward Raymond Jr. of Warner; Robert Raymond and James Raymond, both of Bradford; a daughter, Paula Patten of Concord; 10 grandchildren; a nephew and a niece.

ARTHUR F. VALLEY JR.

Arthur F. "Artie" Valley Jr., 60, died Wednesday, November 21 at his home. He was born at the New London Hospital, the son of Arthur and Marjorie (Simpson) Valley. He lived most of his life in Bradford. He was the owner and operator of Valley Plumbing and Heating for about 25 years. Survivors include a daughter, Lisa Brennan of Portsmouth; two sons, Ted Valley of Bradford and Brian Valley of Newport; a sister, Beverly Chandler of Warner; grandchildren, nieces and nephews. Burial will be in Sunny Plain Cemetery in Bradford.



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Todd Longley

Community Center seeks new director

Thanks to a generous strategic focus grant from the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation, the Bradford Area Community Center will begin the search process to hire a part-time, independently contracted Director to oversee all the activities of the Center. Position description and application may be picked up at the Bradford town offices or at the Community Center office (mornings only). The BACC is a town agency and is an equal opportunity employer. For further information, please call 938-5973 or 938-6228.

New Hampshire Charitable Foundation is a statewide community foundation established in 1962. This permanent endowment comes from gifts of many individuals, families, corporations, and organizations. Earnings from the endowment are used to make grants and loans to nonprofit organizations serving the State and for scholarship awards to New Hampshire residents.

Elizabeth Perron and Phyllis Wilcox, co-chairs of the Governance Board of the BACC, with John Harris, chairman of the Bradford Community Corporation, announced the grant award to a recent joint meeting of their boards. The Governance Board has been managing BACC activities with the help of volunteers. A director will assist the Board in its outreach activities and in fundraising for the operation and maintenance of the Community Center.

Priscilla Danforth Receives Boston Post Cane

Priscilla (Remick) Danforth was presented with the Boston Post Cane on Sunday, November 17, by Selectman Chris Frey at the First Baptist Church vestry. The cane was presented in recognition of being the oldest resident of Bradford, having celebrated her 94th birthday on September 21. Attending the ceremony were 80 of her many friends and relatives including her son Tom Pitts and grandsons Eddie, Bobby, and Jimmy Raymond.



Priscilla Danforth is all smiles, with son Tom Pitts

Priscilla was born in Lynn, Massachusetts on September 21, 1907. She worked as a dental hygienist for Dr.

Davis in Boston, then as the Athletic Director at the North Hampton School for Girls in North Hampton, Massachusetts. She also worked at Camp Wabasso as Athletic Director. Her last employment was at New England College as Dean of Women, retiring in 1972. Here she was known for holding formal teas. She spent many summers in Sutton before moving to Bradford. Priscilla married Paul W. Danforth in 1935. Paul's father was the founder of the Bradford IGA which the family ran for 95 years. She had two sons, Tom and Carl. Priscilla has been a Charter member of the Bradford Women's Club since 1941, a member of the First Baptist Church in Bradford, and Sigma Pi Epsilon Sorority. She was a Trustee of Brown Memorial Library for twelve years. Priscilla has been an active, caring member of the town of Bradford for many years.

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Process until the mix forms a
coarse meal.

Press into an 8" inch square pan,
prick with a fork and score the
surface.

Bake at 325°F for 35-40 min-
utes. When done, cut immedi-
ately and sprinkle with sugar.

Enjoy!

Community Workshop

The Community Workshop will meet December 13 at noon for the Christmas Potluck Luncheon. Members and guests (who are always welcome) should bring a salad, casserole or dessert. The hospitality committee will provide drinks and possible accompaniment for Christmas caroling. Everyone is asked to bring a wrapped gift to exchange among the membership. Our Christmas gifts to the Haven shelter have been delivered and were gratefully received. They will be distributed to the children in the home prior to the holidays.

Anyone who is not a member of this group who would like to join in may call Judy Ely at 763-5756 for more information. Meetings are held at the Friendship House in South Newbury.

—Clare Bensley

BWC Update

The Bradford Women's Club executive meeting will be December 11, 9:30am at 16 Fairgrounds Road. Bring a sample of your Christmas cookies. For information call 938-2691.

The annual BWC-sponsored visit from Santa (4:00pm) and tree lighting (5:00pm) at the Library will be on Saturday, December 8.

—Barbara Vannata, President

Local Newspapers on Microfilm and CD-ROM

Three currently published local newspapers are now available on CD-ROM at the public and school libraries in Bradford, New London, Newbury, Springfield, Sutton, Warner, and Wilmot, the Colby Sawyer College Library in New London, and at the NH State Library in Concord. The CD-ROMs make it possible to view and print pages, or portions of pages, from any issue of the following local papers from the first issue published, up to June 30, 2001:

- *InterTown Record*—a weekly paper published in Sutton, NH since 1993 that covers news for the seven towns of the Kearsarge Regional School District

- *The Bradford Bridge*—a monthly newspaper for Bradford since 1991

- *Warner's New Paper*—a monthly newspaper for Warner since 1998

Microfilm copies are available at Pillsbury Free Library in Warner, Colby Sawyer College Library in New London and NH State Library only. *The Kearsarge Independent and Times*, a weekly paper published in Warner from 1884 to 1960 will soon be available on CD-ROM. This project, "Preservation of Local Newspapers through Microfilming and Digitization" was funded by a Library Services and Technology Act grant for 2000-2001 under the direction of Nancy Ladd, Library Director at the Pillsbury Free Library in Warner.

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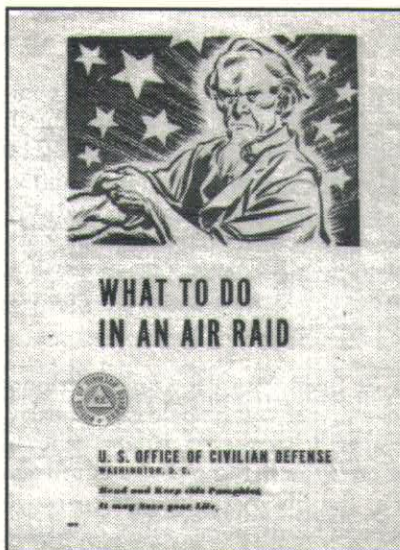
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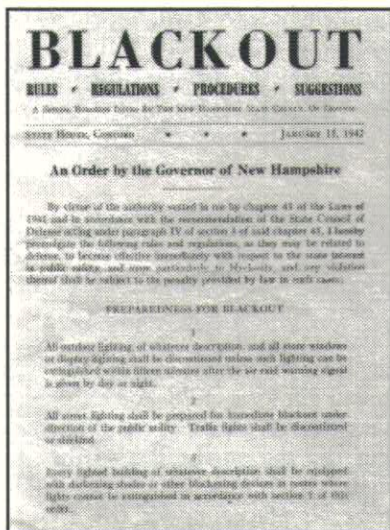
Then...

by Milly Kittredge

Another generation united. December, 1941 was the beginning of four years of shortages, worry about family and friends, learning about unfamiliar places with unfamiliar names, following the victories and retreats, and manning airplane observation posts. Bob Bacon was at Pearl Harbor on December 7. Within a week, Clayton Jones and Wesley Wells were in the Hawaiian Islands, Ken Brown in the Philippines, and it wasn't known where the two Douglas boys were located.



Roll up your sleeves and roll down your window shades. The World War II years of blackouts—"Every lighted building shall be equipped with darkening shades, all outdoor lighting shall be discontinued unless such lighting can be extinguished within fifteen minutes." No light or reflection of light was to be clearly visible from the air.



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Church News

From Lynne E. Hubley



Invite a Friend Sunday: Church members are encouraged to give an invitation to a friend, family member, co-worker, or neighbor and invite them to worship on Sunday, December 2. This is the first Sunday in Advent and "Invite a Friend Sunday". Invitations were distributed on Sunday, November 25.

Trip to Shrine of Our Lady of LaSalette: Church members and members of the youth group will travel to Enfield to see the Christmas Festival of 50,000 lights on Sunday, December 2 at 4:00p.m. We will stay to hear the Christmas choral concert at 5:15pm.

Women's Christian Guild: The December meeting will be held at the home of Judi Mott on December 7 at 11:00am. The women will be wrapping Christmas gifts for a special family. Items to bring: tape, nice ribbons, stick-on bows, scissors, and anything else that would look nice on the packages. There will be a luncheon and a time to sing Christmas carols and songs after wrapping the gifts. Any questions please call Judi Mott at 456-2572.

Advent Craft Day: Children in the community are invited to come to the Church on Saturday, December 8 between 10:00 and 11:30am to make a variety of different Christmas crafts and decorations. Children take home everything they make (candles, swags, lifesaver dolls, snowflakes, cookies, etc.) Hot chocolate and donuts will be served.

Ham & Bean Supper: Our traditional Holiday supper will be held on Saturday, December 8 between 5:30 and 6:30pm (right after the lighting of the Christmas Tree at the library). The menu will include ham, beans, potato salad, cole slaw, homemade breads, and a variety of delicious homemade desserts.

American Baptist Women's Ministry: The December meeting will be Tuesday, December 11 at 7:00pm. After a brief business meeting, the women will make Christmas centerpieces to be put in the Christmas boxes that will be distributed to families on December 22. We will also be dedicating the "Toys for Tots" and enjoy some festive refreshments.

Christmas Baskets: The food pantry will be handing out Christmas baskets on Saturday, December 22 from 9:00am-noon.

Youth Group: Youth (grades 5-8) will help fill the Christmas baskets on Saturday, December 22 from 8:00-9:00am and then enjoy some Christmas games and activities between 9:00-10:00am.

Christmas Sunday: On Sunday, December 23 at 10:00am, our children will lead us in worship. The theme will be "Pointing the Way to Bethlehem." They will be incorporating some of the themes from "Godly Play," our Sunday school program.

Christmas Eve Service: Our traditional candlelight service will be held on December 24 at 7:00pm. We will enjoy special music, sing the familiar Christmas hymns, light the Christ candle and listen to the Story of Christ's birth. The message will be "Unto Us" from Isaiah 9:2-7.

Toys for Tots: The American Baptist Women's Ministry is coordinating the Toys for Tots Mission project this year. There will be a Christmas tree in the Narthex of the Church with tags on it. Each tag will list the sex, age and suggested toy or gift for a child. Folks are invited to take the tag, purchase the gift, wrap it and put the tag on the gift so that we can match it up with the correct child. Gifts may be placed under the tree in the Narthex.



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Real Estate Hints:

Reflections on a Job

by Laura Hallahan

Even though interest rates are low, home value appreciation is stable, and many want to own a part of the American Dream even more since September 11, the prediction is that 2002 will shift to a buyer's market. That probably means the days of bidding wars and full price offers are gone. Sellers need to be prepared for this shift and dust off those negotiating skills outlined by yours truly in a recent column! Some tips: As has been recommended in this column previously, if you are thinking of selling, have several realtors come out and do a Comparative Market Analysis. This assessment of your house's worth in the current market will help you come up with a fair price after comparing figures. If you still feel that the price you had in mind is higher than the experts, you may want to go a step further and have an appraisal done just as a bank would do before lending you money. Showing a buyer you did your homework in advance and priced the house correctly will go a long way to getting a good, solid offer.

If you have any questions or concerns about the house, having a home inspection done before you list the property will prevent surprises and will be yet another way to show a buyer that you know and care about your property.

Once an offer does come in, be prepared to:

—Negotiate the terms. Offer to move out in 30 days instead of 60, for example.

—Negotiate with cash. Buyers who may be short on down payment money may respond positively to a seller who may be willing to pay some or all of the nonrecurring closing costs, such a title insurance, loan origination fees, etc. If seller financing is something you would consider, let a buyer know that as well.

—Negotiate with stuff. Consider paying for repairs outlined in the inspection report or to leave window treatments you originally planned to take.

—Negotiate with the help of an expert. In a buyer's market you may prefer to have someone who is not emotionally tied to the property sell it for you instead of trying to do it yourself. A realtor can be invaluable in negotiating the deal and protecting your interests.

—Negotiate with someone else. If you don't like an offer and can't come to terms, move on to another buyer. If the house is priced right and shows well, stick with your price and be patient.

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Selectmen's Minutes

November 19. Gary Wall met with selectmen to discuss repairs needed to the bridge railing at the intersection of West Main Street and Rte 103. Mr. Wall has observed children swinging on the railing over the fire pond. Selectmen discussed the matter and will have the railing repaired as soon as possible.

Chief James Kirby met with selectmen to discuss the status of his budget preparation. He is currently preparing figures for repair projections with and without a new cruiser. The Chief also requested selectmen allow him to increase the offered wage rate for part time officers as he is having trouble attracting candidates at the current level. Selectmen agreed to allow this increase if money is available in his budget now and will consider the information for his 2002 budget.

Dick Moore met with selectmen and Milly Kittredge to discuss the cemetery budget. Mr. Moore discussed wage issues and the need for new equipment. The need to establish a program of tree removal was also discussed. The selectmen suggested the Cemetery Commission discuss the tree and equipment issues and return to the selectmen.

Selectmen voted on the application to build submitted by Jennifer Sayre. The approval will be contingent on:

- a) Merger of lots—the current six lots will be merged into one lot. This is an approval to build one residence.
- b) Culverts and road grade on Lord Road per Road Agent specifications (road grade not to interfere with stone walls, culvert at the intersection of land of James Raymond and Lord Road, and drainage ditch on the northerly side from the Raymond driveway to Woodview Heights).
- c) Class VI road waiver
- d) Time limit—the merger of lots will be complete within six months.

The selectmen both voted yes to the above. The selectmen will contact the town's attorney to prepare the letter.

Street sign samples were collected at the recent municipal conference. The literature will be forwarded to the BEOC. The town must replace all street signs with reflective signs within the next ten years by law.

Priscilla Danforth will be presented with the Boston Post Cane by selectmen at the First Baptist Church on November 18 at 11:00am.

Intent to cut forms were filed by Edward Flinkstrom on Johnson Hill Road and David Symmes on Cochran Hill. A road bond of \$5,000 will be required for the Cochran Hill cut.

Chris Frey and the Road Committee will meet to discuss road-rebuilding plans for the town.

—excerpted from the public minutes prepared by Cheryl Behr

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BACC Medical Lecture December 1: Taking Care Of Ourselves and Each Other

The Bradford Area Community Center and New London Hospital will present Betsy Harrington, MA, affiliated with Riverbend Community Mental Health on December 1 at 10:00am in the BACC Senior Room. This is the sixth in a series co-sponsored by the BACC and New London Hospital. The public is invited to attend this free lecture. Since September 11th, we all have concerns about our well being and mental health. This is an opportunity to hear a talk by a professional in the field of mental health. For information phone 938-6228.

Betsy Harrington is a mental health clinician at Riverbend's Contoocook Valley Counseling Center in Henniker. She works with children, adolescents and adults in addressing a wide range of issues including anxiety, depression, trauma, and loss. Ms. Harrington has a special interest in grief and loss and how we each confront these themes throughout our lives. Other areas of specialization are self-care and wellness. She is a graduate of Kearsarge Regional High School and has lived in the area since 1978. She graduated with honors from Mount Holyoke College and received her Master's degree from Antioch New England Graduate School. She is a member of several professional associations and has been active in a number of community organizations including Hospice. Ms. Harrington seeks balance in her own life through her interests in rock and ice climbing, backpacking, wilderness travel, and writing.

The Bradford Area Community Center is a multi-generational facility on Main Street in Bradford which offers a variety of programs for the general public in Bradford and neighboring communities. We feel that the above program is timely and important in a world that has changed since the terrorist attack on September 11th, 2001.

—Phyllis Wilcox

Voter Checklist Corrections

The Supervisors of the Checklist will meet at the Bradford Town Hall on Wednesday, January 2, 2002, from 7:00-8:00pm to make corrections to the Checklist prior to the Annual School District Meeting on Saturday, January 12, 2002 at the Kearsarge Regional High School.

School District Election of Officials will be held at the same time and place as the Town Meeting Elections, March 12, 2002.

—Deborah Lamach, Ann Hibbard,
Carolyn Grindle

Supervisors of the Checklist

7 WAITING TO BUILD YOUR DREAM HOME?

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Legislative Report

By Representative
Barbara Conner French



As we are getting this edition of the Bridge ready to go to press, we all are celebrating Thanksgiving and thinking about the December and January Holidays; Christmas, Hanukah, and New Year's. This is a time for giving thanks and reflection, a time to appreciate each other and our community, and think about how we can contribute.

Those of us in the Legislature need to keep this in mind as well. We are elected to serve the common good and to help with improvements to our state. I can think of a couple of things that were struggled with in the Legislature and we finally came up with reasonable help. Our Land and Community Heritage Investment Program (LCHIP) requires steady, adequate, and committed funding to provide real benefits. We do need to do more for this program but we did make a good start. The University System buildings were in dire need of help as they had been neglected for a number of years. Again, we did manage to provide a sum that will make a good start, but we must continue to address this problem as it only becomes worse when it is ignored.

Of course, when we talk about the University System we are really talking about our whole approach to education and our commitment to it. We seem to have a hard time giving it the respect and rightful place it deserves. Bottom line, a well-educated citizenry provides for the basic well being (economic, social, health, environment, etc.) of our state. It is important that we see education as an investment for us as individuals and collectively for the state.

I know everyone has received their property tax bills, myself included, and that these taxes went up. I regret that we did not improve the tax structure. The tax burden is not fairly distributed. I believe that as long as we continue with the hodgepodge approach, do not address the issue of "ability to pay", and rely too

heavily on business - large or small - our system will not be fair. I have and will continue to work on making our tax structure more responsive to the people. I know there are homeless, jobless, uninsured people and this is not right in our wealthy state. We are number eight in per capita income in the country; there should be no reason that we can't have a fair tax structure and meet our people's needs and provide a quality life for everyone.

While we are giving thanks, consider the advantages living in Bradford affords.

Bradford really is a nice community. It has the rural character we enjoy, a caring people, clean fresh air, special environmental aspects such as the Primeval Pines, and beautiful lakes. Our milfoil plant in Lake Massasecum is a big issue. We do have a large number of dedicated, committed, hard-working people around the lake who are making a difference, as well as the town. The State and Federal governments also provide help. Even with all of this effort our milfoil, known as a "variable", is different and a special problem. Its growth really hasn't been studied so that we can do a better job of dealing with it. We do have some regulations to control it. Held over from the last session is a piece of legislation dealing with prevention and research that hopefully will come up for a vote at the beginning of this year's session. I believe it is a reasonable approach and would get it on its way to the Senate for approval and then the Governor's signature.

Please get involved; you can help make a difference. This is not a big budget year, but there will be budget and tax issues to deal with. Your representatives will work hard to address your concerns. Please feel free to call me anytime at 428-3366, or Beth Rodd at 938-2692. I hope you all have wonderful holidays and peace will be with you and your families.



Bradford Area Community Center November Calendar

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1

- **Taking Care of Ourselves and Taking Care of Each Other**, Speaker Betsy Harrington of Riverbend Community Mental Health Center, Senior Room, 10:00am

MONDAY, DECEMBER 3

- **Senior Luncheon**, Senior Room, noon, for reservations call 938-2104.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 4

- **CAP Fuel Assistance**, Conference Room, 9:00am-noon, please call 456-3207 for appointment

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6

- **Line Dancing**, Community Room, 11:00am-noon
- **BACC Governance Board**, Senior Room, 5:30pm
- **Bradford Newbury Preschool Board Meeting**, Community Room, 7:00pm

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8

- **Bradford Community Corporation**, Senior Room, 7:30am
- **Senior Council Christmas Party**, Senior Room, 1:00-3:00pm, Pot Luck Lunch (bring a dish to share), Wrapped \$3-5 Exchange Gift, Judi Mott leads Carol Sing Along, all seniors welcome

MONDAY, DECEMBER 10

- **Senior Luncheon**, Senior Room, noon, for reservations call 938-2104.

- **Bridge Group**, Senior Room, 1:30-4:00pm

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13

- **Line Dancing**, Community Room, 11:00am-noon
- **Brownies**, Community Room, 3:00-5:00pm
- **Bradford Newbury Preschool Parents Meeting**, Senior Room, 7:00pm

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15

- **Paint a Picture**, Community Room, 10:00am-3:00pm, contact Jane Lucas 938-2570 to register.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 17

- **Senior Luncheon**, Senior Room, noon, for reservations call 938-2104.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 18

- **CAP Fuel Assistance**, Conference Room, 9:00am-noon, call 456-3207 for appointment

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 20

- **Line Dancing**, Community Room, 11:00am-noon
- **Brownies**, Community Room, 3:00-5:00pm

MONDAY, DECEMBER 24

- **Senior Luncheon**, Senior Room, noon, for reservations call 938-2104.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 31

- **Senior Luncheon**, Senior Room, noon, for reservations call 938-2104.

December 24 through 28, BACC will be CLOSED
except for scheduled CAP Senior Programs

Tutoring in Computer Use

Beverly Leo and Bill Hatt are volunteering to teach computer skills in the Senior Room. These skills include how to find and evaluate health information on the Internet, Microsoft Word for word processing, Quicken for checkbook balancing and budgeting, and Excel for data base, which is especially useful for organizing your Christmas mailing list! The topic of any class will be determined by the interest of the students. Availability of the room and the convenience of teacher and student will determine the time of the class. Please call Bev and Bill at 938-2996 or the BACC at 938-6228.

Miscellaneous BACC Notes

Certain rooms are available for meetings or holiday parties. If you are interested, please call the administration office at 938 - 6228. The beautiful wreaths you will see on the front doors of the Center are a gift from Marlene's Flower Shop. Those on the rear entrance doors are the gift of Nancy Hibbard. For details or questions regarding Meals on Wheels or Senior Programs, call 938-2104. For Youth Program information (new director Susan Cowan), call 938-6228. The general administration telephone number is 938-6228.

Library Lantern



Bring the family to the Library at 3:30pm on December 8 to kick off Bradford's Christmas celebration. Holiday stories will be read at 3:30 and the rumor is that Santa will appear at 4:00pm. This will be followed by the Women's Club tree lighting at 5:00pm, then a Ham and Bean Supper at the First Baptist Church at 5:30pm. Wow!

The Friends of the Library will present a monthly series for elementary school children titled "It's a Small World." Every month will feature a folktale video spotlighting a different part of the world. The next program on Wednesday, December 12 at 3:15pm will be "Princess Scargo," a North American folktale.

Thanks to a LSTA grant won by Nancy Ladd of Warner we have CD-ROMs of the complete runs of the *Inter Town Record* from 1993 through June 2001, *The Bradford Bridge* from 1991 through June 2001 and *Warner's New Paper* from 1998 through June 2001. Patrons can view and print pages from any issue.

We continue Story Time for children at 10:30am every Wednesday. If you are interested in reading to the children, we would be glad to put you on our rotating roster of readers. Give the librarians a call.

Here are some of the new books added to the library this month:

Me Talk Pretty one Day by David Sedaris
Funeral in Blue by Anne Perry
Sap Rising by Christine Lincoln
A Woman's Education by Jill Kerr Conway
War in a Time of Peace by David Halberstam
Good Harbor by Anita Diamant
True History of the Kelly Gang by Peter Carey
Tucker Peak by Archer Mayor
Falling Angles by Tracy Chevalier
Love that Dog by Sharon Creech

LIBRARY HOURS:

Monday, 9:30am-8:00pm
Wednesday, 9:30am-5:00pm
Saturday, 9:30am-1:30pm
Telephone: 938-5562
e-mail: brownml@conknet.com

Soo-Nipi Audubon Chapter News

The Soo-Nipi Audubon Chapter will hold its annual "Slide Potpourri" program on Friday, December 14 at 7:30pm at St. Andrews Episcopal Church on Gould Road in New London. Participants are encouraged to bring several slides of nature-related topics for this audience-generated show. A projector, slide trays and screen will be provided. Refreshments will be served. For details call Fred Sladen at 536-4321.

The 12th Annual Christmas Bird Count conducted by the Soo-Nipi Audubon Chapter will take place on Saturday, December 15. Leader Gary Stansfield is seeking volunteers for the Lake Sunapee Count Circle which includes the towns of New London, Newbury, North Sutton and parts of Croydon, Goshen, Newport and Springfield. A tally and supper will follow at 5:00pm. Contact Stansfield at 863-8737 for details and route assignments.

—Phyllis H. Curtiss



CLL winter course registration open

The College for Lifelong Learning's winter course flyer is now available and registration is open for the 12-week winter term. Classes begin the week of January 7.

More than 60 courses are offered this winter at CLL's Newport and Lebanon centers. They include courses in a variety of disciplines including behavioral science, computers, management, and communications.

Unique offerings at CLL-Lebanon this winter include "Observational Astronomy" and "Introduction to Book Arts." "Observational Astronomy" is taught by Tim Brennan, who recently was chosen as an ambassador for NASA's Gamma Ray Large Area Space Telescope Program.

At CLL-Newport, unique offerings this term include "Understanding and Experiencing Music," "Native American Writers," and "Diseases of the 21st Century."

Both centers also have scheduled several non-credit workshops this winter, free for CLL students and \$10 for others. Topics include internet research, research paper writing, and essay writing.

CLL, one of the four colleges in the University System of New Hampshire, was established in 1972 to serve adults. CLL offers associate and bachelor's degrees as well as advanced certificates in a number of professional areas. Plymouth State College graduate courses in education and business administration are also available at CLL.

To request a course flyer, call CLL's center in Lebanon (448-6797) or Newport (863-2361). Information is also available on CLL's website: www.cll.edu.

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Outside

by Ann Eldridge

Taming a shrew would probably be a futile endeavor.

A major impediment to any domesticating regime is the short life span of these smallest of mammals. Often barely a year goes by between their birth to seriously underage parents and an exhausted or precipitous death. One gets the impression from their statistics and from fleeting glimpses that they propel themselves nose first at life to make up in quality what they will lack in quantity. When not sleeping, which they do sparingly, or procreating, which they do often, they are busily engaged in gustatory pursuit attempting to consume an amount at least equal to their own weight every day. A James Dean sort of existence - ninety miles and hour and hope nothing makes a turn in your lane.

Shrews have an acute and sensitive nose at one end, a minor length of tail at the other, and short plush fur in between. Eyes and ears are barely discernable. They resemble a slimmer, faster-moving version of another mammalian insectivore, the mole. Shrews have delicate feet on short legs whereas the myopic moles must have heavy, sideways digging instruments for serious excavation. Shrews more often are mistaken for mice or voles. If close inspection is possible, which usually is not the case, one could count five toes on each foot compared to the usual rodent limit of four on the front. Due to the shrews proclivity for active comestibles their jaws contain an abundance of tiny teeth, something like thirty-two. The bucktoothed rodents have their gnawing teeth and a few on the side to total about sixteen. The eyes and ears of mice and moles are much more obvious than those of shrews, their fur longer and more obviously directional, their coloration more varied. The rodents seem to pause often and consider. Shrews, when encountered, swerve and scatter in near constant motion. They are neither harmful to crops nor destructive except to earthworms, slugs, insects of all kinds, small birds, snakes, amphibians, and once in a while a bit of seed or leaf. Most of their foraging through the leaf litter is done at dawn and dusk, during the night and on cloudy or rainy days.

Generally, all shrew species that might be found locally—the masked, smoky,



SHORT-TAILED SHREW

long-tailed, northern short-tailed, and perhaps the pygmy and water shrew—mature in just a couple of months and start making more shrews from January through October or so with a gestation period of about three weeks. The young are briefly cared for and on their own in about four weeks. Its not unusual to interrupt a matron and her brood of five to ten offspring on a trial outing and see them line up in panic formation, each shrewlet grabbing the tail of the one in front and someone latching on to the mother. In perfect step they skitter to shelter like a long furred snake.

With their high-pitched squeaks, it is thought that at least some of the species utilize echolocation, much like bats, in finding their way through their dark passages at night. Usually they make use of vole and mouse tunnels but some construct their own narrow runways. Often the haphazard traces of tunnels found in the snow are those of shrews, who do not hibernate. They are often killed by cats and wild predators but frequently are left uneaten. It is thought that their scent glands that are probably used for navigation or territorial identification make them quite unpalatable. The short-tailed shrew has the distinction of being perhaps the only mammal possessing venomous glands in their mouths. This enables them to bring down game much larger than themselves and can also inflict a painful bite on an inquisitive human.

Though their populations vary greatly from year to year shrews tend to be by far the most common mammal per acre in suburban and rural settings. And yet they are rarely seen and not much is known beyond the basic details of their existence. There are lives going on parallel to ours.



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December Calendar

MONDAY, DECEMBER 3

Selectmen's Meeting, Town Hall, 5:00pm
Bradford Cemetery Commission, Town Hall, 10:00am, call 938-5386 for more information

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 4

Bradford Fish and Game Club, Gillingham Drive, 7:30pm

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5

Library Trustees, BML, 7:00pm

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6

BACC Governance Board, BACC, 5:30pm
Friends of the Library, Planning Meeting, BML, 6:00pm

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 7

Kids' Dance sponsored by Parks & Rec, Town Hall, 7:00-9:30pm, donation \$4

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8

PTC Holiday Fair, KRES at Bradford, 10:00am-2:00pm
Holiday Stories, BML, 3:30pm
BWC's "Meet Santa", BML, 4:00pm
Christmas Tree Lighting, BML lawn, 5:00pm

MONDAY, DECEMBER 10

Selectmen's Meeting, Town Hall, 5:00pm

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11

BWC Executive Meeting, 16 Fairgrounds Road, 9:30am
Planning Board, Town Hall, 7:00pm

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 12

Parks and Recreation, BACC, 7:00pm

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13

BEOC, BACC, 7:00pm
KRSD School Board, KRHS, 7:00pm

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15

Bradford Community Corporation, BACC, 7:30am

MONDAY, DECEMBER 17

Selectmen's Meeting, Town Hall, 5:00pm
BBA, Church Vestry, 7:00pm

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 18

Conservation Commission, Town Hall, 7:30pm

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 19

Country Capitalist Meeting, call 938-2787 for details
Road Committee, Town Hall, 7:00pm
Friends of the Library, BML, 7:00pm

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 20

BACC Governance Board, BACC, 5:30pm

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 27

KRSD School Board, KRHS, 7:00pm

Classifieds

FOR SALE. 2 pairs each skis and boots for kids. Skis 100 cm, \$20 each. Boots approx. size 1, \$10 each. Call 938-2979.

FOR SALE. Burton Balance snowboard size 148.5, good for a middle schooler, good condition, \$175. Burton step-in snowboard bindings and boots. size 8-9, asking \$100 for both. Call 938-2722.

FOR SALE. Wood stove. Pipes and damper included. Size 28" wide, 32" high, 18" deep. \$30. Call 938-5281.

FOR SALE. Christmas trees; cut your own. Chose from spruce, Fraser fir, Scotch pine and balsam. \$14 takes any tree. Between the Mountains Farm, Mountain Road, Newbury. 938-5482. Come any time after Thanksgiving. Bring your own saw, if possible.

FOR SALE. Empire direct vent fan-type wall furnace, 55,000 BTU/hr with wall thermostat and vent pipe. \$350. 938-5973.

FOR SALE. Metalbestos Chimney, 18 foot X 6-inch bore metalbestos chimney in 3 sections with spark "arrestor" cap, two-foot section with wall caps and 6-inch tee-piece, complete with brackets and supports. \$380. 938-5973.

FOR SALE. Ashley Automatic Wood stove, top loading, needs firebricks, \$150. 938-5973.

FOR SALE. 1995 Subaru Legacy LSI wagon, all wheel drive, leather seats, 8 speakers, CD, sky light, etc. etc. 91,000 miles and in perfect condition. \$8,900 with owner financing to qualified buyer. 603-526-4482.

To place a FREE classified ad of 40 words or less, please call Carey Rodd at 938-2692 or email bradfordbridge@conknet.com.

Children's Story Hour, Wednesdays at Brown Memorial Library, 10:30am

Thistle Spinners, Every Monday, Thistle and Shamrock Inn, 1:00-3:00pm

Bradford Historical Society, open most Saturdays, Old Post Office, 1:30-3:00pm or by appointment, call 938-5386

To list events for the January Calendar, please call Betty Hague at 938-2722 or e-mail bradfordbridge@conknet.com before December 20.

Bradford Bridge January deadlines

Display ads	December 20
Classified ads	December 23
Articles	December 20*

*If you would like to submit an article covering an event occurring after the deadline, please contact Lyn Betz at 938-5029.

