

# THE Bradford Bridge

community news by neighbors for neighbors

Volume 15, Number 9; Issue 170

October 2005

## Selectmen Respond to Insurance Committee

The Selectmen issued the following press release in response to the insurance committee report:

The 2005 Town meeting authorized the formation of a committee to research the benefits received by selectmen. The Moderator asked that the results be presented to the Town and the committee did so at the August 16th, 2005 selectmen's meeting.

The committee has recommended the Board of Selectmen vote to discontinue the current policy immediately. They also recommend a warrant article be submitted for consideration at the 2006 Bradford Town Meeting.

After review of the audio tape of the 2002 Town meeting, the Board believes the matter was correctly presented to the Budget Committee as evidenced by the explanation of the Budget Committee Chairperson at the Town Meeting. The selectmen had suggested a warrant  
*continued on page 8*

## Bradford Insurance Committee Schedules Public Informational Meeting

On August 16, 2005 the Bradford Insurance Committee delivered a preliminary report to the Selectmen concerning the issue of taxpayer funded health insurance benefits for five elected officials and their families. This report was presented to the Selectmen when the Bradford Insurance Committee felt it had enough compelling information concerning the implementation of this matter to give the Selectmen reason for consideration of the recommendations noted in the report. The Selectmen responded with a news release informing the public of their views on this matter. The recommendations were considered and denied.

The Insurance Committee is continuing its inquiry and is preparing for a public informational meeting to be held on Wednesday, October 26, 2005 at 7 p.m. at the Bradford Elementary School. Public attendance at this meeting is greatly encouraged.

*continued on page 8*

## Massasecum's Milfoil Saga . . . Continued

The net closing off the north end of the Lake, along with the various signs still in place, are the remainders of this season's efforts to contain and control milfoil in Lake Massasecum. The suction harvesting has been completed and the "Milfoiler", the Lake's harvester, is ashore.

According to Amy Smagula, coordinator of the suction harvesting project for the Department of Environmental Services (DES), the removal of the milfoil in the designated plots was successful.

Smagula was at the Lake recently along with Ken Wagner and another consultant from ENSR as they videoed and inspected the plots. State divers removed any remaining stems within the test plots.



Jeff Galvin, left, describes what he sees under the lake.

Below, Peter Forella hauls in a float full of harvested milfoil



Photos by Susan A. Janicki

Smagula stated: "We will keep an eye on them and have someone go  
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## The Bradford Bridge



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### **Submissions**

*The Bradford Bridge* is written by neighbors, for neighbors. Anyone is welcome to submit articles and/or photographs of interest to the community. We reserve the right to edit submissions for length or content. Send articles or letters to Susie Jan-

# Number Please: Telephone Operators in the Pre-Dial Era

The Friends of Brown Memorial Library present a free illustrated talk, entitled, *Number Please: Telephone Operators in the Pre-Dial Era in New Hampshire* with historian and educator Judith Moyer on Friday, October 21, 2005 at 7 p.m. in the handicapped accessible Brown Memorial Library, 78 West Main St., Bradford.

Judith Moyer, founder of the Warner Women's Oral History project, has also written a comprehensive K-12 N.H. history curriculum and was team historian for the Harvard University Weaving Histories Project. She is currently a research faculty member of the history department at the University of New Hampshire in Durham, and serves as director of the History in Perspective-Teaching American History Project.

The program documents a disappearing piece of our town's history. Newbury resident, Allene Hamilton remembers the pre-dial era. Her mother, Vera Simpson, was a telephone operator for 38 years. She said, "My mother's duties included sounding the noontime siren (located upstairs in Danforth's Store), as well as sounding numerical blasts that identified a fire's location....Her job was especially exciting during lightning storms when—sparks flying—she had to unplug from the board and try to answer the phone when she dared."

The presentation, made possible with a NH Humanities Council grant, is open to the public. Refreshments will be served. For more information, contact: Bea Howe, dandbhowe@tds.net or 938-2955.

—Audrey V. Sylvester

## Bradford Resident attends Franklin Pierce after Katrina Damages Loyola

On Friday, August 26th, Jessica Champagne and her mother Connie Kelly, both of Bradford, were moving Jessica's belongings into her dorm at Loyola University located in New Orleans, Louisiana. Jessica, a drama/communications major, was starting her sophomore year. The next day they were evacuating New Orleans and were headed for Alabama.

Hurricane "Katrina" was on the way. Jessica and her mom had to evacuate the city from another storm a year ago by air and now watched the auto evacuation on the news. They knew it best to leave immediately and the university was planning to close for a few days. Since Loyola was planning to reopen on Wednesday, August 31st, Jessica only took a few items of clothing with her and left the rest of her belongings behind.

We all know the severity with which Katrina hit New Orleans. Needless to say, Jessica returned home to Bradford. Jessica did not know what she would do next. She watched the television and witnessed the devastation. She could not help wondering what happened to many of her friends and neighbors who live in New Orleans. She is still waiting to hear from many of them.

Three days after arriving home, Jessica heard about the "Katrina Scholarship". Franklin Pierce College, located in Rindge, NH was offering 20, full, fall semester scholarships to students displaced by "Katrina". She immediately applied, was accepted and is now enjoying her fall semester on the beautiful Rindge campus. The college is covering tuition, room, board and books for these students, a number of whom are from Loyola. Jessica and Connie have been overwhelmed by the generosity of the faculty and administration of Franklin Pierce College.

Loyola University experienced minimal damage and will be reopening in January, 2006. While Jessica looks forward to returning to New Orleans, Franklin Pierce College will always hold a special place in her heart.

Jessica was the 2004 recipient of the Bradford Woman's Club Scholarship.

—Connie Kelly

## **BRADFORD BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

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Monday–Thursday, 8 am–noon &

1 to 5 p.m., Friday, 8 a.m.–noon

**938-5900**

*Meetings are held the*

*1st & 3rd Tuesdays, 5 p.m.*

*at the Bradford Town Hall*

## Sidewalk Proposal

The Bradford Selectmen have submitted a proposal for New Hampshire's 2005 Transportation Enhancement program. This project consists of improvements for pedestrian travel and traffic safety along Main Street from the intersection of High Street to NH Route 114 and then continuing on NH Route 114 to the US Post Office. The project will include the construction of new sidewalks and the reconstruction of existing sidewalks to meet Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards. If successful, federal support will cover 80% of the estimated \$1,530,000 total cost. This proposal was ranked by the Central New Hampshire Regional Planning Commission in the middle of the three received for the region. The entire statewide set of proposals will be supported in rank order until the available funding is exhausted. Whether or not Bradford is successful in this request will be known early in 2006.

—Bill Glennie

## Fall Auditions Scheduled for Piano Scholarship

An annual Theodore Lettvin Piano Scholarship of \$500 will be offered this fall for the first time to an outstanding third level piano student living in the Kearsarge area. This Scholarship will assist the winning student in the continuation of piano studies with his or her piano teacher.

Preliminary auditions will be held on Saturday October 8th at 1:30 pm in the Sutton area. Finals will be held in the same location on Saturday, November 5th, also at 1:30 pm. Piano teachers, parents and school counselors or teachers wishing to recommend participants may contact Phyllis Wilcox at 938-5973 to register for the Preliminary Audition.

Young piano students wishing to play at the Preliminary auditions will be asked to play a seven minute program from memory and to speak informally with the Judges. Those selected to return for the Final auditions will be asked to play a ten minute program from memory, to sight-read a piece appropriate for his/her performance level and to speak informally with judges.

—Phyllis Wilcox

## The Carr Store to Open for Exhibit in 2007

Professor Donald Linebaugh, Director of the Historic Preservation Program at the University of Maryland, will speak at a special meeting of the Bradford Historical Society to be held Wednesday, October 12 at 7 p.m. at the Bradford Area Community Center about the upcoming summer and fall 2007 exhibit of the Carr Store on Main Street, Bradford.

The exhibit will feature the village of Bradford as a community institution, and will also explore the wider context of the store in the regional and national economy. The highlight of the exhibit will be its presentation in the original Carr Store building, currently owned by Mike and Janet Bauer. The exhibit will draw on both the store building, the excellent documents from the store, and the increasingly numerous objects from the store. Professor Linebaugh envisions a recreated store counter, a desk setting showing Mr. Carr at work on the ledgers, a series of vignettes from the ledgers (dress making, coffin building, disease and health, building painting, etc.), a discussion of the context of general stores in the New England, national, and international economies, and the business of store keeping.

As we indicated in the August "Bridge", many homes in Bradford and neighboring towns have items connected with the Carr Store. Come to hear Professor Linebaugh and tell us about your artifacts.

—Ruth-Ann M. Harris  
Adjunct Professor of History and Irish Studies, Boston College

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**Milfoil**

cont. from page 1

down and pick any re-growth in the study plots to give the natives (plants) a chance to take off."

She also advised that the state "...may do more suction harvesting in the future as the State is going to buy a harvester." Some milfoil does remain in the cove, particularly in the area of the boat channel because the depth there is 15 feet vs. the limited 9 foot cut of the Lake's harvester.

A small patch of milfoil, located at the south end of Rice Island, was removed by state divers.

Sadly, the saga will continue, but to date, the remainder of the Lake has been spared thanks to the diligence of the Shore Watch volunteers and the Lake Host program.

—Dick Keller

**L.M.I.A. News**

Take a look at the new Lake massachusetts Improvement Association Website: <http://www.lakemassachusetts.org>

**October Hikes on the SRK Greenway**

The 12th annual Fall Walkabout sponsored by the Sunapee-Ragged-Kearsarge Greenway Coalition continues in October with the following hikes. Please contact the Walkabout hike leader for information about time and location of individual hikes. Good physical condition and walking experience useful for lowland hikes. Good physical condition required for mountain hikes. Be prepared for fresh air and beautiful scenes. For information about the SRK Greenway, see [www.srkg.com](http://www.srkg.com). Greenway guidebooks are available at local book stores.

Oct 1 Saturday : Mount Sunapee from Old Province Road, Goshen, to Newbury Harbor. A strenuous trail hike of 5.5 miles. Leader: Gerry Gold PH: 938-6132.

Oct 2 Sunday: Low hills woodland hike from Newbury Harbor to Chalk Pond, Newbury. A moderate road and trail hike of 4.5 miles. Leader: Charlie Killam PH: 526-6421.

Oct 8 Saturday: Chalk Pond, Newbury, to Wadleigh St. Park, North Sutton. A moderate walk of 5.4 miles, mostly on Class 6 roads. Leader: Iain Gilmour: PH: 927-4053.

Oct 9 Sunday: Wadleigh State Park to Kearsarge Valley Road, North Sutton. A moderate lowlands road and trail walk of 4.0 miles. Leader: Jon Weidman PH: 526-7518

Oct 15 Saturday: Mount Kearsarge from Kearsarge Valley Road, North Sutton, to Winslow State Park, Wilmot. A strenuous 6.1 mile trail hike. Leader: Peter Sabin PH: 456-3473

Oct 16 Sunday: Winslow State Park, Wilmot, to Proctor Academy, Andover. A moderate woodlands and field walk of 6.0 miles. Leader: Nan Kaplan PH: 735-5352.

Oct 22 Saturday: Ragged Mountain from Proctor Academy, Andover, to New Canada Road, Wilmot. A strenuous trail hike of 6.4 miles. Leader: Ken Aldrich PH: 526-2942.

Oct 23 Sunday: New Canada Road,

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**Kearsarge Area Preschool**

**Entertainment & Arts for Little Hearts**

Kearsarge community children, pre school to third grade, are invited to "MOVIE NIGHT" on Saturday October 15th at the Bradford Area Community Center. Kids are welcome to a free viewing of "Disney's Ice Princess". A brainy high-school misfit longs to become a graceful champion figure skater. The film is rated "G". Pizza will be served at 5:30 p.m. just prior to the movie at 6 p.m. Pizza for adults cost \$2 and children cost \$1. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Pajamas are optional!

Our next "Entertainment and Arts For Little Hearts" event is scheduled for Monday, October 31st on Halloween from 4 to 6 p.m. at the Bradford Area Community Center. Come and join in the Halloween fun as we play "Pin the nose on the pumpkin", "Bingo" and other games. There will be a costume contest, Halloween crafts, and goodies of course. This event is offered at no cost to all children in the Kearsarge community age Pre-K to third grade. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Hope to see you there! Call Donna Long at 938-6431 for more information.

—Fred Hubley

**Kearsarge Area Preschool "It's Back to School"**

*They say "kids grow up fast" and at KAP the children are learning about the human body and how good nutrition and exercise help the body grow. Pictured below are volunteer parents from KAP, a parent run co-op, measuring and weighing children.*



*Teacher Lyn Betz (above) points out parts of the human body.*

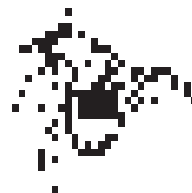


**Bee School**

The Kearsarge Beekeepers Association is holding Bee School for new beekeepers from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on October 29th and November 5th at the Sugar River Savings Bank in Newport, NH.

The cost is \$40 for 8 hours of instruction on how to take care of Bees. Also included in the cost is the book "Beekeeping for Dummies" and a year membership in Kearsarge Beekeepers Association. Refreshments will be served.

For more information contact Karen Booker at 746-3656 or pottedplant@juno.com.



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## The Friends Present "The Yogurt Poets" & Open Mike

The Friends of Brown Memorial Library present "An Evening with the Yogurt Poets" followed by an Open Mike on Wednesday, October 5, 2005 at 7:00 PM at the Brown Memorial Library in Bradford, NH. Yogurt poets reading include: Mary French (Hopkinton), Catherine O'Brian (North Sutton), Nancy Stewart (Pembroke), Jody Wells (South Sutton), Sara Willingham (Concord), Hope Jordan (Canterbury) & Rick Agran (Plymouth).

Following the reading, professional, amateur, or wannabe-poets will be able to share their poetry with the audience in an "Open Mike" session.

The Yogurt Poets are a group of poets that originally began meeting in a Concord coffee shop about 10 years ago. The group started working together after five of the poets met in a week-long writing seminar with Maine poet (and former teacher at the Kearsarge Regional High School) Wesley McNair. Invited Master Poets working with "The Yogurts" have included: Maxine Kumin, Baron Wormser, Wesley McNair, Laureanne Bosselaar, Cleopatra Mathis and Martha Rhodes.

Their name evolved from the Yoga Poets to the Yogurt Poets, although an original member, Catherine O'Brian, admitted that "none of us do much yoga or eat extraordinary amounts of yogurt."

The free event takes place in the handicapped accessible Brown Memorial Library, 78 West Main Street (at the intersection of Route 103 & Main St.) in Bradford, NH. Refreshments will be served. For more information, call 938-2196.

—Audrey V. Sylvester



## Library Lantern by Meg Fearnley

*Outside of a dog, a book is a man's best friend. Inside of a dog, it's too dark to read.* — Groucho Marx

The librarians and trustees would like to thank everyone who came to our successful fundraising dinner. Our special guest, Tom Pitts, was honored for his many years of dedicated work keeping the library looking spiffy. Thanks again, Tommy.

We had a lot of fun preparing and serving the food. It was lovely to sit out on the front porch of St. Peter's Lodge and hear the music and voices in conversation. Thank you to the Masons for graciously letting us hold our dinner in their Lodge. It is the perfect setting for a summer community dinner.

I apologize to all those who have lately tried to telephone the library without success. Our phone lines and fire alarm system have been malfunctioning since the lightning strike in early August. We have been working with the alarm company and telephone company to resolve the problem. Hopefully, by the time you read this, it will be fixed! We also are happy to report that our lift is now repaired and in good working order.

Come into the library to see the display of Bradford Newbury Fair artifacts courtesy of the Bradford Historical Society. Marvel at the 100-year-old preserves, ancient

homespun socks and two albums of photographs!

Our next book sale will be on Saturday, October 8 from 9:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. Many new donations have arrived in the last few weeks, so don't miss this sale!

As you will note elsewhere in The Bridge the Friends of Brown Memorial Library are sponsoring two programs in October. The Yogurt Poets on Wednesday, October 5 at 7:00 p.m. and Number Please, the program on the early days of telephone on Friday, October 21 at 7:00 p.m. We will also hold our next book-to-movie discussion on Friday, October 7 at 7:00 p.m. on *The Mouse That Roared* by Leonard Wibberley. We hope you can join us.

Here are some of the new books added to your library in September:

### FOR ADULTS:

*Polar Shift* by Clive Cussler

*My Detachment* by Tracy Kidder

*The Widow of the South* by Robert Hicks

*Sweetwater Creek* by Anne Rivers Siddons

### FOR CHILDREN:

*Eldest* by Christopher Paolini

*Mercy Watson to the Rescue* by Kate DiCamillo

*Elsewhere* by Gabrielle Zevin

*Imagine a Day* by Sarah Thom-

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# Bradford Parks and Recreation News

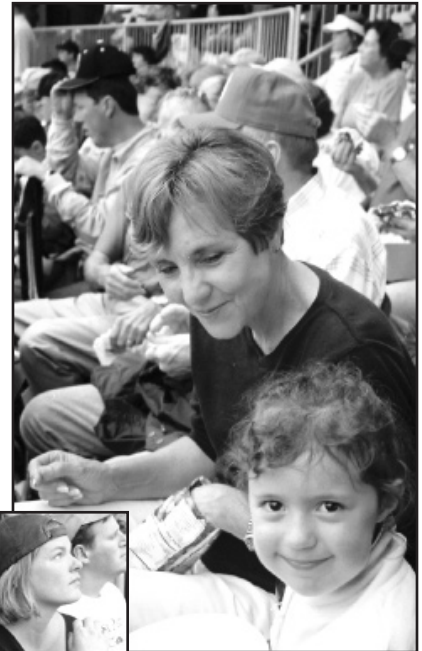
The Bradford Parks and Recreation will sponsor 'One Stroke' paint classes on Thursday nights, October 6th, 13th, and 20th from 6:30 to 8:30pm at the Bradford Area Community Center. 'One Stroke' is a decorative painting technique using 2 or 3 colors, blended on a brush, to highlight and shade at the same time, using one stroke. The instructor is Joanne Knox. The cost of each class will be \$35 per person for 6 to 10 students, or \$25 per person for more than 10 students. Supplies are included in the price. To register for classes or for more information, call Jarna at 938-6228 or 938-5545.

This year's Halloween Party will be held on October 31st at the Bradford Area Community Center from 4:00 to 8:00pm. There will be crafts, games, pumpkin carving contest, (pumpkins can also be painted or decorated), plenty to eat and drink in the Graveyard Diner, and the Spooky Room returns this year! Watch for posters for more information.

—Jarna Perkins

On August 20th, 40 Bradford residents attended a baseball game at the NH Fisher Cats baseball stadium in Manchester. The Fisher Cats lost to the Portland Sea Dogs, 1-0, but everyone had a good time anyways. And the food and entertainment was great!

*Nita Jackson with Taryn Hubley enjoy the day.*



*Checking the score at the NH Fisher Cats baseball stadium in Manchester.*

## Greetings from The Bradford Women's Club

Once again, fall is approaching quickly and our Programming Committee is hard at work scheduling meetings and trips for all to enjoy.

On Tuesday, October 18, at 6:30 p.m. at the First Baptist Church we have two great guest speakers, Laura Hallahan of ERA The Masiello Group, Hallahan Real Estate and Bob Foor from the Bradford Planning Board.

Then on Friday, Oct. 21, our first Fel-

lowship event will be to join the BACC on their trip to Old Fort #4 in Charlestown, NH. The bus departs the BACC at 9:30 a.m. Cost for this trip is \$17.00, which includes transportation, admission, guided tour and a picnic lunch. Registration deadline for this event is October 14. Please contact Sandy at the BACC at 938-2104 to reserve a space.

Don't forget November is Craft Fair time! If you know of anyone who would like

to be a consignee this year please contact Jackye Pehrson at 935-5951.

The BWC would like to congratulate Laura J. Hallahan for receiving the Realtor Of The Year award!

See you at the next meeting.

- Erica Gross, President

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**Response** cont. from page 1

article but the budget committee decided to enter it as a line item in the operating budget.

A question was raised by a former selectman during the review of the insurance line item in the operating budget at the 2002 town meeting. The Budget Committee Chairperson answered the question, there was some discussion, and the vote was passed by the town. The Board is satisfied that the current policy was approved legally.

Anyone interested in reviewing the audio tape of the 2002 Town meeting can request to borrow a copy from the selectmen's office. A typed transcript is also available.

The Board believes the solution to the committee's concerns is to increase public awareness about the budget process, the public hearings and the selectmen's meetings. None of the committee members had attended any of the budget work sessions, public hearings on the budget or the town meeting. Perhaps better publicity would have alerted them to this and other important matters. Educating the public will allow the necessary information to be distributed, encourage discussion and debate and prepare the voter for Town Meeting.

Please remember, the town votes on the budget of the Budget Committee, not that of the selectmen. While the insurance discussion took five minutes, the entire meeting was one hour and forty five minutes. One hundred and seventy five registered voters were present and fifty one different items were voted on during that time.

We again thank the members of the committee for their work. We urge the public to attend and participate in the budget process and all town public meetings. The activities at these meetings will be reflected in the tax rate and we welcome citizen input. The past few years the town has seen fewer people running for office. We encourage public involvement.

—Bradford Selectmen  
Bruce Edwards  
Peter Fenton  
Dave Pickman

**Insurance Committee**

cont. from page 1

There are still some answers to questions being pursued and the committee hopes to have all the answers in time for the final Bradford Insurance Committee Report for the 2005 Town Report.

I would like to thank the Selectmen for their participation in the Insurance Committee meetings. I would also like to commend the committee members for the high level of integrity and professionalism exhibited during this trying process. It takes a few degrees of courage to participate in a community spirited endeavor such as this committee is undertaking.

All members of the committee have been deeply involved in town activities.

Joe Conway is the Bradford representative to the Municipal Budget Committee, a former selectman, and founding member of the Bradford Community Corp. Tandy Hartford is active in the Letvin Concert Series. Perry Teele is a former member of the Bradford Facilities Committee, a former Building Inspector and Code Enforcement Officer. He has been member of the Planning Board and is

a present member of the Conservation Commission. Bruce Bowie is a member of the Budget Committee, Bradford Business Association and Bradford Rescue Squad. I am a past president of the Bradford Business Association and present member, a former member of the Planning Board, the Bradford Facilities Committee and Bradford Economic Opportunities Committee.

I know I speak for the Committee when I say Thank You to the voters and taxpayers of the Town of Bradford in placing their confidence and trust in us to try to bring full disclosure to this very important issue before us.

I hope to see you all at the Meeting on October 26, 2005. Thank you,

—Gary Wall, Chairman  
Bradford Insurance Committee

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# PROFILE: Leonard Holmes Spencer

by Audrey V. Sylvester

Historian, restoration painter, and storyteller, Leonard Holmes Spencer is a Yankee, by birth, geography, and point of view. Born in western Massachusetts, in the town of Becket, whose claim to fame is that it is known to be the highest point on the Massachusetts Turnpike, Leonard grew up being part of New England tradition. In West Becket, where modern dance was born in the 1930's when Ted Shawn danced on stage at Jacob's Pillow, Leonard was one of the local kids who performed to show New Yorkers how to do the old stuff, "Contra Dance," that his grandparents called, "Long Ways Sets."

So began my interview with this brilliant sleuth—a thoroughly engaging, dedicated painter and historian—who had been hired by the Union Congregational Society to restore the 1838 Bradford Center Meetinghouse's interior. Begun in the Fall of 2004, the restoration was completed in the Spring of 2005.

Leonard fell into the restoration profession by accident of birth—by the virtue of being born into an old-line Yankee family (the Spencers date back to 1632). Leonard said, "You didn't want to waste anything. You might need it some time." The family farm in Becket is still piled with stuff from 150 years ago. Once he worked in a house with no electricity, where 1809 wallpaper was still intact. Nothing had changed since 1804. A "time warp," the house was eventually bought by the State to preserve the glimpse into history. Leonard remembered in the collection of junk in the mud room corner was a stack of bottles that were not returnable. The bottles dated from 1830. He said, "This is the kind of background I come from."

At age 15, Leonard helped his General Electric engineer father rebuild their old red barn whose south roof had caved in. Full of old junk and stuff from the neighbors, they thought it was a fairly ordinary three-bay English-style barn until a professional conservator explained how its construction techniques were different from Yankee style construction. Built in the 1750's, the barn was more Dutch than English and probably the oldest barn in Berkshire County Massachusetts. Leonard said, "We didn't know any of this. We didn't need to. We just knew it was ours and we had to save it. As good Yankees we couldn't let this building fall down." In summer, they cut huge timbers from the wood lot with an Alaskan Mill chain saw, shaped them with an adze, and hoisted them with a tamarack log for a gin pole and block and tackle with the Model T truck for power. In December, as they put on shingles, Leonard remembers sweeping off snow. He still looks after an antique cast-iron wood-pedeled rod-powered merry-go-round from that barn.

Leonard's adventures with old buildings and archaic techniques included hauling slate up 40' ladders to help a barber (turned-slater-on-the-weekends) repair the former church roof of the soon-to-be town library. His youthful adventures with a sleeve valve tractor his father had kept in service for years, led him to the recognition that he himself was not a good mechanic. He explored his love of Victorian houses through drawing and painting—a skill his professional artist mother encouraged. He worked at kid's jobs—shoveling snow and painting people's houses. He said, "I don't remember ever being told that working was something I had to do. Everybody else was working, so I was too."

In the course of growing up, Leonard (qualifying that he is not a typical Williams's alumnus) graduated from Williams College. He earned a degree in Education from Clark University to prepare him to teach. Moving to Cabot, Vermont, he took a teaching job in a small high school. After nine years, he decided that teaching was too emotionally stressful. He became a full-time painter as his interest in old buildings, history and art coalesced.

One of his early restorations was the Cabot Church where in one night the ceiling fell down and smashed the church's interior. Leonard claims that

he became chairman of the decorating committee by accident. Relying on his Yankee ingenuity, he salvaged much of the broken interior. Through careful observation and research, he found remnants of the church's 1898 Victorian decoration obscured by 1950's renovations. When the restoration was successful, Leonard knew he could do this kind of work for a living. To date, he has restored 25 churches and meeting-houses.

With each restoration, Leonard's first impression is always a sense of feeling sorry for the building because it is usually in disrepair. He said, "I have this urge to grab my paint brush and run up the vertical wall like superman and get going. So I have that sense of mission. It's my thing. It's an opportunity. This is why I adopt Victorian houses, like old ladies take in stray cats."

When Leonard Holmes Spencer grabbed paintbrushes and red devil scrapers to restore the 1838 Bradford Center Meetinghouse, he relished the opportunity. The five-man restoration team scraped fragile plaster to uncover early wall and ceiling decoration, mended plaster, repainted hand-made 1870's stenciling and repainted the interior. From all reports, the public and the committee consider the restoration successful. Thank you, Leonard, for saving one of Bradford's



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## Selectmen's Activity Report – August & September 05

School has started and the Board of Selectmen and the Bradford Police Department urge you to be aware of children on the roads early mornings and evenings. Complaints of speeding on the back roads have been received, and children may be in the roadway waiting for school busses or walking home from events.

Assessment hearings have been held and values are being finalized. If you are not satisfied with the results of your meeting with the Assessors, remember you have the right to request an abatement after you receive the 2005 second tax bill (December due date). The abatement must be received by March 1, 2006. There is another appeal process after this, and more info and forms are available at the town hall. The Board will be meeting with the State Department of Revenue to set the tax rate at the end of September. The formal budget cycle will begin about the same time, so the Board anticipates a very busy fall.

All three selectmen have been meeting with the needs assessment committee. Our committee now has twelve members and is chaired by Everett Kittredge. Don Jackson has undertaken the task of evaluating the Town Hall both for renovation as offices or for other uses, Chris Frey is evaluating the financial burden to the town, Cheryl Behr is polling departments for their requirements and all the members are reviewing the available

town properties. Committee members have walked the Naughton Property and arranged with the Road Agent, Steve Lucier, to have the landfill cap mowed to allow evaluation of the property. The Capital Improvement Plan has identified replacement of the Town offices, Police Department and the Highway Garage in the 2007-08 time frame. Prioritizing is perhaps the biggest job of the committee.

Town Meeting authorized a committee to review the Health benefits received by Selectmen. While this has been a time consuming matter for the Board, the issue has been well aired in the *Bradford Bridge* and other newspapers. Comment here would be repeating other articles in this same paper. Anyone wishing to listen to the tape of the 2002 Town Meeting can borrow a copy from the Selectmen's office.

The Board is reviewing the Transfer Station need for a new tractor or skid steer. The existing tractor has served the town well, but is in need of a new clutch assembly. Ken Anderson is cautiously evaluating new equipment on the market. The Board of Selectmen has reviewed his budget and will attempt to rent a new machine until they can seek the approval of town meeting to lease or purchase another machine.

The work on Center Road is progressing. JW Darrah Construction was the low bidder and is working with the Town Highway Crew to complete the job. We hope the work will correct the drainage problems on the road and make it a safer road in the future. The road will be placed on the 2006 warrant as part of a paving program.

With the onset of fall and winter, the Road Agent wishes to remind everyone that it is illegal to plow snow across a town road and leave plow banks in the travel way. The Town has an ordinance regarding the matter subject to fines. We hope to have booklets available soon with all our ordinances listed. Watch the *Bradford Bridge* for notice of their availability.

Junk Car notices have been sent out and others will follow as the board receives reports of multiple unregistered cars. Please check your own property and remember the RSA allows only one unreg-


istered car on a property. To avoid fines or penalties, please have the vehicles removed. The town has approached Larry McDonald of Bradford, and he is willing to remove them for no charge. His telephone number is 938-2879. The Board is allowing a window of time to remove the junk cars. The last date will be September 30, 2005. After that time, the penalties will be assessed and the law enforced to its fullest measure.

We are beginning to gear up the office for our 2005 Town Report. We are asking all area citizens to submit suggestions for the report. Comments, pictures or suggestions on information to include are welcome. We are trying to make the publication not only a report of the financial happenings of the town but would like to include the social and economic changes. We have been scouring the old town reports for information on roads and town purchases for our GASB (accounting) compliance. A spark of who we were as a town peeks through occasionally, and adds dimension to the figures and facts. We hope that someone twenty years from now can get the same enjoyment from our reports as we have of earlier times. As always we need to thank Milly Kittredge for the use of some of the wonderful Historical Society pictures.

The Historical Society has had the front of the Marshall Property brush cut and wishes to thank Chris Mock for his help. The next step is to better evaluate the water and drainage situation for future placement of the Marshall Barn and a new Historical Society building. In the coming months additional clearing may be done on the land behind the Community Center to assess the value as a location for a new town police station and/or town offices. Both groups recognize the importance of establishing the shortcomings and strengths of the land before making any long term commitment to development.

The Town hall has acquired thirty chairs from State Surplus at the cost of \$3.33 per chair. We hope all the committee members attending town hall meetings will enjoy the new additions.

—Cheryl Behr, Town Administrator



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# Planning Board Notes

The September 13th Planning Board meeting was an unusually busy one. Several items on the agenda could not be addressed prior to the 9:30 pm cut-off for new items and will be carried forward until October 11th.

Dave Pickman advised that Travis Creswell would like to lower the grade of a driveway that formerly served a gravel pit on Pleasant Valley Road. The pit is no longer active, the amount of gravel to be removed is less than that to require a permit and the gravel will not be sold.

The Board voted, Pickman abstaining, that a permit is not required, but requested a letter from the owner stating how much material will be removed, that it is not being sold but will be transported off of the property. It was also noted that the Planning Board records should indicate that this pit is no longer active.

Mapleview Subdivision on Old Warner Road was next on the agenda, with Consulting Engineer Robert Rook presenting a layout for a conventional subdivision showing the buildable acres available for development. This step is required in order to determine the number of lots that may be developed as a cluster. He then showed the revised cluster layout showing 25 lots to be designated as "over 55".

Because the layout is substantially different from the previous one, new sets of plans will be forwarded to all department heads and to the Board's consultants, CNHRPC and Provan & Lorber. Concern was expressed for traffic impact on Old Warner Road with the school located on the same road. As part of her review, Circuit Rider Colleen Lynch of CNHRPC will suggest ways in which the traffic issue can be addressed.

The Board accepted the application as complete and set September 27th at 5 pm for a site walk.

Michie Subdivision on Johnson Hill Road - 2 lots. Michael Bouffard of Eckman Engineering, LLC presented the application and requested acceptance and approval at this meeting.

The CNHRPC review found the application to be complete. The Board then accepted the application and, following the public hearing, voted to approve it with conditions including a statement on the plan that no further subdivision of the new lot can occur, and an approved driveway permit be submitted.

Kelly Subdivision on Sunset Hill - 2 lots presented by John Kelly. All Town Departments responded with no comments on the plan and CNHRPC noted that the application was complete. The Board accepted the application and continued the hearing until October 11th. Mr. Kelly indicated he had no objections to members of the Board walking the property before that date.

Dina Bock Subdivision on Route 114 - 3 lots. The property is in both Warner and Bradford, with the frontage in Warner. The Warner Planning Board accepted the application as complete at a meeting on Sept. 12th, but took no action pending comments from Bradford. Based on the CNHRPC review, the Bradford Planning Board voted to accept the application and opened the public hearing. Chair Bob Foor read two letters from abutter Mary Hodgman expressing her concern for run-off from the property that could impact her land across Route 114. Abutters Bill Hatt, Sherry Gould, and Sue McKevitt spoke, describing the property and raising additional questions about wetlands and drainage.

Ms. Bock gave the background of the property, saying that she inherited it in 1981 and, subsequently, subdivided off the piece where Hatt now lives. She advised that she would be willing to place a condition in the deed that the new lots cannot be further subdivided.

The Board scheduled a site walk for Monday, Sept. 26th at which time it will decide if further studies are required, possibly a hydrologic study as recommended by the Conservation Commission in its review and, also, whether to plan a joint meeting with the Warner Planning Board.


Jeff Evans spoke briefly about the proposed 40-lot Olde English Subdivision on Breezy Hill Road (former Kearsarge Reel property). He advised that it will be difficult to meet the 10% grade requirement for a portion of the road. Fire Chief Mark Goldberg stated that the Department had discussed this issue and determined that nothing greater than 10% grade would be acceptable.

Discussion of this application was deferred until next month.

Other items carried over to next month include a Conceptual Discussion with Steve Obermiller who would like to convert a home on High Street that currently has multiple apartment units into condominiums that can be sold separately and a 2-lot subdivision on Tax Map 5, Lot 56, Deer Valley Road.


The Planning Board continues to work on the Master Plan at its meetings on the fourth Tuesday of each month. On October 25th the Board will finalize the Community Vision Chapter (based on input at the September Work Session) and begin to outline how the Master Plan will be implemented. Come join us and be part of this very important next step in the Master Planning process.

—Marcia Keller



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# Bradford Calendar

## BRADFORD BRIDGE CALENDAR LOCATION MAP

BACC-Bradford Area Community Ctr.  
 BML-Brown Memorial Library  
 KRES-Bradford Elementary School  
 S. Ctr. -Senior Center  
 TH-Bradford Town Hall

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## BACC 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 Preschool information, contact Fred Hubley at 938-5521.

For general info, call the Administration Office at 938-6228.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
	<b>ONGOING EVENTS:</b> Children's Storytime Brown Memorial Library, Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m. Bradford Historical Society Old Post Office Bldg, open most Sats. 1:30-3 p.m., call 938-5386 for other appt. "Continental Breakfast Café" Senior Center, Fridays, 10 - 11:30 a.m. . Fresh fruit, pastry, cereal, juice & coffee.		
<b>2</b>	8:45 am, Strong Living Exercises, S. Ctr. <b>3</b> 9:45 am, Ceramics with Doris, S. Ctr. 10:30 am, Yoga with Fran, S. Ctr. 11:30 pm, Writing Workshop, S. Ctr. 1-4 pm, Bridge Group, BACC 3-5 pm, Junior Girl Scouts, BACC 7 pm, Library Trustees, BML 7 pm, Rural Heritage Connection, BACC	9 am-Noon, Fuel Assistance, Call 456-2700, BACC <b>4</b> 10 am, Bradford Quilting Bees, S. Ctr. 3-5 pm, Brownies, BACC 6-7:30 pm, Yoga Class, call Fran at 456-3099 for information, BACC 6:30 pm, Kearsarge Area Preschool, Staff meeting, BACC 7 pm, Zoning Board, Town Hall	8:45 a.m. Br 10-11:30 a 7 pm, Y
<b>9</b>	8:45 am, Strong Living Exercises, S. Ctr. <b>10</b> 9:45 am, Ceramics with Doris, S. Ctr. 10:30 am, Yoga with Fran, S. Ctr. 1-4 pm, Bridge Group, BACC 1:30 pm, Writing Workshop, S. Ctr.	9:30-11 am, Bradford Women's Club, Board meeting, BACC <b>11</b> 10 am, Stitches & Stories knitting group, S. Ctr. 6-7:30 pm, Yoga Class, call Fran at 456-3099 for info., BACC 7 pm, Planning Board, TH	8 am, Ne Assesse 8:45 am, Bra 10 am-1:30 7-9 pm, Society sp Professor
<b>16</b>	8:45 am, Strong Living Exercises, S. Ctr. <b>17</b> 10:30 am, Yoga with Fran, S. Ctr. 1-4pm, Bridge Group, BACC 1:30 pm, Writing Workshop, S. Ctr. 3-5pm, Junior Girl Scouts, BACC	9 am-Noon, Fuel Assistance Applications Call 456-2700 for appt., BACC <b>18</b> 9 am, Bradford Quilting Bees, S. Ctr. 3-5 pm, Brownies, BACC 6-7:30 pm, Yoga Class, BACC 7 pm, Conservation Comm., TH	8:45 a.m. Bra 10-11:30 a 11:30 am, 6th Difference Eastman, C 6:30 pm, Par
<b>23</b>	8:45 am, Strong Living Exercises, S. Ctr. <b>24</b> 10:30 am, Yoga, S. Ctr. 1-4 pm, Bridge Group, BACC 1:30 pm, Writing Workshop, S. Ctr.	8:45 am, Strong Living Exercises, S. Ctr. <b>25</b> 10 am, Stitches & Stories knitting and crocheting group, S. Ctr. 6-7:30 pm, Yoga Class, BACC 7 pm, Planning Board, TH	8:45 a.m. Br 10-11:30 a 7 pm, Insura Meeting
<b>30</b>	8:45 am, Strong Living Exercises, S. Ctr. <b>31</b> 10:30 am, Yoga with Fran, S. Ctr. 4-8pm, Halloween Party, BACC		

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# Calendar for October 2005

WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			<b>1</b> 11am-1pm, Writing Group, BACC
<b>5</b> Bradford Striders, S. Ctr. Yoga Class, BACC Yogurt Poets, BML	<b>6</b> 10:30 am-Noon Foot Massage with Betty Perron, S. Ctr. 6:30-8:30 pm, Painting Class, BACC 6 pm, Cemetery Commission, Call 938-5539	<b>7</b> 8:30 am Trip to Squam Lake, S. Ctr. 8:45 am, Strong Living Exercises, S. Ctr. 10 am - 12 pm, Card Sharks, S. Ctr. 7 pm, Movie discussion, BML	<b>8</b> 9 am-2 pm, Book Sale, BML
<b>12</b> Bradford Striders, S. Ctr. Yoga Class, BACC Bradford Historical Society special meeting with Linebaugh, BACC	<b>13</b> 5-7pm, Bradford Area Community Center, Governance Board, BACC 6:30-8:30 pm, Painting Class, BACC	<b>14</b> 8:45 am, Strong Living Exercises, S. Ctr. 10 am-12 pm, Card Sharks, S. Ctr. 10-11:30 am, "Continental Breakfast Café", S. Ctr. 7:30 pm, Soo-Nipi Audubon Chapter slide show, St. Andrews Episcopal Church, New London	<b>15</b> 11am-1pm, Writing Group, BACC 1-3 pm, Senior Council, BACC 5:30 pm, Kearsarge Area Preschool Movie Night, BACC
<b>19</b> Bradford Striders, S. Ctr. Yoga Class, BACC "Women Who Make a Difference" Luncheon, Center at Grantham, 526-4077 Arts & Recreation, BACC	<b>20</b> 11 am-12:30 pm, Blood Pressure & Foot clinic, BACC 6:30-8:30 pm, Painting Class, BACC	<b>21</b> 8:45 am, Strong Living Exercises, S. Ctr. Trip to Charlestown Bus departs 9:30 am. 10 am-12 pm, Card Sharks, S. Ctr. 7 pm, "Number Please" program with Judi Moyer, BML	<b>22</b> 10 am, AOA (Active Older Adults) Club. Walk around Blaisdell Lake. Meet at the Senior Center
<b>26</b> Bradford Striders, S. Ctr. Yoga Class, BACC Finance Committee Public Hearing, KRES-Bradford	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 8:45 am, Strong Living Exercises, S. Ctr. Trip to Charlestown Bus departs 9:30 am. 10 am-12 pm, Card Sharks, S. Ctr. 10-11:30 am, "Continental Breakfast Café", S. Ctr.	<b>29</b> 11 am-1 pm, Writing Group, BACC

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## Food for Thought: A Storm of Our Own.

by Mike Quinn

In my work as a communications professional, I help organizations work through crises caused by real or alleged actions taken by leadership or employees.

The worst damage is inflicted when outbound communications with employees, volunteers, stakeholders and the public are mishandled or left to chance.

That's why the selectmen's assertion that the health insurance issue would cause damage to Bradford's reputation caught my attention. They are absolutely right but, sadly, most of the real damage will occur right here in Bradford not in the *Concord Monitor*, *Union Leader*, or other towns.

During crises, the first group to feel disenfranchised is closest to the organization, whether employees, board members, volunteers or customers. Here in Bradford, the backlash will come from residents. Newer residents, who moved here based on decisions they made related to quality of life here, will have a more marked reaction.

The longer a situation drags on without resolution and with no specific communication from leadership; the more erosion in participation at committee meetings, town forums, town

meetings and elections we'll see.

That is not a good scenario for Bradford. As time goes by and citizen participation dwindles we will be faced with the prospect of having relatively few residents making decisions for the entire town. (I understand that it happens now, but it will get even worse.)

I've been told that when I've lived here 20 years I will still be considered a newcomer, so here's some professional advice for the town and its residents. Bradford needs to actively invite, e.g. with a letter to each home, residents to a moderated forum to hear about the issue and air their opinions. The town should also form a committee to recommend steps that will markedly improve the manner in which the town keeps residents informed and engaged in town affairs.

Neither side in this issue have had the appropriate opportunity to discuss their views and concerns first-hand with a meaningful number of Bradford residents. Until that occurs, we cannot move forward as a community.

*Mike Quinn is a writer living in Bradford. If you have comments or column ideas, please contact him at michaelquinn@tds.net or 938-5676.*

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# Real Estate Hints:

## HGTV Wannabe?

by *Laura Hallaban*



One of the most popular cable channels is Home and Garden Television, which features shows about designing, decorating and home improvement. Many of these shows inspire us to try our hand at home improvement projects and become a so-called DIYer, for do-it-yourself. It looks fairly easy on television, but not all of us have the skills and talent to pull it off. Mistakes often turn a low cost home improvement project into a more expensive and time-consuming venture. Recently, a group of well-known construction and home improvement experts was asked to select their top ten DIY mistakes.

**GETTING A PERMIT.** Always call the Building Inspector (if there is one) or stop at town hall to see what is required. You want to be sure the job is done right and for some jobs you may need proof of the permit for your insurance carrier.

**PREPARING THE JOB SITE.** Many projects will require that materials be delivered and you want to be sure to protect those materials until they are needed. Keep anything stored outside out of the elements. Also remember where your septic tank is located in case a truck needs to cross your property to deliver materials.

**SKIMPING ON MATERIALS.** Buy the best quality tools you can afford and do the job right. When building walls, use drywall that is the correct thickness and the same applies to plywood for subfloors, especially if you're installing wood floors over them.

**USING THE WRONG PAINT.** If you don't know the difference between paint finishes, ask your local hardware store salesperson for help. Typically, flat paint is only for ceilings and interior paint should have

an eggshell or satin finish so it can be cleaned. A linseed oil-based stain helps preserve the wood.

**PREPARING THE WALLS INCORRECTLY.** Take the time to clean the walls, sand them and patch any holes before you begin painting. If you're putting a lighter color over a darker one, you may need a coat of primer first.

**NOT BEING SAFE ON THE JOB.** Wear safety goggles when using power tools or working with drywall or other materials. A mask is a must if you are concerned about airborne particles or breathing in fumes. A hard hat should be worn when on scaffolding and remember to wear gloves and avoid loose clothing.

**INACCURACY.** It is easy to err on the side of being too long — you can always make something shorter. When building walls, hanging drywall, cutting countertops or pipe, it is critical to measure twice and cut once to avoid errors.

**KNOWING WHEN TO BRING IN AN EXPERT.** Don't be too proud to bring in the big guns if you realize you are over your head. Before you remove that supporting wall, for example, consult an engineer or a builder just to be safe.

### Recent Sales in Bradford

- \* 127 Old Warner Road, Ranch on 2.2 acres for \$180,000
- \* Lot 1, Blaisdell Lake Road, New Cape w/attached garage on 2.35 acres for \$268,000
- \* 28 West Main Street, Antique Greek Revival on 0.62 acres for \$265,000
- \* Route 103, 2.8 acres w/frontage on Warner River for \$40,000
- \* 195 West Road, 10.2 acres w/pole barn for \$100,000

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## Bradford Country Squares

The Bradford Country Squares will host a Mainsteam/Plus Square Dance at the Kearsarge Regional Elementary School in Bradford, NH, from 8-10:30PM on Saturday, October 15th. The callers are Mike Pettibon and Matt Auger, locally well known as "Double Trouble". The cuer will be Jennie Frisella. Cost of admission is \$5 and refreshments will be served. For more information or directions, you may call Bob Trombley at 603-763-3044. Spectators are free and always made welcome.

## Kearsarge Area Rocket Society

The Kearsarge Area Rocket Society (KARS) announces a model rocket launch in Warner on Oct. 15th from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Rain date is Oct 22nd.

The rocket launch is open to all. For directions and further information, consult the KARS web site at [www.KARSNH.org](http://www.KARSNH.org). Or call 938-5129.

—Mike Bellino, KARS President

## KRSD News

As I write this, school is just under way in the Kearsarge District, but so too is planning for the next year and years to come! Our September 1st meeting involved a preliminary look at next year's budget with administrators presenting their requests to the Board. While I type this, the one-inch thick document is sitting next to me, awaiting my review and questions or concerns I may have.

Planning beyond next year is also an important task. I have been working on a population sub-committee which tries to establish what our enrollment might look like across the district for the next decade and beyond. Did you know that in Bradford alone there are nearly a dozen subdivision proposals that have been approved or are potentially in the pipeline? Or that there are large amounts of acres that are being marketed or sold that have



development potential? The secret is out—Bradford is a nice place to live and raise a family. Growth is a district-wide issue as Warner and Sutton continue to

feel pressure from greater Concord while Springfield and Wilmot are squeezed from the Hanover area. I wish I had a crystal ball, but short of that we will work with all the data available from state agencies, regional planning commissions and elsewhere to try and create an estimate based on real data and models.

Upcoming meetings, which are always open to the public, are on Thursday nights. October 20th and November 3rd are the next scheduled meetings. Both are at 7 p.m. at the High School. Also, the revised website is up and running and can be found at [www.kearsarge.k12.nh.us](http://www.kearsarge.k12.nh.us) and has lots of useful information. As always, please contact me with questions or concerns.

## Sunapee Lake Grange Launches Uninsured Prescription Assistance Campaign

Public and Private Programs Could Help Rural Americans Save on Prescription Drugs

South Newbury, NH, August 26, 2005 - The Sunapee Lake Grange today announced that they are working with Pfizer and the National Grange to launch The Grange Uninsured Prescription Assistance Campaign. The campaign will educate uninsured Americans about new programs that make it simple and easy to get meaningful savings on their prescription medicines.

The awareness campaign will provide information about industry programs including the Partnership for Prescription Assistance (PPA) and Pfizer's own program ñ Pfizer Helpful Answers. The PPA, launched earlier this year, provides a simple way to gain access to more than 275 public and private prescription assistance programs.

Last year, Pfizer enhanced its commitment to helping uninsured patients get the Pfizer medicines they need by introducing Pfizer Helpful Answers. Pfizer

Helpful Answers provides a single place for all of Pfizer's assistance programs that offer uninsured Americans, regardless of age or income, access to Pfizer medicines.

"The pharmaceutical industry has taken a big step on behalf of the uninsured in our communities. Programs like the Partnership for Prescription Assistance and Pfizer Helpful Answers can provide meaningful help for people without prescription insurance struggling to afford their medicines," Carol Fortune, Master of Sunapee Lake Grange said.

Sunapee Lake Grange will make fact

sheets available at the Bradford Area Community Center, and the libraries in Bradford, Newbury, Warner and Sutton. The public is welcome to take as many as they wish and are encouraged to pass them along to uninsured family and friends.

For more information on this awareness campaign and to find out where fact sheets are available near you, please contact the National Grange at 1-888-447-2643, extension 116.

—Edythe Craig

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# Letters to the Editor

## Letter to the Editor

How blessed our children are to have the dedicated volunteers that staff the BNSYS Baseball/Softball programs.

While walking past the fields on Old Warner Road I saw a volunteer hobbling around trimming the fields. Joe Torro is a role model for all volunteers. He did not let recent foot surgery keep him from maintaining the fields for the games. God bless you, Joe, for all you do for our children in the local areas.

Thank you to all the volunteers in all sports for their dedication from a sports loving Grandma.

—Dawn Rich

## To The Editor:

The recent findings/recommendations of the Bradford Insurance Committee and several follow-up stories in local and statewide newspapers about our selectmen's insurance benefits raises many questions about process, accountability and the need for transparency in decisions of and by local government. A *Concord Monitor* editorial fairly noted that while the awarding of insurance benefits to our selectmen was technically legal, the manner in which that process was carried out leaves some question as to whether or not the people of Bradford were properly advised and aware of what exactly was being voted on. Our selectmen are not criminal but our health care system is.

While a public forum is being planned for later this month and a report being prepared to further examine this situation at the March Town Meeting, it is important to think about how woefully inadequate our national health care system is and why we, one of the most progressive and democratic nations in the world, have not developed a rational public policy that affords all of our citizens adequate, affordable health care. Indeed, we are able and should be committed to providing every citizen in our great country with health care regardless of ability to pay and without bankrupting life long savings and the

legacy we leave to our children. Every employee of our town and each of us should have access to health care benefits, not just those savvy enough to go around the system, a system that needs examination and reform. We affirmed by resolution, at a March Town meeting two years ago, that we, the citizens of Bradford, believed that adequate health care was a basic right for all of us. Let's continue thinking about and working together toward making that resolution a reality.

—Beth Rodd

## Letter to the Editor

Did you do it? Last month I wrote about joining the foster parent training classes. I know many of you have been thinking about it for years. Now is a good time to look into it. School has begun and our summer holidays are over. Unfortunately, child abuse and neglect take no holidays and your help is needed now! Call your local Concord DCYF foster care worker at 1-800-322-9191.

—Jan Feuer, intake specialist  
NH Foster & Adoptive Parent Assoc.

## Letter to the Editor

To put it mildly, I am very upset with what has transpired these few weeks in my beloved Bradford. Many of you know that Sue and I have a special place in our hearts for the towns people of this town.

I would like to respond to the "Insurance Committee" report that was published in the *Bradford Bridge*.

In the "*Bridge*" it states that ..." the Insurance Committee was formed and given the charge to investigate the entire issue of health benefits offered by the Town of Bradford..." When I heard of this, I thought it was a good idea. When the report was published I was shocked and very disappointed.

I feel that there are many distortions and invalid assumptions in the body of the report. My comments follow:

The statement, "The only public disclosure to the citizens of Bradford that

medical benefits were being extended to elected officials .... came as a result of a question by a citizen", is true. I, as Chairman of the Board of Selectman at that time, was prepared to ask the Budget Committee Chairperson Diane Gadoury, to "speak to the question".. Before I had a chance to do that, the Moderator, Dan Coolidge, recognized Chris Frey. If you listen to the tape of the town meeting and read the transcript, Chris said, "...I would like to know why they decided to extend health insurance to all elected officials this year?" Does the statement from the committee infer that since the "...only public disclosure..." came from a "citizen", that this was improper?

The committee has decided that the answers to that question by Diane Gadoury were "vague and the item glossed over". Again, if you listen to the tape, you will find that an additional comment was given by Cheryl Behr, Administrative Assistant, explaining the reason for the addition of benefits. It is interesting to note that the transcript of the 2002 meeting was not included as an addendum to their report. Nor does Cheryl's comments appear anywhere in the report. If the transcript had been in the report, anyone would have seen that the explanations were, in fact, quite clear.

How the insurance committee could construe that the discussion was "vague" and "glossed over" is beyond me. It should be noted that no one on the committee attended the town meeting that night. That meeting was one of the shortest meetings on record and the item discussed consumed more time than any other line item that evening. Just ask anyone that was there and check the tape. It is available at the town offices. Did the insurance committee ask anyone who took the time to attend the meeting that night in 2002 if they felt that it was "glossed over?" There is no mention of interviewing any of the 175 or so attendees at that meeting in

*continued on page 18*

Letters

cont. from page 17

of the 175 or so attendees at that meeting in their report.

The *Union Leader* made a sone sentence statement in one of their articles which read, "Some residents have contended that they did not have a problem with the benefits." At least the *Union Leader* asked some residents, even though they "glossed over" the residents' response.

One minute the Insurance Committee is claiming in the newspaper that the town has paid for insurance without the residents knowing it, then on the other hand in their report, they acknowledge that it was discussed.

The only real problem is that the discussion was not to their liking. It was, in fact, proper and adequate. If not, I would assume that at least one of the 175 residents attending the meeting would have asked more questions. Is the insurance committee inferring that the attendees were asleep?

For committee member Tandy Hartford to be quoted in the 'Union

Leader" with the statement, "It is a small town, but it is an ugly truth" amazes me. Did she go to the newspaper to break the shocking (?) story? Why would anyone say such a thing?

The committee states, " A formal response to these recommendations is requested within fourteen ( 14 ) days.". The board did as requested.

Gary Wall, Chairman of the Insurance Committee, didn't like the response, so it is stated in the "Argus Champion" newspaper as follows, " In response to the report, said Wall, the selectman "basically told us to pound sand". Could anyone envision any member of the Board of Selectman even inferring that ! The various statements to the news media makes one wonder what the agenda of the insurance committee really is? Is their goal to take down the selectman and embarass the town? They have lost their credibility.

I am asking the towns people of Bradford to reject the report as biased and incomplete. The report appears to be a direct attack on the integrity of the

selectman, not a review of the benefits that elected officials receive. If you are not satisfied with the job your selectman are doing then use the town meeting and warrant articles as the avenue to change things. Volunteer for the boards in town and get involved.

As far as the 3 individuals on the Board of Selectman, Peter Fenton, Bruce Edwards and Dave Pickman, you could not find a more dedicated, honest hard working group of men. Dave has been a selectman, Rescue Squad founding member and has been on many town boards through out the years. Pete has been on the Rescue Squad for over 20 years and town board committee member and Bruce has been an EMT for several years on the Bradford Rescue Squad. They have been volunteers and given thousands of hours of their time to benefit their neighbors. They are caring, honest people. They do not deserve being accused of any wrong doing.

—Dick Vitale, former selectman

# BRADFORD COMMUNITY SUPPORT PROGRAM

Until further notice, for anyone listing and selling their home through us OR buying a house (any house listed with any agency), using CENTURY 21 Red Coat Realty as their "buyer's agent," we will **DONATE \$250.00\*** in their name, to the Community Support Group of their choice, listed below.

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## Learn To Skate Program

The Henniker Youth Hockey Association is encouraging anyone interested in learning to skate, or learning the fundamentals of playing hockey to join their upcoming Learn To Skate and Initiation to Hockey programs. The Learn to Skate Program begins November 5th. The Initiation to Hockey program begins November 19th. To learn more about the programs or to register for the programs contact Kelly Bourque at 529-1926.

—Randy Wheeler, PR Director

## Soo-Nipi Audubon Chapter

Please join NH Fish and Game wild life biologist, Jill Kelly, at the Soo-Nipi Audubon Chapter program, Friday, October 14, 7:30 p.m., St. Andrews Episcopal Church, Gould Road, New London, for her slide presentation: "Pine Marten."

Marten, a state threatened species, are subnivean hunters (hunt beneath the snow) and are especially adapted to conditions found in the north woods.

Jill has been studying marten for the past 3 years and will talk about the research she's been doing examining the relationship between marten, fisher, people, forest cover and snow in New Hampshire.

This program is open to the public and refreshments will be served. For more information please call Fred Sladen at 525-4321.

A field trip sponsored jointly by the Soo-Nipi Audubon Chapter and the Mascoma Audubon Chapter to the Dead Creek National Wildlife Refuge, south of Burlington, to see thousands of snow geese, plus many other waterfowl and possibly some shorebirds and hawks, will take place on Saturday, October 22, 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Participants should meet at the J.C. Penney parking lot in West Lebanon at 7:30 a.m. For details contact Joy Bockius at 456-2480.

—Myra La Pierre

## Obituary

**ROBERT A. PERRON**

Robert A. "Butch" Perron, 44, died Tuesday, August 16, 2205, from injuries sustained in an automobile accident.

He was the beloved son of Nelson J. Perron and stepmother Betty Perron of Bradford.

Robert was born in Franklin. He attended schools in Chichester and Pembroke Academy. Following high school he attended NH Technical institute in Laconia for computer graphics.

Robert leaves his wife, Sandra Perron of Glendale, AZ; daughters Sierra and Brandy; and a son, Jason. He also leaves siblings, Rose Turner of Arkansas, Nelson F. Perron of Concord, Rhonda Dubois of Gilford, and Robin Floyd of Franklin; stepsisters, Peg Batstone of Belmont, Phyllis Mayville of Weare, Susan Barksdale of Manchester and Rebecca Bryan of Dallas; and stepbrothers in Texas and laconia. His mother lives in Texarkana, Arkansas.

Robert loved hunting, fishing and other outdoor activities.

Memorial donations may be made to the American Cancer Society, 360 Route

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## South Newbury Church

The South Newbury Union Church will host a Roast Beef Dinner on Saturday, October 22nd from 5-7 p.m. at the Friendship House in South Newbury (corner of Village and Sutton Roads),

Adults \$9, ages 6-11 \$4.50, and under 6 are free. Take out available, Raffle, Handicap accessible. Call 938-2064.

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## First Baptist Church News

*From Lynne E. Hubley*

**WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN GUILD;** Ladies will meet Friday, October 7 at 11:30 a.m. at the Fisk House to roll bandages and enjoy a potluck luncheon

**AMERICAN BAPTIST WOMEN'S MINISTRIES;** Ladies will meet Wednesday, October 12 at 7:00 p.m. for a Dedication of White Cross items. Refreshments will be served.

**FORTY DAYS OF PURPOSE:** Each Sunday in October, our worship services will focus on one of the biblical purposes outlined in Rick Warren's book, "The Purpose Driven Life". Service is at 10:00 a.m. The Sunday school children will also be studying the same theme in their classes.

**FORTY DAYS OF PURPOSE;** The following small groups are available for people to study the purposes in more depth. During the month of October: Sunday mornings at 8:45 a.m. at the Fisk House. Tuesday evenings at 6:45 p.m. at the home of Luci & Michael Koban (938-2680 for directions). Wednesday mornings at 9:30 a.m. at the home of Vicki Schubert (763-2232 for directions. and Thursday evenings at 6:45 p.m. at the the Fisk House. Facilitated by Julie Friedline.

**MOM'S GROUP:** Each Wednesday during the month of October, the moms will meet at the home of Vicki Schubert at 8:45 a.m. Babysitting will be available.

**MEN'S FELLOWSHIP:** Men will meet at the home of Fred & Lynne Hubley on Wednesday, October 19 at 7:00 p.m. for pool, refreshments and fellowship.

**ANNUAL MEETING;** The annual meeting of the church will be held on Sunday, October 23 immediately following the worship service. A light luncheon will be served.

**SPIRITUAL RETREAT;** We will be going to Singing Hills, a retreat center in Plainfield, New Hampshire for a spiritual retreat beginning Friday, October 28 at 6:00 p.m. through Saturday, October 29 at 1:00 p.m. We will be discovering Spiritual Gifts, enjoy music and fellowship. The cost is \$43.00 per person. Anyone who wants to rent sheets, there is an additional cost of \$5.00.

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# Outside

by J. Ann Eldridge

It did appear to the goshawk that a bright red pickup was following her down Between the Mountains road into Newbury. Vehicles do not smell, sound, or move in a predatory fashion, but this looked suspicious. She swooped down from the maple, dipping low to the road and veering up to another roadside maple to check on progress. The Toyota remained in clumsy, persistent pursuit. She (I think it was a she) swooped and veered five or six times before, nearing the farm, she took a hard right over the pasture. The Toyota did not follow. The bird filed this information for future encounters.

I am not a serious birdwatcher, but it does seem that the Northern Goshawk used to be a fairly unusual sight to see. Guidebooks state that these, the largest of the three accipiters in North America, periodically invade in years when their Canadian food supplies of ruffed grouse and snowshoe hare are in cyclical decline. We haven't been taking accurate census for long though. It is possible that before the demise of the passenger pigeon and the big woods, these fast-moving woodland acrobats were more common in New England. In the 1700 and 1800s, when this area was heavily invested in sheep, hay and crops, perhaps the more widespread Sharp-shinned and Cooper's hawk were ascendant. The sheep left and farms are mostly gone. By the mid-1800s the landscape was filling back up with people and forests.

The three related raptors, Sharp-shinned, Coopers, and Goshawk are not marathon runners like the falcons, nor do they soar like the buteos (the familiar Broadwing and Red-tail hawks). These are sprinters, known for their ferocious dashes through the woods after their mostly avian prey. All three species are similar in coloration and form having short, roundish wings adapted for maneuvering in heavy brush. The dramatically long tail assists as a rudder.

If one were to wander within a hundred yards of a goshawk nesting site, you would realize it immediately. They are remarkably and effectively aggressive in defense of their homeland. They must have their reasons for this extravagant energy expenditure. And for reasons unknown to us, among birds that hunt birds, the female is much larger and more belligerent than the male, a reversal of the usual pattern among animals.

Sharp-shinned, Coopers, and Goshawk are notoriously in-

distinguishable. My casual reading of early natural history accounts has given me the impression that by the time the European newcomers had enough breathing space to try to seriously catalogue their surroundings, regular folk were calling most any raptor a 'chicken hawk', even those that did not dine on the recently arrived and seriously inept domestic chicken. The goshawk is one that actually does enjoy poultry and is big enough to take them.

Accurate statistics are only recently possible with the evolution of readily available binoculars, spare time, and the printing press. Before easy access to a decent pair of binoculars, the quickest way to learn about wildlife taxonomy was to kill the subject. In the case of the goshawk, a study of nest, eggs or defenseless young often seemed to involve the clubbing or shooting of the aggressive parent birds. At least that's how accounts of birdwatching a century ago read. With the widespread awareness that it is possible to run out of animals, we have taken another tack.

Today's investigation of a goshawk's nest involves the advanced construction of a blind in hopes of acclimating the distressed goshawks to its presence. In a ruse designed to distract the birds, a horde of trained specialists and interns create a commotion while a volunteer is quickly buried under leaves at the base of the nesting tree. This hardy, helmeted and well-padded soul is draped with a collapsible mist net and equipped with an owl decoy and tape recorder. Leaving behind this human snare along with a scout at the blind, the remaining humans march off, hoping the crazed and angry goshawks cannot count. After suitable period of tranquility, the artificial owl is activated. With luck, the larger, more aggressive female dives to the attack and is safely entangled in the netting. The specialists, including a certified tree climber, quickly return. Adult and juvenile goshawk are gently measured, banded and released. This technique has led to an increasing body of knowledge about the habitat, range, and thus survival chances of this red-eyed 'gray ghost' of the woods.

There may be yet another, simpler way to see goshawks and that is to own chickens.





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## Many Services Available for Children at VNA

Although you may not think about children when you think of a visiting nurse agency, Pediatric Services are a vital part of the care provided by the Lake Sunapee Region Visiting Nurse Association (LSRVNA), from prenatal care for high risk pregnancies to pediatric hospice services. Newborn visits are offered in order to assess the health of mother and baby, and to provide a lactation consultation for mothers who choose to breast feed. Well child clinics are available from infancy through adolescence, and monitor each child's development, immunizations and general health status. In addition to programs for healthy children, LSRVNA is committed to caring for acutely and chronically ill children with asthma, cancer, cystic fibrosis, brain injuries, diabetes, congenital heart disease and other serious conditions. "Caring for these children in their own home is so important for the child and the entire family. It eliminates stressful,

time-consuming trips to the hospital, and allows children to be treated where they are most secure" says Corinne McCandless, Pediatric Case Manager. The program also offers comprehensive end of life care with pediatric hospice, palliative care and bereavement support services. Keeping all individuals at home for as long as possible, including children, is at the core of the LSRVNA's mission.

In addition to medical issues, there is a growing demand for social services responding to housing, parenting education, nutrition, transpor-

tation and many other needs. "Because of the complexity of care, the pediatric team consists of skilled professionals including RNs, LPNs, Medical Social Workers, Registered Dietitians and Physical, Occupational and Speech Therapists" says McCandless.

For more information, please contact LSRVNA at 603-526-4077. The agency is located at 107 Newport Road in New London.

—Cathy Raymond, LSRVNA



## From your Police Department...

As summer comes to a close we have a number of on going investigations underway. This has had an impact on time and activity. The price of gasoline has also had a substantial impact on the way we conduct business.

One of the offenses we have seen more of recently is Issuing Bad Checks under New Hampshire RSA 638:4. If a you receive a check back from a bank marked for insufficient funds you will need to send a 14 day demand letter return receipt requested through the USA Postal Service. Upon return of the either the receipt or the letter undelivered you can then report the matter to the local police. The exception to this rule is if the original check was issued on a closed account. When a check is issued on a closed account then prosecution can begin immediately.

Things the officer will need to know when reporting a bad check. Where was the check passed, who passed or issued the check and how that person

was identified, and who accepted the check. Where is usually pretty easy as most of our reports come from businesses. I would suggest that if you do not know the person that you ask for a photo ID. You will also need to document how you identified the person. The person accepting the check should also document that they accepted the check and the date and time would be helpful.

While recovering your money and costs is important to your police department once prosecution has begun we will need your assistance and continued cooperation. The police and courts can not be used as collections agencies.

If you have any questions regarding a bad check please feel free to call the Bradford Police Department 938-2522.

—Jim Valiquet  
Chief of Police

## Town Clerk

The office will be closed on Friday, October 7 for training and on Monday, October 10 for the holiday.

### VITAL STATISTICS

August 1, 2005 Arline Garneau died in Bradford

August 13, 2005 Porter Bradley and Katy Richardson were married in Bradford

August 20, 2005 Stephen Manley and Diane McIntyre were married in Bradford

## Tax Collector

Hopefully, the tax rate will be set by the end of October. The tax bills will be sent out as soon as the rate is set.

Any questions should be directed to the Selectmen's Office.

*The Town Clerk & Tax Collector's office is open Mondays from noon to 7 p.m., Tuesdays, 7 to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30-5 p.m., and Fridays, 8 a.m. to noon. Call 938-2288 or fax us at 938-2094.*



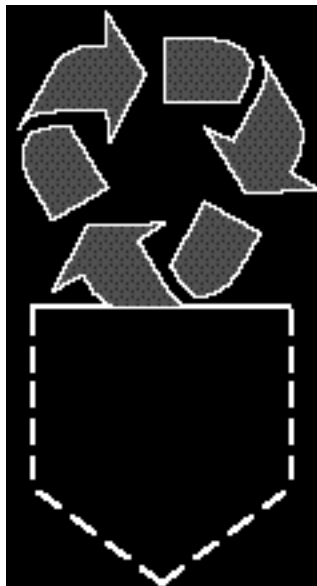
Photo by Zack Glennie.

*Bill Glennie (right) and his daughter Charlotte, exhausted but exhilarated, greeted by Bindy, as they arrive with their tandem at the top of Mount Washington. The Mount Washington Bicycle Hill Climb, which is one of the most challenging bicycle events in the world, took place on August 20th. Charlotte and Bill were the fifth tandem to finish. Although they walked about a third of the 7.6 mile distance, they made it. The weather at the summit that day was 42 degrees, a sleetng rain and 40 mph wind gusts.*

*from the Transfer Station...*

## Kenny's Rycycling Factoids

- If 10% of Americans purchased products with less plastic packaging, just 10% of the time, we could eliminate some 144 million pounds of plastic from the waste stream.
- The average American adult recieves 41 pounds of junk mail a year. Call 1-914-758-1400 and stop junkmail forever.
- Try composting. The average American family produces 1,400 pounds of organic garbage every year.
- Pre-cycle: Buy eggs in paper cartons, not styrofoam.
- Try to reduce the amount of hazardous products you use. Buy exactly what you need. Share leftovers with friends. Buy Behr Paint, the container is plastic which is more environmentaly friendly to dispose of.
- Buy nickel cadnium batteries and recharge them.



## Classifieds

**FOR SALE:** Four studded snow tires 175 / 70 R14 Wintermaster Plus tubeless steel belted radials driven only 10,000 miles. \$100.00 Call 938-2820

**LARGE ELM TREE** - Yours for the cutting and clean up. Rowe Mt. Rd. Call 938-5281

**CANOE FOR SALE** 14' fiberglass no leaks \$75 Call 938-2960

**FOR SALE:** Yamaha PSR27 Keyboard with all the bells and whistles, excellent condition, \$50.00. Tool Chest MAC Tools Economizer 2000, cost \$1200.00 will sacrifice for \$500.00. Contact Tracy at 938-6196.

**ESTATE & BARN SALE.** Saturday, October 15th, 9-4, Sunday, October 16th, 9-12. Windswept Farm, 311 Fairgrounds Road, Bradford. Rain or shine. No early birds. Antiques, furniture, collectibles, tools, farm & garden items and much more!

**FOR SALE:** Pioneer Stereo, like new \$100; Lane recliner, blue, 1 year old, like new \$300; Red fiberglass high rise truck cap for Chevy shortbed. Very nice shape; Queen sleep sofa with new extra mattress \$125. Call 938-2319 after 5 p.m.

To place a FREE classified ad of 40 words or less: please contact Carey Rodd at 938-

### Bradford Bridge

#### November 2005 Deadlines

Display ads, Classified ads, Regular Features and Articles are all due by October 15th.

To list events for the November Calendar—e-mail [bradfordbridge@mcttelecom.com](mailto:bradfordbridge@mcttelecom.com) by or before October 15th.

**Anything received after the deadline will be included only if time and space allows. If you are reporting on an event happening after the deadline, please call to reserve space**

Call NOW to reserve your ad space on our Calendar page. Great prices but we're filling up fast. Call 938-5509.