

# THE BRADFORD BRIDGE

COMMUNITY NEWS BY NEIGHBORS FOR NEIGHBORS

Volume 13, Number 2; Issue 140

February 2003

## Feasibility Study for Development of Town Properties Proposed

The Town of Bradford faces two major issues in the immediate future. First, is how to direct growth in ways that will preserve the character of the Town and contribute to a better quality of life for the residents? Second, is how to enhance the tax base so as to moderate the levels and growth of the property tax rate? We now have an opportunity to obtain the technical information that will allow us to determine the most appropriate development of town-owned property.

Over the past five years, a number of public meetings have been held under the auspices of the Bradford Economic Opportunities Committee (BEOC) to obtain input from citizens about desirable future projects. A "Plan New Hampshire" exercise was particularly useful in identifying ways in which the existing village area can be enhanced to maintain a central focus of activity on Main Street and preserve the traditional small-town character which has not yet been smothered by unplanned sprawl which has plagued much of the Southern part of the State in recent years. In recent months there has been discussion around the State about ways to achieve "smart growth" that provides services, maintains quality of life, preserves the environment, and avoids the destructive aspects of sprawl.

We have a Master Plan and a Planning Board to oversee development in accordance with the Plan. However, the work of the Board is in response to the proposals arising from private developers and it is obvious that Bradford is coming under increasing pressure for development. The tools for directing and influencing development are fairly limited.

In the previous public meetings, it was pointed out that the Town owns a number of parcels of land that are strategically located. These include the Brown-Shattuck Field (approx. 4.5 acres); the former Naughton property (approx. 25

STUDY Continued on page 7

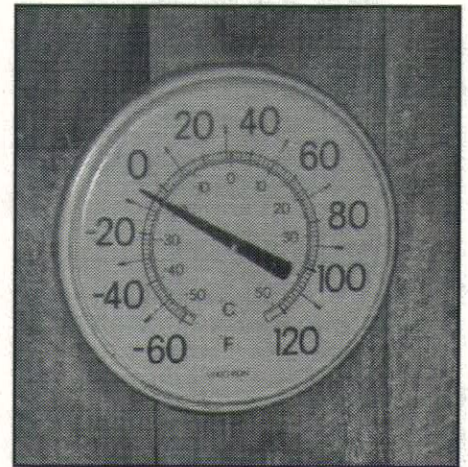
## School District Forum Feb. 25

Bradford and Newbury voters are urged to attend an informational meeting regarding Kearsarge Regional School District warrant articles to be voted on at the polls on March 11, 2003. This is an opportunity for all to ask questions and make comments on these articles.

KRSD panel members will include Bradford and Newbury School Board members Mark Fairbank and Dean Bensley plus Superintendent Tom Brennan. This forum will begin at 7:00pm on Tuesday, February 25 at the Bradford Area Community Center.

The Bradford Business Association and the BACC are sponsoring this forum as a public service.

## Uncle!



For our out-of-state readers, this shot of one Bradford thermometer on January 28 pretty much tells the weather story for the month.

## Planning Board Proposes Zoning Ordinance Amendments

The Bradford Planning Board has proposed three Zoning Warrant Articles for the March Town Ballot.

The first would amend Article III. E, Off-street Parking. The initial paragraph has been amplified to clearly indicate that all modifications to site plans or the addition of structures by a business must have adequate parking assigned and must be off of the streets. The minimum requirements following this initial paragraph remain the same with a new item added as III.E.6. This item spells out how two or more businesses may have a joint parking lot as long as the parking lot will meet the needs of all businesses involved. For instance, if one business normally operates during the day and a second business operates in the evening and both require 15 parking spaces, a single parking lot shared by the two may suffice. This must be presented to the Planning Board, with a Site Plan Review and ample arguments to support this request, by all businesses involved.

The second proposed article would make two changes to Article VI, which addresses signage. The first part adds one word to Article VI.A.1, that being "External". This one word addition will mean that all signs erected in Bradford will have to have "External Continuous Illumination". All current signs would be grandfathered and allowed as they now stand. Any new signs would not be able to have Internal Illumination, Neon, or any other type of blinking lighting except lights that shine on the sign constantly.

The second proposed amendment also adds a new section for the Residential Business District (VI.B.1) that spells out the limits on signage for multiple businesses operating out of the same location (operating space). The intent here is to ensure that Bradford does not have 32 square foot signs all over this district for each add-on business. Here

ZONING Continued on page 7

## 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 Carol Troy at 938-6186 or send a FAX to 938-5702. Ad deadline is February 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 February 20.

## From the Rescue Squad

We hope you have a moment to take a look at the following "Helpful Hints." Each hint has its place in assisting the Rescue Squad members and the ambulance to arrive as quickly as possible. You cannot assume that the EMT that came on a previous call will be available when you dial 911. There are a growing number of folks on the squad and some may not be familiar with your circumstances.

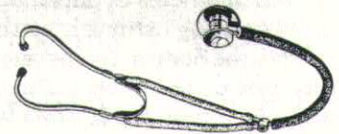
- Have your house number on your house and mailbox. Additionally, your last name posted on the mailbox or in sign form will assure us not pulling into your neighbor's driveway.
- If you are on with a 911 dispatcher and think there might be a problem for us locating you, send someone who is not helping stabilize the patient to signal us into the property.
- If multiple properties use a common driveway, be certain that each intersection is clearly marked with name and number.
- If it is dark outside, please put on all your exterior lights.
- Secure all pets. The most placid dog can turn out to be a problem as the activity level increases with each arriving EMT and the ambulance. Additionally, a pet can easily slip out of the house and not be noticed.
- Keep a list of medications that each household member is on, and if possible, when each medication is normally taken in the day.
- When speaking to the 911 dispatcher, give them as much information as you can if your address or location is unusual. Please give current day address information. Giving "rural route" notations or other designations that may have been familiar years ago can be confusing.

As we will mention each month, if you are interested in becoming involved with the Rescue Squad, please call Jim Powell (Captain) at 938-2228. Or, if you see one of our members about town, feel free to strike up a conversation. Each of us would be more than happy to answer any questions you may have.

The Rescue Squad would like to thank all who donated during our recent fund drive. We are solely supported by donations and greatly appreciate folks' generosity.

The Rescue Squad picked up a red plaid blanket on one of our recent calls and cannot recall where. If the blanket is yours, give us a ring, 938-2228.

—Deborah Bede & Stephen Manley



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## Beekeeping Classes Offered

The Kearsarge Beekeepers Association will be conducting a Beekeeping class for all new interested individuals. Bee School starts March 1 from 6:00-8:00pm at Sugar River Savings Bank on Main St in Newport. There will be seven sessions on the different topics including Introduction, Bee Equipment, Wintering, Requeening, etc., with a live hiving at the last meeting. Participants will build a hive that will be raffled off at the last meeting. The cost is \$30 per family, which includes membership to KBA, a Beekeeping for Dummies book (\$20 value), and refreshments. Contact Karen Booker, 44 Prospect St. Contoocook, NH 03229, 746-3656 or pottedplant@juno.com for more information.

## Robin Gray Joins BACC Governance Board

The Sutton Board of Selectmen has appointed resident Robin Gray to the Bradford Area Community Center's Governance Board. The Governance Board of the BACC sent letters to neighboring towns asking for representation on the Board and Sutton has responded. The Board is trying to make itself more representative of the people it serves. The Board welcomes Robin who will be responsible for public relations and volunteers for the Center.

Robin has been a resident of Sutton for almost three years. Robin's interests are in the area of woodworking, bird watching and model building. Prior to moving to New Hampshire, Robin has been involved in civic clubs while living in Texas for twenty years. Robin is originally from Widnes, England.

## Town Clerk & Tax Collector's Office News

Tax delinquency letters have been sent out. If you find an error or have a question, please do not hesitate to call the office at 938-2094. The lien notices will be going out about mid-month. The lien will go into effect on April 1, 2003.

The office will be closed on Monday, February 17 for the holiday.

### HOURS:

Monday: Noon-7:00pm  
 Tuesday: 7:00-11:30am, 12:30-5:00pm  
 Friday: 8:00am-12:00noon, 1:00-5:00pm  
 TELEPHONE: 938-2288, 938-2094

## Voter Registration March 1

The Supervisors of the Checklist will be in session at the Town Hall on Saturday, March 1 from 11:00am - noon. Elections and school district ballot voting will take place on Tuesday, March 11 at Town Hall. Polls will be open from 8:00am - 7:00pm.

## Police Log for December 2002


- Accidents 17
- Alarms 4
- Animal complaints 7
- Assist other agencies 13
- Burglary 2
- Disturbance calls 4
- Property checks 10
- Traffic stops 227
- Miscellaneous calls 5

①

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# Letters

## Keep In Touch With Your Representatives

Now that the new year and the new legislature have begun, we are writing to say a sincere thank you for your votes, but more importantly, to encourage you to stay in touch with us so that we can serve the communities of Bradford, Henniker, Hopkinton, Newbury, Sutton, Warner, and Webster as promised. Should you have issues or concerns or simply comments, please let us know. Our phone numbers are in the book and those of us who have them, have listed our email addresses below. The New Hampshire Legislature will be in session each Thursday beginning at 10:00am and most often we will be at the State House doing committee work on Tuesdays and Wednesdays as well. As you can see from the following committee assignments, we represent a variety of interests. Please feel free to contact us so that we can pass on your thoughts about these or other matters.

*The Representatives to the New Hampshire State Legislature for District 34*

Bradford, Henniker, Hopkinton, Newbury, Sutton, Warner and Webster

J. D. Colcord-Republican, jdcoldcord@conknet.com—Education

David Currier-Republican, D\_Currier@conknet.com—Legislative Administration

Barbara French-Democrat—Health, Human Services & Elderly Affairs

Christine Hamm-Democrat, hammchris@aol.com—Ways & Means

Richard Kennedy, Republican, stretchnh@aol.com—Criminal Justice; Election Law

Derek Owen-Democrat, owen31@juno.com—Environment & Agriculture

## NH Not "Crime Free"

The following letter to the editor, written by a former Bradford police officer, Andrew S. Turgeon of Penacook, appeared in the Concord Monitor on January 16th:

"I felt compelled to touch on just one section of Katy Burns' column on Channel 9. Everyone has a right to their own opinions, political or otherwise, and I could care less about her personal beef with WMUR. I would, however, love to know what color the sky is in Ms. Burns' world. Her statement that "Crime is not a significant problem here" and that crime is "almost non-existent" is based on naivete and a lack of knowledge. Ms. Burns, shall we think back to when Officer Jeremy Charron was killed in "crime-free" Epsom? How about when State Troopers Leslie Lord and Scott Phillips were killed in "crime-free" Colebrook? What about State Trooper James Noyes, who was killed at a SWAT call in "crime-free" Gilford? These brave men are only four of the 35 police officers from across the state who have made the ultimate sacrifice. Thousands of dedicated police officers in this state, myself included, go to work every day and worry about not returning. The fact is, crime DOES exist in this state. We, unlike you, see it firsthand. Domestic violence, child sexual abuse, drug offenses, rape, and gun violence are real, even in the nice town of Bow, where you reside. Your article was obviously not intended to disrespect law enforcement. Just know that the reason you don't see crime firsthand is because we see it for you. Unfortunately, more of us (police officers) will die protecting this "crime-free" state."

I will add that 75% of violent crime occurs in communities of less than 10,000 population, and 81% of assaults and homicides of police officers occur in communities of less than 10,000 population according to FBI statistics. Please support the police in your community, whether it is Bradford, Sutton, Warner, or elsewhere.

*Jim Kirby, Bradford Chief of Police*

### Bradford Newbury Community Workshop

"Antiques Roadshow," local style will be coming to the Bradford-Newbury Workshop on Thursday, February 13 when Elinor Harris and Lyn Long will offer their appraisals of objects, old and older, brought in by members. This is always a fun and enlightening program with variety each time; so look through those interesting whatnots, picked up or passed down, and bring a couple to share with the group. If there's a story behind them, bring that also. The group meets at 11:00am in the Friendship House in South Newbury. Bring a bag lunch. The hospitality committee will provide dessert and beverage. The program will commence at 12:30pm.

### Beef Stew Supper

The South Newbury Union Church is planning a Beef Stew Supper on February 8, from 5:00-7:00pm in the Friendship House. The Friendship House is located at the corner of Sutton and Village Roads in South Newbury and is handicap accessible. The supper features home made desserts and costs \$6 for adults, \$3 for children ages 6 to 11, and children 5 years old and under eat for free. For more information call Cathy at 938-2851.

—Gail Bostic



### Antiques and Artist Tree



### Going Out of Business

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### Library Lantern by Meg Fearnley

The *Farmer's Almanac* is predicting a "major blizzard" the second week of February. I recommend that you come on into the Library and bring home a stack of books, videos, audiobooks and magazines to see you through. There is no limit to how many items you can check out.

Here's a sample of the new books added to your library last month.

For adults:

- The Decorated Page* by Gwen Diehn
- Michelangelo and the Pope's Ceiling* by Ross King
- Greenback* by Jason Goodwin
- From the Land of Green Ghosts* by Pascal Khoo Thwe
- Bush at War* by Bob Woodward
- Hotspur* by Rita Mae Brown

For children:

- Secrets of Sound* by April Pulley Sayre
- So, You Want to be an Inventor?* By Judith St. George
- Francis the Scaredy Cat* by Ed Boxall

#### LIBRARY HOURS:

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## BWC Update

There will be no executive meeting this month. The general membership meeting will be February 18, 11:30am at the First Baptist Church. The program will be "Town Reports" with a potluck luncheon. Everyone is asked to bring a dish to share.

—Barbara Vannata, President



## Country Spirit

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### Bradford Contemporary Ranch \$255,000



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## Cabin Fever Reliever February 15

Kearsarge Area Preschool parents are planning an afternoon of outdoor winter fun for families. The event will be held at Webb's Field at the intersection of South Road, Pleasant View Road, and Newell Road in Newbury. Webb's Field is also accessible by snowmobile on Primary Trail 390. Ride in, ski in, or drive in for food, drink, ice skating, cross country skiing, snowmobile rides, and a bonfire. A scavenger hunt begins at 1:30pm, a cross country ski race at 2:30pm, and fireworks at 5:30pm. There will be contests, races, a raffle, and fun for all ages. A donation is requested for admission and a fee will be charged for races and snowmobile rides. All proceeds will benefit the Kearsarge Area Preschool.

## Armchair Travel for Seniors

Milton and Jan Brennan will present a travelogue of colored slides from one of their many over-seas tours at the Senior Council meeting on Saturday, February 8 at 1:00pm at the Bradford Area Community Center.

The public is invited to attend and new members are warmly received. There is no membership fee, just a small donation each meeting toward refreshments.

At the January Senior Council meeting, members elected the following officers for year 2003: President, Genie Polm; Secretary, Ethel Bagley; Treasurer, Marcelle Richard; Refreshments, Marion & Vern Hall; and Publicity, Phyllis & Dick Whall. Following a short Business Meeting, members enjoyed a lively session of Bingo-playing followed by a wide variety of desserts & beverages.

Meetings take place at the Bradford Area Community Center on the second Saturday of each month from 1:00-3:00pm.

## Soo-Nipi Audubon February Programs

On Friday, February 14, at 7:30pm, the Soo-Nipi Audubon Chapter will present a slide program entitled, "Finches to Fritillaries," at St. Andrews Episcopal Church on Gould Road in New London. Naturalist, author, and photographer Bryan Pfeiffer will reveal the joys of watching these glittering, fluttering insects and note their courtship and reproduction behavior. This program is open to the public and refreshments will be served. For more information please call Ruth White at 763-4893.

Peter Newbern will lead the annual birding trip to "Cape Ann," Gloucester-Rockport, Massachusetts on Saturday, February 15, to look for over-wintering shore and water birds. Participants should meet at the Warner Park and Ride, Exit 9, I-89 at 8:00am. Bring lunch, beverage, binoculars and a scope if you have one. Be sure to dress warmly for the chilly conditions found along the seacoast this time of year. Inclement weather automatically cancels the trip. For details call Newbern at 763-4308.

—Phyllis H. Curtiss

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STUDY Continued from page 1

acres) which is under planning for recreational use as the "Bradford Green;" the Marshall property adjacent to the Green and fronting on Main Street (approx. 4 acres); the Library on Main Street; The Town Hall on Main Street; the Bradford area Community Center on Main Street; the property adjacent to and including the transfer station (approx. 45 acres) fronting on Routes 103 and 114; approximately 4 acres at the corner of Jones Road and Rt. 114; and the Town Forests. While various services and town functions are provided by these properties, they are not part of the tax base and some parcels appear to be underutilized.

In recent years the Library has been expanded and the Community Center has been created. Both are well utilized and are attractive elements of the Main Street district. We have obtained grants from the Department of Environmental Services and from the McCabe Foundation for environmental assessment of the Naughton property, for plans to link the Community Center with that property, and services of Pellettieri Associates Inc., professional landscape architects, have been donated to begin the process of planning for use of that property for recreational purposes. No decisions have been made whether the Marshall property will be part of the recreational complex or whether it should be developed separately for commercial use which will generate tax revenue.

If the Green meets the recreational needs of the Town, the Brown Shattuck field could be developed for Senior Housing. That is, of course, subject to relocation of the Town Sheds, environmental surveys, and an appropriate plan for development. Such development would generate tax revenue for the Town, would provide badly needed services, and would generate additional activity linked with the village area and the Community Center.

The 45-acre Transfer Station parcel may have the greatest potential for meeting the Town's objectives. It is well situated at the junction of the two highways and the upper portion has extraordinary views of Mt. Sunapee. The Director of the Capital Regional Development Council, Mr. Neil Cannon, has visited the site on several occasions with members of the BCC and BEOC and has suggested that it could be very desirable for uses including cluster seasonal condominiums and light commercial uses. There are obvious questions about whether development of this site will require relocation of the transfer station and town sheds. A well-reasoned plan for the parcel will include addressing these issues on the basis of facts.

However, at the present time, various suggestions have been floated and debated, but the fact is that there is no sound information available on which to base proposals. The property has not been surveyed, there is no information about soil types and the physical potential for providing water and sewerage services. Furthermore, there is need for professional assessment of the likely economic activities that could be attracted to the site. Information is also needed about potential sources of funding for development activities. In the absence of such information, no basis for making rational decisions about the future use of the property exists.

Mr. Cannon has proposed that the CRDC conduct a set of feasibility studies to meet the information requirements. He has outlined a scope of work for studies that include:

- Surveying the property
- Preliminary environmental assessment including gradients and soil types
- Economic studies of potential demand for such property
- Preliminary site plan
- Identification of funding mechanisms.

An appropriate way to fund the studies is for CRDC to use \$45,500 from the Bradford Revolving Loan Fund. The Fund Committee has discussed the proposals with the BCC and BEOC and has recommended funding of the studies. In their December 18 meeting, the Selectmen were reluctant to endorse this proposal and asked for the issue to be taken to Town Meeting. As a result of this delay, the CRDC has temporarily withdrawn the proposal and will meet in January with the BRLP and Selectmen to clarify understanding of the proposal.

—John Harris

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ZONING Continued from page 1

are examples of what is acceptable and not: At the Post Office building there are four actual "operating spaces;" the Post Office, Laundromat, Lannie's, and an open space. With this modification, each of those "spaces" can have its own 32 sq ft sign mounted to the building. They are independent operating spaces. However, if Lannie added bicycle sales to her salon, both businesses may be indicated on a single 32 sq ft building mounted sign. Because they are both in the same space, and we do not wish to have too many signs, she is limited to 32 sq ft for all business conducted in her space.

The third proposed amendment is to Article III.D.6: Minimum setbacks and Height regulations. This proposal allows a special exception, rather than having to go through a variance, to allow the construction of a tool or storage shed to be as close as eight (8) feet from either the rear or side property line. The shed may be up to 10 by 12 feet and may not exceed 12 feet peak to floor. This article is intended to ease the process for homeowners wishing to put up a small shed.

At the time of this writing, we have had one Public Hearing (Jan 14) and are in the process of conducting a second on Jan 28, 2003. I will update anything that changes from this hearing in the next month.

I know some may wish to limit additional zoning, and others wish for a number of restrictions to keep development out. My expectation is that Bradford is going to grow, faster than most wish, and there is no legal way to halt this growth. Our only option is to ensure that we grow thoughtfully, limiting the strains on our infrastructure, schools, roads, etc. An individual has an inherent right to do whatever they want with their property and a community has the ability to limit the type of development by area, with the Planning and Zoning boards being the executors of the Zoning plan, as voted in by the majority of the residents. Your interests cannot be considered if you don't participate either as a member of the boards or at a Public Hearing. Both boards are always looking for members, either as filled by ballot or as "Alternates". Alternates can learn how the boards operate and may provide additional input on applications before the boards. Come out, get involved, or at least make sure that your interests are represented during public forums.

Bob Foor, Planning Board Chair

From the "secret" recipe files of



## Chef Jim Horigan Thistle & Shamrock Inn

### SAUSAGE, LEEKS & POTATOES A One Pot Dinner For Four

This is simple, and great for COLD winter nights with friends and neighbors.

- 4 Tbsp. butter
- 2 med. leeks, split, rinsed, and sliced
- 1 lg. onion, coarsely chopped
- 3 or 4 potatoes, peeled and cut into 1" dice
- ½ tsp. whole thyme
- salt & fresh black pepper
- 3-4 cups chicken broth
- 8 sausages (knockwurst, bratwurst or kielbasa)
- Fresh chopped parsley

Sautee the onions and leeks in butter, add the potatoes and spices, cover and simmer 30 minutes.

Add the sausages and simmer an additional 15 - 20 minutes.

Serve in big bowls garnished with the parsley.

Enjoy!

(If anyone has a question about, or problem with, any of my recipes, please feel free to call the Inn for assistance. —JRH)



# Church News

From Lynne E. Hubley

**Beginner's Bible Study:** Beginning Wednesday mornings February 5 from 9:30-10:30am, there will be a bible study for people interested in learning the basics about the bible as well as looking at some specific passages. Childcare is available.

**Spaghetti Dinner:** The American Baptist Women's Ministry is hosting a spaghetti dinner on Saturday, February 8 from 5:30-6:30pm. They will be serving spaghetti, meatballs, tossed salad, garlic bread, and homemade pies. The cost is \$6.00 for adults, \$4.50 for children 12 and under, and the meal is free for children 3 and under.

**Fiske House Renovation Workday:** On Saturday, February 8, beginning at 9:00am, several of the men in the church will be putting in the new floor in the extension of the Fiske House.

**Youth Group:** Grades 5-8 will meet at the church on Wednesday, February 12 from 6:30-8:00pm to watch the movie "You are Special" by Max Lucado. After the movie, we will have a discussion about God's unconditional love and how we can show it to others. There will also be a game of Pictionary and "love letters" will be written to shut-ins telling them how special they are.

On Wednesday, February 26 from 6:30-8:00pm, youth will meet at the church and enjoy a game of "What's My Line?" We will have guest appearances from people who have some unique vocations and enjoy a discussion on the different career opportunities available and how to use our "God-given gifts" to serve others.

**Food Pantry:** The pantry will be open on Wednesday, February 19, from 6:00-7:00pm. Food can also be obtained by calling the church office at 938-5313.

**Winter Wonderland Gathering:** On Sunday, February 23 beginning at 1:00pm, the church family is invited to the home of Judy and Tom Marshall for an afternoon of snowshoeing, skiing, and snowmobile rides. There will also be games of Scrabble, Cribbage, etc for the indoor enthusiasts. This is a great opportunity to help fight the winter blues.

**Men's Sunday:** On Sunday, February 23, at 10:00am, the men in our church will lead the entire worship service. This is always an inspiring service. Perley Strout will be giving the message.

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# Then...

by Milly Kittredge



Just getting warmed up—Frank Fortune and Mike Colby's square dance band with Frank calling, Nellie Blake at the piano, Mike with the fiddle, George Rounds on banjo, Luther Fairbanks on drums, and Bob Messer on sax. The band started soon after World War II. Frank converted the barn at the top of Cochran Hill, said to be insulated with hay, which burned with a hot flame in the early 60s. Renovating the barn on Fairgrounds Road, Frank and the Band again had barn dances for another decade. Frank appeared at square dance centers throughout New England. He died in 1976.

—Photo from the Messer Collection



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Todd Longley

# January Selectmen's Meetings

JANUARY 7, 2003

Ken Anderson, Transfer Station Manager, discussed the investigations he's made into the trucking and contracting of disposal of the paper and cardboard program. He is continuing discussion with Northeast Resource Recovery which would include trucking and storage trailer on site. He has also looked into the charge for refrigerators, air conditioners, and propane tanks. He plans more meetings to round out the information he has. The Selectmen told him to do his comparisons, go with whatever he finds is best for the Town and advise them.

Mr. Kelley, who resides in back of the Town Hall, appeared before the Selectmen to relate the problems during the last storm when the snow from the Town Hall parking lot was plowed so high it fell into the length of his driveway. He had problems getting the correct Town agencies to respond for two days. The Selectmen said the problem was indeed a danger, and wouldn't happen again.

There were other complaints of the road conditions after the series of storms, but no formal written comments, nor appearances.

Ms. Hasey requests that both ends of Dunfield Road be marked on maps, since she is concerned that emergency crews might enter only one end of the road and not be aware of the other end. Dunfield Road is partly class VI and has no passable middle. It was decided that the end from County road becomes West Dunfield Road and the end on Rowe Mountain Road becomes East Dunfield Road.

Cheney Hill road has been sloped and the intersection will be tackled in the spring. The Planning Board should be notified the current work that has been completed by Mr. Stebbins on Cheney Hill Road has been done to the Selectmen's satisfaction.

Warrant articles, including monies from the revolving loan fund for a survey of the 25+ acres around the transfer site and a preschool warrant for more town funds and continued free rental of the Community Center will come in. The Preschool would like to renew their contract in March. John Harris will write the warrant for the transfer site survey.

A letter from Chief Kirby was received recommending the young people dances be cancelled because of the unruly actions and the damage to the Town Hall, as well as lack of access to a phone for emergencies. The Parks and Recreation Department have cancelled the dances.

A snow blower has been purchased by the Fire Department.

The code enforcement officer has signed two conditional occupancy permits.

Selectmen reviewed changes in the budget. Noted bridge maintenance on Davis road must be done this year and four loads of salt have been used so far this season.

JANUARY 21, 2003

Chris Frey, representing the BEOC, spoke about the warrant article to transfer the continuing appropriation account of \$15,000

from last years' article 27 (Naughton/Marshall property) to a Capital Reserve Fund for enhancement toward a park with the Selectmen as agents to expend. He also explained the article for Fire Department equipment, building improvements, capital reserves for roofing, and scrubbers. Operating budget for lease purchases has been dropped and the Department is hoping to keep the budget at an even keel.

Arnold Anderson, Road Agent, showed the Selectmen the new loader specs. for the warrant article. There was extended debate on optional equipment, service charges, etc. A section of Center Road (covered bridge to Jones Rd.) will go out for bid to be reground and a warrant article for repairs on East Main Street will be written up.

Central New Hampshire Regional Planning Commission information of the ten-year Transportation Improvement Plan submission for repairs of route 114 from Bradford north was discussed. One of the Town representatives to CNHRPC, Bill Glennie, will follow up. He received an extension for submission and will work on getting estimates for the paperwork, including any local share, which the Selectmen felt was State highway and the local share would be zero.

The Police Department reported that of the several outstanding dog licenses, one remains to be resolved and the report will be forwarded to the Tax Collector.

One intent to cut was signed.

—Excerpted from the public minutes.  
Complete minutes available at Town Hall.

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Bruce Edwards, Chairman

Peter Fenton

Dave Pickman

Cheryl Behr, Administrative Assistant

Office Hours:

Monday–Thursday, 8:00am–noon, 1:00–5:00pm

Friday, 8:00–noon

Telephone: 603-938-5900

Meetings 1st & 3rd Tuesdays, 5:00pm



# Real Estate Hints:

## The Status of Housing

by Laura Hallahan

On more than one occasion I have used this space to express my concern about the status of housing in New Hampshire. Though I make a living by selling land and homes, I do worry about whether people who have lived here for generations can afford to stay. I recently attended a Public Policy Conference put on by the New Hampshire Association of Realtors and a speaker from the Central New Hampshire Regional Planning Commission spoke on just this subject. While the statistics she presented were taken from a coverage area of Allenstown to Webster, the trends they show affect all regions of our state including the Sunapee region. Here are the details:

There has been an increase of 15.9% of available single family units since 1990, jumping from 19,554 to 22,662. The increase for multi-family units is slightly lower at 10%, going from 11,635 to 12,797. Manufactured housing has seen a larger increase of 16.7%, increasing from 3,443 to 4,019.

So, if we have been building more housing, then we should be all set, right? Well, the change in population of people moving into the state is greater than the number of units available. The median single family home purchase price in Merrimack County for new construction increased from \$118,000 in 1990 to a staggering \$201,217 in 2001. The Sunapee region experienced a change in the average sales price from \$153,447 in 2001 to \$231,900 in 2002. The factors that influence the supply of housing include land availability and costs, regulatory controls, material costs, credit risk, and builder capacity.

This problem not only affects homebuyers but renters as well. In fact, statistics show that in 2000 the state would have needed 5,300 more vacant rental units just to meet the national rental vacancy rate of 6.8%. Rents, meanwhile, have soared from a low of \$587 for a 2-bedroom apartment in Merrimack County in 1992 to \$868 for the same apartment in 2002. On the list of the Top Ten Least Affordable Non-Metro Areas, New Hampshire is number six, translating to a person in our state needing to earn an hourly wage of \$12.99 to be able to afford a 2-bedroom apartment at fair market rent.

When demand is strong and exceeds supply, the cost of housing rises, plain and simple. But what does that really mean? It means that a larger percentage of income is going to pay for housing, there is more homelessness, people leave the area, businesses suffer, and communities suffer. With many towns trying to figure out how to limit growth and new construction, the future does not hold much promise unless we work together to find real solutions.



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## THANK YOU

We want to say a special thank you to everyone who remembered us this holiday season: Oak Hill Riders 4-H, Nature's Essence 4-H, Rainbow Girls #17, Sutton Homesteaders, and anyone we may have missed!



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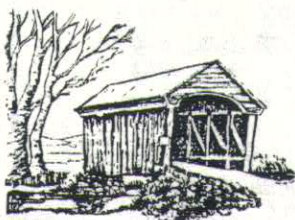
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## SAVE THE BRIDGE!

Lyn Betz will be retiring as editor after the June 2003 issue. If you or someone you know is interested in keeping this community resource alive, please call 938-5029 or email [bradfordbridge@mcttelecom.com](mailto:bradfordbridge@mcttelecom.com).

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\*Source: NNEREN Reports 01/01/96 - 12/31/2001



## In the Stillness of Winter

By Priscilla Parmenter

The reflected light of late afternoon appears frozen, trapped by steely grey clouds in the stillness of this winter day. These are edged with a pale glinty halo, backlit by the glow of a fading January sun, and creating fleeting long shadows.

There is no wind, and at first listen, no sound beyond the crush and crunch of snowshoes atop the drifts.

The tall proud evergreens are bent captive beneath their burdens of recent snow, prisoners in the still winter landscape.

The water beneath the icy surface of the brook is reduced to a muffled gurgle barely audible in the cold quiet air, suddenly interrupted by a lonely woodpecker working for his dinner.

A down feather, released from this activity, floats like a dancing apparition and settles on the bed of white snow below, now a silent reminder of forest life slowed to bare necessity.

On close examination, the whiteness of the deep snow is magically tinged with hues of blue and grey caught in the stillness of the crystals.

The tracks around the deer beds give evidence of struggle against the depth of the winter white. The dog seemingly swims through the trails ahead.

Moving into the almost orchard stand of Eastern witch hazel, the seed pods clutch at your sweater. Amidst the drab and slate there is a tiny cluster of golden yellow, a little starburst of brilliant flower overhead—a complete surprise; an unexpected treat; a gift in the stillness of winter!

## Obituary

NELSON C. SPAULDING

HOPKINTON—Nelson C Spaulding, 90, a longtime former resident of Bradford, died December 25, 2002 at the NH Odd Fellows Nursing Home in Concord.

He was born in East Washington on August 24, 1912, the son of Orie and Eva (McIlvaine) Spaulding, moving to Bradford in 1917. He was a graduate of Simonds High School in Warner, Class of 1929.

He was a U.S. Army veteran of World War II. He served as a staff sergeant in England, France, Belgium, and Germany.

Mr. Spaulding was employed as a rural mail carrier at the Bradford Post Office for 28 years. He retired in 1977.

He was active in several organizations including St. Peter's Lodge f&AM 31 in Bradford for 50 years, the NH Grand Masonic Lodge F&AM, Manchester, and the Order of the Eastern Star, Vesta and Silver Hill Chapter, Bradford. Mr. Spaulding was awarded the General John Sullivan Medal from the NH Grand Masonic Lodge. He was also a member of Purlingbeck Grange, East Washington, for 70 years.

Mr. Spaulding was a member of the Bradford Fire Department for 71 years, serving as chief from 1950 to 1965. He also served as New Hampshire district deputy fire warden from 1941 to 1965. He was elected selectman in Bradford for two terms.

He was a member of the American Legion Post in Warner for 44 years and the Contoocook Post for 11 years. An avid golfer, he was a member of the former Loch Lyndon Golf Course in Bradford.

He had been a resident of Hopkinton since 1990.

Family members include his wife of 62 years, Esther (Cressy) Spaulding of Hopkinton; a son, Peter Spaulding of Hopkinton; a daughter, Jan Jacques of Concord; four grandchildren and a great granddaughter; and several cousins.

Memorial donations may be made to the Merrimack County SPCA, 130 Washington Street, Penacook, NH 03303.

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# Bradford Area Community Center

## February Calendar

### MONDAY, FEBRUARY 3

Massage with Pamela Monaghan, 10:30am

### TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 4

Fuel Assistance applications, 9:00am–noon, call 456-2207 for appointment.  
Brownies, 3:00–4:30pm

### SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8

Senior Council, 1:00–3:00pm

### MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10

Lake Sunapee VNA presents: "Cardiac Care: keep your eye on the pump," 12:30pm

Rainbow Girls, 5:00–7:30pm

### TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11

Kearsarge Area Preschool parent's meeting, 7:00pm

### WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12

Valentine's Sleigh Ride at Punch Brook Farm. Meet at Bradford Senior Center 10:15am to car pool to the 99 Restaurant in Tilton for lunch on our own. Then to Punch Brook Farm in Franklin for a sleigh ride, a bonfire, hot chocolate and see the new baby lambs. Cost is \$9.00 per person. Payment deadline is Wed. Feb. 5.

### THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13

Brownies, 3:00–4:30pm

BACC Governance Board, 5:30–7:00pm

### FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 14

Bradford Community Corporation Meeting, 7:00am

### MONDAY, FEBRUARY 17

President's Day Holiday. The Senior Center is closed.

### TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 18

Meet at the Center to car pool to meeting of Merrimack County Area Committee on Aging in Concord, 8:45am  
Fuel Assistance applications, 9:00am–noon, call 456-2207 for appointment.  
Brownies, 3:00–4:30pm

### THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20

Reiki with Peg Leighton, 10:30am  
Personal Touch Home Health Care, Free Blood Pressure and Foot Care, 11:00am–12:30pm

### MONDAY, FEBRUARY 24

Rainbow Girls, 5:00–7:30pm

### TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25

Enrichment Series Program: 10:00am at the Newbury Public Library. In collaboration with the Library, Dr. Charles Kennedy will give a presentation on "Islam." This program is free of charge. Everyone in the community is invited to participate.

### THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27

BACC Governance Board Meeting, 5:30–7:00pm

## Ongoing Activities

Senior Craft Club, Mondays, 10:00am–noon

Creative Writing Course, Mondays, 2:30–4:00pm

Bridge Group, Mondays and Thursdays, 1:30–4:00pm

Senior Luncheon, Mondays and Thursdays, noon

Yoga Class, Tuesdays, 6:00–7:00pm

Beginner's Watercolor Class for Seniors, Wednesdays, 9:30–11:00am

Yoga Class (Not Advanced), Wednesdays, 9:30–11:00am. Call Fran 456-3099 to register

Senior Line Dancing with Ann Austin, Thursdays, 10:30am–noon

Weight Watchers, Thursdays, 5:00–7:15pm

Computer Tutoring, Fridays, 10:00am in the Senior Room (Other times by arrangement; call Bev Leo 938-2996)

## Program Information

For general information or to schedule activities, call Director Jim Bibbo at 938-6228. There is available time and space to accommodate all age groups at the BACC.

For details or questions regarding Meals on Wheels or CAP Senior Programs call CAP Program Director, Sandi Bandieri at 938-2104.

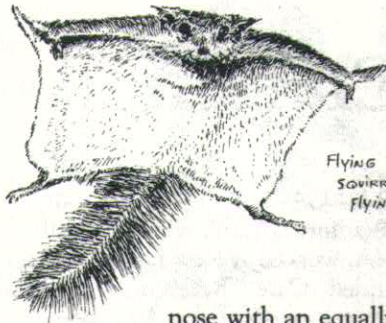
For After-school Youth Program information call director Susan Cowan at 526-6415 or 526-2389.

For Kearsarge Area Preschool information call Sarah at 938-2624.

The Bradford Area Community Center is in need of custodial services. Anyone over 55 and able, on a limited income, may be eligible to work under an AARP Grant and would be paid for 20 hours a week. Any person wishing to volunteer to help keep the Center clean would also be appreciated.

There is also a need for volunteers to work in the administrative office and again, if over 55 and on a limited income, you may be eligible to work under the AARP Grant in the same manner as the custodial position.

Anyone who wishes to volunteer to teach an interest class or teach an interest class for pay are also encouraged to contact the Community Center office at 938-6228.



FLYING  
SQUIRREL  
FLYING

# Outside

by Ann Eldridge

The cat, Miss Jane, knows about flying squirrels. She has been eating some of those that winter in the walls of the house. My closest encounter occurred when I was proposing to clean out what I had thought of as a birdhouse. Nose to nose with an equally startled squirrel, I changed my assumption of occupancy and my plan. Miss Jane knows more intimately certain aspects of squirrel behavior and physiology, but I have been reading.

I've read that flying squirrels are extremely common though we seldom see them due to their position on the night shift of squirreldom. There may be two species of flying squirrels in town. Northern flying squirrels prefer the conifers and southern flying squirrels take the mixed deciduous. Their ancestors probably arrived from Asia across the Bering Sea land bridge on different schedules. The southern squirrel during the early Miocene, 20-25 million years ago, and the northern squirrel in the Pleistocene about 100,000 years ago. Although similar in appearance, their habits vary somewhat.

Six hundred words is not enough space to describe their large, night-vision eyes that are, like all rodents, set far apart for broad field of vision. They have a better chance evading the owls and Miss Jane but poor depth perception. Appearing to be grasped by indecision, they bob and weave nervously before leaping. They're actually triangulating, trying to get multiple visual angles on the landing site. I regret that there is not enough room to tell you that their eyes shine orange at night.

A single page can hardly include that their very long whiskers are charmingly called "vibrissae". Or that they carefully notch an acorn to fit their small mouths before carrying it aloft to a cache hole in a tree, there to pound it in place with incisors, producing a sound that might carry fifty feet. Or that they roll their babies into balls to transport them from nest to nest, which they do frequently. Or that they have a large vocal repertoire. Or that northern flying squirrels grow fur on the soles of their feet in winter. Or that, less territorial than other rodents, they aggregate in numbers in house rafters and hollow trees in winter for communal warmth and Olympic games.

However, perhaps this page could be spent describing how it happens that a flying squirrel can glide so well.

All squirrels are fairly adept at falling out of trees unharmed. The principle is simple—stick your arms, legs and tail out to provide as much surface area and control as possible and then hope for the best. Flying squirrels have taken this elementary parachuting a good bit further and possess a singularly wonderful body part known as a patagium. This is the furry vestment that drapes from wrist to ankle on each side of the flying squirrel's body. No mere flap of extra skin, the patagium contains a complex arrangement of muscles. Thin, flat muscles lie within the gliding skin and serve to control the direction of flight. Rope-like muscles along the outer edge hold the airfoil taut. Additional muscles help stabilize the outstretched legs (They do not "flap their wings"). Yet another set of muscles holds the patagium close to the squirrel's sides so as not to impede them whilst scampering afoot.

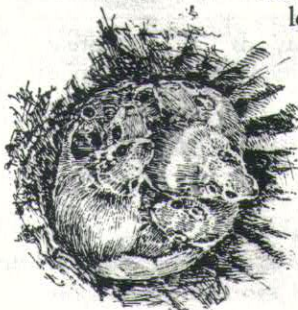
An added feature is a cartilaginous rod which extends from the wrist in flight to further open the leading edge of the gliding surface. At rest, it lies flat along the forearm. Imagine a stiletto knife that appears at the touch of a cufflink in some dreadful movie. With all this specialized equipment in place, a flying squirrel glides silently through the night woods, spiraling down or making right angle turns as necessary. The initial powerful leap is usually followed by a short steep dive to gain velocity for glides of 20-60 feet on average. Glides of 150 feet are not unheard of and downslope distances of 300 feet have been recorded.

Flying squirrels may pancake to the ground to forage on nuts, seeds, and insects or abruptly swoop upwards at the end of a glide to land on another tree. The patagium billows to reduce speed, the tail swings upwards, the landing gear thrusts forward. Scaling this tree he may leap again, speeding through the night forest.

One final note, if there's room: a mother flying squirrel lies balanced on forehead and feet over her blind, naked offspring and spreads her furry patagium like a blanket to keep them warm. Sounds delightful on this ten below night.



COMING IN FOR A LANDING



FLYING SQUIRRELS  
WINTERING IN A  
TREE CAVITY



# February Calendar



## MONDAY, FEBRUARY 3

Cemetery Commission, Town Hall,  
10:00am  
Library Trustees, BML, 7:00pm

## TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 4

Selectmen's Meeting, Town Hall, 5:00pm  
Zoning Board of Adjustments, only if an  
agenda, Town Hall, 7:00pm  
Bradford Fish & Game Club, Gillingham  
Drive, 7:30pm

## THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6

KRSD School Board, KRHS, 7:00pm  
BEOC Meeting, 7:00-9:00pm

## SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8

Senior Council Travelogue Slide Show by  
Jan and Milton Brennan, all welcome,  
BACC Senior Room, 1:00pm

## TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11

Planning Board, Town Hall, 7:00pm

## WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12

Country Capitalists, call 938-2787 for in-  
formation

## THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13

Bradford Economic Opportunities Com-  
mittee, BACC, 7:00pm

## FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 14

Bradford Community Corporation,  
BACC, 7:00am

## SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15

Cabin Fever Reliever Fundraiser for the  
Kearsarge Area Preschool, Webb's  
Field, 1:00-6:00pm

## TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 18

Bradford Women's Club, "Town Reports,"  
Baptist Church, 11:30am  
Selectmen's Meeting, Town Hall, 5:00pm  
Conservation Commission, Town Hall,  
7:00pm

## WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19

Road Committee, 7:00pm

## THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20

BACC Governance Board, BACC,  
5:30pm  
KRSD School Board, KRHS, 7:00pm

## TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25

Kearsarge Regional School District Fo-  
rum, BACC, 7:00pm  
Planning Board, Town Hall, 7:00pm

## SATURDAY, MARCH 1

Voter Registration and Checklist correc-  
tions, Town Hall, 11:00am-noon

# Classifieds

LIVE-IN CAREGIVER seeks position in  
the Bradford area. Previously certified as  
a CNA, worked at New London Hospital  
Extended Care. References available.  
Contact JB Brown at  
[jbthemilker@aol.com](mailto:jbthemilker@aol.com)

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until it's too late!

## **Bradford Bridge March deadlines**

Display ads	February 20
Classified ads	February 23
Articles	February 20

See page 2 for more submission info.

**GOT A GREAT PHOTO?**  
**SHARE IT IN THE BRIDGE!**

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

Bradford Historical Society, Old Post Office, open by appointment, call 938-5386

To list events for the March Calendar, please call Lyn Betz at 938-5029  
or e-mail [bradfordbridge@mcttelecom.com](mailto:bradfordbridge@mcttelecom.com) before February 20.