

THE BRADFORD BRIDGE

COMMUNITY NEWS BY NEIGHBORS FOR NEIGHBORS

Volume 14, Number 1; Issue 151

January 2004

IT ALL BEGAN IN BRADFORD

First called New Bradford and then Bradfordton, this town was granted by Governor John Wentworth in 1771. It assumed its present name in 1787, the year of the national constitutional convention, when each state was called upon to decide whether America would adopt its constitution or not. Eight states had ratified and one more was needed when the New Hampshire delegation convened at Exeter that year. The Anti-Federalists were strongly opposed to the Constitution and prospects for approval seemed dim. By a parliamentary maneuver, however, the convention was adjourned for several months and reconvened at Concord. There, under the leadership of Colonel Thomas Stickney of Bradford as moderator, it approved ratification and New Hampshire forced the decision which gave America its constitution.

Colonel Stickney is celebrated in New Hampshire history for donating land and forty pounds in 1790 to build the Merrimack County Court House in Concord. A tablet in front of the Elks building commemorates his memory.

The town of Bradford did not, as is sometimes assumed, get its name from the famous

colonial governor, William Bradford, but from its parent town of Bradford, Massachusetts, which in turn took its name from the historic town in West Riding, Yorkshire, England, named Bradford or, originally, Bradforth.

As Bradford, Massachusetts grew in population, people of the surrounding neighborhoods – Haverhill, Salisbury and others – migrated to the north. Those of Bradford followed suit and applied for New Hampshire grants which were given at the close of the Revolution in Bradford, New Hampshire, these being readily made by the new government. The town of Bradford was formed out of what was known as Washington Gore and parts of Washington and Newbury.

Bradford today also contains the villages of Bradford Center and Melvin Mills. Among its outstanding natural features are Silver Hill (1940 feet) and Lake Massasecum on the town's eastern boundary.

Source: New Hampshire Town Names and Whence They Came, Elmer Munson Hunt, 1970; Evans Printing, Concord, NH

SPECIAL ELECTIONS

The Governor and Executive Council have announced special elections for State Representative from Merrimack County District 34, representing the towns of Bradford, Henniker, Hopkinton, Newbury, Sutton, Warner, and Webster. The election is to fill the vacated seat of Rep. J.D. Colcord who resigned to take the County Commissioner's seat vacated by Bernie Lamache.

The following have filed as candidates for the seat:

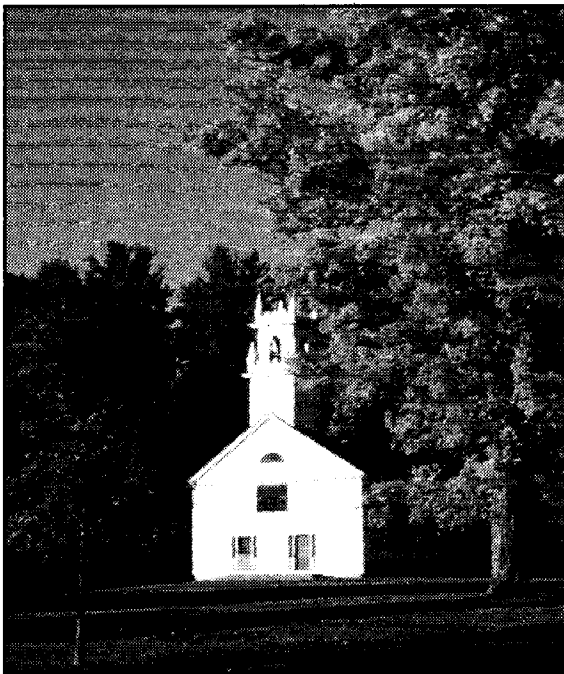
Democrat

- "Beth" Rodd, Bradford (PO Box 337, 03221)

Republican

- Timothy Troncone, Bradford (PO Box 2945, Concord, 03302)
- Fred N. Creed, Jr., Warner (576 Kearsarge Mt. Rd., 03278)
- "Jim" Powell, Newbury (70 Forest Brook Rd., 03255)
- Peter M. Russell, Hopkinton (289 Maple St., Contoocook, 03229)

There will be a Republican Primary Election on January 27, 2004. The Special Election between the Republican winner of the Primary and the one Democrat candidate will be on March 2, 2004.



The Old Bradford Meeting House in Bradford Center was built in 1838, on the site of the original meeting house built in 1795.

photo by Carey Rodd

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THE BRADFORD BRIDGE



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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 938-2995. Ad deadline is the 20th of the month.

Submissions

The Bradford Bridge is written by neighbors, for neighbors. Anyone is welcome to submit articles and/or photographs of interest to the community. The Bridge reserves the right to edit submissions for length or content. Send articles or letters to Beth Rodd/Bev Leo at the address, FAX number, or e-mail address above by the 20th of the month.

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KRSD ANNUAL MEETING

First Deliberative Session of the Kearsarge Regional School District (Annual Meeting) will be held Saturday, January 10, at the Kearsarge Regional High School at 9:00 am.

The Workshop

Next meeting of the Workshop will be an Antiques Roadshow with Eleanor Harris and Lyn Long on Thursday, January 8 at the Friendship House. Bring several items for appraisal and join Eleanor and Lyn for a delightful and informative afternoon. Bag lunch as usual at 12:00 noon with the program beginning around 12:45.

Clare Bensley

Computer Classes



Since the autumn of 2001, Bradford Area Community Center has offered elementary computer classes with Bev Leo and Bill Hatt, instructors. The structure of each class is somewhat determined by the needs of the students attending that day. We have covered using Word, Excel, Quicken, and Outlook Express e-mail. Bill has led many trips on the World Wide Web, teaching safe surfing, how to find information, and how to download patches and programs.

Recently, we took apart computers in class, cleaned them of dust, removed and replaced memory, and examined the inside of a hard drive.

Beginner classes take place on the first and third Fridays, Intermediate (Experienced) classes on the second and fourth Fridays. There is no beginning or end; join us at any time.

For information in joining this fun class, call 938-2996.

KRES at Bradford Parent Workshops

KRES at Bradford is offering several Parent Workshops this school year to keep parents informed. The workshops are offered Tuesdays from 8:45-9:45 am. Muffins, donuts, and coffee are provided. These workshops are free and open to the public and may be attended on a drop-in basis. No pre-registration is required. Please Join us!

Tuesday, Jan. 13th: Want to be a volunteer? Tips on how to be a terrific volunteer and cooperative learning and choice theory with Scott Bouranis, Peg Lyon, Mary Keegan-Dayton.

Tuesday, Jan. 27th: Helping your child with Reading and Writing with Kathy McKenna.

Senior Council

The public is invited to the Senior Council meeting and program on Saturday, January 10, 1:00-3:00 pm., at the Bradford Area Community Center. The program will be ADVENTURE IN 1960'S NEPAL, presented by Beverly Leo, giving her Peace Corps experience in talk and slides.

Admission is free, all adults and seniors are welcome. As always, refreshments will be served.

Phyllis Whall

Bradford Country Squares

The Bradford Country Squares will host a Class Level Square Dance at the Town Hall on Saturday, January 17 from 8:00-10:30pm. Lenny Stratton will call and Vera Prudhomme will cue. Admission is \$5 per person and includes refreshments. For further information, you may call Norma and Arlo Burns at 927-4454. Spectators are free and always made welcome.

—Bob & Shirley Trombley



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Planning Board Notes

Solitude Ridge Update: Reports from consultants—Central New Hampshire Regional Planning Commission (CNHRPC) on overall subdivision issues and Provan & Lorber for the road engineering—were delivered just before the December 9 meeting began, not in time for copies to be made and reviewed by the Board. At the request of Bob Stewart of RCS Designs, some of the issues raised in the reports were read aloud and discussed by Board members and the public. Several of the points raised by the review were set aside—signatures have been provided where needed, there are no burial sites on the property, and width to depth ratio is not an issue. (Subdivision Regulations do not allow lots where the depth is greater than three times the frontage width.) Others, such as review of legal documents by the Town Attorney and establishing the bond amount for road construction, must still be addressed.

Bob Stewart said state permits—Site Specific (Alteration of Terrain) and Sub-surface (Septic)—have been applied for; the Wetlands Permit will be submitted when there are no further changes to be made but a pre-application discussion has already taken place. The plat was reviewed for the extent of wetlands on site using a map provided by the Conservation Commission that was colored to indicate wetlands more clearly.

A motion was made to conditionally approve the subdivision, but, by a vote of four to three, the motion failed because the conditions to be imposed were not clearly identified. The public hearing was continued until January 13.

The Board then considered the application for a Street Plat to provide access for Solitude Ridge to West Road by means of a right-of-way, originally approved by the Planning Board in 1970 and extended to another lot in 1983. The applicant was advised that the road must be constructed to subdivision standards because there are more than three lots and there are no existing houses using the right-of-way. The Board voted to approve the Street Plat with two conditions: 1) the road is constructed to subdivision standards, as applicable, and 2) Solitude Ridge receives final approval.

On December 13, a site walk was held at Solitude Ridge, giving the public an opportunity to see the area and discuss any concerns. Representatives from the Planning Board, Zoning Board and Conservation Commission were led through the site. Bob Stewart pointed out the lots, driveways and building envelopes for each lot, roads, open spaces, the pond lot, wetlands areas and wetlands crossings, siltation fences, and other features from the plat. There was general agreement that the walk had been productive and much information was available despite the snow cover.

Other Business: A revised plat was received and approved for a two-lot subdivision on Day Pond Road for Elizabeth Bouley.

Jennifer Dow discussed the possibility of removing the “open space” designation from the 13 acres at the rear of her property on Fairgrounds Road, which had been required when the 3-lot subdivision was

Planning, Continued on Page 5

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Selectmen's Meetings

DECEMBER 2, 2003

Roll Call: Bruce Edwards, Chairman;
Peter Fenton, Selectman; Dave Pickman,
Selectman

Town Personnel: Cheryl Behr, Adminis-
trative Asst.

Minutes of the November 18th meeting
were accepted with the following correc-
tions:

1. Paragraph #1. The plans presented by Provan and Lorber did not satisfy the requirements of the Board of Selectmen. The Engineers will meet with the Road Committee on December 17th, at 7:00 pm.
2. Paragraph #7 should read ... the widening of Center and/or Cheney Hill Road been placed on hold.

Appearances:

1. Jim Powell and Steve Manley of the Rescue Squad met with the board of selectmen to discuss the need for the town to include "On Call" police coverage in next year's budget. The Rescue Squad believes the potential liability should be addressed by the board of selectmen. Selectmen will discuss with the Chief of Police.
2. Heather Cooper and Fred Hubley met with the board of selectmen to discuss the placing of a petition on the 2004 warrant requesting the town to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2500 for the Kearsarge Area Preschool to pay rent to the BACC and health benefits for their teacher. Selectmen recommended the preschool place a petition warrant article before the town. When asked, the selectmen did not agree to support the article at this time.
3. Tom Donison introduced himself to the Board of Selectmen as an area engineer and presented the board with a letter of qualifications requesting consideration and that of the planning and zoning boards for any future jobs requiring such skills.

Regular Business:

1. Accounts payable manifest signed by selectmen.
2. Refunds and abatements signed by selectmen
3. Supplemental warrant to correct property billing signed by selectmen.
4. Selectmen approved a one month extension from the estate of Sophie Burke, pending the approval of the executor by the probate court.
5. The selectmen voted to allow a town employee to accept a \$10 gift certificate.
6. The cemetery will have the trees removed from the boundary of Sunny Plains cemetery by Lemire Logging. The \$2000 cost will be charged against the Highway budget.
7. Selectmen reviewed the transfer station budget with Ken Anderson.
8. Selectmen reviewed the General Government Building budget. The selectmen requested Jarna Perkins, director of the Community Center, arrange a meeting with the BACC governance board for the December 16th meeting, to review contract signing.
9. Budget Committee meets on December 9, 2003.
10. Selectmen closed the meeting at 7:00 pm

DECEMBER 16, 2003

Roll Call: Bruce Edwards, Chairman;
Peter Fenton, Selectman; Dave Pickman,
Selectman

Town Personnel: Cheryl Behr, Adminis-
trative Asst.

Minutes of the December 2nd Selectmen's
meeting were accepted with the following
correction:

Selectmen Continued on page 11

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Rural Heritage Connection

The Rural Heritage Connection, a resource for land protection in Bradford, is now a non-profit corporation. Filing is complete with Town and State offices. The application for 501(c)3 non-profit recognition is in the works, and it is expected to be retroactive to the date of formation, December 11, making the donations that have already been received tax-deductible this year.

The idea behind the RH Connection is simple: owners of Bradford properties that have significant historical, recreational, and/or environmental values who want to see those values preserved are matched with appropriate technical assistance, tax information, and grants and funding sources if possible.

The timing could not be better.

This autumn a large lot adjoining the Bradford Bog on the East Washington Road came on the market. The Bog consists of a rare stand of Atlantic White Cedar and a "quaking" bog, a rare habitat in New England. The central portion of the bog and swamp was given to the Town in 1971 by the New England Wild Flower Society with a subsequent land donation from a timber company in the 1980s. Part of the cedar swamp, the part that harbors the oldest of these slow-growing trees, has remained in private hands. This piece is the lot that is for sale today.

The current owners of this lot, though perhaps not fully realizing the botanical

uniqueness of their property, felt it was special. They were immediately contacted and they readily agreed to withdraw it from the market. They are interested in protecting it from logging and development and have generously offered to reduce its price substantially for conservation purposes.

Efforts are now underway by the RH Connection, the Bradford Conservation Commission, and several state organizations to research funding sources to match the owner's needs. Though the prospects look good, it will take a concerted effort by all who value this unusual wetland to preserve it for the future. Please contact Miranda Levin at inthering@conknet.com or 938-6095 for more information, fundraising ideas, or to contribute in any way, large or small. You may also contact the RH Connection or send a donation at P.O. Box 296, Bradford, NH 03221.

The RH Connection meets on the second Monday of every month at the Bradford Area Community Center at 7:00 pm. At the next meeting, January 12, we will be visited by Brian Hotz, of the Society for the Protection of NH Forests and the Warner Conservation Commission, who will give us an update on the Sunapee-Pillsbury Highland Project and speak on the Forest Society's and Warner's efforts and successes in land protection. All are encouraged to attend.

—Ann Eldridge

Planning, Continued From Page 3

approved in 2000. When the road to Solitude Ridge is in place, road frontage for the back part of the lot might be available. A letter from Lucy St. John of CNHRPC cited State law to the effect that once an open space designation has been lawfully imposed it cannot be removed. She suggested that Town Counsel be contacted to see if any court decisions have addressed the issue.

A Preliminary Consultation was held with Chris McAllister for a 42-acre parcel on Forest Street. Jennifer McCourt of McCourt Engineering showed sketches of a conventional 17-lot subdivision of two that will be presented to voters at March Town Meeting. The ballot will contain zoning amendments dealing with "buildable" lots and a revised Wetlands Ordinance. A public hearing on these will be held on January 27. At Town Meeting, voters will also be asked to approve funding to continue work on the Master Plan and

to provide a Circuit Rider Planner to assist the public and the Board in carrying out the planning and zoning work of the town.

Master Plan: The Planning Board, through a sub-committee chaired by Doug Troy, began work on an update of the 1996 Master Plan. Mike Tardiff, Executive Director of CNHRPC, met with the group in December to prepare a community survey to be sent out the end of January. The survey information will be analyzed and discussed at public meetings to be held later in the spring. CNHRPC will assist the Board in preparing the updated plan to guide Bradford over the next five years and to develop zoning and subdivision regulations to implement the plan.

The Master Plan meetings are scheduled for Thursdays at 7:00pm at the Town Hall. Interested members of the public are welcome to attend.

Marcia Keller

Bradford Board of Selectmen

Bruce Edwards, Chairman
Peter Fenton
Dave Pickman
Cheryl Behr, Administrative Assistant

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Bradford**LETTERS**

To the Editor:

In the Kearsarge Regional School District, when the time comes to vote on the school budget, voters are presented with a ballot that gives them a choice between the school board's budget and the budget committee's budget. They are not given an opportunity to vote down the budget. The legality of this system has been called into question, and the Secretary of State's office and the Attorney General's office have been contacted and are looking into the matter. The Secretary of State's office seems to feel that all budget questions should be in a yes or no format and has referred the problem to the Attorney General's office. His office has determined that, when the budget committee was voted in, the charter was written in such a way that the choice would be between the two budgets and any other amended budget from the deliberative session. The attorney general at the time approved the charter and this is how we have voted ever since. The assistant attorney general has declined to comment for the record until this is resolved, but is obviously concerned about his predecessor's decision and is researching the reasons for it.

In the past, the budget committee's budget has been considerably lower than the school board's budget, giving the voters some choice. In recent years, the budgets have seemed to get closer and closer together (most likely due to a collaborative effort between the school board and the budget committee to present what they both think is a fair budget) and once were identical. This has given the voters at the ballot box very little choice or no choice at all.

When contacted, the attorney for the School District said that, in her opinion, the process is perfectly legal and has pointed out that the voters may attend the deliberative

session and amend either budget. Unfortunately, not all voters can attend these sessions (they are held on a Saturday when many people work) and many voters are physically unable to attend the meetings. Any attempt at amending a budget can be defeated at this session and never presented to the voters at the ballot. The attorney also stated that she feels we here in the Kearsarge Regional School District have much more of a choice than most school districts. But two identical or nearly identical budgets is not a choice. This doesn't appear to be a very democratic process.

Apparently there doesn't seem to be a statute that specifically says that the budget has to be presented in a yes or no fashion, but it is implied everywhere and would seem so obvious that it has never actually been stated. Investigation has shown that in some districts that have both a school board and a budget committee, the committees collaborate to present a single budget to the voters, who then get to vote yes or no. If the budget were defeated, the district would continue to operate under a default budget (a 5% increase over the previous year's budget plus any binding obligations such as teacher contracts).

It should be noted that concerned voters aren't necessarily against the budget or the school and are not casting aspersions on the job the school district does in educating our children. They would simply like the majority of the voters to have the chance to vote yes or no on any budget presented to them.

—Beatrice Howe

LETTERS continued on page 7

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Letters, Continued

To the Editor:

Early in December, the School Board was informed by Superintendent Brennan that the State Attorney General's office had been contacted by a citizen inquiring as to the legal implications of voters not being presented with the opportunity to vote in a way that rejects the proposed annual operating budget other than to not vote at all. In other words, some wonder if voters should be presented with three options: (a) the School Board's proposed budget; (b) the Municipal Budget Committee's proposed budget; and (c) None of the Above.

The District's legal counsel has been notified and is handling the matter with the Attorney Generals' office as that office does its work to research the question and respond to the inquiry. In the meantime, as it always has, the School Board will continue to work with the Superintendent and the MBC to finalize the proposals to be presented at the deliberative session on January 10th. These are the proposals that have been worked on for much of the past year and that have passed the scrutiny of those you've elected to develop and/or review them.

Over the past two years, the School Board has worked extensively with the Administration in redesigning the budgeting process so that principals and faculty seeking funding for program support must build stronger cases to explain to the Board, MBC, and citizens who are interested how the tax dollars are spent and how such expenditures align with the overall educational goals of the District. This was no small undertaking but has been accomplished and has resulted in a high degree of cooperation between all involved. In the past year, the SAU has also adopted a new set of financial control mechanisms, policies, and procedures that give our Superintendent and

new Business Manager unprecedented insight and control of the financial process in the Kearsarge District. This is a tremendous leap forward in the management capabilities at the SAU.

It seems that some of the frustration prompting the "None of the Above" inquiry stems from the fact that the School Board and MBC budget proposals have not differed greatly in the past few years. When you first elected me to the School Board five years ago, I immediately wondered why it seemed some folks called for the Board and the MBC to have an antagonistic relationship. I worked with others on the Board to begin developing our budget proposals in a way that could be explained to the MBC and other interested parties. Our new Superintendent and his staff have embraced this philosophy and the results show in stronger proposals and more agreement on what budget priorities should be presented to you. Alas, some still insist that the MBC budget must differ greatly from the School Board budget in order for voters to have a real choice. Others further insist that voters must be able to reject the budgets altogether. I am left to wonder how the schools might operate if no budget is passed.

If you feel strongly that the School Board budget proposal is inadequate or unsupportable, I encourage you to get involved in the process as it is conducted at open public meetings through the summer and fall of each year. If you feel that the people elected to either the School Board or the MBC fail in their jobs by cooperating and presenting you with the results described above, I encourage you to offer the citizens of our town alternatives at the voting booth and support the candidates who will best represent Bradford. As always, I thank you for your confidence and continued support.

Mark Fairbank

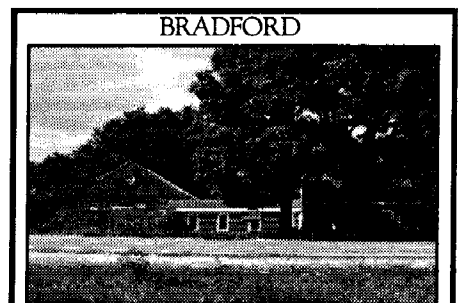
To the Editor:

Two things bother me about the proposed middle school and the altered high school. The first is the disproportionate school district tax burden that we in Bradford bear and the second is the real overall cost of these projects. New London and Newbury may very well favor this new construction, but will they also favor fair funding? There has been little indication of the latter.

It was 1996 when the district last tweaked the apportionment formula, changing the assessment from 75%, based on daily attendance and 25% on equalized property valuation to 60% and 40% respectively. Avoiding re-evaluation, New London and Newbury once again exacerbated the situation. I would suggest that this formula be revisited and a reasonable balance achieved before we impose this additional tax burden on Bradford.

Once we deal with the first issue, we really have to look at the overall cost that includes, not only the construction, but the equipping and furnishing as well as the ongoing operating costs, additional teachers, maintenance, etc. What will the total revised budget amount to? We had better look closely before we jump into this.

Dick Keller, School Board Rep. 1993-1996

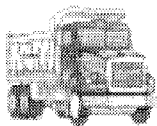


Very nice 1780's cape with attached 34x46 barn, fields & garden area, out-building pole barn 27x37, house south facing, very nice features, well kept with updates. 9 acres, 700' road frontage. Located on Rt 103 Bradford, south toward Warner.

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938-2926

BRADFORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE



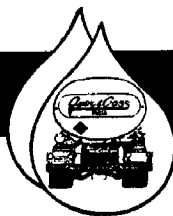
Real Estate Hints:

Winter Listings

by *Laura Hallaban*

Happy New Year! 2004 looks to be another strong year in real estate. Though interest rates did rise from a 40-year low, they still make buying a very attractive option over renting. While in years past it seemed like the Kearsarge/Lake Sunapee Region was strictly a vacation area with most people visiting in the summer and on weekends only in the winter, today there are many buyers who want or need to relocate here full-time. That is one key reason the real estate market has been so steady for so long. For these buyers, especially, winter is just as important as any other season in terms of finding a new home. Sellers, however, need to be educated about listing their house in the winter as many still believe it is best to start the selling process in the spring so as to avoid moving in bad weather. A recently published article in Broker Agent News outlines the top ten reasons to list your home during the winter. Here goes:

1. **Fewer Showings** – The buyers who are looking are usually more serious about making a purchase, so fewer showings may actually turn into more offers.
2. **Less Competition** – Your house will have less competition if most sellers wait until spring to list. Why be one of many when you can be one of a few?
3. **Homes Show Better During and After the Holiday Season** – Many people leave their trees up well into January and add decorations and candles around the house to make it feel cozier in the winter.
4. **January is the Biggest Transfer Month** – More corporate moves happen in January than any other time of the year.
5. **Timing** – By putting your house on the market now, you can more easily hit your moving goal of early spring than if you wait until then to list. Figure that you need time for it to go under contract and then it takes 30-60 days to close.
6. **More Time to Get Top Dollar** – As long as your house is priced fairly, listing early gives you plenty of time to market the property and get top dollar.
7. **Great Time to Shop** – If you are lucky enough to sell quickly, you will also be looking for a new home in the winter, so you may be able to find a great buy or lessen the chance of being in a bidding war.
8. **More Advertising** – Less inventory translates into more advertising than during the spring and summer months.
9. **More Attention** – Most agents will be able to devote specialized attention to your property during the winter months as they likely have fewer clients to manage.
10. **The Market** – Low interest rates translate into buyers who have more spending power, something that will also benefit sellers when they begin looking for their next home.



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Bradford Women's Club

Thanks to all the members of the Bradford Women's Club who worked so hard at making the craft fair a big success including all who brought baked goods. A special thanks to the Masonic Lodge who let us use their building. The winners of "Sophie's Raffle" were Kim Lucas (pasta basket), Caroline Verity (tree skirt), Phyllis Whall (Bement Bridge picture), and Cynthia Longevin (New Hampshire forests book).

Santa couldn't find the library in the storm on December 6 but he did come December 13. Thanks to Jim Allen. Thanks also to Wacky Lucas who helped oversee the lighting of the tree.

We have a new tree this year at the "103 Garden." Thanks to Clare Bensley for do-

nating the tree as well as Jane and Don Johnsen and Liz and Ted Young for making it possible. The grade school children made the decorations for the tree.

The next board meeting will be January 13, 9:30 am at the Bradford Area Community Center. The membership meeting will be January 20 at 1:00 pm downstairs at the community center. The program will be an "Antiques Road Show" with Lynn Long of White Star Auctions and Elinor Harris. Bring an item to be appraised.

There will be no craft workshops in January.

—Barbara Vannata, President



The Bradford Women's Club (BWC) erected and decorated their first annual Centennial Park Christmas tree. Many contributors made this possible: Claire & Dean Bensley donated the 10 ft tree; Merrimack Farm stalwarts installed in the Park; BWC volunteers strung the lights; Bradford Elementary Kindergarteners and First Graders provided ornaments; Peter Payson, Peter Allen, and Morgan Patten along with Aide Renee Patten weathered the deep snow & cold to do the decorating; and, last but not most importantly, Ted and Liz Young's Sugar House provided the electricity. Drive by and see the pretty community tree after dark some evening. It's BWCs present to Bradford.



Bradford Women's Club president Barbara Vanata and her husband Larry enjoyed Santa's visit. The BWC invite young and old to visit with Santa at the Brown Memorial Library and have their pictures taken with him every year. Pictures will be at the Library to be picked up. BWC and the Library are the providers of the lights on the Tree. Due to the snowstorm the week before Santa, Storyhour and the Church Ham and Bean Supper were put off a week. Attendance was down at all. Do hope people will mark these activities on their calendars next year. It's a great family outing. Thanks Jim Allen for your help.

Jane Lucas



Librarians Barbara McCarthy and Meg Fernley enjoyed Santa's visit.



APPLESEED RESTAURANT

Don't forget Wednesday night pizza.

Have a Happy New Year!

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Bradford Area Community Center

January 2004 Calendar

FRIDAY, JANUARY 2

Senior Center: Strong Living Exercises, 8:45 am

MONDAY, JANUARY 5

Senior Center: Strong Living Exercises, 8:45 am

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

TUESDAY, JANUARY 6

Fuel Assistance, 9:00 am-noon. (Call Laura Hall at 456-2207 for appointment).

Senior Center: Bradford Quilting Bees, 10:00 am-noon (Join our new quilting group led by Jane Heald; all levels are invited to come. Bring your own project to work on and share with others).

Senior Center: Massage with Pamela Monaghan, 10:30 am-noon
Brownies, 3:00-4:30 pm

THURSDAY, JANUARY 8

Senior Center: Claudia Messier, Merrimack County Coordinator for Long Term Care Services will be available 11:00 am-noon. Claudia is also a Notary Public. Please make an appointment. Call 938-2104.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 9

Senior Center: Strong Living Exercises, 8:45 am

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

SATURDAY, JANUARY 10

Senior Council, 1:00-3:00 pm

MONDAY, JANUARY 12

Senior Center: Strong Living Exercises, 8:45 am

Senior Center: Craft Club, 10:00 am-noon
Hearing Screening, 10:00 am-noon. (Call 938-2104 for appointment).

Rainbow Girls, 5:00-6:30 pm

Junior Girl Scouts, 6:00-7:30 pm

TUESDAY, JANUARY 13

Senior Center: Lunch and Leisure! 10:00 am movie "As Good as it Gets."

MONDAY, JANUARY 19

Civil Rights Day Holiday. Community Center is closed.

Tall Pines, 6:30 pm

TUESDAY, JANUARY 20

Fuel Assistance, 9:00 am-noon. (Call Laura Hall at 456-2207 for appointment).

Senior Center: Bradford Quilting Bees, 10:00 am-noon

Brownies, 3:00-4:30 pm

THURSDAY, JANUARY 22

Senior Center: Kellcole Academy will be with us for our first Chinese New Year's Party.

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

FRIDAY, JANUARY 23

YelSullivan, Family Development Educator from UNH Cooperative Extension Service.

Rainbow Girls, 5:00-6:30 pm

Junior Girl Scouts, 6:00-7:30 pm

THURSDAY, JANUARY 29

Kitchen Volunteers, 10:30 am

FRIDAY, JANUARY 30

Senior Center: Strong Living Exercises, 8:45 am

Program Information

For general information or to schedule an activity call Director Jarna Perkins at 938-6228. There is available time and space to accommodate all age groups, organizations, or activities at the BACC.

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

For Kearsarge Area Pre-School information, contact Heather Cooper at 938-2668.

BACC Ongoing Activities

Bridge Group, Mondays, 1:00-4:00 pm, Community Room

Senior Center Luncheon, Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, noon

Yoga Class, Tuesdays, 6:00-7:15 pm, Community Room

Yoga Class (Not Advanced), Wednesdays, 9:30-10:45 am, Community Room. Call Fran at 456-3099 to register.

Computer Tutoring, Fridays, 10:00 am. Beginners: first and third Fridays, Intermediate: second and fourth Fridays. For information call Bev Leo at 938-2996.



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Selectmen Continued from page 4

Regular business #4. Selectmen approved a one month extension to pay the property tax only, not the timber tax.

Appearances:

1. Mc Court Engineering representative, Jennifer McCourt, met with selectmen in representation of McAllister Construction's preliminary subdivision plan for Forest Street in Bradford. The planning board will help establish a list of improvements needed prior to approval of the plan; at this early stage, the board was not able to provide Ms. McCourt with specific requirements.

Regular Business:

1. Accounts payable manifest was reviewed and signed.
2. Substantial completion certificate for

- the Fairgrounds Road Bridge was signed
3. Memo from Dick Keller on the accomplishments of the milfoil program was read to the record.
 4. SEA Consultants have forwarded information on the hydrant installation on the Fairgrounds Road Bridge
 5. Cheryl reported a quote for carpeting in the main meeting room of the town hall; decision made to postpone the work for now.
 6. Cheryl reported on finding someone to shovel the police station roof.
 7. No year end purchases by highway were noted.
 8. Selectmen approved the purchase of a binding machine from the emergency management budget.
 9. Selectmen approved the Provan and Lorber survey proposal of the transfer sta-

- tion
10. Selectmen voted to move to non public session to discuss personnel issues per RSA 91 A3II. Edwards, yes; Fenton, yes; Pickman, yes. Returned from non public session at 6:10 pm, no decisions made.
 11. Selectmen voted to move to a second non public session per RSA 91A3II with the police department. Vote Edwards, yes; Fenton, yes; Pickman, yes. Returned from non-public session with power outage at 7:10 pm.
 12. Selectmen moved their meeting to the Bradford Area Community Center (not affected by the power outage) to discuss operating procedures with the BACC governance board.

Then...

by Milly Kittredge



PLOWED OUT AND READY

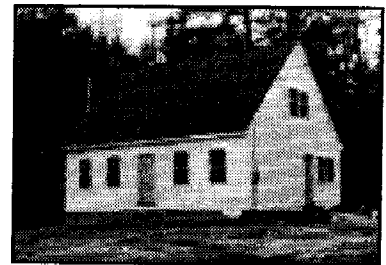
Bradford Depot including Station, Locomotive House, Water Tank, and Apple Storage Building.

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Your Editors would like to invite comments and suggestions for making this truly a neighborhood newspaper.

Would you like to see more minutes of meetings (we'll need stringers to cover the events), more pictures of events, more listings of area events? What is important to you?
bradfordbridge@mctelecom.com
 938-2692

SUTTON



New to be built Cape with three bedrooms and two baths. Situated on two acres behind the high school on Mastin Road. Photo is of a similar home built in nearby Wilmot by the same contractor who has been in business for over 35 years. Quality home at a decent price.

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Obituary

JOHN D. BEASLEY

John D. Beasley, 54, died December 11th at home.

He was born in Rapid City, S.D., the son of George and Mary (Smith) Beasley.

He lived in Henniker and Hillsboro for many years before moving to Bradford four years ago.

He worked as general manager for Henniker Crushed Stone for 20 years and for the Sutton Highway Department for one and a half years. He was a full-time police officer for eight years with the Henniker/Hillsboro Police Department and he owned and operated his own excavating business in Bradford for three years.

He loved the outdoors and animals, especially dogs and horses.

Survivors include his wife of 10 years, Laurie (Annis) Beasley of Bradford; a son, George Beasley of New Hampshire; two daughters, Tina Pintavalle and Stacy Berube, both of Florida; four sisters, Patricia Stafford and Georgeanne Wood, both of Hillsboro, Marie Knoll of NewPort Richey, Fla., and Sandra Lowman of Springhill, Fla.; and three grandchildren.

His parents died previously.

Memorial donations may be made to the Lake Sunapee Savings Bank, PO Box 326, Bradford, 03321.

BACC Phone Lists

The Bradford Area Community Center (BACC) Governance Board is pleased that local citizens are purchasing the phone placards and with these purchases helping to support our efforts to keep the BACC viable. Through November we have sold about 140 lists.

Proceeds benefit the BACC's community activities. The revised format features emergency numbers and Bradford town office hours. Businesses are highlighted. Containing all the 938 prefix numbers, it is an asset for everyone in the community and particularly for newcomers. They are available at Bowie's Market and at the BACC office.

Phyllis Wilcox, Chair, BACC

First Baptist Church News

From Lynne E. Hubley



Unhanging of the Greens: We will be "undecorating" the church on Sunday, January 4 immediately following the worship service.

Mom's Bible Study: The Moms will meet on Wednesday, January 7 at 9:00 am in the Fiske House. We are studying the Parables and child-care is provided.

Thursday Morning Bible Study: We offer a Bible Study every Thursday morning from 9:00-10:00 am. This will start again on Thursday, January 8.

American Baptist Women's Ministries: The January meeting for these ladies will be Wednesday, January 14 at 2:00 pm. The theme will be "Finding Balance in our Lives." This is part one of a four-part series. All women are invited to come.

Youth Group: Any child who is in grades 5-8 is welcome to come to Youth Group. We have two meetings in January. The first is Wednesday, January 14 from 6:30-8:00 pm. We will watch a Max Lucado movie entitled "Hermie." The movie teaches that God doesn't make mistakes when He makes us. He isn't finished with us, either. We will enjoy some popcorn and gummy bears. The games for the evening will be: "If you love Jesus, please Smile" and "Charades—of current movies."

The second meeting will be Wednesday, January 28 from 6:30-8:00 pm. We will play Pass Word using words to describe the ways God wants us to be. We will also play "Steal the Bacon," "Musical Hats," "Pictionary," and "Sardine Hide and Go Seek." Youth will make their own pizzas for a snack.

Women's Study Group: This group will begin again on Thursday, January 15 at 10:00 am. The book they will use is Rick Warren's "The Purpose Driven Life."

New Members Gathering: Anyone who is interested in joining our church or finding out more about it can come to the Fiske House on Sunday, January 18 from 2:00-4:00 pm.

Men's Fellowship: The men in our church will meet at the home of Fred Hubley on Wednesday, January 21 at 7:30pm.

Food Pantry: The monthly distribution date for January is Wednesday, January 21 from 6:00-7:00 pm. Food can also be obtained at other times by calling the church office at 938-5313.

Workshop: On Saturday, January 24 from 10:30 am-1:00 pm, we will have a "Spiritual Gifts" workshop. This is for anyone interested in finding out about their spiritual gifts and how to use them. Snacks and lunch will be provided.

American Baptist Women's Sunday: The women in our church will lead worship on Sunday, January 25 at 10:00 am. The theme will be "Keeping Balance While the World Turns."

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**Bradford Bridge
February Deadlines**

Display ads	January 20
Classified ads	January 23
Articles	January 20



Library Lantern

by Meg Fearnley

Don't forget, we will be showing the movie "The Man Who Would be King" on Friday, January 9 at 7:00 pm. Copies of the short story by Rudyard Kipling are still available at the library circulation desk. I hope you can join us.

Thanks to the Bradford Women's Club for getting the tree decorated and for locating Santa in the "nick" of time to visit us at the library. Check with us at the library for copies of photographs taken that day.

We have added lots of new books for your winter reading pleasure.



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Monday, 10:00 am–8:00 pm

Wednesday, 10:00 am–7:00 pm

Saturday, 10:00 am–3:00 pm

StoryTime Wednesdays 10:30

Telephone: 938-5562

email: brownml@conknet.com

For adults:

In the Devil's Snare by Mary Beth Norton

Rumpole and the Primrose Path by John Mortimer

Franklin and Winston by Jon Meacham

The Five People you Meet in Heaven by Mitch Albom

Sightseeing: clues to the landscape history of New England by Christopher Lenney

Safe Harbour by Danielle Steel

And for children:

Love that Baby! By Kathryn Lasky
Gregor the Overlander by Suzanne Collins

Ben Franklin's Almanac by Candace Fleming

The Animal Hedge by Paul Fleischman



RECIPE FROM THE KITCHEN OF BEV LEO

On one of my trips through Virginia, where Bill and I like to explore historic sites, we visited Mount Vernon. There in the Gift Shop, on a sale table, were some books. Though I don't normally peruse cookbooks, this one caught my eye. As *American As Apple Pie*, by Phillip Stephen Schulz, 1996, Wings Books, Avenel, NJ. The recipes, mostly from kitchens of home cooks, are traditional American favorites from Pot Roast to Biscuits, Apple Pies, Chilis, Chowders, and more. Each of the recipes I have tried have been the best of their type I have ever cooked, or even eaten! Here is one of my standard favorites, perfect for cold winter weekends:

KANSAS CITY WHITE CHILI

Kansas City brings to mind barbecue, chicken fried steak, and some of the best beef found east of the Rockies. This brilliant "chicken chili" is another K.C. culinary original. It is adapted from an outstanding recipe in the excellent local Junior League's 1984 cookbook, *Beyond Parsley*. White chili makes a great party dish served over rice. Pass a bowl of grated Monterey Jack on the side.

- 1 pound dry white beans
- 6 cups chicken broth (approximately)
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 2 medium onions, chopped (divided)
- 2 teaspoons ground cumin
- 1 1/2 teaspoons dried oregano
- 1/4 teaspoon ground cloves
- 1/4 teaspoon cayenne pepper
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 2 cans (4 oz. each) chopped green chiles
[I use only 1 can]
- 1 1/2 pounds skinned boneless chicken breasts, cut into 1-inch strips

1) Place the beans in a medium pot and cover with cold water. Heat to boiling; boil 2 minutes. Let stand 1 hour. Drain.

2) Combine the beans, chicken broth, garlic, and 1 onion in a large heavy pot or Dutch oven. Heat to boiling; reduce the heat. Simmer, covered, until beans are almost tender, about 1 1/2 hours.

3) Heat the oil in a medium skillet over medium-low heat. Add the onion; cook 5 minutes. Do not brown. Stir in the chiles, cumin, oregano, cloves, and cayenne pepper. Cook, stirring constantly, 1 minute.

4) Stir the onion/chile mixture into the bean mixture. Add the chicken pieces. Heat to boiling; reduce the heat. Simmer partially covered 1 hour (adding more chicken broth if chile becomes too dry).

Serves 6 to 8



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Soo-Nipi Audubon Chapter

Please join ASNH senior biologist/ornithologist, Diane DeLuca, at the Soo-Nipi Audubon Chapter program Friday, January 9, 7:30 pm at St. Andrews Episcopal Church, Gould Road, New London, for her slide presentation: "Tern Restoration Update." The presentation depicts the remarkable recovery of both common and roseate terns on Seavy Island, Isle of Shoals. This program is open to the public and refreshments will be served. For details call Peter Newbern at 763-4308.

Birder Robin Gray will lead the Soo-Nipi Audubon chapter annual field trip to Parker River National Wildlife Refuge on Plum Island, Newburyport, Mass. to observe over-wintering migrant shore and water birds on Saturday, January 10. Participants should meet at the Warner Park and Ride, exit 9, I-89, at 8:00 am. Please bring lunch, a beverage, binoculars and a scope if you have one. For more information please call Robin Gray at 927-4127.

—Phyllis H. Curtiss

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Area Events

MainStreet BookEnds of Warner, 16 East Main Street, Warner:

Friday, January 9 7:00 pm *Inca Medicine ~ People of the Andes, Video & Discussion* presented by Cricket Hanna.

Sunday, Jan. 11 1:30 pm Shape Note Singing, open to all.

Friday, January 16 7:00 pm Click Horning in concert. \$5.00.

Friday, January 23 7:00 pm Joe Hurka and the acclaimed story of his father, a Czech anti-communist resistance fighter. *Fields of Light*, Winner of Pushcard Editor's Book Award.

Friday, January 30 7:00 pm LightWorks in Concert. One of our favorite bands performing original and well-known music on guitar, bass and percussion. \$10.

The Bradford Fish and Game Club Closes Out Another Active Year

Our unwritten mission is to keep alive the lore and traditions of well principled hunters and fishermen of our area and to promote those strong principles within our youth and community. This year we have worked hard toward that goal and had a great deal of fun in the process. We started the year out with our annual ice-fishing derby for the youth of Bradford and surrounding towns. Held on Lake Todd, we saw great participation this year. The club sponsored several programs at the clubhouse, including a state-approved class in Hunter Safety for both bow and long guns. The spring Trout Fishing Derby, held at the Bradford Fire Station, was also a great success. Who can resist those beaming young faces as they proudly display their first fish or biggest ever fish? We can't thank enough the patient line de-tanglers and hook baiters who helped out.

We held our first Pig Roast at the Freyler residence which George Freyler worked like a slave to host. The club sends kudos to George for all his hard work. The roast pig and deep fried turkeys were delicious and perfectly done. The members turned out all the accoutrements and demonstrated some blue ribbon quality cooking skills hidden in our midst. We especially thank Travis Whitman and Justin Willett for the work they put into setting up the pig roaster and tending to it and Matt Ordway for tending the deep fryer for the turkeys. Justin did an excellent job of carving the pig.

Just before Thanksgiving we held our annual Turkey Raffle. Heavily attended, a rousing good time was had by all and some great prizes won by many. Hosted by the Lumber Barn it was our best ever effort. Special thanks should go out to Bruce and Christine Bowie for their generous contributions to the food baskets.

Thank you to the area businesses that repeatedly donate space, materials, goods, and services to help us in our endeavors. So, thank you, Henniker Septic, The Lumber Barn, and Dickie's Bait and Tackle shop. If I missed you, don't think we don't know who you are; we do appreciate all the community members who lend a helping hand.

At our November meeting we voted in our new leaders for 2004. Chip Meany was once again elected as President to lead us fearlessly through yet another year. Trudy Willett was thanked for her hard work in years past by her reelection as Vice President, Bob Stewart remains our staunch and ever dependable Treasurer, and we elected a new secretary, Mary Hodgman. Our new board of directors is Justin Willett, Matt Ordway, Travis Whitman, and Joe Wilcox.

Our first endeavor for the year 2004 will be the annual Banquet. It will be at The Appleseed Inn on January 19. The cash bar will open at 6:00 pm followed by dinner at 7:00 pm. It will be a sumptuous buffet punctuated with awards and kudos to our most active members. The keynote speaker, Mr. Gil Burke, will present a 45-minute slide show on fly fishing, including fishing for Cape Cod Stripers, Bahamas Bone Fishing the Flats, and Montana Drift Boat Trout Fishing the Big Horn River. Tickets are limited but available through Chip Meany, President, Trudy Willett, Vice President and Bob Stewart, Treasurer. Cost per ticket is \$20.00. Members will be given priority in sales of the tickets but all are welcome. We are also planning the annual ice fishing derby in February, a women's handgun class to be determined at a later date, and, of course, our spring trout fishing derby. There are also plans for a fly tying and rod building class at a later date.

—Mary Hodgman, Secretary

Outside

by Ann Eldridge

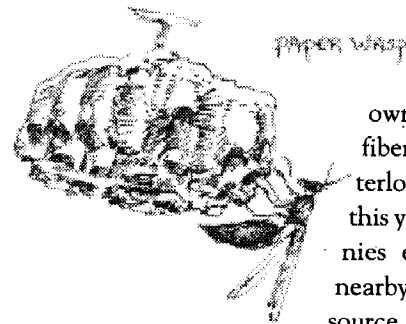
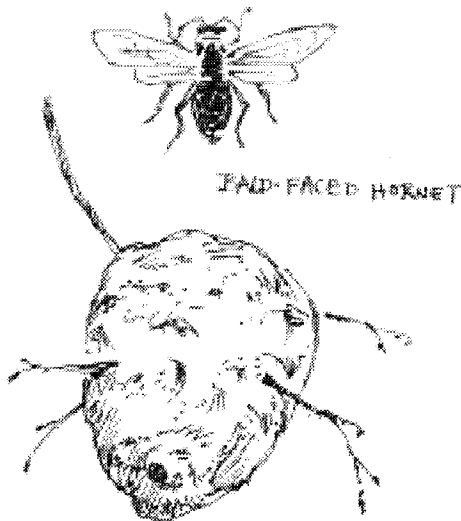
After snow, last summer's bird's nests are filled like ice cream cones. Surely I'm not the first struck with that simile. A gray football of a vacant hornet nest is solemnly suspended from a limb. In the barn, the smaller constructions of paper wasps have blown unstuck and litter the floor in planned obsolescence. Most of our fellow creatures let repairs go as they near their life's close, releasing the real estate for someone else's equally temporary dream home. We might consider doing the same, but that is a different article and I intend to speak here of wasps.

There are now, in our walls, under the snow in mouse tunnels, and in crevices of all kinds, pregnant wasps hanging by their mandibles in frozen diapause awaiting spring. It is only the fertile females, the incipient queens that survive the winter.

There are at least 20,000 kinds of wasps, many of them almost too small to see. The ones we remember best are those that use their modified ovipositors (former egg-placement devices) to inflict on us painful self-defensive stings. Only the working females defend. Most wasps live solitary lives, usefully killing off some of the insects that plague us and our food crops. Many live in colonies resembling tract housing. And some few are as sociably complex as honey bees and ants, their close relations. Bees are entirely vegetarian, consuming nectar and pollen, but a wasp at some stage of its life is an insectivore.

Instead of wax, the social wasps have perfected the spit ball as a construction technique.

The most obvious of New England wasps using paper products are the bellicose bald or white-faced hornets (*Dolichovespula maculata*), yellow jackets (*Vespula maculifrons*), which usually nest underground, and the paper wasp (*Polistes fuscatus*). With all of these species, construction is begun in spring by the aforementioned overwintered queen. She scrapes away at suitably dead wood, mixing it with water into a slurry. She then pastes a suspension sheet on the underside of a stable object that appears to her to have enough hanging space below for the expansion of her fully occupied nest. From this foundation she builds a stem or "petiole" from which the combs and a protecting umbrella will take



shape. A wasp's paper mache is identical to our own papermaking. The fibers are blended and interlock as they dry. One of this year's paper wasp colonies evidently chose the nearby snowfencing as its source - the nest was pink.

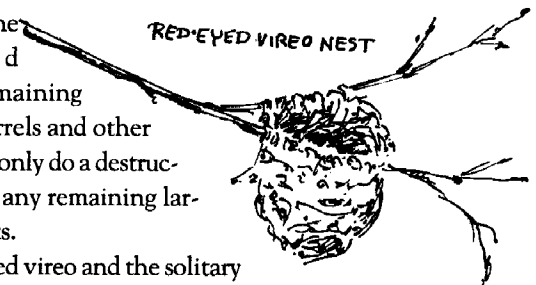
Nearly waterproof and providing excellent insulation, the crucial internal temperatures of the nest are easily maintained in cool weather by the shivering of the worker wasps. The voluntary muscle spasms release extra energy as heat.

The queen deposits a sticky egg in each of her hexagonally shaped cells. The larvae hatch face down and are fed a diet of premashed caterpillars and other insects that have been hunted down and paralyzed by their doting parent. These larvae pupate in due time and hatch as sterile worker females who take over the job of recycling the old cells and making new. They assume all childcare duties as well. The offspring fattening on their bug diet spit up excess sugars for their attendants upon command. You have noticed during picnics that adult wasps are fond of soda pop, fruit, and flowers.

If unmolested by raccoons, bears, skunks, humans, and a host of predatory insects, life continues merrily until autumn when temperatures and day length alters the social structure. The plan changes and larger incubation cells are built for new males and fertile females. Order breaks down and the nuptial flights begin. Upkeep on the homestead slackens and the coming of seriously cold weather kills the exhausted males and remaining workers. Squirrels and other rodents commonly do a destructive check for any remaining larvae in the nests.

The red-eyed vireo and the solitary vireo suspend their nests from the fork of a branch. The exterior is most often decorated with bits of last year's wasp paper. Naturalist Bernd Heinrich conjectures that this habit or plan may confer a degree of protection to the bird's nest. Murderous squirrels and chipmunks might hesitate to jostle the home of the bald-faced hornet. An added benefit of recycling.

Winter World by Bernd Heinrich is available at the Brown Memorial Library.



January Calendar

MONDAY, JANUARY 5

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

TUESDAY, JANUARY 6

Selectmen, Town Hall, 5:00 pm
Zoning Board of Adjustment, Town Hall,
7:00 pm

THURSDAY, JANUARY 8

Bradford Area Community Center Govern-
ance Committee, BACC, 5:30 pm

MONDAY, JANUARY 12

Rural Heritage Connection, BACC, 7:00 pm

TUESDAY, JANUARY 13

Bradford Women's Club Board Meeting,
BACC, 9:30 am
Planning Board, Town Hall, 7:00 pm

TUESDAY, JANUARY 20

Selectmen, Town Hall, 5:00 pm
Conservation Commission, Town Hall,
7:30 pm

THURSDAY, JANUARY 22

Bradford Area Community Center Govern-
ance Committee, BACC, 5:30 pm

TUESDAY, JANUARY 27

Planning Board, Town Hall, 7:00 pm



Transfer Station Hours

Wednesday, Saturday, & Sunday
10:00am-5:00pm

To list events for the February
Calendar, please call Beth Rodd at
938-2692
or e-mail
bradfordbridge@mcttelecom.com
before January
20.

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

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

Emergency Numbers

EMERGENCY FIRE, POLICE & RESCUE
TELEPHONE 911

Police non-emergency number 938-2522

Town Clerk and Tax Collector's office

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday: Noon-7:00 pm

Tuesday: 7:00-11:30 am, 12:30-5:00 pm

Friday: 8:00 am-12:00 noon, 1:00-5:00 pm

TELEPHONE: 938-2288, 938-2094

Classifieds

WANTED. someone to corral and trans-
port a sheep to the butcher in Grantham.
938-5482.

WANTED: BNSYS (youth sports) needs
a refrigerator, preferably with a freezer, for
their snack shack. Will pick up. Call
Diane at 938-2482.

WANTED: used Bernina or Elna sewing
machine in good working condition - noth-
ing fancy. Call 938- 5539

FOR SALE: Large (58" x 45" x 23") dark
stained pine entertainment center - lots of
storage space and a great organizer for
equipment - \$400.00 - call to see and ap-
preciate the good deal - 938-2722

To place a FREE classified ad of 40 words
or less: please call Carey Rodd at 938-2692
or e-mail bradfordbridge@mcttelecom.com.



The Elder Holmes house, built by Offin French and thought to be the oldest structure left in
Bradford, became the home of Durham Jones and his family. Photo from *Two Hundred Plus*,
Bradford, N.H. History Committee & Bicentennial Committee, published 1976, Phoenix
Publishing.

Does anyone know the location of this house, and does it still stand?