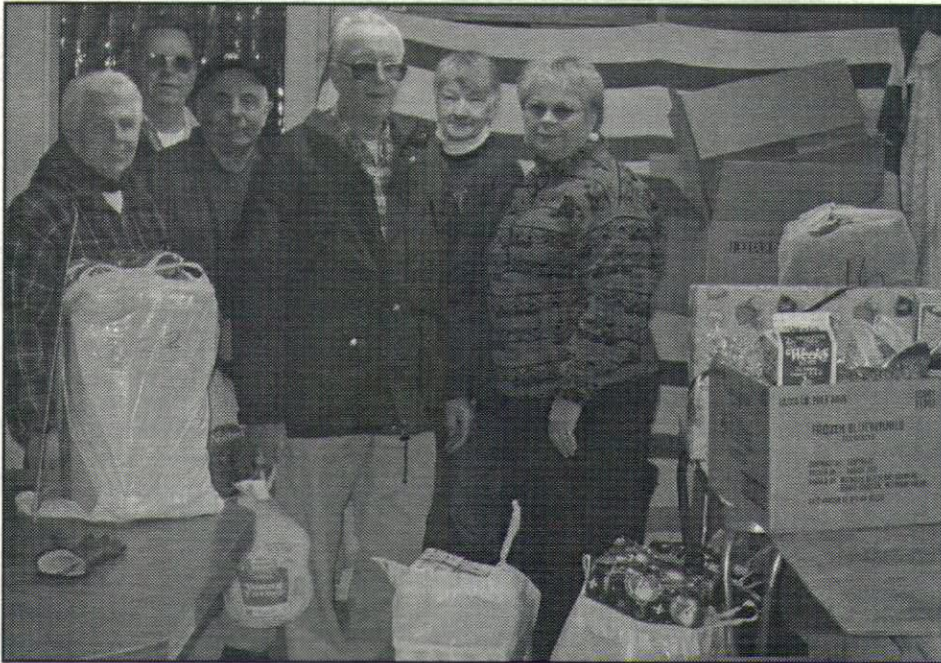


THE BRADFORD BRIDGE

COMMUNITY NEWS BY NEIGHBORS FOR NEIGHBORS

Volume 13, Number 1; Issue 139

January 2003



In the spirit of Christmas, the community pantry gave out holiday baskets to local residents in need on Saturday, December 21, 2002 at the Fiske Building adjacent to the Baptist Church. Left to right, Ade and Bob Stewart, Tommy Pitts, Jim and Dolores Hansen, and Diane Pfeil.

Annual KRSD Meeting January 11

The deliberative session of the Kearsarge Regional School District Annual Meeting will be held at the Kearsarge Regional High School in Sutton, January 11, 2003 at 9:00 a.m. This session shall consist of explanation, discussion, and debate of warrant articles. Warrant articles may be amended subject to the following limitations: (a) warrant articles whose wording is prescribed by law shall not be amended and (b) warrant articles that are amended shall be placed on the official ballot for a final vote on the main motion, as amended, and as originally set out in the warrant.

Following the deliberative session, ballot voting on all warrant articles will take place in each of the seven District towns in conjunction with Town elections on Tuesday, March 11, 2003. Bradford polls will be open at the Elementary School on Old Warner Road from 8:00am – 7:00pm. Election of school district officers will also take place during the March 11th balloting.

Article 1 seeks to appropriate \$377,000 to fund the deficit in the FY 2002 budget which ended in June 2002. The over expenditure has resulted in a severe cash shortage which has caused long delays in the payment of vendor invoices. Failure of the voters to approve the deficit article would cause a continuance of this cash shortage and would require that the School Board take draconian steps to reduce expenditures. These measures would likely include the choice to lay off up to eight teachers or eliminate bud-

Bradford Officials Support Pillsbury-Sunapee Highlands Project

The Bradford Board of Selectmen and the Conservation Commission unanimously voted to support the Pillsbury-Sunapee Highlands Project. Each state has a Forest Legacy Committee which reviews land conservation projects for funding through the Federal Forest Legacy Program. The area surrounding Pillsbury and Sunapee State Parks has been long recognized as the largest unfragmented forest block south of the White Mountains, (25,000 acres). The Connecticut Lakes Headwater Project took precedent in the last two years but now the Highlands Project has returned to the top priority for funding. A key piece of this effort is the acquisition of a conservation easement on 7,000 acres of timberland owned by a Georgia-based investment company, New Forestry, LLC. They are interested in selling an easement to keep this land in forestry and recreation use forever. An easement of this sort would follow the deed even when the ownership of the land changes hands.

This project is being headed by the Society for the Protection of NH Forests and other State and local partners. They have received commitments from adjoining landholders who would donate additional land or easements as leverage to acquire the New Forestry easement, an additional 2,500 acres.

A portion of this land lies in the southwest part of Bradford. Many of you are already familiar with the Bradford Atlantic White Cedar Bog, the Aiken Town Forest and the very popular snowmobile trails leading to Ed's Corner. Keeping this landscape in timber and recreation supports relatively low-impact timber and forest industries and maintains some of the rural atmosphere for which New England is famous. It can also help to stabilize the tax burden in participating towns by slowing the sprawl of housing and its attendant

KRSD Continued on page 6

FOREST EASEMENT Continued on page 6

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 January 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 January 20.

From the Rescue Squad:

What happens when you call 911?

New Hampshire is fortunate to have an enhanced 911 system in place statewide. With this system, anyone in New Hampshire can call 911 for emergency assistance and the call will be answered at the central Public Safety Answering Point in Concord. If the call comes from a landline telephone, the enhanced 911 system automatically displays the name and address of the subscriber. The specially trained 911 dispatchers use a sophisticated computer program to ensure that the necessary information is obtained and to quickly notify the local dispatching services. The Bradford Rescue Squad, for example, is dispatched by Concord Fire Alarm; 911 notifies Concord Fire Alarm of a need for emergency personnel and the Rescue Squad receives the information within as little as 10 to 20 seconds of the time the 911 call is placed.

Rescue Squad members each wear voice pagers. When a 911 call comes in, Concord Fire Alarm sends an alarm tone through the pagers followed by a message such as "Bradford Rescue, respond to 123 Whatever Street for difficulty breathing". Squad members assemble at the Fire Station to man the ambulance and respond to the call. In some cases a Squad member may respond directly to the scene. If necessary, Concord Fire Alarm will also activate police or fire response.

When you call, the 911 dispatcher will ask a series of questions designed to pinpoint the problem and the type of emergency response that is needed. While the dispatcher is talking to you, they are simultaneously transmitting the information to the local dispatching service. If necessary, they can instantly contact the Poison Control Center and initiate a conference call. Translators for 160 languages and dialects are also available 24 hours a day. The 911 dispatcher will also give you pre-arrival care instructions, including some emergency care techniques if needed. Other instructions include the confinement of any pets, and to gather the patient's medications. The dispatcher will stay on the line with you until emergency personnel arrive.

Cell phone calls to 911 activate the same response as landline calls, but with current technology the 911 system cannot determine the location of the caller. When you call 911 from a cell phone, it is vital that you clearly identify your location, including the state. In one case, Newbury Fire responded to a call for a fire on a boat in the harbor, but were unable to locate the boat. 911 checked with the caller and found they were actually in Newbury, Massachusetts. Be aware that your cell phone service may route your 911 call to an Answering Point in another state. In the future, cell phones may be equipped with Global Positioning System transmitters that will pinpoint the location of the call.

Is your house number clearly posted?

Emergency personnel can only help you if they can find you!

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Hours

Monday - Friday: 7am - 5pm
Saturdays: 7:30am - 5pm

Bradford Recycling Program Showing Success

Bradford's mandated recycling program is reaping financial benefits for our town. In addition, many citizens and agencies are applauding Bradford's concern for the environment and for our Town's efforts to preserve and protect it. Quite a few Bradford residents are passionate about our recycling procedures—some expressing great praise and enthusiasm and some resisting with every fiber of their being.

By separating our recyclables, Bradford has reduced the tonnage of refuse for which the Town must pay a disposal fee. Some recyclables bring money to the Town. Other recyclables bring little, if any, money to the Town but saves the Town money by reducing the tonnage of refuse. Our present recycling efforts include:

- Barrels for any color glass bottles, jars and ceramics (broken or whole)
- Barrels for aluminum cans and foil (this is Bradford's best money-maker)
- Container for magazines, glossy paper and clean paper products—flattened food boxes, cardboard can and bottle holders and mail (these materials are used to make shiny book covers)
- Baler for corrugated cardboard, clean brown paper bags and clean plastic-free grain bags (these are recycled into a lower-grade cardboard and are Bradford's second best cash product)
- Container for discarded clothes textiles (Planet Aid picks up these goods and sells some to support its company and then ships the rest to impoverished countries)
- Container for scrap metals (copper, brass, aluminum and lead are separated out because they generate more revenue for the Town)
- Container for newspapers, shoppers and other newsprint
- Collection box for fluorescent light bulbs
- Area for car batteries and motor oil
- We also have a hazardous waste pickup day in October.

One small effort can produce so much benefit for our Town. For example, removing metal caps and rings from glass bottles and jars produces purer glass for road resurfacing "sand," reduces the tonnage sent for disposal, eliminates the metal ash which pollutes the landfill where our refuse is processed, and increases the income generated by recycling the metals. We recently put this small effort into operation.

The Department of Environmental Services randomly checks Bradford's full refuse containers for hazardous materials. To improve Bradford's good standing, it is necessary to enforce mandatory recycling.

Lois has volunteered her services at the Transfer Station for the past four years and has been a wonderful help to me. She is certified by the State of New Hampshire to run a transfer station, is knowledgeable about the business and environmental aspects of recycling and understands the requirements of an efficient and safe operation. She works entirely under my authority and supervision and possesses the friendly, outgoing personality that is needed to carry out her responsibilities.

Our goal at the Bradford Transfer Station is to "reduce and reuse." Every resident using the Transfer Station is asked to comply with the established recycling procedures—willingly and pleasantly.

—Ken Anderson, Manager

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Supervisors of the Checklist will be in session at the Bradford Town Hall on Saturday, January 4 from 11:00am–noon.

This is the last opportunity to register to vote before the Kearsarge Regional School District Annual Meeting Deliberative Session on Saturday, January 11 at 9:00am at the Kearsarge Regional High School in North Sutton.

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Letters

Thanks, Beth

To Representative Beth Rodd, District 34

Thank you for all you did for us as our local representative. Your sincere qualities in doing your position were appreciated by all who know you. Every politician should have the extraordinary integrity that you possessed in every aspect of the political life. We look forward to seeing you again on the ballot.

Sincerely, Dawn and Marvin Rich

Parks & Recreation discontinues Kids' Dances

We are sorry to say we are giving up the Kids' Dances. This project has become too time consuming and frustrating. We have had some very willing parents help chaperon and we thank them sincerely. We have to spend sometimes hours on the phone getting chaperons. This last dance ended up being chaperoned by seven members of one family. The disrespect for the building has reached the point where we can't ask the Town to continue making repairs. We thank the Town for being so patient with us, allowing us to continue when damage has been done to the building. We have always been sure to have enough chaperons and still things happen. The disrespect by some of the kids of each other and the chaperons has reached the point where we feel it's not worth people giving of their time.

We have explained to the kids just too many times that we are there for their safety and the safety of the building. We are there so that they can have a place in their town to get together and visit and dance. I personally find it so disappointing that they really don't dance. They run, slide, and swing each other even with constant reprimanding. We wish more parents had participated so they can see how their children act. We are not saying all the children misbehaved, but they are a very active, loud group and with lack of help we just cannot go on asking the same people over and over. The one excuse we hear the most is "our kids don't want us there." This is very disheartening. Ours haven't wanted us there either but most of the time there is no choice. So we thank the chaperons, the town, and all the kids that did listen and behave.

Jane Lucas for the Bradford Parks & Rec Department

From the Editor

Since there is some white space in this issue, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the volunteers who have kept this paper a strong part of our community life. I often receive calls from people who are surprised to learn that the Bradford Bridge doesn't have an office. It began as a kitchen-table enterprise and continues to be a grass-roots, all-volunteer effort.

Whether you are new in town or have lived here all your life, you are invited to add your voice or to contribute your skills to keep this paper as representative and informative as possible. It is a good way to learn more about your neighbors, your local officials, and town government while performing a valuable service for your community.

I have served as Editor for nearly five years, and have begun to threaten retirement. I would especially welcome calls from anyone who might be interested in MY job (or who wants to nominate someone else who might be convinced to take it). The only prerequisites are a love for your town and the willingness to do the work. I learned all the rest of it AFTER I said yes! I have no plans to move, and will offer as much training and support as necessary for my replacement.

Please call 938-5029 or email bradfordbridge@mcttelecom.com if you would like to be involved with the paper in a small or large way.

Lyn Betz

Planning Board Notes

At its only meeting in December, the Planning Board reviewed several amendments to the Zoning Ordinance. Amendments under consideration are clarifications to both Off-Street Parking and Sign sections of the ordinance; establishing a special exception for setbacks from the property line for small storage sheds; and a Steep Slope overlay district to limit the intensity of development on the steep slopes in Town. The first hearing for public comment is scheduled for January 14. A second hearing, if necessary, will be held on January 28.

The Board continued the Public Hearing for Martyn Chiver's three-lot subdivision on Breezy Hill Road. Two lots encompass the former Kearsarge Reel commercial buildings. The third lot includes an existing manufactured house and 123 acres of land in the Rural Residential District. Several buildings must be removed or relocated in order to meet the setback requirements and the plan was so noted. The subdivision was approved.

In addition to the subdivision of the former Kearsarge Reel property, a site plan review is also under consideration by the Board. At the continuation of that Public Hearing, Bob Carpenter of T.F. Bernier, representing Mr. Chivers, requested approval of the plan submitted. He noted that the statutory time for the Board to act would expire in two days. He was told that the review by the Central New Hampshire Regional Planning Commission (CNHRPC) had not been completed because of a delay in receiving the required fee. The Board asked the applicant to agree to an extension of the time as provided by State law. Mr. Carpenter expressed concern about how the project was proceeding and requested specifics on what the Board required. He was asked to locate any studies done as part of the CDBG grant to Kearsarge Reel, any reports following the fire at that site, and any studies done prior to the purchase of the property. These had all been requested because of concerns raised about possible environmental problems on the site. A site visit to the property by the Planning Board must be scheduled once the CNHRPC report has been received. Mr. Carpenter and his client agreed to a 60-day extension of the time for a decision. The hearing was continued until January 14.

A Voluntary Merger of lots on Gillingham Drive was approved for James Bruss. Carol Fortune submitted a boundary agreement for her property and that of Doris Box, which had been set as a condition of site plan approval for her gift shop on route 103.

Dave Pickman requested that the Anderson Farm Stand be allowed to remain in place rather than being moved at the end of each season as required by the site plan approval. He was requested to bring in a revised site plan for the Board's consideration.

Selectman Pickman updated the Board on the work being done on Cheney Hill Road in connection with Keith Stebbings cluster subdivision. Bob Foor explained that one condition for approval requires a letter from the Selectmen when the work on the road has been completed to their satisfaction.

Work being done on property between Fairgrounds and West Roads by Timberstand Inc. was discussed. Mike Carter, of Timberstand, had been requested to talk with the Board about his plans. Several letters have been received from the Conservation Commission expressing concern for wetlands on the property. A letter was read from RCS Designs explaining that, at this time, the project is considered a timber operation. Inspectors from NHDES have been on site on three occasions and an administrative order is expected soon. Until such time as the concerns in the DES order can be addressed, they will not plan to meet with the Planning Board.

—Marcia Keller

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FOREST EASEMENT *Continued from page 1*

costs in schools, transfer station, and other services which are not offset by property tax income.

Anyone wishing to support this effort or seeking more information may contact Brian Hotz at the Society for the Protection of NH Forests at 224-9047 or write to: Deirdre Raimo, USDA Forest Service, State and Private Forestry, PO Box 640, Durham, NH 03824.

—Bradford Conservation Commission

New Listings for the New Year!
HILLSBORO \$265,000



Remember those wonderful Victorians with the wide foyers & lots of room for family and friends? This beauty close to schools & town offers 4 BRs, 2 porches, 2 fireplaces, a deck & large basement in an area of fine homes. An attached 2-car garage and wide, paved driveway are also features.

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KRSD *Continued from page 1*

geted funds for sports, enrichment programs, and other activities not part of the district's core academic mission.

The deficit, which is approximately 1.8% of the total budget, was caused primarily by the following over expenditures: \$123,000 unanticipated out-of-district special education costs; \$82,000, increases in workers compensation, property and dental insurance costs; \$49,000, added costs of the high school sewage disposal system; and \$52,000, increased transportation costs caused primarily by special education.

The remainder of the over expenditures, which occurred primarily at the high school, were caused by failure to adequately control costs and a disregard of the budget. Appropriate disciplinary action has been and will be taken against those individuals directly responsible for the failures. It should be noted, however, that the specifics of any disciplinary actions taken are confidential under State law. It should be further noted that all of the over expenditures were for legitimate purchases of goods and services for the benefit of the district's schools. No evidence has been found that any of these expenditures were made for the personal gain or benefit of any individuals. Nonetheless, none of these items had been budgeted for.

The uncontrollable over expenditures, particularly in the area of Special Education, demonstrate the need to provide adequate reserves and contingencies. The district has not been providing for such contingencies.

A mitigating factor to consider is the fact that in seven of the last ten years the District has under expended the budget and returned money to the taxpayer. At the end of FY 2001, for example, we under expended by \$112,000 and returned \$102,000 to the taxpayer, while transferring \$10,000 to the Capital Reserve Fund.

Article 2 asks voters to appropriate \$212,470 to complete the purchase of 86 acres of land at the corner of Route 114 and Gile Pond Road in Sutton as the site for a new middle school. A detailed explanation of the Board's reasons for recommending this expenditure is available in a voter's information packet available at the SAU office, public libraries in all District towns, and on line at the KRSD Web site at www.Kearsarge.k12.nh.us

Article 3 asks for \$75,000 to begin building up a Special Education Trust Fund for out-of-district placements, established in 1997 but currently with a zero balance. Additional appropriations are likely to be sought in future years until the fund is built up to about \$200,000. The money cannot be expended for any purpose except to pay for out-of-district placements and it cannot be expended unless the School Board first holds a public hearing.

Article 4 asks voters to elect the trustees of trust funds for the Town of New London to hold in custody for the School District funds deposited in all trust funds established by the district.

Article 5 seeks to appropriate \$30,000 to correct violations at the wastewater treatment plant that serves the high school. The plant's discharge has been violating State environmental standards for a number of years and the State Department of Environmental Services (DES) and the Federal Environmental Protection Agency have refused to renew an expired National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit as a result. Recently DES has made clear that they plan to take enforcement action against the district. Engineers have been working with DES on a solution that will eliminate the discharge to Stevens Brook for an estimated cost of \$30,000. This solution is considerably less costly than an upgrade plan proposed by engineers last year at an estimated cost of \$200,000.

Article 6 asks for an operating budget of \$22,155,000. The School Board and the Municipal Budget Committee agree on this figure which represents a 4.53% increase over this year's operating budget. The bulk of the increase is in teachers' salaries (\$369,197, the third year of a three-year collective bargaining agreement approved by voters in 2001), insurance increases (\$223,795 for health, dental, worker's compensation, and property insurance), and debt service (\$97,416 for the high school roof bond). Several budget items were eliminated or reduced, including elimination of a \$35,000 District Maintenance position, a \$4,500 athletic trainer, and the \$30,000 field trip transportation budget. The line item for software purchases was reduced by \$8,333 in the proposed budget.

—Report prepared by Lyn Betz from information provided by the KRSD School Board on the District's web site

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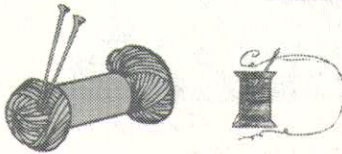
Friday & Saturday 11am-10pm

Community Workshop

The first meeting of the Workshop in 2003 will take place on Thursday, January 9. Members of the Community Workshop will meet at 9:30 at the Friendship House to carpool up to Dartmouth-Hitchcock Hospital for a tour of the Neo-Natal Intensive Care Unit. Knitters in the Workshop have, for several years, been supplying the Unit with knitted caps for the newborns, and quilters have been making quilts to cover the incubators and to be sent home with the babies.

After the tour we will travel a short distance for lunch at Jessie's Restaurant. Questions? Call 938-5482.

—Clare Bensley



Bradford Country Squares

The Bradford Country Squares will host a Class Level square dance at the Bradford Town Hall on Saturday, January 18 from 8:00-10:30pm. Dona Prudhomme will call and Vera Prudhomme will cue the rounds. Admission is 5 dollars per person. For further information, please call Kris Sweet at 863-0974. Spectators are free and always made welcome.

NH Celebrates Wellness

The NH Celebrates Wellness Strong Living Program will begin a new 12-week session at the Warner Town Hall Mondays and Wednesdays, 9:00 - 10:15am. There will be an informational meeting on January 8 at 10:00am (a doctor's release form will need to be signed before beginning the program). The program was developed by researchers and exercise physiologists at Tufts University. Strength and balance training can improve fitness, mobility, emotional well being, and bone health. If interested, please call Sally Biewener at 938-2740 or Nancy Eastman at 456-3802 for further information.



Rosewood Inn Selected as a Winner

The Rosewood Country Inn of Bradford has been awarded the title of "Room of The Year" for Intimate Inns in the United States by North American Country Inns magazine. Inns across the country were invited to enter their guest rooms for the competition. The Rosewood was selected along with two other inns for the category of the Room of the Year awards in the Fall 2002 issue. North American Country Inns magazine began publishing in January of 1996. The international magazines are published four times annually.

Innkeepers Dick and Lesley Marquis have won other honors for their property, being selected as the Most Romantic B&B/Country Inn by readers of Arrington's Bed and Breakfast Journal, as well as "Inn of the Year" for 2002 by guidebook author Pamela Lanier. The Rosewood has also been awarded "One of New Hampshire's Eight Most Romantic Inns" by Chronicle Books and as "Inn of the Year" by the State of New Hampshire.

The Rosewood Country Inn was also featured on Chronicle, the WCVB-TV Channel 5 television program on life in New England on Friday, December 6. Producer Dick Amaral and a Boston film crew interviewed innkeeper Lesley 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. For more information, call the Rosewood at 938-5253 or 800-938-5273, or visit www.rosewoodcountryinn.com.



A guest room at the Rosewood featuring a canopy bed.



Library Lantern by Meg Fearnley

We had over 90 visitors come to the library on December 7 to see Santa. Thanks to the Lucas family for making it all happen. Photographs with Santa are available to take home. Look in the basket on the library circulation desk.

We finished off a great year at the library by adding even more new books:

For adults:

Prey by Michael Crichton
Four Blind Mice by James Patterson
Hornet Flight by Ken Follett
Quentins by Maeve Binchy
My Losing Season by Pat Conroy
The Conquerors by Michael Beschloss
Sandy Koufax by Jane Leavy
Seeing in the Dark by Timothy Ferris
The Ice Maiden by Edna Buchanan

And for children:

Eloise Takes a Bawth by Kay Thompson
When Mommy Was Mad by Lynne Jonell
The Thief Lord by Cornelia Funke

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From the "secret" recipe files of



**Chef Jim Horigan
Thistle & Shamrock Inn**

APPLE AND OAT BETTY

- 6 oz. flour
- 6 oz. rolled oats
- 2 tsp. cinnamon
- ½ tsp. nutmeg
- 3 oz. butter

Put the flour and spices in a bowl and cut in the butter until the mix resembles coarse breadcrumbs.

Stir in:

- 3 oz. sugar
- 4 large cooking apples, peeled cored and sliced
- juice and rind of 2 lemons
- ¼ cup orange marmalade

Toss the apples with the lemon juice and marmalade

Butter a 2-quart ovenproof casserole.

Layer half the apples and sprinkle half the oat mixture over the top. Top with the remaining apples and oat mixture.

Bake at 375F for 45 minutes to an hour until the apples are tender and the top is crispy.

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

Women's Christian Guild: On Friday, January 3, at 11:00am, ladies will meet at the church to carpool to the home of Edythe Craig for lunch and a program entitled "SnowTales."

Epiphany & Communion Worship Service: On Sunday, January 5 at 10:00am we will celebrate Epiphany by observing the arrival of the wise men to the Christ child with their gifts. Immediately after the worship service, we will "unhang the greens."

Mother of Young Children's Support Group: Mothers are invited to come to the Fiske House on Wednesdays, beginning January 8 from 10:00-11:00am. Childcare is provided. We will be using the resource "With all Their Heart: Teaching your Kids to Love God" by Christine Yount.

American Baptist Women's Ministries: These women will have their January meeting on Wednesday, January 8 at 7:00pm. The theme will be "Prayer Optimizes our Spiritual Health and Well-being." We will also be preparing for the ABWM worship Service that the women will lead on January 26.

Thursday Evening Bible Study: On Thursday evenings beginning January 9 from 7:30-8:30pm, everyone in the community is invited to come to the church for an in depth study of the Book of Proverbs.

Food Pantry: The pantry will be open on Wednesday, January 15 from 6:00-7:00pm. Food can also be obtained at other times by calling the church office at 938-5313.

Men's Fellowship: Any men in the community are welcome to come to the Bradford Area Community Center on Wednesday, January 15 at 7:30pm for an evening of fellowship, pool, and refreshments. Call Tommy Pitts for more information at 938-5447.

Youth Group: Any youth between grades 5 and 8 are invited to come to the church on Sunday, January 19 at 1:00pm and travel to the Hogan Center for an afternoon of swimming and basketball. The cost is \$5.00. Permission slips are required. We will be back to the church by 4:00pm.

On Wednesday, January 29, youth can come to the church from 6:30-8:00pm for an evening of indoor Winter Olympics. You will be amazed at how well we can assimilate outdoor sports inside. Hot cocoa and popcorn will be served, and Gold Medals will be given out.

Women's Spirituality Group: A new group will be starting up on Monday evenings (exact date to be determined). Women will be studying the book "Becoming a Vessel God Can Use" by Donna Partow. This is a ten-week study that offers hope, encouragement, and transformation as the reader is invited to seek to follow God's will. If interested, please call Lucille Shevett at 938-2423 or Cheryl McDonald at 938-2879.

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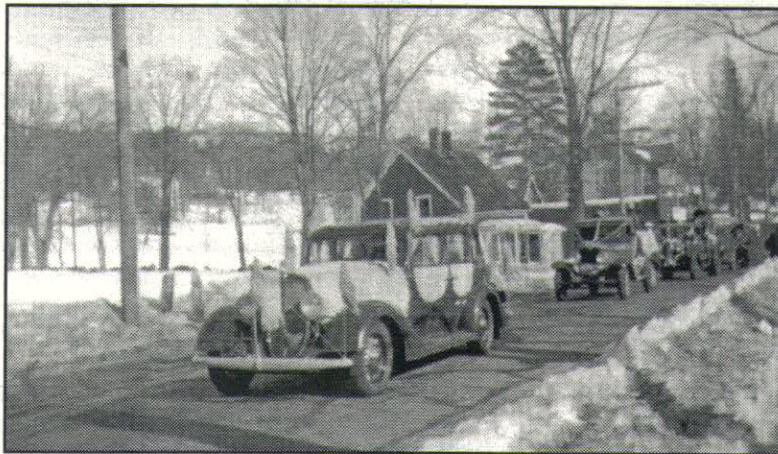
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Then...

by Milly Kittredge



The King's Daughters float at the 1934 Winter Carnival Parade. The scene is Main Street by the old Village Mart with the lovely Victorian Marshall house in the background.



During the 1941 Winter Carnival, Queen Audrey Sargent (Kennesaw) is crowned by 1940 Queen Betty Hall (Moore). Shirley Westerberg (Scribner) is holding the train and Joyce Storrs holds the scepter.

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December Selectmen's Meetings

DECEMBER 3, 2002.

Tom Brennan, Superintendent of Schools, met with selectmen to review the overruns in the District's July 2001-June 2002 budget and possible problems with the current budget (2002-2003). Mr. Brennan explained that old accounting procedures allowed individuals to place orders without obtaining purchase orders. In addition, regular reviews were not passed down to area principals. Selectmen questioned Mr. Brennan on a variety of issues regarding the overruns. Mr. Brennan announced the intention of the school system to place a \$400,000 deficit warrant article before the towns to cover these expenditures. There would also be a warrant to purchase the land for a new middle school. Mr. Brennan will be getting the final figures on the budget overruns the end of this week, and will be available to the selectmen to discuss the matter if they wish.

Brooks McCandlish of the Conservation Commission met with selectmen to request their support in obtaining conservation easements on property on the western border of the Town of Bradford. Selectmen signed a letter prepared by the Conservation Commission.

Selectmen signed some property abatements for veterans exemptions, clerical adjustments, and mapping corrections.

Selectmen signed intent to cuts for Sophie Burke (property on West Road), Guy Chamberland (property on Sunset Hill), and Cersosimo Lumber (property on Liberty Hill Road).

Selectmen requested Cheryl draft a letter for signature to the Chief of Police regarding outstanding dog licenses.

Selectmen voted not to sell a snow plow as suggested by the Town Road Agent.

Selectmen agreed to allow personnel to carry over one week of unused vacation

time. The policy will be reviewed next year to disallow this practice

Cheryl discussed a letter from the town timber monitor regarding Current Use values and a plan for updating the town's records. A court case, the Marlow Decision, has changed the way towns value current use property. The Department of Revenue has announced its intentions to review each town for compliance as a part of the certification process.

The County Budget has been received. The budget has increased from \$41 million to \$44 million dollars.

Selectmen reviewed budgets and noted areas in question to discuss with department heads at a later time

Road Committee will meet December 9, 2002 to review bridge plans and plan for the next year's road work.

DECEMBER 17, 2002.

George Morse, representing the Bradford Revolving Loan Committee, introduced John Harris, of the Bradford Community Corporation, to discuss a grant proposal involving the Revolving Loan Committee and the Capital Region Development Corp (CRDC) for work on the Transfer Station Property. The proposal would extend a grant of \$45,500 dollars for surveying and best use analysis of the 40-acre parcel adjacent to the current transfer station. This would allow the town to evaluate future uses of the property for development. Selectmen voted to postpone decision and bring before the town at the March Town Meeting.

Marcia Keller approached selectmen with a Department of Transportation map that needed additional correction and final submission to the state. Mrs. Keller indicated the completed map should be marked by the town with the necessary road classifications and displayed in the town hall

meeting room. She requested the selectmen notify her upon its completion.

Bob Stewart met with Selectmen and Heather Brady, vice president of the Kearsarge Area Preschool, regarding an agreement with the Selectmen for use of the community center. Selectmen requested an addition be made to the agreement allowing review of the contract annually. The change in name and status of the KAP from the Bradford Newbury Kindergarten Preschool created the need for the new agreement. Currently, the town provides space for the KAP without charge.

Selectmen reviewed a letter from Marie Hasey regarding the clarification, for 911 purposes, of Dunfield Road. The road is accessed from either Rowe Mountain or County Road but is not passable all the way through. The numbering is from the County Road end. Selectmen suggested naming the road, East and West Dunfield Road, with the Rowe Mountain end being East Dunfield and the County Road access being West Dunfield Road. Cheryl will inform the police department of the change and see that dispatch is notified.

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

Bradford Board of Selectmen

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

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Real Estate Hints:

News for the New Year

by Laura Hallahan

Happy New Year! At the end of each year, I take a look at a variety of economic indicators to try and determine the impact on the real estate market for the year ahead. While some continue to insist that real estate will eventually go the way of the economy, low interest rates are keeping things humming along pretty nicely. Locally, realtors have noticed a slight decline in some housing prices, but it is difficult to determine if this reflects any type of trend as prices may have been inflated to start. At least for the first quarter of 2003, it is still a good time to sell or buy a house as attested to by the following facts and figures:

Recent data point toward ongoing gains in the single-family market, partly at the expense of the rental market. Single-family construction rose at an annual rate of 5.2% in October and total home sales surged to a near-record annual rate of 6.8 million units. Multi-family starts rose 10% in November. Leasing activity is gaining momentum, influenced by a rise in employment in the third quarter—the commercial sector usually lags behind residential because of its link to job creation and the general economic recovery. As far as apartments go, the average rent is expected to be flat throughout 2003 before rising 2.5% in 2004;

Nationally, house prices were up by 6.2% in the third quarter, though there has been a gradual deceleration from the peak rate of increase (almost 9%) recorded in early 2001. Outright declines in house prices are still hard to find—all but 10 of the 185 major metro areas had annual price gains of more than 2%. While it is likely that rates of house price appreciation will continue to decelerate somewhat further, widespread declines in real house values are extremely unlikely.

The National Association of Home Builders reports that it is ending 2002 on a positive note, with new home sales turning out to be even higher than expected. NAHB is forecasting a record 969,000 new-home sales for the year, up 6.7 percent from 2001.

As November drew to a close, lenders continued to show near-record applications for mortgages to buy homes.

One other piece of news that may impact those selling or buying a property located in a flood zone is the failure of Congress to reauthorize the national flood insurance program into 2003. As of December 31, no new or renewal flood insurance policies will be issued and no one can say how long this lapse will last—word is that Congress will take up the issue later this month. Why is this important? Banks and other lenders may not extend mortgage financing to flood-prone properties that are not covered by flood insurance, affecting thousands of people who expected to close transactions during the first half of January.



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New Missionary Pastor Assigned to Warner Church

Pastor Michael and Sara MacWhinnie have been assigned to the Grace Community Church of Warner by Village Missions. The MacWhinnies are replacing Pastor Robert and Margery Leisy, interims. Pastor MacWhinnie, his wife Sara, and their two preschool children are living on West Main Street in Bradford.

Village Missions describes itself as a "non denominational, community centered Mission" whose purpose is "to provide qualified spiritual leadership to those rural and suburban areas of the United States and Canada where there exists a definite need to win and disciple people to Jesus Christ through the proclamation and demonstration of the Gospel." The organization has a history of over fifty years.

Pastor Mike grew up in Ohio and worked in the manufacturing and installation of custom countertops before being called to missionary work. He attended New Brunswick Bible Institute in Canada, graduating in 1998. It was at the Institute that he met his wife, Sara. He recently completed all of the requirements as a pastor for Village Missions.

Sara grew up in a missionary family. Her parents now serve with a mission organization in Riviere Bleue, Quebec. Sara has had experience serving in Africa and with various children's ministries. She now concentrates her efforts as a mother of two: Caleb, three; and Hannah, almost two.

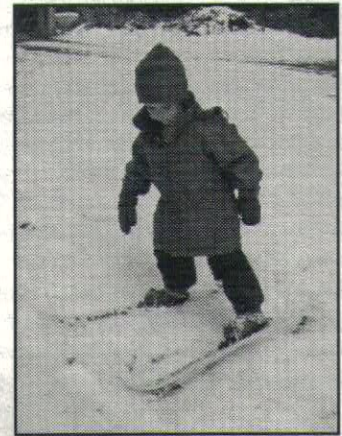
The MacWhinnie family is looking forward to building relationships with people in the area. They also look forward to "assisting Grace Community church to grow and become an oasis of light and truth, while pointing to Jesus Christ, and glorifying God through discipleship, service, and love."

Grace Community Church holds services in the Harris Lodge Building (next to the Masonic Hall) on Church Street in Warner. Sunday Prayer is at 9:30am, followed by a worship service at 10:30am. Discipleship studies are held in members' homes on Wednesday nights at 7:00pm. For more information about Grace Community Church, contact Pastor Mike MacWhinnie at 603-938-5711.

A New Year's Day Tradition



Friends and neighbors gather at the home of Laurie and Dave Buchar on Rowe Mountain Road for an annual New Year's Day gathering which includes hockey and skating on the pond (below left, Caroline Forgiel, 10, and Anna Buchar, 9)...



... and some cross country skiing (above, Carl Betz, 3 1/2, gets his balance).



Tom Bigford loads the sauna for post-game warm-ups (left), and Anna Buchar enjoys hot cocoa.

Legislative Report

By Representative Barbara Conner French



The 2002 elections are over and the dust is beginning to settle. I do want to thank the people of Bradford for supporting me over the years and for helping to give me the opportunity to serve you another two years. I also want to thank former Representative Beth Rodd for our four years of working together. She was an excellent, caring, dedicated representative whose presence in the legislature will be greatly missed. Beth's committee chairman was so impressed with her and her ability to work in a nonpartisan way that he wanted to make her clerk of the Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee. Bradford and the whole state have lost a wonderful representative.

I have been working on several bills that relate to health care issues and health care providers, especially nurses, and independent living. I will keep you informed about their progress.

I am concerned about what I am hearing and reading. I assure you that I will work hard to be sure that the townspeople and children receive the services and support that they need. We will be presented with several revenue proposals for the state's general fund and ways to meet the educational needs of our children. I will continue to work for a fair, equitable and sustainable revenue system for all people in New Hampshire and an education funding structure that provides an adequate and equal education for all our children.

Please call me when you have any questions at 428-3366. Wishing you all a happy, healthy and safe New Year.

Bradford Women's Club News

Our annual Craft Fair was a great success thanks to all of the members who worked so hard. We would also like to thank St. Peter's Lodge for allowing us to use their facilities. The winners of the raffle were: Christmas tree skirt, C. Fouekes of New London; gift certificate to Marlene's, D. Lamach of Bradford; BWC cookbook, B. Holmes of Sutton; and a wreath, S. Vitale of North Conway.

Many children visited Santa Claus at the library, and the tree lighting was beautiful. Our thanks go to Jane Lucas and her elves.

The next meeting of the executive board will be Tuesday, January 14 at 9:30am at the BACC. The next membership meeting will be Tuesday, January 21 at 1:00pm at the Baptist Church. The program will be "Antiques Roadshow" with guests Elinor Harris and Lyn Long of White Star Auctions. Bring in that item you always wondered about to be appraised.

—Barbara Vannata, BWC President

Soo-Nipi Audubon Chapter News

Join speaker Fred Sladen for this Soo-Nipi Audubon Chapter program entitled, "Digital Costa Rica," for an armchair tour which highlights this new technology, on Friday, January 10, 7:30pm at St. Andrews Episcopal Church on Gould Road in New London. The public is invited and refreshments will be served. For details call Fred at 526-4321.

A birding trip is scheduled the following day, January 11, with leader Robin Gray, to Parker River National Wildlife Refuge on Plum Island, Newburyport, Mass. Despite the cold, this is a good opportunity to see snowy owls, migratory waterfowl and many other winter migrants. Participants should meet at 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 appropriately for winter conditions. For details call Gary at 927-4127.

—Phyllis H. Curtiss

School Closing Information

Although the Transportation Department has been privatized, parents and students can expect the same level of service as in the past. Transportation Rentals, Inc. handles all the bus scheduling requirements for the school district. They have, in fact, been running the buses since the start of the school year.

According to Superintendent Tom Brennan, there have been a few problems with the change in service but he also noted, "Anytime you make adjustments to the transportation system there are concerns and issues that arise. We are taking the appropriate steps to address all concerns and issues presented to us."

School closings and two-hour delays are decisions made by the Superintendent on the advice of Road Agents, Transportation Rentals, Inc., and weather forecasters. The decision will be made by 6:00am and the announcement will be on the following radio and TV stations:

WFTN-Franklin, WNTK-New London, WJYY-Concord, WKXL-Concord, WTSL (Q10)-Claremont, WNNH-Concord, Channel 3 TV-Warner and Channel 9 TV-Manchester.

School closings are also listed on the WMUR website, www.thewmurchannel.com/weather.

The left-hand column has a link to *Closings and Delays*. They keep up-to-date information on the website.

If the start of school is delayed for two hours, the buses will run two hours later than usual.

Two school closing phone lines are in operation. These numbers are different from the numbers used last year. For school closing information, please call either 526-8444 or 526-2051, ext. 224. Please keep in mind that power outages may affect phone service.

We are excited about the changes in the bus system and look forward to a safe school year.

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Bradford Area Community Center

January Calendar

MONDAY, JANUARY 6

Senior Craft Club, 10:30am-noon. Massage with Pamela Monaghan. De-stress after the holidays! Donations are appreciated. Lunch at noon.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 7

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

THURSDAY, JANUARY 9

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

FRIDAY, JANUARY 10

Bradford Community Corporation Meeting, 7:00am

SATURDAY, JANUARY 11

Senior Council, 1:00-3:00pm

MONDAY, JANUARY 13

Lunch at noon. After lunch, Lake Sunapee VNA presents: "Strength and Fitness—putting the tingle in your tango."

Creative Writing Course informational gathering with Fran Lyons, 2:30-4:00pm. Open to the public.

Rainbow Girls, 5:00-7:30pm

TUESDAY, JANUARY 14

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

THURSDAY, JANUARY 16

Blood Pressure and Foot Clinic with Personal Touch, 11:00am-12:30pm.

Lunch served at noon with birthday cake and ice cream.

Brownies, 3:00-4:30pm

MONDAY, JANUARY 20

Martin Luther King Holiday. The Senior Center is closed.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 21

Brownies, 3:00-4:30pm

THURSDAY, JANUARY 23

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

MONDAY, JANUARY 27

Creative Writing Class, 2:30-4:00pm

Rainbow Girls, 5:00-7:30pm

THURSDAY, JANUARY 30

Senior Lunch at noon. After lunch Janice Severence, a certified Personal Color and Image Consultant, will present a program on personal color harmony combinations as it relates to the seasons. Following her presentation, participants will have the opportunity to discover what color flatters them most. Your personal Clothes and Accessory Shopping Color Palette will be available for purchase following the program. Come and enjoy the fun! Open to the public.

Rainbow Girls, 3:00-4:30pm

Ongoing Activities

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

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, 10:00am

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 volunteers to assist in the daily operation and special programs and projects. We can accommodate your time schedule. If you have an interest you would like to share or have suggestions as to what we can offer to better meet the needs of area residents, we would like to hear from you. Call Jim Bibbo at 938-6228.

Outside

by Ann Eldridge

As many gardeners know, it is in late autumn that granite breeds. The gestation period generally lasts through the winter, the resulting offspring appearing by planting time. Leaf-drop is also the time we again notice just how many rocks there are. Although Bradford has, by one reckoning, at least 250 miles of stone walls, stones were not always in such obvious abundance.

The stones among us began as ocean mud. Much of central New England and the British Isles lay in a narrowing body of water that disappeared when North America, Africa, and Europe came together as one large continent. The ocean mud compressed, was buried, heated, cooled, hardened, and eventually resurfaced to be covered by forest. We in New Hampshire are now living in what was once the northwestern coast of Africa. Most of Vermont was a part of the original North American continent. This accounts for the differences in geology in general and the rocks in particular, but perhaps not for the differences in politics.

New England did not become rocky until the appearance of the Laurentide Ice Sheet. The ancient soils were scoured down to bedrock; stone slabs were heaved up and scattered about. The lush, temperate forests eventually returned ten thousand years ago, continuing the slow buildup of organic soils which would again bury a great many of the smaller stones.

In an almost unforgivably crude oversimplification of complicated and profound events, one could say that the social and political changes in colonial agriculture from communal to self-sufficiency, the exploding population of Europeans and removal of native peoples, the deforestation of New England, and the culmination of the "Little Ice Age" by the late 1800s contributed to the emergence of slumbering hordes of stonewall-sized rocks. The pervasive mythology of this region re-

lates that pioneers cleared a rocky wasteland to create farms. According to historians and geologists (and historical records of the time) upland farms were largely fertile in the 1700s and remained so if treated with care. Though not without extensive exposed outcroppings, hill farms were not, early on, heart-breakingly stony. The first European coastal settlements were built on soils first cleared for cultivation by the Indians. These lands were sandy and largely devoid of rocks. Most stone walls were built in the first half of the 1800s, after the American Revolution. Although many walls were built to delineate ownership, most walls needed the addition of wood (and later, wire) to function as animal barriers. Disrespectful though it may sound, most stone walls were in fact only linear waste heaps for the surfacing surplus. Rocks were moved to the sides of pasture, hayfield, and cropland according to the preponderance of stone, availability of labor, and the turning radius of the given farm equipment. The average stone-walled field is between two and five acres.

The heaving of rocks is a much-studied and complicated process. In heavily forested areas, normal winter snow, a heavy layer of leaves, and a modicum of topsoil prevents the ground from freezing more than a couple of inches. By contrast, a pasture may freeze to the depth of several feet. Frost heaving begins when water in the surface soil freezes. Ice expands; thus soils expand during freezing. Water in liquid or vapor form is attracted toward soil that is already frozen and each speck of ice between grains of soil consolidates


the particles into a single rigid mass. As the frost line deepens it reaches the tops of rocks. When the "head" of the rock is frozen into the descending frost layer, a small void is created at its base. Because spring thawing happens from below as well as from above (subsoil remains at about 55 degrees F), soil adjacent to this void falls in while the stone itself is still frozen in place from above. The stone once released by the thawing ground above is unable to return to its original niche and thus pokes through the settling upper soil.

A separate process called "frost push" can happen at shallower depths. Cold is conducted at a faster rate through stone than through the surrounding soil. This causes the bases of these rocks to freeze; the cradling soil then freezes and expands, pushing rocks up. Frost heave after the large-scale felling of the original forests was not the only process luring stones up into the sunlight. Loss of topsoil and compaction caused by overgrazing, especially on slopes, was another significant factor.

What farmers, scientists and even amateur naturalists such as Thoreau documented in the 1800s in both North America and much earlier in Northern Europe, was that the supply of stones, not too troublesome at first, appeared within a few decades after the trees came down. The clearing of stones at the first half of the century was an annual chore for several generations of farmers, though a picnic compared to the job of supplying 30-40 cords of wood for the average home. After that time the rate of rock "production" slowed. Though not yet in my garden.



For more info on the early life of rocks and agriculture in New England: *Stone by Stone* by R. Thorson, *Larding the Lean Earth* by S. Stoll, *After the Ice Age* by I.C. Pielou, and *Changes in the Land* by W. Cronon. Most of these are at the Brown Memorial Library, or will be when I return them.



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January Calendar

SATURDAY, JANUARY 4

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

MONDAY, JANUARY 6

Cemetery Commission, Town Hall, 10:00am

TUESDAY, JANUARY 7

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, JANUARY 9

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

SATURDAY, JANUARY 11

Kearsarge Regional School District Annual Meeting—Deliberative Session, Kearsarge Regional High School, North Sutton, 9:00am

TUESDAY, JANUARY 14

Planning Board, Town Hall, 7:00pm

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15

Country Capitalists, call 938-2787 for information

THURSDAY, JANUARY 16

Bradford Economic Opportunities Committee, BACC, 7:00pm

FRIDAY, JANUARY 17

Bradford Community Corporation, BACC, 7:00am

TUESDAY, JANUARY 21

Bradford Women's Club, "Antiques Road Show," Baptist Church, 1:00pm
Selectmen's Meeting, Town Hall, 5:00pm
Conservation Commission, Town Hall, 7:00pm

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 22

Road Committee, 7:00pm

THURSDAY, JANUARY 23

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

TUESDAY, JANUARY 28

Planning Board, Town Hall, 7:00pm

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

Thistle Spinners, First Tuesday and subsequent Mondays, Thistle and Shamrock Inn, 1:00-3:00pm

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

Classifieds

CELIAC SUPPORT GROUP will meet on Thursday, January 9 at 7:15pm. Snow date is Thursday, January 23. For more information call 428-7086.

FOR SALE. Wrought iron/oak spiral staircase, \$800. Gas stove, hardly used, \$150. 456-6016

CHILD CARE in my home. Call 456-6016.

FOR SALE. Upholstered chair, dark brown design, recently recovered, \$30. Handsome all leather trunk, \$400. Large collection of cookbooks, best offer. New Reebok sneakers, size 8 1/2, never worn, \$20. 938-2965.

FOR SALE. 1987 VOLVO 240 Wagon. Low miles, fair condition. Needs rear differential to run, or excellent parts car as is. \$250. 456-2626

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



**DON'T WAIT
until it's too late!**

**Bradford Bridge
February deadlines**

Display ads	January 20
Classified ads	January 23
Articles	January 20

See page 2 for more submission info.

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

To list events for the February Calendar, please call Lyn Betz at 938-5029 or e-mail bradfordbridge@mcttelecom.com before January 20.

**Best Wishes for a
Healthy, Happy
2003!**

