

THE  
**BRADFORD BRIDGE**

COMMUNITY NEWS BY NEIGHBORS FOR NEIGHBORS

Volume 15, Number 8; Issue 169

September 2005

## Bradford Insurance Committee Questions Selectmen's Benefits

Following the March 2005 town meeting, a committee was formed to examine the details of the health and dental insurance benefits being paid by the taxpayers of Bradford for the town selectmen. The benefits have been paid in full since 2002 although it is not clearly understood how the benefit was presented or voted on during the 2002 town meeting. Many questions arose concerning the 100% coverage for the selectmen (full-time Town employees pay 15% of their insurance costs) and the committee sought to examine the origins and impact of the policy on local taxpayers. Following is an interim report with recommendations that was read to the selectmen during an August 16th meeting. The selectmen were given fourteen days to reply:

Over the past four and a half months, the Insurance Committee established at the March 2005 Town Meeting, has been meeting on a regular basis and conducting a comprehensive



Gary Wall (l) reads the Insurance Committee Report to Bradford Selectmen (l to r) Dave Pickman, Bruce Edwards, Peter Fenton with Cheryl Behr, town administrator and many residents in attendance.

examination relative to the matter of Elected Officials within the Town of Bradford receiving paid health benefits. The following is the initial Summary Report and Recommendation(s) by this committee for the Selectmen to fully consider and take formal action there upon.

On March 1, 2005, a private citizen submitted a letter to the Selectmen of the Town of Bradford bringing forth questions with regard to the paid health insurance that the selectmen received. Upon request and receiving no formal response from the selectmen's office, the question was raised again about the policy that certain elected officials (the Selectmen) receive 100% taxpayer paid health and dental insurance coverage at the Bradford Town Meeting of March 9, 2005. Discussion of this matter centered on the question(s) of whether this policy was directly/formally voted at the 2002 Town Meeting and other questionable incidences surrounding its implementation. As a result of these questions and concerns, the Insurance Committee was formed and

given charge to investigate the entire issue of health insurance benefits offered by the Town of Bradford and paid for by the taxpayers.

As directed, this committee commenced with its directive and began meeting on March 24, 2005.

The mandate pursued by the Insurance Committee was to thoroughly research this subject, covering every aspect in-depth, in order to provide accurate factual analysis to clearly give the citizens of Bradford sufficient information and disclosure. To accomplish this task the committee first voted to expand from the original three members, who had volunteered at town meeting, to five in order to include more town government experience and a wider array of opinions. As a result, a former selectmen and current budget committee member agreed to join the committee. From the onset a representative of the selectmen's office has participated in this process.

The committee has completed the following tasks in its research and investigation:

- Reviewed and studied historical meeting

*continued on page 4*

## Vandals Deface Monuments At Pleasant Hill Cemetery



Scrawls of black spray paint marred eight headstones, the base of a tomb and a road sign after a person or persons vandalized Bradford's Pleasant Hill Cemetery last month.

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THE  
**BRADFORD  
BRIDGE**



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Graphic Design by SmartWoman & Co.

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**Advertising**

*The Bradford Bridge* is a free community newspaper supported by advertisers. To place an ad, call Susie at 938-5509 or send a FAX to 938-2287. Be sure to specify it is for the *Bridge*. Ad deadline is the 15th 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. We reserve the right to edit submissions for length or content. Send articles or letters to Susie Janicki at *The Bradford Bridge* address, FAX number, or e-mail address above before or by the 15th of the month.

## New Leadership Brings *Bradford Bridge* Transitions

Sixteen *Bradford Bridge* supporters turned out for an information and brainstorming meeting held on August 11th. Editor Susie Janicki showed the group a new center spread calendar that will combine information from three calendars that previously appeared in the paper. It will include advertisements around the border - a bonus to advertisers whose information and phone numbers will be right at hand on many Bradford refrigerators each month, and to readers who want to support local businesses. Ads on the calendar spread will be \$10 for a one-inch ad, \$17 for a two-inch ad. Ad copy on the calendar spread may not be changed each month and a six-month minimum run is requested.

Regular advertising rates will be increasing to \$8 per column inch next month so that the paper can continue to be distributed free without sacrificing news space. Advertisers will have the option to pay an additional flat fee of \$3 for special placement if they wish to be guaranteed a particular spot in the paper, and \$10 additional for an ad on the back page.

Subscription rates will also be increasing to \$15.00 per year to cover increased mailing costs, assessed as each subscription is up for renewal.

Currently the *Bridge* needs an ad rep (or two) - someone who can make phone calls to current advertisers who change their copy monthly, and who can field inquiries from new advertisers. Though none of those present at the meeting felt they were the right candidate, a few suggestions were made... if you think YOU might be the right person, or think you know someone else who would enjoy the job, please contact Susie Janicki at 938-5509 or email bradfordbridge@mcttelecom.com. Training will be provided; all you need is a few hours and a cheerful outlook. Computer access is highly desirable.

Participants spent the bulk of the meeting discussing what sort of news the *Bridge* can and should cover. Volunteer correspondents are needed to cover town affairs - and "spies" are needed to alert the editorial board to the issues that need coverage. Mike Quinn, a professional writer who has been writing the "Food for Thought" column, agreed to take on some reporting assignments, and several members of the editorial advisory board have written articles for the September issue. Both Janicki and Quinn stressed the need for balanced reporting; the *Bridge* is not a partisan paper though individual contributors have personal viewpoints. More writers are needed - if you are interested in a local issue and want others to know what's going on, get to your keyboard and send us an email! Editorial help is available for timid writers; bring us the facts and we'll help you get them across effectively.

—Lyn Betz, President

*Bradford Bridge* Editorial Advisory Board

### BRADFORD BOARD OF SELECTMEN

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Bruce Edwards, Selectman

Dave Pickman, Selectman

Cheryl Behr, Town Administrator

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## 2nd Annual Bradford Fun Day Planned for September 24th

The second annual Bradford Fun Day sponsored by Bradford Parks and Recreation and the Kearsarge Area Preschool is scheduled for Saturday, September 24th, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., at the Brown Shattuck Field on Cilley Lane.



The festivities include live animals, crafts, face painting, beanbag toss, horseshoes, and badminton, while hamburgers, hot dogs and sausage grinders will be sold throughout the day at the food shack. Scheduled events include a pet show at 11 a.m. and archery at 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Music will begin at noon with the band Rampage Trio from Boston. There will be potato sack races at 12 noon and 1 p.m., and 3 legged races at 12:30 p.m and 1:30 p.m. The apple pie judging contest will start at 1:30 p.m. and the pie eating contest will begin at 2 p.m. Hay rides will also be scheduled throughout the day. At 3 p.m., the last event of the day will be Steve Thomas Magic, a unique blend of magic, mystery and illusion. So bring your lawn chairs and spend the day.

Non profit organizations and groups are encouraged to set up at this event to promote and solicit new members. Businesses, artists, and crafters are also encouraged to set up but a small fee will be required.

For more information about this event, please call Jarna at 938-6228 or 938-5545. A rain date has been set for Sunday, September 25th if necessary.

—Jarna Perkins

## ZBA Grants Special Exception

In a public hearing on August 16th, the (ZBA) Zoning Board of Adjustment in a 3-to-2 vote, granted an expedited special exception to DP Times Two Enterprises, LLC to proceed with its application for a proposed two-story, 80' X 80' "total fitness center" located on route 103 adjacent to the Union Cemetery (Winch's former farm). This property was within the residential district. There is a proposed one acre parking lot associated. The application will now go to the Planning Board for review.

—J. Ann Eldridge

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## Bradford Historical Society

We're holding a special public presentation at the Old Post Office next to the Bradford Transfer Station on Wednesday, September 28th at 7 p.m. The speaker will be Nancy Foley of Henniker who will talk about *Roads, People and Places* in the southwest part of Bradford bordering Henniker and Hillsborough.

Nancy is a Genealogist of the land and does historical and archival research. A former teacher, she is an eighteen year veteran of the Henniker Planning Board. Nancy has spent much of her life four wheeling on barely passable back roads with a sandwich and a come along.

Join us and hear her adventures from her research of farms, people, and their livelihoods from the past.

Refreshments will be served.

Update on the Marshall Cultural lot: the lot has been cleared and chipped. Next step: taming the water course. Expert or moderately expert advice is welcomed.

—Milly Kittredge



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## Selectmen's Insurance

*continued from front page*

records in order to determine the timeline and circumstances of the policy change effective in 2002.

- Reviewed Selectmen's meeting minutes.
- Reviewed Budget Committee records.
- Reviewed Town financial expense data to determine costs and impact.
- Interviewed various individuals who participated in the policy change, including present and former committee members, representatives of the Municipal Trust and the town administrator, in order to get a complete understanding of the circumstances.
- Reviewed the personnel policies of the Town of Bradford as well as those guidelines and options laid out by the Municipal Trust.
- Conducted a survey of 36 surrounding communities in order to compare the policies of the Town of Bradford with those of its neighboring towns.

2002 Bradford Town Meeting Records: The Insurance Committee reviewed the recording and transcript provided by the Bradford Town Administrator of the Town Meeting of 2002. The only public disclosure to the citizens of Bradford that medical benefits were being extended to elected officials at taxpayer expense came as a result of a question by a citizen. Disclosure did not come from the Elected Officials receiving the benefit or from the Budget Committee who allowed inclusion of the monies in the general line item being voted on. What information that was provided to the taxpayers of Bradford, by the chair of the Budget Committee, was vague and the item was glossed over and quickly voted as a general budget item. It should be noted that Dave Pickman, formerly of the budget committee and currently a selectman, spoke against this line item, suggesting the increase be voted down but unfortunately did not move to amend the line item to remove these monies. ED. NOTE: SELECTMAN PICKMAN DENIED REMEMBERING THIS AT THE PUBLIC MEETING

Selectmen's Records: The Insurance Committee reviewed all available Meeting Minutes of the Board of Selectmen from January 2001 through October 2002. There is no record or reference of consideration, investigation, discussion or public disclosure, nor legally recorded vote with regard to providing eligibility of insurance coverage to elected officials. Furthermore, there is not a vote of record that such

benefits would be provided to the elected officials at taxpayer expense, prior to the Town Meeting of 2002. However, immediately after the Town Meeting there are two references of record, 1) that the selectmen have voted to waive the normal waiting period for benefits for elected officials and, 2) the signing of the letter to the Municipal Health Trust informing them that the Town of Bradford has voted to extend benefits to elected officials. [Please refer back to above item that the town only voted to appropriate and spend, per budget line item, a specific amount of money on employee benefits for the year.] This for the first time included monies for the selectmen's medical insurance, but the vote was not a vote to extend benefits to elected officials.

The Insurance Committee could not review the meeting minutes or any other records of the Budget Committee regarding preparation of the 2002 budget as no records exist. The Insurance Committee was informed that no minutes are kept and the Meeting tapes are destroyed after two years.

It should be noted that various interviews were conducted with The Town's Administrator, Budget Committee members (active and inactive), Representatives of the New Hampshire Municipal Health Trust, and other Town officials that the committee deemed very helpful to the process.

The Insurance Committee prepared and sent out surveys to 36 contiguous communities of similar size and characteristics including Bradford requesting current information with regard to the practices and policies with respect to health benefits. Thirty-one (31), or 86% of the towns, have responded. Bradford elected to forego our request. The results are unanimous, 100% of all of the communities responding DO NOT PAY for any medical or other benefits to their selectmen. (This report and the complete survey results are available at the Town Hall as a matter of public record.)

Additionally, it was discovered that there are apparent inequities between full time employees (per Bradford Employee Benefits Manual defined as scheduled to work forty (40) hours per week) who receive 85% taxpayer provided benefit and part time elected officials who receive 100% taxpayer provided benefits.

The obvious conclusion of the Insurance Committee is that our Town policies are gravely out of line with the policies and

practices of other communities. It is clear and obvious that the benefit practices of Bradford are inequitable and demonstrate an unfair bias and favoritism towards elected officials within the town itself.

Additionally, the policy of 100% taxpayer provided benefits to Elected Officials can only be perceived as implemented in a highly questionable manner without regard to the citizens of Bradford.

The Insurance Committee recommends that:

1) The selectmen vote at the next officially scheduled meeting to discontinue the current policy immediately.

2) A warrant article be submitted for consideration at the 2006 Bradford Town Meeting that clearly defines, states and discloses:

i) Any recommended policy change.

ii) Who will be eligible to participate under the various Municipal Trust options:

iii) That the taxpayers of Bradford do not subsidize this benefit now or at any time in the future except as explicitly defined by the Town's personnel policy.

The Committee recommend that benefit eligibility be extended to the fullest extent possible and that those who work Full Time as defined by the Town of Bradford personnel policy receive the same 85% support but that all others participate at their own expense.

A formal response to these recommendations is requested within the next fourteen (14) days. The Insurance Committee retains the right and responsibility to the taxpayers of Bradford to pursue any course of action necessary, including seeking advice on this matter from the NH Attorney General's Office of Public Integrity to clearly outline the options available to the citizens of Bradford with regard to this issue."

*—Respectfully submitted,  
Bradford Insurance Committee  
Chairman: Gary Wall,  
Joseph Conway, Bruce Bowie  
Tandy Hartford, Perry Teele*

ED. NOTES: *The current cost to taxpayers for the current insurance plans for selectmen totals \$2,787.29 per month.*

*The Insurance Committee plans to hold a public forum sometime in October '05 and will be publishing a comprehensive report that will be available to the public prior to the 2006 Town Meeting. Contact Chair, Gary Wall for more info 938-2926.*

# Circuit Rider To The Rescue

The Central New Hampshire Regional Planning Commission provides the residents of our communities with the expertise of area Circuit Rider Planners, experts who assist local planning boards and members of the community with analysis and information to better understand the rules and regulations that guide planning boards in their task of reviewing and implementing ordinances related to growth and development in our towns. This can be a very daunting task for an individual or a planning board and the Circuit Rider Planner acts as an impartial navigator to interpret and move through various ordinances and regulations to guide us through the process of property related matters.



Colleen Lynch

On a recent summer morning, several people lined up at the Bradford Town Hall to discuss a variety of issues with Colleen Lynch, Bradford's Circuit Rider Planner. One man wished to subdivide his property and sought direction in planning the subdivision and preparing his request for the planning board. Another woman was concerned about a planned development that didn't seem to conform to the town's Master Plan guidelines. Still others inquired about variances, conservation concerns, subdivision regulations and questions about the impact of growth and development on the local environment. Often the planning board will refer a matter to the Circuit Planner Rider who

will study the issue in detail and provide an investigation and follow-up report with recommendations for the Planning Board's consideration. Colleen Lynch replaced former Planner, Lucy St. John, one month ago and seems to have an active schedule on this busy morning.

Colleen earned a Masters Degree in Resources, Economics and Policy with a focus on Community Development, from the University of Maine. She, and several other colleagues, are accustomed to juggling several interesting projects at once. Colleen is involved with

a Hazardous Mitigation Plan study in Canterbury, a Capitol Improvement Program in Deering and work on Bradford's Master Plan. Colleen can be found awaiting your questions and ready to lend a hand every Wednesday from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm at the Bradford Town Hall. She is a wealth of knowledge and expertise, waiting to assist residents of our town in deciphering the complexities of municipal ordinances that relate to property questions. We residents of Bradford were wise to allot a budgetary allowance at Town Meeting for the invaluable advice of this needed town service and are happy to welcome Colleen to Bradford as she guides us to the future. If you have questions, concerns or are bewildered about ordinances and regulations, drop by the town offices any Wednesday for enlightenment and guidance. Colleen Lynch will put you on the right track.

—Beth Rodd



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## Library Lantern

by Meg Fearnley

"There is not such a cradle of democracy upon the earth as the Free Public Library, this republic of letters, where neither rank, office, nor wealth receives the slightest consideration."

- Andrew Carnegie

It was a very busy summer at the library. We love to see all the summer residents and visitors. Non-resident library cards are available at a pro-rated fee depending on how many months the card is needed. Our public computers also see a lot of use in the summer with visitors checking their e-mails. Remember, you can always call ahead to reserve one hour of computer time.

The library is holding a book sale on Saturday, September 3rd from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. Lots of new donations have come in so don't miss it!

Our next book-to-movie discussion on *My Brilliant Career* by Miles Franklin will be on Friday, September 9th at 7 p.m. You don't have to read the book to come and

see the movie. Refreshments will be served.

A lot of new books have been added to your library in August. Here's just a sample-

FOR ADULTS:

*No Country for Old Men*  
 by Cormac McCarthy

*Long Time Gone* by J. A. Jance

*Shadows at the Spring Show*  
 by Lea Wait

*Trophy House* by Anne Bernays

*Temple Stream* by Bill Roorbach

*The Historian* by Elizabeth Kostova

AND FOR CHILDREN:

*Nora's Ark*  
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 by Kate Banks

*Gregor and the Curse of the Warmbloods* by Susan Collins

*The Penderwicks* by Jeanne Birdsall

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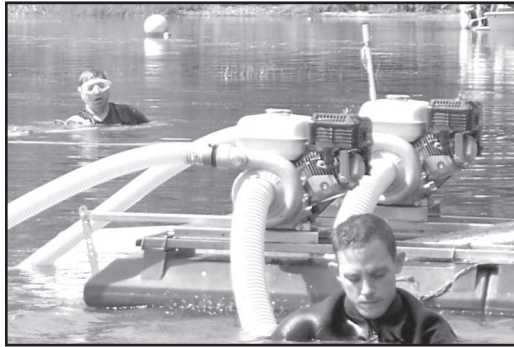
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## Massasecum Gets Help to Try and Foil Milfoil

On Monday, August 15th, an experimental project to remove milfoil by suction began in the north end of Lake Massasecum. Milfoil, for those less familiar with the lake, is an invasive species of an aquatic plant that was first located in Massasecum in 1996. Since then it has been confined to a 10 acre cove and the plant harvested by cutting it off at the base. The remainder of the Lake has been protected from infestation by netting off the area.



*Peter Forella (foreground) unclogs milfoil from the suction harvester with the help of diver Jeff Galvin of Chemfree Aquatics.*

a suction hose for the purpose of removing the milfoil plant, roots and all. The work will cover 16 plots, each 100' x 50'. Once the plots are cleared, some will be replanted with

*sclerolepis*, a plant native to the lake, while others will be left as is to determine what grows back.

The primary contractor, ENSR International, Willington, Connecticut, is the developer of the process. Chemfree Aquatics, Rochester, New

York is doing the removal, both under contract with DES. Amy Smagula from DES will oversee the project; the first use of this method of removal in a broad area.



*A short mornings' harvest of invasive milfoil sucked up and bagged from the lake bottom.*

*Photographs by Susan A. Janicki*

The work is scheduled to be completed in a two week period with subsequent inspections to monitor the results through the balance of this year and next year. If the process proves successful, DES may move to treat the remaining eight acres of the cove, the area presently closed off at the north end of the Lake.

*—Dick Keller*

## Bradford Conservation Commission Receives \$31,328 From Developer

The Town of Bradford received a payment of \$31,328 from developer Mike Carter on August 12th as part of the wetland mitigation agreement accepted by the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (DES) for the Solitude Ridge subdivision. This 22 building lot subdivision stretches between Fairgrounds and West Roads and has an extensive wetland system located on site. Under the terms of this permit, no additional disturbance to wetlands on the site was to occur before this compensatory payment and other conditions of the DES approval were met. The mitigation payment has been deposited in the Town's conservation fund, to be used to protect Bradford's natural resources.

As a rule, NH conservation commissions prefer prevention of wetlands destruction over mitigation settlements of this type. In this case, some disturbance had already taken place. Other mitigation options explored by the Conservation Commission included reconfiguration of the subdivision to better protect its wetlands, or the donation of land or easements to permanently protect other wetlands in the same watershed. These options proved impractical under the circumstances. Future developers will need to work more closely with the town and DES to ensure that procedures are followed to protect the water and other natural resources of the town.

*—J. Ann Eldridge*

ED. NOTE: THIS COMPENSATORY PAYMENT FOR ALTERATION OF WETLANDS WAS ERRONEOUSLY REPORTED RECENTLY IN THE *INTERTOWN RECORD* AS A VOLUNTARY DONATION.

## Building in Bradford

### July and August 2005

The Bradford building department issued permits for the following in July: two (2) new garages; three (3) new houses; an addition and a repair permit for the roof of the Fisk House.

August has so far been pretty quiet with just one permit issued for a new garage.

Lately we have been fielding several questions regarding building permit requirements. Building Inspector Chip Meany is compiling information straight from the code books in order to answer these questions. We will make the information available in a future issue of the *Bradford Bridge* as soon as possible so keep your eyes open.

Meanwhile, give us a call at the Town Hall.

*—Trudy Willett*

## Selectmen's Notes – July & August '05

The Board of Selectmen met on Tuesday, July 26, 2005 to open bids on the Center Road Drainage Project. Three bids were received and reviewed with Steve Lucier, Town Road Agent. The Board unanimously voted to accept the bid of JW Darrah LTD of Bow, New Hampshire. The work will begin as soon as the town receives the approved Wetlands permits. During the construction the portion of Center Road between the two ends of Cheney Hill Road will be closed. It is expected this will last for about three weeks. We hope the work will be concluded before School begins.

Dr. Carey Rodd has resigned as the Bradford Health Officer. The Board wishes to thank him for all his years of service to the Town in this capacity. The position of Health Officer carries with it a long list of responsibilities and demands. His help has been valuable and appreciated. Steve Lucier has agreed to accept the job of interim Health Officer.

Bradford Selectman Dave Pickman attended the dedication of the Newbury Town Hall and while there met Newbury's new Police Chief, Robert Lee.



**WARNER**—Nice older Cape with new updates and lots of old features. Wide pine floors, gunstock corners, beams, wainscoting, pantry, 2 baths, 2-3 bedrooms, **48 acres**, 30'x40' barn and lots of well-established plantings and perennials. Museum like quality.  
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The Bradford Property Sales Analysis has been completed by Avitar of Chichester, NH. All property owners should have received a book of parcel values in Bradford in the month of August. The public hearings and personal appointments will be held in early September. Please carefully review your values. These figures will be used to compute your property taxes in the future.

Many values increased sharply. The assessments are to represent the fair market value in today's very active real estate market. Sales of houses in the town are compared to earlier assessed values to determine if the condition has changed, if the structure has changed or if the base rate for square foot of construction has changed. The hope is to equalize all the values in the town along a clearly defined set of rules established by the State Department of Revenue. With the increased valuation, we should see a considerable drop in the tax rate.

The Board has supported an application for Transportation Enhancement funds filed July 29, 2005 for sidewalk, drainage and paving improvements on East and West Main Street extending down to the Post Office. The program is through the Department of Transportation and is funded by the Federal Government as an 80% match to town funds (20%). The total project is estimated at \$1,500,000, and if funding is received will be divided in two phases. The Town will need to approve any appropriation for the project at a future Town Meeting.

### Hillside Heating Air Conditioning & Refrigeration Service

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Bradford, NH 938-2454

In recent months, the Planning Board, Fire Department and the Board of Selectmen have had several issues regarding private bridges. This is a matter that must be addressed and with the increased real estate development in our town has come to the forefront. The primary concern of the Board of Selectmen is public safety and we urge you to consider your own property from the perspective of access by emergency vehicles. The early stages of construction are the best time for planning, however, even currently built homes should be evaluated by the homeowner for access. Please, don't wait until an emergency situation to test whether your home can be reached. House numbers are vital to locating the correct house, and adequate turning space will aid the emergency workers in providing you with the help you need.

The Police Department has received the new cruiser voted at town meeting last March. The new vehicle is titanium grey with a new decal style and low profile light bar. The Department hopes to paint the older cruiser to match and extend its life another year. The Police Department continues to provide the town with 24 hour police coverage. With the completion of his training, Officer Ed Shaunessy completes the police roster as our second full time patrolman.

The Selectmen continue to meet with the Insurance Committee, Planning Board, Needs Assessment Committee and Budget Committees. The Board is also busy with town legal matters and exploring updates to existing ordinances.

Next month the budget process will start again and plans for the coming year will be discussed. Should you have any specific ideas or requests you wish considered, please attend a regular Selectmen's Meeting and make your concerns known. The meetings are held the first and third Tuesday evenings of each month at 5 p.m. in the Town Hall. We encourage the public to attend and participate.

—Cheryl Behr, Town Administrator



## Planning Board Notes—August '05

CNDJ Development presented an escrow check in the amount of \$214,600 to cover the costs of road construction and installation of the fire fighting cistern. Since this was the final condition for approval of the Chestnut Hollow cluster subdivision off Forest Street, the mylar was signed and recorded at the Merrimack County Registry.

The Planning Board approved a site plan presented by Jim Bruss, Bruss Construction, on behalf of Lake Sunapee Bank depicting renovations to the building on Main Street. The project will provide handicap access and relocate the ATM machine. The driveway will become one way and parking spaces more clearly delineated. A fence will be erected for safety where the land drops off sharply on the western side of the property. Bruss assured the public that the Bank would continue to operate at its usual hours during construction. Conditions of the approval of the site plan require that copies of the revised plan be provided and that a property survey be completed within 12 months.

Carol Demers discussed the standards for running a home business versus the requirements for a site plan for her gift shop on Route 103. She will review the ordinance and decide whether to limit the outside display or apply for a site plan for commercial use of the property.

The application for Mapview Development on Old Warner Road was presented for acceptance by Robert Rook, P. E. and Mark Brunelle, owner. Rook

asked how to establish the buildable acreage of the property and was given a copy of the 2005 Zoning Ordinance that spells out the process. Lay out of a conventional subdivision using the buildable acreage is the basis for determining the number of lots that can be allowed for a cluster development. Brunelle was concerned that the cluster provisions may not provide sufficient flexibility for a cluster. He is proposing to construct 30 units in a cluster design with a "55 and over" restriction, which he feels will be an asset to the town. The Board discussed the application and the reviews provided by CNHRPC and Provan and Lorber and decided that the application is not complete at this time.

The mitigation donation for the Solitude Ridge Subdivision was provided to the Conservation Commission, as required by NHDES. This completes the State requirements and work can proceed in the wetlands area to be affected by the road construction.

Jane and Bill Lucas inquired what steps need to be taken in order to subdivide their property on Old Mountain Road into three lots where three houses are currently occupied by family members. It was pointed out that the property fronts on a Class VI road and Bradford's Subdivision Regulations prohibit subdividing land on such a road. The road would have to be brought up to standards and accepted by the Town before the Planning Board could entertain an application to subdivide. They were advised to talk with Colleen Lynch, the

circuit rider, at her regular hours (Wednesday 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.) to discuss what options are available to them.

—Marcia Keller

### HELP SHAPE BRADFORD'S FUTURE

*Tuesday September 27, 2005, 7 p.m.  
Bradford Town Hall  
Future Land Use & Community Vision*

The Planning Board, with assistance from the public, will review the draft Future Land Use Chapter and begin to shape the Community Vision. Add your voice and ideas to what Bradford should be and where and how it should develop.

Binders containing the on-going Master Plan Chapters are available for review at the Town Hall and at Brown Memorial Library. They can also be found on the Bradford website: [bradfordnh.com](http://bradfordnh.com). Click on Town Hall, Bradford Master Plan, then on the link to [chnrpc.org/bradfordmasterplan](http://chnrpc.org/bradfordmasterplan) at the top of the page.

Read what has been done to-date and join the on-going discussion. THIS IS YOUR TOWN—YOUR INPUT IS VITAL!

WITHOUT YOUR INPUT--you give your power to the people who show up. Be a participant! SHOW UP!

### Hazardous Waste Collection Day

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## BNSYS Baseball/ Softball Program's Successful Season

With over 175 local children participating BNSYS had one of our best seasons for the organization both in participation and results. We hosted 13 teams this year from T Ball to Babe Ruth.

Our 13 year old Babe Ruth Prep team, managed by long time BNSYS coach Alan Craigie, won the league championship in early July. Al's team also had 5 players make the roster for the Kearsarge Mountain North League All Star team, which came in 3rd in the District Tournament in Goffstown. BNSYS players participating were Shane Beaton, Alex Craigie, Mike Smith, Colby Jordan and Justin Norris.

One of our 12 year old Majors teams, the Bombers, came in tied for first in regular season league play. The Bombers went on to win 2 play-off games before dropping the championship game to Sunapee in late June. The Bombers also placed 5 players on the All Star roster for the Kearsarge Valley Cal Ripken team. This All Star team, coached by Joe Torro, went on to play 11 games in post season tournament and State District play. BNSYS players on the All Stars were Patrick Hankins, Dominic Torro, Jack Holmes, Eli Wilson and Matt Wilson.

In Cal Ripken Minors All Star play BNSYS players Tim Wilson and Mike West made the 10 year old team which went on to win the Claremont Invitational Tournament and participated in State District play.

BNSYS Softball placed 2 players on the league All Star team, Sarah Shepherd and Sadie Courser. This team went on to win 2 games in the District Tournament, qualifying for the State Tournament which was held in Londonderry. Sarah Shepherd was named MVP of the District Tournament! The Kearsarge girls won 1 game in State play before being eliminated by eventual Tournament and State Champion Londonderry.

Congratulations to all of our BNSYS players and teams for a great season and we look forward to next year!

### BNSYS Thanks Our Local Businesses for Their Help

Once again our friends have stepped up to help us provide successful programs for our area youth. George and Wendy Naughton again have donated dumpster service for us at Warren Brook Park this season. For many years George and Wendy have quietly helped us and their generosity is greatly appreciated.

Other continuing community help with materials and services have come from Steve Pitman at The Lumber Barn, Matt Ordway for work on Warren Brook Park, Steve Bailey who helped Steve Patten to finish the new snack shack, Bob Stewart who donated supplies for our snack shacks and Chris Mock for his help fertilizing our fields this year. We thank you all!

—Joe Torro

President/Baseball Director BNSYS

### BNSYS 5th Annual Golf Tournament

BNSYS will host our annual tournament at the Newport Golf Club on Thursday September 29th. This is a fun event with many prizes. Team scramble format. Cost for this years tournament is \$400 per team. Hole and green sponsorships are available for \$50. Sign up forms will be available at local merchants or call Joe Torro at 938 - 5938 to register a team. All proceeds to benefit BNSYS Youth Programs.

### Donations Sought for New Girls Softball Field

With the growth of our softball program ( 3 teams this season ) BNSYS is committed to provide these players with their own regulation field at Warren Brook Park. We are planning to start work on the infield diamond this fall following our soccer season with hopes of being ready for play for the 2006 spring season. We will need to install backstop fencing for this upcoming year with other field needs to follow. Any financial help offered so as to purchase this fencing would be greatly appreciated. BNSYS is a non profit organization and donations are tax deductible. Our address is PO Box 291, Bradford NH, 03221.

—Joe Torro

President/Baseball Director BNSYS

### Bradford Country Squares

The Bradford Country Squares will host a Square Dance at the Kearsarge Regional Elementary School, Bradford, NH on Saturday, September 17th. Al Monty will call A-1 from 7-8pm and Mainstream/Plus from 8-10:30pm. Phil Gatchell will cue the rounds. Please wear soft soled shoes. Admission is \$5 per person and refreshments will be served. For more information or directions, call Bob Trombley at 603-763-3044. Spectators are free and always made welcome.

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# BNSYS sponsored Major League Soccer Camp

The Bradford/Newbury/Sutton Youth Sports participated in the annual Major League Soccer Camp with BNSYS Soccer Director Jennifer Dow during the first week of August. Held at the Warren Brook Park in Bradford, 51 local children participated ranging from pre-school age up to 8th grade. The Nippers group played from 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m., Young Players from 9 a.m. to 12 noon, Intermediates from 1 to 5 p.m and the Advanced players from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Despite the extremely hot weather the rains held off and it was a very successful camp week that ended with each group showing off their new skills in an exciting "kids vs parents" game. The kids won in all four groups

—Jen Dow, NNSYS Soccer Director



*Young Players Group:  
Back row - (l to r):  
Kaitlin Titus, Tyler Littlejohn, Haley Andersson, Geneva Heffernan, Nicholas Brady, Ian Bready, Jakob Ulrich. Front row - (l to r): Kaytie Torro, Carl Betz, Briana Turco, Sammi Dow, Michael Bullis, Gunnar Andersson, Matthew Pickman. Coach Martin Moreland of Kettering, England is in the back of the group.*



*This is the Advanced Group. Front row, (l to r): Kylene Casbin, Mary-Margaret Pickman, Paige Newman. Middle row - (l to r): Anastasia Whiting, Caitlyn Murdough, Travis Newman, Matt Wilson, Logan Osgood. Back row - (l to r): Lindy Heffernan, Nikki Dow, Nick Iacopino, Robert Emerson Brayfield, Dom Torro, Jack Holmes. At back - Coach Mike Doyle of Bournemouth, England.*



*Intermediate Group: Far back: Adam von Kannewurff. Back (l to r): Shayne Casbin, Kenney Manley, Jordan Dunne, Eric Betz. Front (l to r): Mark Gadoury, Eli Gadoury, Coach Declan Murphy of Harlow England, Alex von Svoboda, Drake von Kannewurff*



*This is the Nippers group. Pictured here in no particular order are: Nathan Carbee, Ben Corbyn, Jared Clancy, Mason Benedict, Jason Weikel, Anna Newman, Phoenix Labbe, Cameron Titus, Bridget Pope, Alanna O'Keefe, Brad Underbill, Bo Underbill, Erik Cooper, Elizabeth Maddox. And Coach Daniel Chubbock of Wimbledon, London, England.*



*An action shot of the Intermediate group Kids v. Parents game. Kenney Manley tries to get one by Mark Casbin. Onlookers - Eric Betz, Eli Gadoury and Drake von Kannewurff. Parent in the back, Patrick von Kannewurff.*

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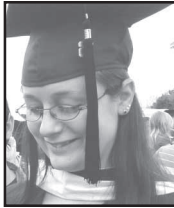
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# Calendar

# Calendar

## Brown's Daughter Graduates

Abigail Anne Brown, daughter of Al and Laurie Brown of Bradford, graduated from Hartwick College in Oneonta, New York on Memorial Day weekend. Ms. Brown who majored in French and Art, studied French for a semester at the Sorbonne in Paris. She is on the Hartwick College Dean's List for the spring 2005 term. Abigail is now on her way to a new job as a teaching assistant at the University of Nice in France.



## Friends of Brown Memorial Library Receive Humanities Council Grant

The Friends of Brown Memorial Library announce the receipt of a grant from New Hampshire Humanities Council to present an illustrated oral history talk entitled, *Number Please: Telephone Operators in the Pre-Dial Era in N.H.* with historian and founder of the Warner Women's Oral History Project, Judith Moyer.

Telephone operators served as centers of communication (sharing community news and gossip) for nearly one hundred years, until they were replaced by automated switching. The pressures, satisfactions, frustrations, and amusements of the job have never been examined thoroughly from the operator's viewpoint. The oral history project, *Number Please* did just that.

To save a disappearing piece of our history, Judith Moyer and *Number Please* volunteers across the state interviewed fifty New Hampshire telephone operators. Friends' member Jan Riley said, "We hope that former telephone operators and old timers who remember the two-party line will come to the talk and share their memories."

Save the date: the free program will take place on Friday, October 21, 2005 at 7:00 p.m. in Brown Memorial Library. For more information, contact Bea Howe at: email, dandbhowe; 938-2955.

—Audrey V. Sylvester

## The Bradford Art Group Presents *NASCAR*

The Bradford Art Group's new exhibition, *NASCAR*, featuring large-scale paintings of racing automobiles by Jane Gilltrap Bready of Bradford/Newbury continues through September to October 29 in the Brown Memorial Library, 78 W. Main St., Bradford. Library hours are: Monday 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.; Wednesday 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.; and Saturday 10 a.m. - 3p.m.

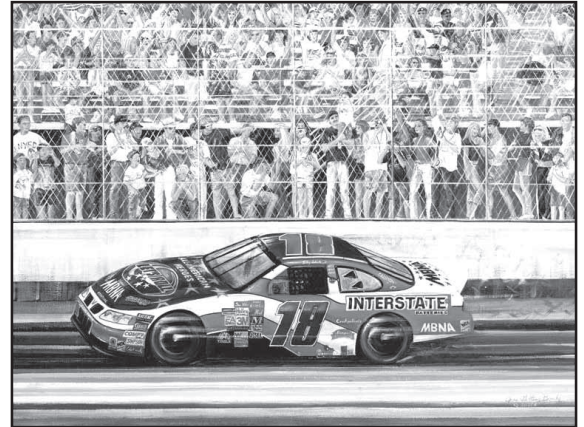
Born in Coolangatta, Australia, Jane Bready spent most of her youth around her grandfather's automobile museum in Queensland. Through her family's involvement in "Formula One" racing in Australia, Jane developed her love of automobile and racing.

She first started painting in 1989. Her early subjects (aviation scenes) were inspired by her husband's career as an F-16 and commercial airline pilot. Since then her aviation paintings have been displayed worldwide. In 1998, the U.S. Air Force selected one of her paintings for their Commemorative 50th Anniversary Calendar. Jane combined her love of racing with her artwork when she obtained licenses from some of "Formula One's" top teams.

In 1999, Jane was officially licensed by *NASCAR*. She has worked with the top drivers and teams, reproducing art lithographs and paintings. Her rendition of the "Alabama Gang" can be found in the Motorsports Hall of Fame. Jane has also been able to contribute to various charities through her motorsports art. With Joe Gibbs Racing and driver Bobby Labonte, she created limited editions whose sales have benefited the Todd Beamer Foundation. She also works with the "Victory Junction Gang Camp," a camp in North Carolina started by driver Kyle Petty that benefits chronically and terminally ill children.

Currently Jane and her husband Mike are developing a new line of housewares featuring her artwork. She is illustrating a children's book on auto racing due out next May. The couple has two children, Gemma and Ian. Jane very much enjoys being involved with the Bradford Elementary PTC, (especially the Haunted House).

—Audrey V. Sylvester



One of Jane Bready's paintings donated to benefit the Todd Beamer Foundation.



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# Meet Jon Steiner —New KRSD Board Member

As Bradford's new representative to the Kearsarge Regional School District Board, I'd like to introduce myself to those of you who don't know me, as well as provide you with some idea of what the Board will be working on in the upcoming months.

But first, I would like to thank Mark Fairbank for his years of service to KRSD and the Town of Bradford. His leadership and dedication will be missed and I know I have some pretty big shoes to fill as I get up to speed on the myriad of issues affecting the district.

I have lived in Bradford for 15 years with my wife Robin. Bradford is where we built our first home and one of the many reasons we were attracted to the area was the reputation of the school district. Even though at the time we had no children, we knew that living in an area that values education often translates into a nice place to live and work. We now have a five-year-old who will attend first grade here next year and she is already very excited about riding the bus and being in school.

My background includes a great deal of work in the local government and education fields. I am the Associate Executive Director for the Local Government Center, which is headquartered in Concord.

This non-profit organization is focused on providing services, training and products to towns, cities, schools and other units of local government here in New Hampshire. We provide education for local officials, publications, and risk management products like insurance. As a result, I am familiar with many of the day-to-day issues affecting towns and schools and solutions that have worked in other places. I have also taught at Franklin Pierce College for the past 16 years as an adjunct instructor and my wife is an educator as well, working at Kearsarge High in the early 1990's and now at Bow High School.

I am hopeful that my education and experience should help me and the



District in tackling the issues we have ahead of us. Our next task is to put together the School Board Budget and have it ready to bring to the budget committee. Although it is still summer, the first deliberative session comes quickly in early January.

The past two weeks have been a whirlwind, as I was interviewed and selected on July 21st, sworn in, and jumped into the discussions. Since then I have also met with Superintendent Tom Brennan and Assistant Superintendent Laura Nelson to learn about the goals and focus areas the District has established and what plans are in place to meet these goals.

In future issues of the Bridge I will provide updates about the issues we are working on. I look forward to serving the people of Bradford and the District and to learning more about the details and challenges we all face in the future.

—Jon Steiner

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## Food for Thought:

**GOOD NEWS!**

*by Mike Quinn*

Bradford and our popular newspaper are starting down a fascinating road together. The success of the journey depends on each of us.

Last month, *Bradford Bridge* Editor Susie Janicki and the editorial advisory board took the first step by setting a new direction for editorial content. The *Bridge* will soon include more news reporting side-by-side with the more-familiar meeting minutes, columns, features, and a new center-spread events calendar.

Simply put, the *Bridge* will report news that helps residents arrive at the answer to the question "why?" about town issues.

Janicki and the board have assumed a serious responsibility. Resident volunteers who report news will be held to journalistic standards, such as accuracy and impartiality, and the board will have to ensure that their news product is consistent and fair.

Elected and appointed officials, committee volunteers and residents will be asked to share facts, information and perspectives—an equally important responsibility. The other side of the equation will be sought to report balanced, accurate, relevant news and information.

Bradford and its various organizations already do a credible job by providing us with access to information, and the *Bridge* already plays a role in that effort. But some

of us have obligations that make it nearly impossible to actively participate in the critically-important discussions that consider all sides of an issue and is the foundation of participative democracy. If you have a moment, consider this and try and take a more active role.

In a small town like Bradford, it doesn't take many non-participating residents to irreversibly affect the way decisions are made. Silence should never be assumed to be agreement. In other words—speak up when you can!

As it evolves, the *Bridge* will bridge the gap. Insightful public officials understand that an informed citizenry is more forthcoming about its concerns and more willing to engage in problem-solving. Insightful residents understand that their leaders and neighbors are listening and making a sincere effort to share what they know and think.

It will not always be an easy process, and the residents and *Bridge* will not get it right every time. However, if we believe that the ultimate goal is a better Bradford, we will reach the end of the journey better for the experience.

*Mike Quinn is a writer trying to stay cool in Bradford. Article ideas and comments are welcome: send e-mail to michaeljquinn@tds.net or drop a line to P.O. Box 311, Bradford NH 03221.*

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# Letters to the Editor



To the Editor:

Welcome to your new post as editor of the Bridge, Susie! I salute the outgoing co-editors, Bev Leo and Beth Rodd, for their fine work. Now we can count on the leadership of the new editorial board—which represents to some extent a recycling of superb local talent.

And there's another form of recycling in Bradford, with glass, aluminum, steel, rubber tires, mixed paper, corrugated cardboard, and other discarded items. As our transfer station manager, Ken Anderson, has explained in the Bridge, tons of these materials are being purchased and reprocessed for use as road resurfacing material, playground mulch, game boards, paper, nails, screws, and other items.

The town profits twice—by not paying to haul certain materials to the incinerator at \$38 per ton (soon to be \$48 per ton); and by gaining revenue. Between January and July 2005, according to Ken's assistant, Lois, Bradford received \$2,200 for its aluminum cans (2.75 tons) and \$3,000 for its mixed paper (65 tons). At the same time, Bradford did not have to pay \$2,574.50 in hauling fees to incinerate those things. It's a good example of "cost avoidance," according to the Northeast Resource Recovery Association (NRRRA), a nonprofit coalition of municipalities, institutions, businesses, and individuals, of which Bradford is an active member.

These benefits of recycling may seem modest: a few thousand dollars earned and not spent, within a town budget of millions. But consider the larger picture. Jobs are created when new products are made from "born-again materials"—a term used by Paul Hawken, of the gardening supply store Smith & Hawken. The air we breathe is free of whatever noxious particles would have been released by incineration. Our rapidly disappearing open land is preserved from the tons of acidic ash that would have had to be stored somewhere. And our groundwater is a bit less acidic.

In the end, we might give more thought to where our food, clothes, tools, and supplies come from, how

necessary they really are, and how many "lives" they might have—in our time and long after we're gone.

—Melanie Simo Muchow

To the Editor:

July 30th there were open visits to nine gardens in Bradford. It was a delight to see the individuality of people's backyards. There were vegetable and flower plots, tomatoes bound for Italian spaghetti sauce, vistas and stone walls, awesome landscaping, and small gardens with blooming magnolia, rustic twig trellises, and shady hideaways. Hydroponics plants draped down over a second floor balcony. A solar fountain worked with muted charm when no one was blocking the sunshine. The front yard of the Community Center is always a pleasure. A lot of thought, labor, and aching backs are at work in this town, and they have made places of quiet and beauty. I hope Parks and Recreation continue and expand this open house another year.

The Art exhibit at the Candlelite Inn sponsored by the BBC was the same day.

Bradford has many talented people with a wide range of mediums. I hope this, too, expands and becomes an annual event.

—Milly Kittredge

Letter to the Editor

School will be starting soon. Are you ready? Are your kids ready?

Another kind of "school" will be starting soon - foster parent training. Are you ready to join with others who are looking into foster parenting? Now is the time to get ready to join the class. Most foster parent training classes begin in September, some a little later. It is a good way to find out if fostering is right for your family. It's free and there's no obligation. Find out how you can give something back to your community by becoming a foster parent. Call your local Concord DCYF foster care worker at 1-800-322-9191.

—Jan Feuer, Intake Specialist  
NH Foster & Adoptive Parent Assoc.

To the Editor

This letter is to express my gratitude and pride to the people of Bradford for the beautiful results which were achieved as a result of your collaborative efforts during the last weekend in July at the Bradford Center Meetinghouse.

The Lettvin Chamber Music Series completed one of its most successful seasons because: 1) the quality of the artists was first class; 2) there were over one hundred cheering and satisfied people in the audiences each night; 3) at least one hundred sixty four Bradford folks helped with various tasks connected with making the programs the best ever.

Because they were responsible for donating the truck, moving the Lettvin piano to the Meetinghouse, organizing the parking, taking tickets, producing and handing out programs, getting ads, designing graphics, careful housekeeping, cheerful ushering, getting signatures for our guest book, serving refreshments, hosting receptions, baking cookies for the refreshment table, - which meant that everyone worked together and the result was a pride to the artist-performers (who were thrilled with their responsive and enthusiastic audiences) and to the community as a whole.

With all of these devoted and effective volunteer efforts, one can hardly blame me for being grateful and proud to be a long-time resident of the Town of Bradford. Thanks to one and all for a job beautifully done!

—Joan Lettvin, Chair

**We are happy to announce....**

**the Bradford Transfer Station is now collecting cell phones for recycling!**

**—so bring 'em in!**

**Lois and Kenny will be glad to tell you how this benefits our Town**



# Obituary

## ARLINE (SULLIVAN) GARNEAU

Arline (Sullivan) Garneau, 78, of High Street, died on Monday, August 1, 2005 at her home. She was born in Franklin, MA on July 27, 1927 the daughter of John T. and Aldea (St. Pierre) Sullivan. She spent her early years in Franklin, MA and grew up on the family dairy farm. Mrs. Garneau graduated from Franklin, MA High School and attended Fisher Business School in Boston, MA. She had been a homemaker and Avon Representative for 10 years. She lived in Seekonk, MA for 45 years and was the Executive Director of the Housing Authority in Seekonk for 15 years. Most recently Mrs. Garneau moved to NH to be with her daughter and son-in-law. She was an avid seamstress, liked to read, and collected thimbles. She was predeceased by her brother, Frederick Sullivan, formerly of Franklin, MA. Members of her family surviving include her husband of 53 years, Raymond A. Garneau of Bradford, NH; two daughters, Ann C. Paine of Bradford, NH and Ellen N. DePasquale of Queens Village, NY; six grandchildren, Katherine, Rebecca, Robert, Michael, Amanda, and Marisa; a brother, Laurence Sullivan of Franklin, MA; nieces and nephews.

A graveside service was held on August 6, 2005 in Sunny Plain Cemetery, Bradford with the Rev. Robert Biron, pastor of Our Lady of Fatima Church, New London, NH officiating.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Lake Sunapee Region Visiting Nurse Association Hospice, PO Box 2209, New London, NH 03257. Chadwick Funeral Service of New London, NH was in charge of arrangements.

## Union Congregational Society Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of the Union Congregational Society will be on Saturday, Sept. 10, at 9:00AM with a pot luck breakfast. Come, bring a breakfast food and join in with your ideas for a progressive 2006 at the newly stenciled Meeting House. Any questions or for directions, call 938-2253.



# First Baptist Church News

From Lynne E. Hubleby

**WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN GUILD:** On Friday, September 9 the ladies will meet at the church at 11:30 a.m. for a 'Fall Gathering of the Guild'. They will enjoy a potluck luncheon.

**BAPTISM:** On Sunday, September 11, at 10:00 a.m., we will meet for worship at the church and then travel to the home of Ruth Ann and John Harris and hold a Service of Baptism in Lake Todd.

**AMERICAN BAPTIST WOMEN'S MINISTRIES:** Ladies will meet on Wednesday, September 14 at 7:00 p.m. for their monthly meeting. Refreshments will be served.

**FOOD PANTRY:** The September distribution date is Wednesday, September 21 from 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Food can also be obtained at other times by calling the church office at 938-5313.

**DINNER THEATRE:** On Saturday, September 24 the church will hold a Comedy/Mystery Church dinner theatre. It's called "The Case of the Mysterious Benefactor" written by Brian Bopp. A 4- course Roastbeef meal will be served. The cost is \$20.00 and there are 2 sittings; 4:15 and 6:30 p.m. Please call the church office for reservations at 938-5313.

**FORTY DAYS OF PURPOSE SPIRITUAL GROWTH CAMPAIGN:** On Sunday, September 25, at 10:00 p.m., our church will begin a 40- day spiritual growth campaign. It is based on Rick Warren's book "The Purpose Driven Life". For 7 weeks, the worship services, the sunday school and the small groups will be focusing on the 5 purposes outlined in this book.

**RALLY DAY:** Sunday school begins on Sunday, September 25 at 10:00 a.m. We offer sunday school for children who are ages 4 and up. Child-care is available for children 3 and under.



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DVD rentals ■ Fishing Supplies

## From our Police Department...

Just a reminder school is back in session. Both walkers and buses will be out and about throughout the town. Pay special attention when driving on the Old Warner Road and Main Street.



Our new patrol car is on the road and running well. You will notice the low profile light bar on the roof which is 90 percent LED. This reduces wind resistance and load to the alternator and battery. This should help some with mileage costs.

Officer Shaughnessy has completed the Full time Academy and his field training. He performed well and is a welcomed addition to the force.

We expect that the Merrimack County Sheriff's Department will be assisting us again with the DARE school program. Last year Alan DeMichelis instructed and the program was well received by students and faculty. One of our goals for this coming year is to further developed our relationship with the school.

—Jim Valiquet, Chief of Police

## Town Clerk's Report

The Office will be closed on Monday, September 5, 2005 for the Labor Day holiday.

### BIRTHS:

July 15, 2005 Caden Xavier Aikens was born to Ryan & Shannon in Concord

July 24, 2005 Julia Elizabeth Maloney was born to James & Jennifer in Concord

July 25, 2005 Riley Jacob Dunn was born to James & Kristie in Concord

### DEATHS

July 29, 2005 Edwin Maylin died in Bradford

August 1, 2005 Arline Garneau died in Bradford

## Real Estate Hints: New Home VS. Existing Home

by *Laura Hallahan*



For centuries the question of whether to buy a new home or an existing one has been debated. Developers have a tough time trying to re-create the neighborhood feeling and details so many like about older homes, yet buyers often struggle to find an existing home that has a floor plan and amenities that fit their needs. Compromise is the name of the game, as no house is perfect. Consider both in your house search and be sure to have a home inspection no matter the age of the house. Here are some guidelines:

**Location & Amenities:** Most older, established neighborhoods are in the town center, which means walking distance to the library, restaurants, etc. New subdivisions are generally on the outskirts of town and that may translate to more time in the car. However, many developments offer amenities such as walking trails, a pool, clubhouse, etc.

**Price & Taxes:** Existing homes are usually less expensive per square foot because of escalating land costs, and the listing price may also be more negotiable as new construction leaves little wiggle room. An existing home may also have a more predictable tax structure. Ownership costs, however, tend to be higher in existing homes, especially if upgrades or a total remodel is needed, and it may be difficult to match building materials as well. New construction homes usually come with a one-year warranty.

**Move-in Date & Neighborhood:** Buyers of new homes are sometimes frustrated by delays and unfinished items on the punch list even on move-in day, especially landscaping. Existing homes are ready to move into and often have established landscaping. You tend to find more age diversity in an established

neighborhood, as people moving into new subdivisions tend to be more homogenous. Often subdivisions are made up of younger families.

**Living Space & Customization:** Existing homes constructed when building costs were lower may mean more home for the money with a resale, sometimes including a finished basement. However, new construction often makes better use of the space and tends to be more energy-efficient and practical as well. You get what you see with a resale home, but new construction often allows a buyer to choose colors, flooring, cabinets, etc. and even alter floor plans or add high tech wiring, etc.

**Character & Safety:** Nothing beats an antique home with built-ins, gunstock corners, beautiful wood floors, etc., though new homebuyers can recreate some of these features with a modern flair. Today's builders have to adhere to strict codes, so a new home would conform to today's safety standards and would be free of lead paint. On the flip side, more people are finding themselves allergic to modern building materials and adhesives, and they would be better suited to an older home.

## Recent Real Estate Sales in Bradford

- 70 Pleasant Valley Road, Antique Cape on 2.07 acres for \$190,000
- Lot 3, Solitude Ridge Road, 2.8 acres for \$54,000
- Lot 4, Solitude Ridge Road, 4.0 acres for \$49,500
- 20 South Ridge Road, 4.12 acres for \$65,000
- 0 Day Pond Road, 37 acres (Class VI) for \$80,000

# Tax Assessments Made Simple (well, sort of)

The new tax assessments were mailed to taxpayers on August 15, 2005. Many of us had a true 'sticker shock' when we saw our homes double in assessed value. The office telephones have been deluged with calls from citizens with questions and concerns for the upcoming tax bills.

First – Be aware that the amount of money you will be paying in taxes will probably change very little from last year. Aside from the differences resulting from the amount of money appropriated at town meeting, the amount of the second half tax bill should stay about equal to the amount of your last year second half bill. What will change is the tax rate.

HERE IS A SIMPLIFIED EXAMPLE:

If the 2004 tax year total Bradford assessment was .... \$119,000,000.00  
If the 2004 amount to be raised by taxes was ..... \$3,067,927.00  
Then the Tax computation is 3,067,927/119,000 per thousand  
Would result in a Town rate of \$25.78

If the new assessments were in place the figures would look like this:

If the 2004 tax year total assessment was ..... \$233,000,000.00  
If the 2004 amount to be raised by taxes was ..... \$3,067,927.00  
Then the Tax computation is 3,067,927/233,000 per thousand  
Would result in a Town rate of \$13.16

The results are your value may have doubled, but the rate has decreased. If your house was assessed at \$150,000 in 2004 your taxes would have been \$3,867. With the change in assessments the same house might be \$313,000 and have annual taxes of \$4,119. *These are examples only.*

The actual tax rate will be set by the State Department of Revenue once all the necessary adjustments are made by the town and state. This should happen in early October.

conversation, you have the right to request an abatement but you must wait until after you receive the December tax bill. You have until March 1st, 2006 to request the abatement for 2005 taxes. After the March date, the town will forward all abatement requests to the assessing firm. They will have another assessor review the file and make a recommendation to the Selectmen by July 1st 2006. You will be notified of the decision. If you still have issues with the decision, you may file an appeal by September 15th 2006. This then moves the matter from the town into the realm of the Bureau of Tax and Land Appeals. There are fees to file, and specific forms to use, but all are available at the town hall. We urge you to try to speak with the assessors during the first meeting in September. Any corrections you can bring to their attention now, will help the town avoid future rebates and overpayments.

We want you to understand the details behind the assessing process. In the office we are familiar with the basics, but the methods are more detailed than that and speaking with an assessor is in your best interest.

– Cheryl Behr

## Vandalism

*continued from front page*

The damage likely occurred sometime Sunday evening during the July 4th holiday weekend, according to Tom Riley, chairman of the Cemetery Commission.

“As far as I know, this is the first incident of this type,” said Riley, who added that toppled headstones caused by kicking or the deterioration of the marker are a more typical type of damage in the town’s cemeteries.

Riley estimated damage to the monuments to be “about \$2,000.” John Graham of the Stone Vault Company in Newport was hired to remove the paint, and the cleanup is complete.

Bradford police said there have been no reports of suspicious activity. Patrols have been increased in the vicinity of the cemetery, which is located off Main Street behind the site of the former Shamrock and Thistle.

—Mike Quinn

Once you have reviewed your assessment, if you wish to discuss the values, please call the number on the letter with your assessment. The phone number is new and will not be answered until August 29th. A member of the Avitar assessing firm will answer and make an appointment for you to meet in person, or on the phone. If you are not satisfied with the results of that

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# Outside

by J. Ann Eldridge

The dogs hadn't been getting along. We were keeping a close eye on them, which is probably why at first we didn't notice the leeches. As we walked down the Alder Plains Road, our attention was on the pair as Dog #1 shot evil looks at Dog #2 who was snapping at the deerflies, oblivious to how hostile this might seem. The deerflies, oblivious to the canine compatibility issues, were desperately stalking us for that bit of protein needed to continue their breeding program.

We thought the road might be wet, and it was. We had parked just off County Road and had not walked far when we hit water. The Alder Plains Road was perhaps so named because when it was built, beaver had been extinct for a century or so in this state. This road crosses a broad expanse of poorly drained soil of the kind alder trees are partial to. The beaver were returned in the 1940s and have resumed their ancient ways, creating ponds where soils and geography permit. Now we faced a marsh bisected by a quarter mile strip of flooded road.

The day was hot and the dogs were happy to lead the way down the "road", churning up the silty bottom and making it impossible for us to see much of anything in the murky water. As the water reached our knees, an occasional dark shape would flash by close to the surface - a small fish, confused by the intrusion of our troop of four, darting for clearer waters. As the water deepened to mid-thigh, one broke the surface. Perhaps it was trying for one of the cloud of deerflies surrounding us. Large chalk-fronted corporal dragonflies and twelve-spotted skimmers chased the deerflies in expert aerial display, but didn't seem able to reduce their numbers.

As the road neared the woods on the far side of the marsh, the waters became shallow again and the dogs scrambled to the drier shoulder. At last, we could see clearly to the bottom. That's when we noticed the leeches...

They appeared by their attractive string of dorsal red diamonds to be the species *Macrobdella decora*, a name that rolls off the tongue as gracefully as this animal swims through the water. Though these were no more than three inches long, they can reach a length of eight inches. Like aquatic silly putty, the length and width seem infinitely flexible.

Most species of leeches go about their business stabbing smaller creatures with minute proboscises or swallowing them whole. The ones of our nightmares have large mouths with multiple concentric circles of teeth. I'm not sure what constitutes a brain, but leeches reportedly have 32 of them. *M. decora* also has five pairs of eyes.

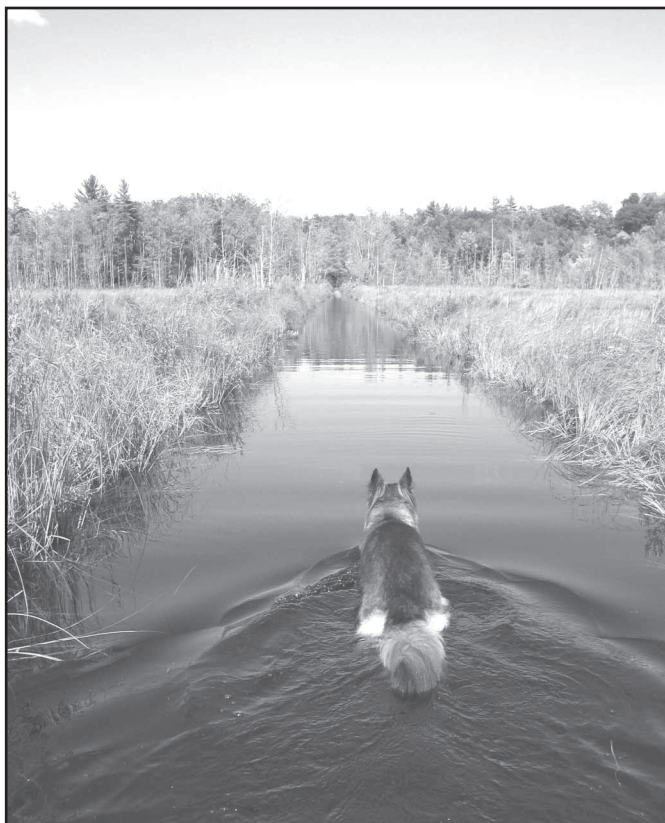


Photo by Bill Duffy

There has been a resurgence of medicinal interest in leeches. By the late 1800s they had been so carelessly overused for almost any ailment that the favored variety had become virtually extinct in the wilds of Europe. Modern clinicians are interested in three clever strategies leeches use to get the maximum amount of blood from their prey. First, they are able to anesthetize their chosen dining area, so a victim will not feel them when they attach. Second, they are able to dilate blood vessels to increase the flow. Third, they secrete an anti-coagulant to keep the blood flowing. These characteristics show promise in restoring healing circulation to reconnected veins and joints.

This was not especially useful to us at this time.

After checking our appendages for passengers, we meandered on our way to the heron rookery further down the road and found it unoccupied this year. Edible chanterelles and many other kinds of mushrooms were noted along the way. The road beyond leading to the East Washington Road was flooded also, and so we turned to retrace our route.

Ignorance is bliss. It is one thing to go wading through leech infested waters without realizing it. It's quite another to willfully return to those waters. We were no longer blissful, and now had visions of the leech scene from the African Queen with no salt on hand. Reentering the water for the wade to the car, we encountered a smallish northern water snake. Though they reportedly have a bellicose temperament if cornered, we were heartened to see it, since they will make a meal of a leech when possible.

After returning to the car and checking ourselves again for hangers-on, we decided to return another day to gather the chanterelles. Though next time we'll bring salt.

# Lettvin Concerts Raise Money for Community through Joint Effort

Members of the Union Congregational Society (UCS) and Lettvin Concert Committee (LCC) dropped in on the Bradford Area Community Center (BACC) August board meeting to present the BACC a check for \$2,364.15 and personally thanked the board for their efforts in support of the Lettvin Concert Series. The 2005 series netted over \$4,700 in support of two community non-profit organizations, the BACC and UCS. Additionally, money was raised via refreshment sales at this year's concert

for the Lettvin Piano Scholarship Fund. A combination of top talent, a venue with great acoustics and an



Photo by Bryan Ayers

*Dawn Rich, BACC Chair, receives the check from Edythe Craig, UCS, for the Lettvin Concert Series 2005. Also shown (l to r) BACC board members: Jane Lucas, Bob Stewart Sr, Ona Ruchti, Fred Hubley, & Maryse Conway with Tandy Hartford, LCC.*

enthusiastic, supportive community has all contributed to the ongoing and continued growth in popularity of the Lettvin Concert Series. All of us involved in this effort wish to thank the Patrons, Advertisers and especially the listening audience who attended this year's concerts for making the program so successful.

—Tandy Hartford

## Duck Race Results

The Duck Race held at the Lake Massasecum Campground was a well attended great success!

Co-owner Roger Dowling placed the ducks in the water and his wife Linda along with Steve Lucier kept the finish line stable. Melodie Roberts, Bryan and Jessica Ayars and Ann Lucier were finish line judges.

Christopher Laurendeau made waves on his jet ski and surprised the kids with DONALD DUCK! One camper bought duck bill shaped kazoos for all the kids so they could quack like ducks while the adults cheered on their fowl to win!

After much duck swirling action, finally, one crossed the finish line! Seasonal camper Kim McLaughlin won the \$100 first prize, the \$50 second prize went to Reid Zuckerman of Henniker and third prize \$25 awarded to Julz. Congratulations to all!

The \$500 proceeds from the race was generously donated by the owners of the campground to the Lake Massasecum Improvement Association for the milfoil project. Thank You Roger, Linda Dowling and Melodie Roberts.

We hope next year will be even bigger and better—see you there.

—Ann and Steve Lucier

## Soo-Nipi Audubon Chapter

The Soo-Nipi Audubon Chapter begins its Fall programs on Fri., Sept. 9, at 7:30p.m. at St. Andrews Episcopal Church, Gould Road, New London, with a slide talk entitled, "East Coast Raptor Migration". David Merker, bird bander since 1980 and operator of migratory trapping stations in Cape May, NJ and South Newbury, VT, will be the speaker. The program is open to the public and refreshments will be served. For more information, call Ruth White at 763-4893.

On Sat., Sept. 17, we will host a Hawk Watch field trip to Little Round Top Mountain in Bristol, to observe migratory raptors. Meet leader Peter Newbern, at Cricenti's Market parking lot on Route 104, in Bristol, at 9 a.m. Mountain-side parking is located near the short, uphill path to the observation ledges. Bring binoculars and a scope if you have one. Inclement weather cancels the trip. Contact Peter Newbern at 763-4308 for details.

—Myra LaPierre



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# Cub Scout Pack 69 Kicks Into Gear

Cub Scout Pack 69 is kicking off its new year this September. 2005 will mark the 75th anniversary of Cub Scouting, and the pack is planning a number of special activities to celebrate that occasion.

The boys have been busy this summer. The pack participated in the Bradford 4th of July Parade, and earned a First Place ribbon for its "Camping in the Great Outdoors" float. The very next day, our group traveled to Manchester for a week of the "real stuff" at Camp Carpenter, one of the premier Scouting facilities in the country. The Scouts enjoyed swimming, boating, fishing, a water slide, various sports activities, campfires, Fort Friendship, the Native American Village, Pirate's Cove, and excellent camp food!

In August, we closed out our summer activities with a hike and BBQ.

For those of you not familiar with the program, Cub Scouting is for boys in first through fifth grade. The program molds activities around the family. Parents help

their sons with projects and advancement at home. We meet a couple of times a month in small den groups, and then monthly as pack members for an evening of fun, games, skits, ceremonies, and recognition. Outdoor activities, community service projects, and special events like the Klondike and Pinewood Derbys are also part of the program.

Cub Scouting is "fun with a purpose", and capitalizes on a young boy's interests. The boys develop new skills and learn about citizenship, character, and fitness. Cub Scouting helps build self-esteem, self-confidence, and a sense of belonging.

Come and find out what all the fun is about. You and your son are invited to learn more about Cub Scouting at our Fall Roundup which will be held Friday evening, September 23rd, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at the Bradford Baptist Church. If you like what you learn—join up that night. Hope to see you there!

For more information contact either Chris Way (Cubmaster) at 938-6113, or Dave Hahn (Den Leader) at 938-2061.



Boys archery range at Camp Carpenter.

# Classifieds

**FOR SALE:** 18K BTU Air conditioner 28 w x 20 h x 27 d. It has a 3-prong ground plug and requires a mating 3-prong ground plug outlet., \$100 or best offer. Call 938-6284

**MOVING SALE:** 4 piece bedroom set, tables, rug (5 1/2' x 8 1/2'), chairs, chest of drawers, blankets, lamps. Reasonable prices. Call 456-3281

**FOR SALE:** Pair of Passenger car tires - all season- P205-75-R14 Tiger Paws, like new — \$40.00 pr. Call 938-2303

**FOR SALE:** Bunk Bed red metal with single top and couch / futon bottom complete with mattresses. Nice unit \$60 927-6335

**FREE YARD SALE:** Saturday, September 3, 32 West Main Street, Bradford. We're moving and EVERYTHING is FREE - come and get it! 8am to noon.

**FOR SALE:** Louet S-10 spinning wheel, single treadle, 2 bobbins, great condition, \$250. 24" Ultex floor loom with Harrisville warping board and other accessories, complete and works great, \$125. 938-5051

**MOVING: YARD & FURNITURE SALE!** Sat. & Sun., September 3 & 4, 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 24 High Street. Best offer on housewares, dining table, double bed, Danish Teak Queen bed with new mattresses, chairs, desk. FREE Hide-a-Bed Couch. Rain or Shine.

To place a FREE classified ad of 40 words or less: contact Carey Rodd at 938-2692 or Fax Susie at 938-2287 or e-mail [bradfordbridge@mcttelecom.com](mailto:bradfordbridge@mcttelecom.com).

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New Listing

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## Bradford Bridge October 2005 Deadlines

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

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



*The Bradford Business Association would like to thank the many artists and patrons who attended the Bradford Area Art Gala on July 30.*

## Lightning Safety – Part 2 *continued from the August 2005 Issue*

We're blessed with an abundance of lakes and ponds in the Bradford area, which increases the chances of someone being in a boat when a lightning storm strikes.

The vast majority of lightning injuries and deaths on boats occur on small boats with NO cabin. If you are out on the water and skies are threatening on the horizon, get back to land and find a safe building or vehicle.

What should you do if you are on a small vessel and lightning becomes a threat? If the vessel has an anchor, then you should properly anchor the boat then get as low as possible.

Large boats with cabins, especially those with lightning protection systems properly installed, or metal marine vessels are relatively safe. Remember to stay inside the cabin and away from any metal surfaces.

If you determine you are not close to a safe structure, let's start with what NOT to do.

- Do **NOT** seek shelter under tall isolated trees. The tree may help you stay dry but will significantly increase your

risk of being struck by lightning. Rain will not kill you, but the lightning can!

- Do **NOT** seek shelter under partially enclosed buildings

- Stay away from tall, isolated objects. Lightning typically strikes the tallest object. That tallest object may be you in an open field, clearing, or lake.

What should you do?

Stay away from metal objects, such as fences, poles and backpacks. Metal is an excellent conductor.

If you absolutely cannot get to a safe building or vehicle, here are some last resort ideas:

- Wait out the storm below an overpass. DO NOT touch steel girders. Remain on the dry surfaces if possible. Overpasses are engineered structures and are likely to be properly grounded. Although an overpass is likely to be higher than the surrounding landscape, if it is struck by lightning, the electrical current will likely be channeled safely into the ground.

- Look for a bridge, but be alert for rapidly rising water.

- Stay away from water.

- Stay away from any metal surfaces.
- High tension wires: If high voltage electrical tension wires cross the road, you may want to seek shelter directly underneath these wires. Do not get too close to the large metal towers which hold up these wires. Stay at least 50 feet away. Electric companies design these high tension wires for lightning strikes. If lightning should strike the wires or towers, the current is designed to safely go deep into the ground.

If lightning is in the immediate area, and there is no safe location nearby, get into what is called "The Lightning Desperation Position." Crouch down but do NOT lay down. Bend your knees down while keeping your feet together. This will minimize the path for conduction of electricity.

So remember, use common sense when storms approach: If you can hear the thunder, you're close enough to be struck by lightning. If you'd like to learn more, visit the NOAA website <http://www.lightningsafety.noaa.gov/>.

—Information provided by the  
Bradford Rescue Squad