

# THE Bradford Bridge

community news by neighbors for neighbors

Volume 16, Number 3; Issue 175

March 2006

## Residents Concerned About Valley Transportation Purchase



Photo by Audrey V. Sylvester

About 60 people attended a public hearing on February 11 at KRES at Bradford to air their comments, questions and opinions about the proposed \$2.8 million bond to purchase the Valley Transportation facility on Route 114.

Most resident comments were critical of the plan, although the Needs Assessment Committee received some appreciation for its work.

Bradford town officials arranged a "walk-thru" for residents on to get a closer look at the two-building, 41 acre Valley Transportation complex being proposed as the site for new town, police, and highway department facilities.

Members of the committee leading the

hearing were Chair Everett Kittredge, Town Administrator Cheryl Behr, and Selectman Peter Fenton. Chief of Police James Valiquet was on hand to answer questions, as was Jim Bruss of Bruss Construction, the company that helped to develop the preliminary estimate for the project.

Behr started the meeting with a slide presentation depicting some of the maintenance and space issues in the current town hall, highway department garage and police department, as well as key data about costs and the impact of the project on the tax rate.

*continued on page 4*

## "Keep the Main in Main Street" Committee Explores Town Hall Options

About thirty people gathered at the Bradford Church vestry one Wednesday night, February 15th, for the third meeting of the "Keep The Main in Main Street" committee meeting. This loosely structured group has been exploring other options for saving Bradford Town Hall and keeping the downtown

of Bradford alive and functioning.

Andrew Pinard asked Audrey Sylvester to report on her research and update of the National Historic Registry since our town hall is registered as a historic building in New Hampshire. She was

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## Town Meeting 2006

The Warrant for the 2006 Bradford Town Meeting is now official and can be found at Town Hall and in the 2005 Annual Report. The articles on the warrant are placed there either by the Board of Selectmen or by petition. The budget is developed by the Budget Committee after consultation with the Selectmen and department heads, and with input from the budget hearing. Petition articles must be signed by 25 or more registered voters, submitted by a specified date (this year, February 7), and placed on the warrant exactly as submitted.

Town Meeting opens at 8 a.m. on Tuesday March 14th at the Bradford elementary school with **Article 1** – election of town officials. The warrant for the Kearsarge Regional School District is also voted on at the same time and includes election of Bradford's school district representative, vote on a bond issue to build a new middle school, lo-

*continued on page 12*

Living in

TOWN ELECTIONS

Tuesday, March 14  
8 a.m. to 7 p.m.  
Bradford Elementary School

TOWN MEETING  
Wednesday, March 15  
7 p.m.  
Bradford Elementary School

Voter's Guide

Be a citizen...get to the polls!

# The Bradford Bridge



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Bradford, NH 03221

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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

## Bradford Women's Club Scholarship

The BWC is now taking applications for our annual scholarship. This scholarship is open to any female in the Bradford/Newbury area who is starting college or going back to college. Applications are available at the Kearsarge Regional High School or call Jackye Pehrson at 938-5951 for information.

## Town Clerk /Tax Collector's Office

February 1st, Kylie Jane Labelle was born to David & Heather in Concord.

Elections will be held on March 14, 2006 at the Bradford Elementary School beginning at 8 a.m. and continuing to 7p.m. We will then adjourn until the following evening at the same location beginning at 7 p.m. Please try to attend both sessions as your vote counts.

### TAX COLLECTOR

Deed and Lien notices have gone out.

### HOURS

Mondays: Noon-7 p.m.

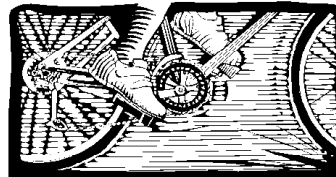
Tuesdays: 7- 11:30 a.m., 12:30-5 p. m.

Fridays 8 a.m.-Noon, 1-5 p. m.

—Sue Pehrson, Town Clerk & Tax Collector

## Bradford Police Department

According to the groundhog it may be a little early to begin talking about spring, but I like to be an optimist. With spring and warmer weather we start to see bicycles taking to the roadway. This year there is a small change. New Hampshire Revised Statutes Annotated (RSA) 265:144, X says, "No person less than 16 years of age may operate or ride upon a bicycle on a public way unless he or she wears protective headgear of a type approved by the Commissioner of Health and Human Services."



### RSA 265:153 Penalty

I. Any Person violating the provision of the subdivision or any ordinance, by-law or rule made under the provisions of this subdivision shall be guilty of a violation.

II. The maximum fine for a violation of

RSA 265:144, X shall be \$35 for each occurrence.

One might think with all we know that this simply makes sense, but there are still a large number of young people who do not wear protective headgear. Based on my experience I have seen cases where helmets saved lives and at least one case where an

adult on a brand-new street bike hit a little sand with his front tire fell, and struck his head. He was not wearing a helmet and it cost him his life. On a lighter note please realize that when a statute uses the word "shall" discretion on the part of a police officer may be limited.

Get your bikes checked, remember that the rules of the road apply to bicycles, and please wear a helmet.

## BRADFORD BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Peter Fenton, Chairman  
Bruce Edwards, Selectman  
Dave Pickman, Selectman  
Cheryl Behr, Town Administrator

### Office Hours:

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## Supervisors of the Checklist

The Supervisors will be in session on March 4, 2006 from 11 to 11:30 a.m. to register voters. This will be held at the Town Hall. Please bring identification and proof of age and residency.

### OTHER IMPORTANT DATES

March 14: Town Elections Polls open at 8 a.m. Close at 7 p.m. Elementary School in Bradford

March 15: Town Meeting begins at 7 p.m. Held at Elementary School in Bradford

April 29: Supervisors to meet at Town Hall from 11 to 11:30 a.m. to register new voters and make party changes.

June 6: Supervisors to meet from 7 to 7:30 p.m. to register new voters at the Town Hall.

June 6th is the last day to change party affiliation before the election.

September 5: Supervisors to meet from 7 to 7:30p.m. Party changes can not be made. You may register to vote.

September 12: Primary Election Day—Polls open at 8 a.m. Close at 7 p.m. Elementary School in Bradford.

October 28: Supervisors will meet from 11 to 11:30 a.m. at Town Hall to register new voters.

November 7: General Election Day—Polls Open 8 a.m. Close 7 p.m. held at the Elementary School in Bradford.

—Supervisors of the Checklist Ann Lucier, Judith Marshall, Jarna Perkins

## Bradford Women's Club

Due to the importance of this year's election, the BWC is bringing back "Candidate's Night" which will be held Friday, March 10th at 7 p.m. at the Bradford Elementary School. We recommend that everyone attend to speak to candidates and discuss our Town's future.

On Tuesday, March 21st at 11:30 a.m., at the First Baptist Church, we have two very special guests, Meg Fearnley (our local librarian) and Priscilla Parmenter. They will show and teach us the art of spinning wool. This meeting is a potluck lunch and each member is asked to bring a dish.

ALL EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS - Please Take Note - Our March Board meeting will be held at the Mountain Lake Inn on Monday, March 13th at 6:30 p.m.

There are an extremely large number of unpaid dues for the year ending 2005. So, if you haven't yet paid, please send a check for \$10 to the BWC, P.O. Box 292, Bradford, NH 03221.

— Erica Gross, President

## Valley Hearing

continued from front

It was the manner in which that impact is calculated that caught resident Andrew Pinard's attention. He asked about how the 91 cents per thousand impact in the first year was calculated. Behr explained that the amount reflected the town's current valuation, and the declining impact on the tax rate in future years was based on an assumption that the town's overall valuation would increase over time.

Resident John Harris complimented the committee's work, and called for bringing in planning expertise to address the future of Main Street. "The bottom line is that if we take the Valley Transportation, there should be more funds added to the bond issue for planning," Harris said.

Deborah Bede of Bradford expressed concern about the rapidity of the process. "This is happening too quickly—you are asking people to make a decision in a month."

David Camire II echoed Bede's comments, saying that "this is too much money, too fast." Camire also questioned whether the proposed Highway Department space was sufficient. Fenton replied that Road Agent Steve Lucier was satisfied with the amount of space and that it would be sufficient for "20 to 25 years, safely."

Selectman Fenton reminded the meeting that the committee was commissioned at the 2005 town meeting, and started its work last July.

Planning Board Chair Bob Foor said that residents should have been more involved in the town's planning process over the past two years, noting that the Valley proposal addressed the "top three priorities on the Master Plan." He reiterated that the needs assessment process had been going on for a while, and conveyed the urgency of those needs regardless of the vote result.

"Something needs to be done pretty quick," Foor said.

Audrey Sylvester's comments focused on the condition of the historic Main Street building. "We were shown a pretty grim picture of town hall," she said, adding "our precious town hall was left to fall into disrepair." Sylves-

ter called for the preservation of the building.

Behr replied that the town hall was over 200 years old. "After 200 years, everybody gets a little tired."

Resident Joe Conway asked if, since the work had been going on since July, an impact or feasibility study had been done regarding the highest and best use of town property.

"No," said Fenton. "Reason?" asked Conway, to which Fenton replied that the committee instructed the Selectmen to pursue the Valley Property opportunity.

"When you contemplate a major shift for your town, prior to doing it you do a feasibility study," said Conway. "Without information, you are making a decision in a vacuum."

Conway expressed concern about the future impact of the project. "I'm not saying it's the right or the wrong project for the town. Just because we have an opportunity doesn't mean it's right or wrong," he said. "Fifty years ago the railroad left and changed the town. This project can do the same thing."

The committee provided attendees with two documents that addressed the future use of the current town hall and the impact on Main Street, two issues being raised by the Keep The Main In Main Street group.

Bradford resident Doug Troy asked the committee about the feasibility of sharing police facilities with neighboring towns for detaining individuals. James Valiquet, chief of the Bradford police department, said that he'd still have to staff that location with an officer.

Valiquet addressed two key limitations of the current police station: the inability to securely hold individuals so that officers can complete reports; and the illegality of not protecting the identity of detained minors.

Don Johnsen, also a Bradford resident, congratulated the committee on its work, but not the proposal. "My personal view is that this is overkill." Johnsen asked if the possibility of building a combined police department and highway department facility on town land at the transfer

station had been considered.

Fenton replied that building codes prohibit the highway department from sharing a building because of safety concerns. He added that seven different scenarios were considered, but the Valley option stood out.

"Price-wise, this seems to be the best value," he said.

Bruss said that it would add "significant dollars" to build a facility at the Transfer Station site. "Economically, it [Valley Transportation] is the best way to meet town needs."

Everett Kittredge, chairman of the Needs Assessment Committee, summed up the Needs Assessment Committee's recommendation: "We are growing. The price is an absolute jewel."

But Bradford resident Carol Adams got the last word for the public. "I've been here 24 years and haven't seen the population grow significantly," she said. "This is overkill."

Behr says the committee intends to continue answering resident questions.

"I hope the residents took away the importance of being involved in town government. The members of the committee are a highly qualified group of residents and include three retired engineers; a retired assistant director of Public Health for the State of NH; a 30-year veteran policeman; an area businessman of 30 years; road agent, building inspector, assessing clerk and town administrator as well as those professionals engaged by the town (Tennant and Bruss)," said Behr after the hearing.

"All have served on various town committees and have taken this task seriously, but still need the input of the public to complete the job. Saturday's meeting helped to identify those areas the town has questions about and we can now attempt to address those questions."

—by Michael Quinn

## A Ten Cent Tour of Main Street in the 50s

I write from the experience of walking Main Street every Sunday from mid 1945 to 1951 delivering Sunday papers, pulling the cart shown in the picture on page 8. We sold Boston papers, the *Globe*, *Herald* and *Post* (10 cents) and in the summer the *New York Times*, *Herald Tribune* and *Daily News*. After the war, a *New Hampshire Sunday* paper was started in Manchester; one of its staffers, Ben Bradley would go on to fame with the *Washington Post*. Nearly everyone bought a paper, there being no TV, and the news was generally better in those days.

I can remember seven sites where gas pumps were located and five restaurants between Sunny Plain Cemetery and High Street. More houses have gone from Main Street than have been built.

Although my paper route originated in the house my grandfather built, now 15 Old Warner Road, let us start our review of changes at the Melvin Mills Railroad Station and continue in a westerly direction. The road from Warner went by the station, continuing to Bradford by Sunshine Farm, then a chicken farm, and up the S curve of Bly Hill, where the Blue Line Express tractor trailers going to Dorr Woolen mills and fuel tankers frequently got stuck in the winter. Next the house where my father was born, now a 21st Century business, then the Ski Tow, a rope tow where the recycled automobile engine power plant was located in the building used by World War II ground observer corps, where mother and I earlier took our turn watching for Nazi warplanes. We took instruction from Leslie Trow, using flashcards.

On down the hill past the house where Will Cressy was born, to the junction of Route 114 and 103 and the Lafayette square, then a triangle. A brick water trough stood squarely in the intersection, fed in summer through a lead pipe from the well up behind Bessy Gilman's/ Bob Moore's on Ring Hill. At the corner

the Tin Shop held several active apartments and downstairs variously a funeral parlor and a gift shop. On the opposite corner was Leslie Trow's bicycle repair shop.

Turn left down the Henniker Road to Lester Hall's farm where the milk, fresh



and unpasteurized, with cream on the top was 13 cents a quart and a half pint of whipping cream a quarter. Verne delivered ice, cut from Todd Pond and stored in the icehouse, still there today, for 2 cents a pound in the early forties. Not a bad business plan, selling water from the lake for 16 cents a gallon, but labor intensive.

Further down the road was Simpson's field, site of many scrub games using friction tape covered baseballs.

Across the street to Echo Cottage, immaculately maintained by Milan and Doris Clark, and a boarding house for teachers at the Central School. Then cross lots to Center Road, on down to Postmaster Simpson's and back up Center Road to Main Street.

Now westerly past Arthur Gardner's plumbing shop, Eleanor Marshal's Victorian estate, with mansion and barn and carefully-tended fields. Then Bill Tonk's snack bar and the Redfront store across the street, where residents of Warner, then a dry town, came during the week to buy beer. One of the more colorful characters was Jack Endicott, who lived on Kearsarge Mountain.

And soon to Henry and Betty Cilley's, office of the Town Clerk, and if I was really lucky, in time for a fresh, hot homemade doughnut!

On past the Bates block, a tenement of apartments where the scent of fried salt pork was ubiquitous of a Sunday morning, as was the scent of the cesspool in the spring. The building burned in 1952.

Behind the Bates block, where Brown-Shattuck Park, built in the later forties and where the highway garages are now located, was a sawmill, which had burned earlier.

Now past the Central School, grades one through eight with three grades and one teacher per room and zero aides. Hot lunches in the basement sponsored by

the Women's Club. Thank you! Then the Milly Jane restaurant, Wise's Garage and Machine Shop, complete with reel lawn mower sharpener, and on past Wiley's Barber Shop— now site of Lake Sunapee Bank, to the meat market, then telephone building and then Danforth's store. The store had enclosed stairs on the west side leading up to what had been a barbershop and poolroom. I remember the high chairs where one sat with feet on a rail to see the action on the tables. Later the shop became Harold Newell's Radio and TV Repair Shop.

In the early forties, Perley Wells came to one's house with the latest IGA sales flyer, took your order and delivered it. Harry Tucker, the fruit man, came up from Henniker with his delivery van, selling door-to-door and reporting the latest gossip. The Goddard bakery in Claremont had a route salesman with fresh goods, and took orders for a special mother's day cake with a fresh red rose.

Across the street was Smith's Garage and Cressy's, later Dodge's store, the only hardware store in town, and an ice

*continued on page 8*

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BRADFORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE

**“Main Street” meeting**

continued from front page

asked to look into possible ways to preserve the building.

Some of the questions that have been raised are whether or not the historic standing of town hall can be maintained with additions for handicap access and other changes? Apparently these changes can be made without losing this historic status by putting in improvements such as movable walls, vinyl floors, etc. with the proviso that these changes can be restored to the original state. Ms. Sylvester cited the example of the Eagle Block building in Newport which also has a historical designation and was in total disrepair. The building has been updated and now houses restaurants and in every sense is still a historic building and back in its original shape.

Andrew Pinard asked Ms. Sylvester to prepare documentation of her historical research and send it to the Needs Assessment Committee as soon as possible.

Caryl Walker asked why we need such a large police facility with room enough to accommodate the State Police? Beth Rodd

answered by saying that it would provide more police coverage in Bradford.

Sarah Chaffee, who is involved with the Concord Main Street project felt that the town was moving too quickly on the Valley Transport building and that people had many questions. Everett Kittredge, Needs Assessment Committee member asked for copies of everything.



John Harris suggested that money be raised for a feasibility study with \$100,000 as a figure because it was difficult to evaluate the impact of a move of the present town

hall from Main Street to Valley Transport on Route 114. He stressed the need to assess the project's impact on the tax base and how it would change the town.

A suggestion was raised by a committee member to ask the owner of Valley to wait for an answer from the town. Ev Kittredge said that he was asked for more time but said that he was not willing to do this and wanted an answer at town meeting.

Doug Troy said, “My question about the move to Route 114 for the town hall would be how much will it cost me as a taxpayer?” He cited the restoration of a town hall in Amherst where some of the same problems were faced. Littleton is struggling with similar issues.

Before closing the meeting Ev Kittredge asked the Main Street committee to wait their decision on the bond issue. “Please don't take a stand tonight,” he said.

“Keep the Main in Main Street” met again on February 21st. Their main concern is the preservation of town hall. Members will attend town meeting but feel the need for more time to consider all the issues.

— by Phyllis Wilcox

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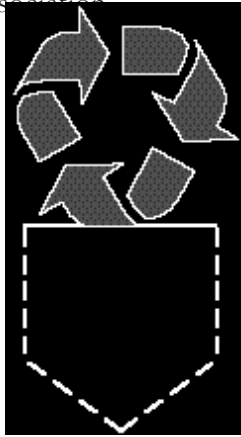
# Town Earns Over \$15,000 for Recycling Efforts

The Town of Bradford recently received commendation from Northeast Resource Recovery Association (NRRA) saying, "Congratulations for being such active recyclers!" The recycling that the residents of Bradford have done has had a positive impact on our environment and on our town's finances.

For instance, recent figures from NRRA indicate the following income for 246 tons of recyclables shipped to them during the past year:

Aluminum cans	\$3,515.50
Other Aluminum	75.96
Batteries	80.52
Brass	115.03
Copper	235.51
Mixed Paper	4,622.05
Cardboard	1,389.00
Scrap Metal	7,869.82
Steel Cans	265.04

Total Revenue from NRRA \$18,168.43



Hauling Charges -2,288.25

Net Revenue from NRAA \$15,880.18

Also, in 2005 the Bradford Transfer and Recycling Center shipped one less haul of compacted waste per month than it did the year before; the compacted waste was shipped every three days in 2004 and every five days in 2005. At a cost of \$135.00 per haul, Bradford saved \$1,620 in hauling fees in 2005.

As you can see, recycling is profitable and will become more profitable as more residents and businesses participate in our recycling program.

The income from recycling is deposited into Bradford's general fund to help offset the town's general expenses, and our taxes are kept proportionately lower as a result. With consideration for the needs of Bradford's town buildings, voting for the mandatory recy-

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## Main Street Tour

continued from page 5

cream corner, soda fountain.

Behind Danforth's was Scott Hall's blacksmith shop and the Merrimack Farmer's Exchange. On past the town bulletin board to the Post Office and now we are at the railroad tracks. The train tracks bisected Main Street only four times a day, plus the occasional freight, while Route 103 now splits us apart continuously. No stop lights then!

Crossing the tracks, the station on the left and the water tower, and Craig's diner, a recycled trolley car, on the right and the two bay barn/fire station on the left, telephone office on the right. The telephone operator controlled the siren atop Danforth's store, signaling 12 noon when called by the station master who was advised by telegraph, as well as location of fires, east or west of the tracks, and the one I listened for most on winter mornings, "no school."

Next to the Rearing pool was Delbert Nelson's ice cream parlor, later home of Henry Wright.

On past the church, down to Clay Nutter's house and then past the library and Town Hall. The Central School moved from the Town Hall in 1937, and the Town Hall was closed except for dances, shows and Town Meeting. Two four-foot wood-burning box stoves heated the upstairs and counterweighted fire escapes were on each side. We sixth, seventh and eighth graders were allowed to attend Town Meeting to learn

about the democratic process, and we actively participated in voice votes. It was an all day affair, with dinner at the Masonic hall.

Onward past the former King's Daughter's hall, residence of master carpenter, saw filer and weather predictor Harlan Morse, (how I wished I had his skills,) to Cressy and Williams International Harvester/Farmall garage and dealership. Carl Milner dumped sawdust from his mill to fill in the low area across the street between Leonard Wheeler's and Frank Brown's.

On up the hill past Del Steven's, former police chief and legendary guard of Harry K. Thor. Hubert Davis' house, meat cutter Tommy Nolan on the right and now the Green Gables, Tap Room, restaurant and franchise for the Hearst paper, *Boston Advertiser*—the Katzenjammer Kids. It was also a bus stop for Boston and Maine and Vermont Transit. Concord to Claremont, Boston to Montreal.

Just before Frog Street (Gillingham Drive) was Dr. Carlton and his wife. He

was always interested in the Harvard football results.

On past Milner's residence and nursing home, Dr. Wright's residence and of-

fice to Carr's store, still in business. Then Pleasant Hill Cemetery, no papers there, but every 30th of May we marched from school to the GAR monument, stopping at the rearing pool with a wreath for those lost at sea, and carried flags for veterans' graves.

Now Jack Reardon's Bradford Inn, with the tap room hinting of last night, then past Jim's garage (built in 1947), Carl Milner's saw mill, Leon Perkins' shop and residence on the shore of Todd Pond, plowed with doodlebugs for winter carnival and skating, and across the bridge down

Water Street to Eddy Westerburg's shop, across the West Branch to Hat Sergeant's and back to Cochran Hill.

Up to Frank Fortune's Dance Hall and back down to High Street, Ann Wood's bed and breakfast, Dot Crossley's beauty shop, past Harley Cummings and on to the Lakeside, where the aroma of Scandinavian food was much enjoyed. And more papers were sold to the boarders.

Returning toward home, delivering papers on Church Street/ Old Sutton Road and houses no longer there due to re-routing 103.

Mom has either American chop suey or meatloaf for lunch, and I'm ready!

This reminiscence is written to remind those who would avoid changes to Bradford's Main Street, wishing to shoe-horn 21st century code compliant Town Offices into an 18th century building with insufficient meeting rooms and parking, that Main Street is continually changing. Growth means change. Life means change.

—by Everett Kittredge



## Bradford • Newbury • Sutton • Youth Sports Baseball/Softball Sign Ups



Tuesday, March 21st - 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Saturday, March 25th - 9:00 am - Noon

Thursday, March 30th - 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

at the Bradford Area Community Center Senior Room

or pick up a registration form at the Bradford or Sutton post offices, Master's Country Store in Bradford, or at Outspokin' in Newbury and mail it in.

First time players, please remember to bring a copy of your birth certificate

**Registration Deadline April 1st**



# Insurance Committee Report

Over the past year, the Insurance Committee, established at the March 2005 Town Meeting, has been meeting on a regular basis and conducting a comprehensive examination relative to the matter of Elected Officials within the Town of Bradford receiving paid health benefits. The following is the Summary Report and Conclusion(s) by this committee for the Townspeople of Bradford to fully consider and take formal action thereupon.

## BACKGROUND

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 about the policy that certain elected officials (the Selectmen) receive 100% taxpayer-paid health and dental insurance coverage was raised again 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 ambiguous occurrences 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.

## SCOPE OF WORK

The mandate pursued by the Insurance Committee was to thoroughly research this subject, covering every aspect in depth, in order to provide an 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 selectman 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 records in order to determine the timeline and circumstances of the policy change effective in 2002.
- \* Reviewed the Selectmen's meeting minutes.
- \* Reviewed the Budget Committee records.
- \* Reviewed Town financial reports and 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 and collected the personnel policies of the Town of Bradford as well as those guidelines and

*continued on page 20*

# Insurance Warrant Article Clarified

One of the warrant articles (Article 6—submitted by petition) could, if approved by residents, extend medical benefits and participation in the benefits program to Elected and Appointed Officials, Volunteer Firefighters and Part-time Town Employees. One hundred percent of the cost of medical benefits would be the sole responsibility of the participant.

If passed as written, one unanticipated result could be that the number of participating users might fall below the 75% participation requirement. The petitioners are working with the Local Government Health Trust to develop wording to amend the article at Town Meeting to avoid potential complications that might endanger any participation in the program.

—Ann Lucier

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## Selectmen's Activity Report

### January—February 06

For the past several months, the Selectmen's Office, Budget Committee, Needs Assessment Committee, Planning, Zoning, Conservation and others have been gearing up for the March 14-15 town meeting. This year, the townspeople will be asked to consider a \$2.8 million dollar bond for the purchase of the Valley Transportation property for the renovation of town property. We will also have warrants for Selectmen's insurance, a new police cruiser, a new tractor for the transfer station, several highway related warrants, various additions to capital reserve funds, and the creation of two new capital reserves. There are non-money articles to discontinue Lord Road, accept Old Mountain Road (upon completion of upgrades by abutters) and two conservation warrant articles. Four petition warrant articles were submitted and are marked as such on the ballot. It should be an interesting meeting and we urge everyone to attend.

The meeting will be held at the Kearsarge Elementary School at Bradford on the Old Warner Road. Principal James Spadaro has been very helpful to the town in allowing the holding of elections and town meeting in the multipurpose room of the school. We understand there will be a bake sale for the Robotics Club in the foyer and, as we anticipate a lively meeting, refreshments will be welcomed!

School Board Superintendent Brennan attended the Selectmen's meeting in January and presented the plan for building the proposed Middle School in Sutton. His presentation was followed with one by the KARMA group from New London to explain their proposal to locate the school in New London behind the current Middle School. Since that time the school issue has changed with the denial by the state of the site waiver for New London. The effect of this denial will eliminate the state aid for a building project located on the New London site. This would cause the cost of that option to double for area voters. The matter will be decided by ballot vote on March 14th, 2006.

The Town has received \$27,000 from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) flood event (October 2005). This money has been placed in the general fund for 2006. The town is still pursuing reimbursement from FEMA for damages to two bridges on West Meadow Road. We have been given approval to begin design on one and have cleared the project with the State Department of Transportation as well.

The recording system is in place for meetings held in the Town Hall. Those of you attending the Bond Hearing on February 11, 2006 might have noticed the unit in the corner of the room. We will be using this recorder for town meetings and Selectmen's meetings and will be encouraging the Planning, Zoning and Budget Committees to use it as well.

The attendance at the bond hearing held on February 11, 2006 was terrific. We were pleased to see over seventy people attend this second bond hearing and present their thoughts and concerns to the Needs Assessment Committee and the Selectmen. It is only through this sort of exchange that the town can make informed decisions. We will try to investigate your concerns and continue to present information in response to your questions in the weeks approaching Town Meeting. We hope you will all attend and exercise your right to vote.

—Cheryl Behr, Town Administrator

## Town Meeting Then and Now

Town Meeting — where the newly elected make promises and the incumbents make excuses, while the curmudgeons grumble, the knitters knit, and those who want to abolish it don't think they have time for democracy.

Bradford's Town Meeting will be upon us on Wednesday, March 15, and perhaps we should have a look at town meetings of the past. Town meetings are viewed nationally as public hearings, which is incorrect. A town meeting is a peculiarly New England phenomena and is older than the republic, starting with the members of the Mayflower Compact. Historians tell us that in the early years town meeting was a sort of love-fest where the town fathers — but not the mothers — met regularly as a deliberative body with certain rules, ending in decisions on which each eligible voting member of the town had a vote. And in fact someone from 1750 could walk into our town meeting and recognize the form with moderator, town clerk and selectmen, if not the cars in the parking lot and the active participation of women. The Progressive Era made people aware of efficiency in government, and many towns moved to scrap their town meetings and move to mayor or town manager forms of administration. But in the last two decades people have once again appreciated pure democracy in the form of our traditional town meeting.

Social capital, meaning the richness of a community web of connections, is a term well recognized by analysts today as implying a healthy community of individuals. And the town meeting which

*continued on page 13*



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**Warrants**

cont. from page 1

cation of the school, the budget and several other monetary items. Ballot voting is by those physically present and those voting by absentee ballot.

**Article 2** adjourns the meeting until 7 p.m. on Wednesday March 15th. At that time, the remaining articles on the warrant are presented, discussed, amended if so moved, and voted up or down by those in attendance.

The tax impact for Bradford residents will include the money items approved by the voters of the Kearsarge School District, the \$2.8 million bond issue (if passed) to purchase and renovate the Valley Transportation property, the \$1.4 million municipal budget (as approved and/or amended), plus \$410,715 to cover Town commitments for articles 8–26 and article 32. (Some of the latter items would be reduced if the bond issue in article 3 is approved).

**Article 5** is a petition directing the Selectmen to develop a three year plan to renovate Town Hall and build new facilities for the highway and police departments.

**Articles 6, 7, and 8** deal with providing medical benefits for town officers. The first two are by petition and would allow specified town officials to participate in the Health Trust at their own expense and would require any change in that policy to come before town meeting for a vote. Article 8 asks voters to approve the current system of allowing specific town officials to participate in the Health Trust, as do town employees, with the town paying 85% of the cost.

**Article 9** would increase the war service credit from \$100 to \$500 in line with provisions of state law.

**Articles 10–26** cover a variety of money items—lease of a police cruiser, support for community activities, highway and transfer station needs, and contributions to Capital Reserve funds to reduce future spending.

**Articles 27 and 28** deal with road issues. Number 27 asks the town to assume maintenance of a portion of Old Mountain Road when it has been improved by the abutters to meet class V standards and accepted by the road agent. Number 28 requests the town to discontinue



## Library Lantern by Meg Fearnley

The next book-to-movie discussion will be held on Friday, March 3 at 7 p.m. This month we will tackle *Girl With a Pearl Earring* by Tracy Chevalier. Refreshments will be served. This series will continue on the first Friday of each month, so mark your calendars!

Our second annual Mud Season Book Sale will be on Saturday, March 25 from 9 until 2. Stop by to browse among the many books that have been donated this winter, or just to enjoy a hot bowl of chili or corn chowder courtesy of the Library Trustees.

Some of the many new books added to your library in February are:

FOR ADULTS:

*The 5th Horseman* by James Patterson

*Death Dance* by Linda Fairstein

*In the Company of the Courtesan* by Sarah Dunant

*Love and Other Impossible Pursuits* by Ayelet Waldman

*Eat, Pray, Love* by Elizabeth Gilbert

AND FOR CHILDREN:

*The Homework Machine* by Dan Gutman

*The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane* by Kate DiCamillo

*Ptolemy's Gate* by Jonathan Stroud

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as a town road an 1800' portion of Lord Road.

**Article 29** seeks to clarify the status of the Solid Waste Management Ordinance originally adopted by the Board of Selectmen in 1989. Town Meeting is asked to endorse this ordinance, which requires separation of disposal items both for the purpose of recycling what can be sold and reused and affirming the town's agreement with the Concord Regional Solid Waste Resource Recovery Cooperative.

**Article 30** amends the original warrant article that in 1969 established a Conservation Commission in Bradford but omitted wording or inclusion of alternates. The seating of alternates insures a voting quorum at Commission meetings.

**Article 31** deals with several parcels of town-owned land. If the town at some future date, decided to sell, trade, donate or otherwise give up ownership of these properties, attachments to the deeds (the conservation easement) safeguard certain values of historical, recreational and conservation importance for the public. A public hearing determines the exact content of the easements.

**Article 32** requests funds to survey and subdivide the Transfer Station lot with a view to selling a portion to offset the cost of providing/improving needed town facilities.

—Submitted by Marcia Keller

# SRK Greenway Annual Meeting and March Hikes

"New Directions in New Hampshire's Working Forests" will be the presentation at the Annual Meeting of the Sunapee-Ragged-Kearsarge (SRK) Greenway Coalition on Sunday March 19th. Chuck Hersey, of UNH Cooperative Extension Service, is the guest speaker. The meeting will be in New London at Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church. For more information see [www.srk.com](http://www.srk.com).

The SRK Greenway Coalition's winter hike schedule continues in March.

Please call the hike leader two nights before to learn starting location and time.

March 3 and every Friday: Dan Allen and Natalie Davis (763-5320) are offering a Winter Walkabout of all 14 SRK Greenway segments, but hikers can opt in or out any week.

March 4 (Sat) Brent Scudder (763-0187): A relaxed hike in Wilmot, from Granite Hill Road to Pleasant Lake via Langeneau Trail and the SRK Greenway.



March 10 (Fri) Mainstreet Bookends, Warner: 7p.m.

Discussion group: hiking, walking and land conservation in the Kearsarge-Sunapee region.

March 11 (Sat) Peter Sabin (456-3473) An easy-to-moderate 2-3 hour hike on the Mink Hill

*continued on page 17*

## Town Meetings

*continued from page 11*

forces a community to face issues together once each year may account for the fact that the New England states rank highest in the whole country in all measures of social capital and a healthy civic society.

Bradford's first town meeting, on March 27, 1786, was held a year before the town petitioned for incorporation as a village. The first moderator was John Brown, a Revolutionary War soldier whose house was on the corner of Route 114 and East Main St., which a former Bradford moderator, Bracket Scheffey, once owned. The first town clerk was Ebenezer Eaton who lived on West Road. The first selectmen were James Presbury, whose property is now the Center Road home of Amy Blitzer, and Enoch Hoyt, the brother of General Stephen Hoyt; today's Box Corner was once Hoyt Corner. The third selectman was Isaac Davis, who lived on the Heniker Road near Lake Massasecum. Two of his descendents founded a Boston enterprise that manufactured the well-known "Welcome Soap."

An early chronicle of town affairs records that on February 11, 1788 Bradford's town meeting voted thirty pounds (a pound can be calculated at five dollars to the pound) to build a bridge across the river near John Brown's. The men to work on the project were to receive three shillings per day (about 75 cents) for a man and oxen. A bounty of four dollars was to be paid for every "wolf's pate" caught, and Daniel Cressy was to be paid three dollars for his services as constable for the previous year. Roads being laid out were to 2-1/2 rods (forty feet) wide, and a tax of a penny an acre

was levied on all lands in town.

The lack of representation of women was evident in 1791 when the April 22 meeting voted not to keep a women's school that year. They voted to hire preaching — not a preacher — with payment to be in grain at four shillings a bushel. It appears that separation of church and state came late to Bradford. A year later they decided not to raise any more money for a preacher, but to raise thirty pounds to build a schoolhouse and twelve pounds for schooling. That year there were 37 voters.

In those days the center of town activity was Bradford Center, and the decision to build the meetinghouse that now stands there was passed in November 1794. The meeting that year was held in the schoolhouse, near the still-existent pound whose purpose was to confine stray animals. It took townsmen until 1796 to vote the thirty pound appropriation for the meetinghouse, but they did vote to give drinks and "vitels" to the raisers and spectators at town cost.

Civil defense must have been on their minds because at the January 1795 meeting they voted to raise minutemen at eight dollars a month while in service, and to give each a bounty of one dollar upon enlistment. That year there were 95 taxpayers.

By 1801 some advances in toleration are evident. A vote taken in August declared: "That all who wish to have their money laid out in Baptist preaching return their names to the Selectman's Office." Four years later all members of the Free Will Baptist Society were exempted from the minister's tax, and each

citizen should have the liberty of choosing their own teachers for their children. 1804 also marked the transition from British to United States Currency. By 1816 there were 232 taxpayers. Families were large: there were 12 Presbys, and nine each Hoyts, Eatons, Smiths, and so on.

A few years ago a teenager too young to vote asked at Bradford town meeting that the town go on record as supporting some national issue. There was considerable debate as to whether Bradford's town meeting had any business commenting on any issue outside the boundaries over which we had responsibility. However a majority agreed to the vote and the town went on record. Afterward a number of persons encouraged the young woman, praising her interest and forthrightness, and hoped that soon she would join the voting members of town meeting.

The incident was observed by a group of visiting African and Asian mid-career professionals who were in a Fulbright Program at Boston University. They were astonished by the kind of participation of townfolk, even debating at great length appropriation of funds for a cemetery fence. Such true grass-roots democracy was but a vague concept in their countries and they admired us.

Only about one in five eligible voters attend town meeting in New Hampshire. The other four are missing an opportunity to participate in their future and in a long and worthy tradition. This year make sure you participate.

—Ruth-Ann M. Harris

# Bradford Calendar

## BRADFORD BRIDGE ABBREVIATION MAP

BACC-Bradford Area Community Ctr.  
 BML-Brown Memorial Library  
 BNSYS-B/N/S Youth Sports  
 BWC-Bradford Womens' Club  
 KAP-Kearsarge Area Preschool  
 KRES-Bradford Elementary School  
 MLI-Mountain Lake Inn  
 S. Ctr. -Senior Center at the BACC  
 TH-Bradford Town Hall  
 ZBA-Zoning Board of Adjustments

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- For details or questions regarding Meals on Wheels or Senior Programs, services or
- For transportation info call the Senior Center Program Manager, **Sandi Bandieri** at 938-2104
- Kearsarge Area Pre-School; for info, contact **Fred Hubley** at 938-5521

For general information please call the Administration Office at 938-6228.

## SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
	<i>Ongoing Events</i> 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. or call 938-5386 for appt. "CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST CAFÉ" Senior Center, Fridays, 10 – 11:30 a.m., Fresh fruit, pastry, cereal, juice & coffee.		6:30 pm, Parks & Recreation Committee Mtg.,
<b>5</b> 7 am -2pm, Bradford Fish & Game Winter Fishing Derby, see ad on page 7.	<b>6</b> 8:45 am, Strong Living Exercises, S. Ctr. 10 am, Ceramics w/Doris, S. Ctr. 10:30 am, Yoga from the Heart, S. Ctr. 12:30 pm, Sudoku Club, S. Ctr. 1-4 pm, Bridge Group, BACC 3-5 pm, Junior Girl Scouts, BACC 7 pm, Library Trustees, BML	<b>7</b> 10 am, Quilting Bees, S. Ctr. 3-5 pm, Brownies, BACC 5 pm, Selectman's Meeting, TH 7 pm, KAP Board Mtg., BACC 6-7:30 pm, Yoga Class, BACC 7 pm, Zoning Board, TH	7 pm, Rural Heritage of Bradford, B
<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 8:45 am, Strong Living Exercises, S. Ctr. 10 am, Ceramics w/Doris, S. Ctr. 10:30 am, Yoga from the Heart, S. Ctr. Matinée Movie Club, Call 938-2104 for departure time. 1-4 pm, Bridge Group, BACC 6:30 pm, BWC Board Mtg., MLI	<b>14</b> 8 am-7 pm, VOTE!, KRES ★ 10 am – Knit Wits, S. Ctr. 6-7:30 pm, Yoga Class, BACC 7 pm, Planning Board, TH	7 pm, TOWN MEETING ★
<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 8:45 am, Strong Living Exercises, S. Ctr. 10 am, Ceramics w/Doris, S. Ctr. 10:30 am, Yoga from the Heart, S. Ctr. 1-4 pm, Bridge Group, BACC	<b>21</b> 10 am, Quilting Bees, S. Ctr. 10 am-Noon, S. Ctr., Free HEARING SCREENING, Call for appt. 938-2104 5 pm, Selectman's Meeting, TH 5:30-7pm, BNSYS Baseball/ Softball Signups, BACC 6-7:30 pm, Yoga Class, BACC 7:30 pm, Conservation Committee, TH	
<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> 8:45 am, Strong Living Exercises, S. Ctr. 10 am, Ceramics w/Doris, S. Ctr. 10:30 am, Yoga from the Heart, S. Ctr. 1-4 pm, Bridge Group, BACC	<b>28</b> 6-7:30 pm, Yoga Class, BACC 7 pm, Planning Board, TH	

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# for March 2006

DAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>1</b> recreation BACC	<b>2</b> 10:30 am, Foot Massage w/Betty Perron, S. Ctr 12 Noon, Senior Center New Name Celebration, S. Ctr 12:30 pm, Contra Dance, Free & open to the public, 938-2104, S. Ctr 6 pm, Cemetery Commission, Call 938-5539	<b>3</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 pm, Book-to-Movie Discussion, BML	<b>4</b> 11am–1pm, Writing Group, BACC
<b>8</b> Connection ML	<b>9</b> 5–6:30 pm, Bradford Area Community Center, Governance Board, BACC 11am, Musical Feast Series, \$5 incl lunch. Must reserve 938-2104, departs/S. Ctr.	<b>10</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. 7–9 pm, BWC presents CANDIDATE’S NIGHT, KRES	<b>11</b>
<b>15</b> NG, KRES	<b>16</b> 11 am–12:30 pm, Blood Pressure & Foot clinic, Free, BACC	<b>17</b> 8:45 am, Strong Living Exercises, S. Ctr 10–11:30 am, Brkfst Café, S. Ctr. 10 am–12 pm, Card Sharks, S. Ctr <b>Happy St. Patrick's Day</b> Bradford Bridge Deadline Call 938-5509 for info.	<b>18</b> 11am–1pm, Writing Group, BACC
<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</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.	<b>25</b> 9 am – Noon, BNSYS Baseball/ Softball Signups, BACC 9 am – 2 pm, Library’s Mud Season Book Sale, BML
<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> 5:30-7pm, BNSYS Baseball/ Softball Signups, BACC	<b>31</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.	<b>FREE MEDICARE “D” COUNSELING</b> Every MONDAY: March 6, 13,20 & 27th from 9 am 'til 12 noon at the BACC , Main St. Call 1-866-634-9412 for appointment

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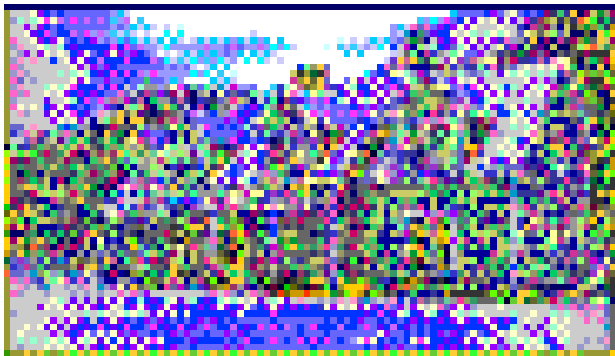
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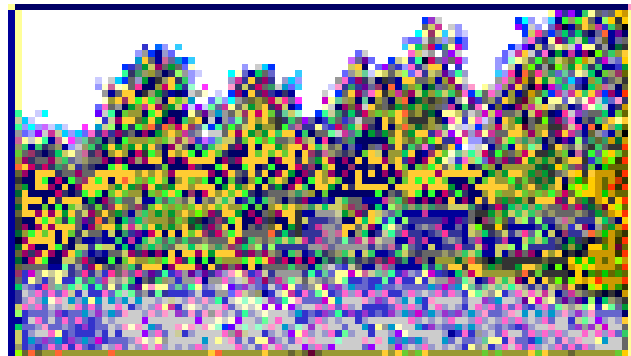
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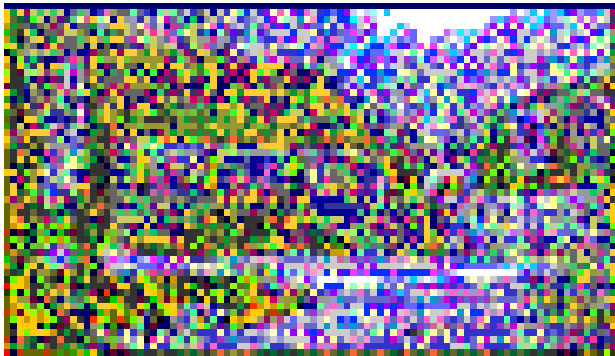
### Country Rustic Charm

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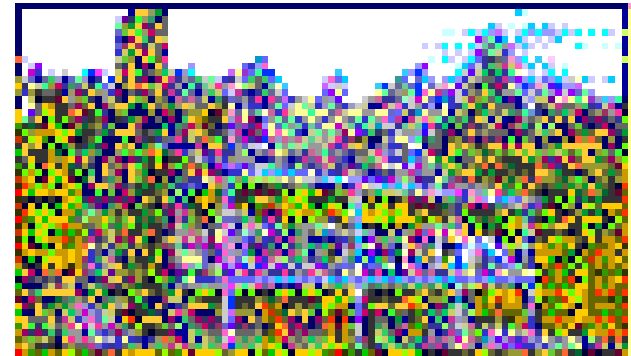
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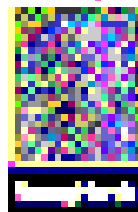
- Open concept kitchen, dining, living areas
  - Hardw, 2nd floor, granite, oak, SS
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- Bradford #200,000**

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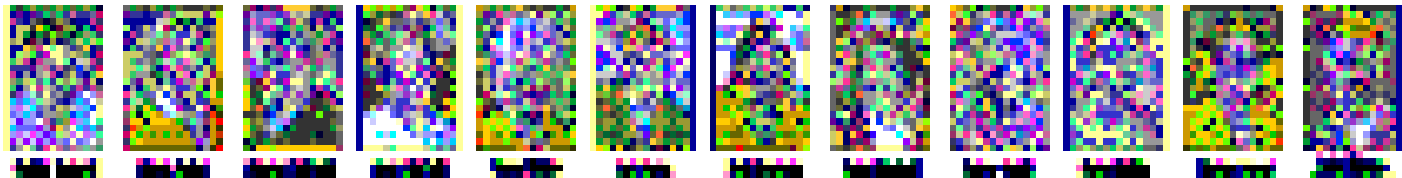
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# KRSD News from Jon Steiner

This is my last column before March 14th, the day all of you need to go to the polls to support a new middle school. A great deal has been happening of late over this issue and much has been said and written. In fact, the *Concord Monitor* calls the Kearsarge Middle School debate the single biggest local issue of Town & School Meeting Season. It has even created a special page on its web site devoted solely to all the articles and opinions surrounding the debate. Here are the latest and most pertinent facts as of this writing.



1. The State of NH notified the School Board that the New London site does not qualify for building aid because it is too small. What does this mean? State aid for the Sutton site is 55%; state aid for the New London site is a big fat zero! You do the math on \$2 million. Of course this decision touched off a maelstrom of criticisms from KARMA members, who asked the Board to appeal and when rebuffed, tried to appeal on their own

but were denied.

2. KARMA has claimed that the Sutton school design can fit on the New London site, with a few modifications. This claim has raised serious questions from citizens and the firm that actually designed the school. The truth is that architects find real problems with traffic flow and design that make the plan unworkable for the New London site.

There are many other peripheral issues about space, use, rising costs and more, but what it comes down to is two issues with no choice: we need a new middle school and the New London site costs millions more for a building that won't fit. Don't let a vocal minority kill the new school or stall it for another year while costs go up. There are prisons in better shape than our kids' school! This is the year. Let's get the Sutton School built.

—Jon Steiner, KRSD Board Member

# KRSD Facilities Update

On January 30, 2006, Superintendent of Schools Tom Brennan received a response from the New Hampshire Department of Education regarding the waiver request for the site size standards for the proposed Kearsarge Regional Middle School on the New London site. Dr. Lyonel Tracy, Commissioner of Education, wrote "I see no compelling reason to approve a waiver when a site that meets the standard is available within the district."

Under New Hampshire law, if a waiver is not granted, School Building Aid is not paid for the construction project. Since the waiver was not granted, the New London site is not eligible for the 55% Building Aid reimbursement for the projected construction costs of \$22,734,774.00.

The Sutton site has been approved for the 55% Building Aid reimbursement. Thus, construction costs on the Sutton site are eligible for 55% reimbursement over a 20 year period. The Sutton site is therefore eligible for taxpayer reimbursement of 55% or \$11, 123,550.00 over a period of 20 years.

On Thursday, February 2, 2006, the Kearsarge Regional School Board voted not to appeal the New Hampshire Department of Education's decision not to provide a waiver.

Further information on the facilities project can be found on the Kearsarge Regional School District website at [www.kearsarge.k12.nh.us](http://www.kearsarge.k12.nh.us).

Please vote on March 14, 2006!!

The KRSD has created an email list (list-serve) for members of the community who would like to receive district news. If you would like to receive this news letter, please email your name to [list-serve@kearsarge.k12.nh.us](mailto:list-serve@kearsarge.k12.nh.us).

—KRSD Communications Committee

*The Kearsarge Regional School District Communications Committee is committed to providing you with accurate and current information regarding the middle school project. Look for us on the web at [www.kearsarge.k12.nh.us](http://www.kearsarge.k12.nh.us)*

## Hikes

continued from page 13

Warner. Good views of Mt. Kearsarge from the top.

March 19 (Sun) Greenway Annual Meeting: Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church, Rte 114 (Main St) New London. Speaker at 7 p.m. Pot luck supper at 5 p.m. For info: Jean LaChance (927-4345).

March 25 (Sat) Gerry Gold (938-6132) Strenuous 12-mile hike on the SRK and

Monadnock-Sunapee Greenways along Sunapee ridge between Sunapee and Pillsbury State Parks.

Greenway guidebooks are available at local book stores. The SRK Greenway Coalition, incorporated in 1993, is a ten-town all-volunteer non-profit organization with members throughout the SRK region and beyond.

—Gerry Gold



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# Candidates for Town

Moderator—vote for one

- Dan Coolidge-write-in

Selectmen —vote for one

- David Pickman
- Andrew Pinard
- Trisha Dunne
- Michael Quinn
- George A. Cilley

Town Clerk/Tax Collector—vote for one

- Susan Pehrson

Treasurer —vote for one

- Marilyn Gordon

Checklist Supervisor —vote for one

- Judith Marshall

Trustee of the Trust Funds  
—vote for one

- H. Bliss Dayton

Trustee of the Brown Memorial Library  
— vote for two

- Beatrice Howe



Budget Committee — vote for two

- Erica Gross
- Robert Stewart Sr.
- Gary Wall
- Jane M. Lucas-write-in
- Trudy Willett-write-in

Planning Board —vote for two

- Barbara Vannata
- Susan A. Janicki

Zoning Board — vote for two

- Everett Kittredge
- Stephen Pierce

Cemetery Commission —vote for one

- Janet Riley

Scholarship Committee —vote for

Bradford's future. I will expand the communication process used by the Office of the Selectmen.

4) I will set up a steering committee of citizens with a diversity of experience to serve as a town resource and revisit previous efforts like the Charette report to engage the public in a long-term plan to revitalize the community.

5) I am a lifelong NH resident and a ten-year resident of Bradford; have served as the Community Center Director in Pittsfield, NH; taught theater as adjunct faculty at Pembroke Academy; Technical Director and Production Manager of First Night New Hampshire; have consistently participated in town meetings and committees; board member and director of Moon Mountain Arts productions (performed at Town Hall); provided technical expertise to the Bradford Bridge; a member of the Bradford Business Association; produced the BBA brochure for several years; created the town website "BradfordNH.com." Involved in youth sports activities, board member, Kearsarge Area Preschool, founding member of the "Keep the 'Main' in Main Street" citizen's group.

I live just off Bradford's Main Street with my wife and daughter. Please support me on March 14.

## TRISHA DUNNE 1) SELECTMAN

2) I want to serve for many reasons. I have lived in the community for 3 years. I have a 9-year-old son, and I think it would be great for him to see me doing such a positive thing for the community. I want to help my community in a positive way, and be involved in the community any way I can.

3) The most important issues for me are the insurance issue, the Town Hall issue, and where the tax money is spent and how it should be spent.

4) I hope to accomplish in my term getting better knowledge of what goes on in our town. Building relationships with community residents. Researching into making a gathering place for the young and old for the Bradford residents to enjoy together as a community, so we do not have to go outside Bradford and we can build more of a community center.

5) I have a great desire to learn and know what the community wants or needs. I communicate well with others

## To provide the community with information on this year's candidates for town offices, the *Bridge* asked each candidate to answer five questions:

- 1) What position are you seeking?
- 2) Why do you want to serve?
- 3) What are the most important issues you will have to address?
- 4) What do you hope to accomplish during your time in office?
- 5) What are your qualifications for office?



**DANIEL S. COOLIDGE**, WRITE-IN

### 1) MODERATOR

- 2) I enjoy the awesome power and prestige.
- 3) Keeping the town meetings enjoyable, fully participatory and fair.
- 4) Not to get caught in the crossfire.
- 5) A sense of humor and fairness, knowledge of Robert's Rules of Order.

**DAVE PICKMAN**  
SELECTMAN

No questionnaire returned.

**ANDREW PINARD**  
1) SELECTMAN

- 2) Bradford is experiencing unprecedented growth. This office requires a vision that reflects and balances the evolving needs and resources of the community.
- 3) We have serious short-term needs regarding municipal facilities that must be addressed. We must understand the impact of any proposals before acting on them. Transparency in government and community participation is vital to

and listen well and I will extend myself and my time. I would very much like to represent the needs of the people and our town.

**MICHAEL QUINN**

**1) SELECTMAN**

2) To preserve what makes Bradford a great place to live.

3) Three factors are impeding Bradford's potential: higher costs of living and taxes for residents; the Town's need to invest in infrastructure and planning; and a sense that town government is something done to folks, not for them.

When residents perceive a tax increase will create no benefit, they push back hard even if it is a good proposal. It is difficult to get people to rally behind strategic plans when they're concerned about the next tax bill or feel no vested interest in the plan.

We need to get government back into the minds and hearts of Bradford residents so they lead the revitalization of our town. Better dialogue between residents and officials is the only way to secure revenue to make upgrades today and plan for a better Bradford tomorrow.

4) Increased attendance at Town Meeting and on committees, and constructive dialogue with residents.

5) 22 years in nonprofit and for-profit communications management, and a willingness to build a better Bradford.

**GEORGE CILLEY**

**1) SELECTMAN**

My family has lived in the same house on Main Street for 182 years, my being the 6th generation, so obviously I have a great love and concern for our Town.

I graduated from UNH from the Thompson School of Agriculture. My wife of 55 years, Marge, and I raised our family of three (one lives in town) when long hours, hard work and perseverance was the rule of the day. I spent most of my working life as a dairy farm herdsman and manager. I am retired and living in Bradford full time, having moved back here 20 years ago. I now have the time to fulfill the requirements of being a Selectman and would appreciate your vote.

**SUSAN PEHRSON**

**1) TOWN CLERK/TAX COLLECTOR**

2) I have enjoyed my position as Town

Clerk/Tax Collector for many years and find it very exciting with all of the changes constantly coming through the office. This has never been a status quo office.

3) I am currently working with the Secretary of State's office to bring about some Federally mandated changes in our voting laws. I have been working on this project since 2003. This new system is scheduled for operation for the September primary.

4) I hope to be able to maintain the level of customer services for all aspects of the office. Most people appreciate being able to conduct many of their errands through the mail. To this end I am constantly finding new ways to have more of the daily business available for completion through the mail.

5) I have held the position for a number of years. I continue to attend special training for all aspects of the offices. In addition to the two spring workshops and the fall conferences, I attend any other seminars offered to further my occupational training.

**BEATRICE HOWE**

**1) LIBRARY TRUSTEE**

2) The library is my favorite place in town and I want to assist them in any way I can.

3) Fund raising is always important for a town library with limited resources.

4) To see that the library continues to be an integral part of our community by being responsive to the needs of its citizens.

5) I ran my own business for 18 years and feel I have some expertise to offer. I am also very familiar with the library and am a member of the Friends of the Library.

**ERICA LYNNE GROSS**

**1) LIBRARY TRUSTEE**

2) I believe that in every town the library is, or should be, a focal point. Reading promotes a healthy mind and children as well as adults should try and do a little reading every day.

3) Not that all issues aren't important but we find that keeping people interested in their local library can be very trying at times. We are always trying to come up with new events or discussions that we hope will peak curiosity and bring the townspeople in.

4) Helping maintain the balance between keeping the old ways of running

a library while incorporating all of the new.

5) I have sat on the Board of Trustees for the Brown Memorial Library for the past three years.

**ROBERT C. STEWART, SR.**

**1. BUDGET COMMITTEE**

2) I want to continue to serve because I have been a resident of Bradford for 50 years and have always had a strong sense of civic duty and commitment to my community. I have had the opportunity to contribute my time and knowledge for what I believe is one of the most important issues facing Town, the budget.

3) Efficient responsible expenditures of funds.

4) I would like to bring all departments and committees of the Town together and be able to assure the citizens of Bradford receive fair and adequate services through proper funding.

5) Resident of Bradford for 50 yrs., served 9 yrs. a on the KRSD Budget Committee, Treasurer of the Bradford Fish & Game for 33 yrs., member of the Board of Directors of the Hopkinton State Fair for 33 yrs., 5 yrs. as President, 5 yrs as Vice President, five yrs. as Treasurer and 30 yrs. as Director of Commercial Operations, Member & Treasurer of the Bradford Business Assoc., member and past Treasurer of the Governance Board of the Bradford Area Community Center, Member of the NH Board of Realtors & Sunapee Board of Realtors, Owner of Stewart Agency Realtors and Insurance, served 20 yrs. in the US Navy with 25 personal under my supervision, Incorporator of the Sugar River Savings Bank for the past 25 yrs., volunteer in the youth sports for Little League for 14 years and Boy Scouts for 12 yrs., Budget Committee Town of Bradford for 30 yrs. My dedication and experience has afforded me the knowledge and experience to qualify to serve on the Budget Committee.

**GARY WALL**

**1) BUDGET COMMITTEE**

2) To help the community which has been struggling with very large tax increases over the past 6 years.

3) Tax impact and transparency of process.

# Insurance Committee Report

continued from page 9

options laid out by the Municipal Trust.

- \* Conducted a survey of 36 surrounding communities to compare the policies of the Town of Bradford with those of its neighboring towns.
- \* Consulted with the New Hampshire Attorney General's Office.
- \* Conducted a Public Information Meeting.

## FINDINGS

**2002 Bradford Town Meeting Records:** The meeting records are indistinct but clearly show no specific Warrant on this subject nor is there a formal vote of record.

**Selectmen's Records:** The meeting minutes unmistakably indicate that no formal vote of record exists nor has the Selectmen's office to date been able to produce this vote.

**BUDGET COMMITTEE RECORDS:** The Insurance Committee could not review the meeting minutes or any other records of the Budget Committee regard-

ing preparation of the 2002 budget as no records exist.

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

**SURVEY:** The Insurance Committee conducted a survey of 36 contiguous communities of similar size and characteristics with 81% of these towns responding. None, or 100% of the respondents, offer, pay or provide health benefits to their Selectmen.

**NH ATTORNEY GENERAL CONSULTATION:** This consultation concluded that our examination raised legitimate questions regarding the conduct of government in Bradford.

**PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING:** Conducted on 10/26/2005. There were approximately 100 attendees who raised numerous questions and concerns. At-

tendees expressed clearly the need to rectify the current policies and place this decision process in the hands of the taxpayer.

## CONCLUSION

The facts and circumstances uncovered during the Insurance Committee's examination unmistakably indicate a need for corrective action by the Town (recommend-Warrant Article(s) at Town Meeting). Additionally, the current practice of taxpayer-paid benefits to Elected Officials appear to have been implemented with procedural irregularities and without full disclosure and justification to the citizens of Bradford.

We would like to thank the citizens of Bradford for their thoughtful input, cooperation, candor and support during this past year of fact finding.

—Respectfully submitted,  
**BRADFORD INSURANCE COMMITTEE:**  
 Chairman Gary Wall, Joe Conway,  
 Perry Teele, Tandy Hartford, Bruce  
 Bowie, Selectmen's Representative

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**#1952 HENNIKER:** Perfectly maintained 3 bedroom home with new 24x20 detached insulated with electric garage, new furnace, septic, windows, wall, and deck! 3 season porch with must see views, nice size fenced yard. **\$259,900**

**#1953 WARNER:** Completely rebuilt in 1994, nice one bedroom plus sleeping area in loft, cathedral ceiling, 2 blue chimneys, wide pine floors, full basement, nice lawn and back yard, property presently leased. **\$172,650**

**#1942 CONCORD:** Three bedroom Cape in great neighborhood, new furnace, tile floor in kitchen, maple cabinets, wood floors, great fenced back yard, family room in basement, multi-level cellar. **\$255,000**

**#1958 WARNER:** Build your dream home in a lovely rural setting, hot tub, jacuzzi bath & walk-in shower, 2 stone fireplaces, finished walkout basement, 4 bedrooms & 3 up & down, 2 baths, covered porch & deck! Broker's interest. **\$459,000**

**#1950 WARNER:** Exceptional antique Colonial in A-1 condition. Family room (living room & master bedroom), new tile windows, full basement (ply/vinyl siding), sub lot, level & mowed peninsula, die heated garage, lawn white & snow. **\$685,000**

**#19513 WARNER:** Friday Extras! A 2-story coliseum off the dining area, deck for entertaining, hi-rise cabinetry in kitchen, Swedish stove for secondary heat. 5 acres on a dead end Warner River for fishing. **\$449,500**

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# Real Estate Hints:

## Tax Benefits of Owning a Home

by Laura Hallaban



Most buyers and sellers understand the fundamental tax benefits of owning a home. If you bought or sold in 2005, you'd be wise to consult a tax advisor with your HUD-1 Settlement Statement in hand so that he or she can correctly separate deductions from costs that must be deferred and eliminate nondeductible items. Here are some basic guidelines, but note that certain conditions or restrictions may apply:

### DEDUCTIONS

- Mortgage interest
- Late payment charges on mortgage
- Mortgage prepayment penalties.
- Real estate taxes paid in the tax year
- Home improvement, mortgage and refinancing loan origination points

### COSTS

- Transfer taxes
- Owner's title insurance
- Recording, legal and abstract fees
- Property surveys
- Real estate brokerage commissions
- Local assessments that increase the value of your property
- Special homeowners association condo assessments that

- cover capital improvements
- Charges for installing new utility services for new construction

### NONDEDUCTIBLE

- Mortgage principal payments
- Mortgage insurance premiums
- FHA and VA funding fees
- Credit report fees
- Loan application/loan assumption fees
- Notary fees
- Mortgage note preparation costs
- Appraisal fees
- Home inspections
- Moving costs unless you relocated to a new job
- Cleaning costs
- Condo homeowner association and application fees
- Rent for occupancy prior to closing
- Homeowner's insurance premiums
- Wages for household help
- Depreciation
- Cable TV, electricity, gas, telephone or water
- Trash collection, lawn mowing,

### RECENT SALES IN BRADFORD

\* None in the last month. There are currently 36 residential properties for sale in Bradford, and 15 land parcels.

## The Bradford Country Squares

The Bradford Country Squares will host a Mainstream/Plus Square Dance in honor of St. Patrick's Day on Saturday, March 18th, at the Kearsage Regional Elementary School in Bradford, NH, from 8-10:30 p.m.

Lenny Stratton will call and Bernie Porter will cue. Price of admission is \$6 per person and refreshments will be served. For more information, please call Norma or Arlo Burns at 603-927-4454. Spectators are free and always made welcome.

—Submitted by Shirley Trombley

## Soo-Nipi Audubon Chapter

Please join Ted Keene, local birding enthusiast who travels to birding hot spots, at the Soo-Nipi Audubon Chapter program Friday, March 10, 7:30 p.m., at Tracy Memorial Library, Main Street, New London, for his slide presentation, "Birding Panama From Canopy Tower." This program is open to the public and refreshments will be served. For more information please call Ruth White at 763-4893.



On Sunday, March 12, the Soo-Nipi Audubon Chapter will sponsor a birding trip to the Connecticut River to observe overwintering eagles. Please meet leader Robin Gray at Warner Park and Ride, exit 9, I-89, at 8:00 a.m. Bring lunch, beverage, binoculars and a scope if you have one. For details call Robin at 927-4127.

—Submitted by Myra La Pierre

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Click on the **Bradford Bridge** link.

# Letters, Letters...

To the Residents of Bradford,

I would like to clear up a misunderstanding that evidently has been going around. The Town of Bradford does NOT pay me anything to update and maintain the town website. It is done as a donation from my own business and the Bradford Business Association. So if you find mistakes and outdated information, I really do appreciate it when you let me know, but please try to be a little more civil about it. I have received some less than polite (actually rather nasty) emails this past month implying that I'm not doing my job very well. I rely on information directly from the Town Hall and from local businesses, organizations and individuals that submit it to me to keep it up to date. So please have mercy! I'm just a volunteer.

—Heather Turner, Forfeng Designs

Letter to the Editor,

There is no doubt that our school district is in need of a new middle school. Much of the current building is well over 40 years old and is already overcrowded. We need a safe, state-of-the-art school for the students of the next 40 years. We cannot expect to keep and attract the best and brightest educators without a decent facility.

I ask all registered Bradford voters to vote YES on Article 1 on March 14th for a new middle school, and to vote for the SUTTON site. A vote for the Sutton site means the State of NH contributes 55% of the total cost, leaving our district taxpayers a cost of \$11.2 million. A vote for the New London site means the state of NH contributes 0% of the total cost, leaving our district taxpayers to pay 100% or \$24.7 million dollars.

If you are eligible to vote, but not registered, please register. If you cannot vote on March 14th, please pick up an absentee ballot. Cast your vote for the future of the children of Bradford and the district and vote YES for a new middle school in SUTTON.

—Jane Bready, PTC President,  
KRES Bradford Elementary School

Dear Bradford Residents:

At this year's town meeting we will be asked to vote on a warrant article that will officially adopt the Solid Waste Management Ordinance, which was originally written and accepted by our selectmen in 1989. This ordinance spells out the responsibilities of the town, of the transfer station manager, and of the residents in disposing of trash. The document is very comprehensive, covering such matters as household hazardous wastes and the materials that must be recycled.

Though it was adopted by the selectman in 1989, the ordinance was never officially voted upon by the town. According to the NH Municipal Association, "the town" must also vote at town meeting.

Since 1989 the town has been operating under the assumption that the ordinance was legally in place. Recently, it was discovered that Bradford had not officially adopted it.

After its acceptance there will be a chance to fine-tune the document at a later date. Such changes will probably include an updated list of recyclable materials and clarification as to who is allowed to use the transfer station. Changes can only be made after a public hearing.

Please vote in favor of the Solid Waste Management Ordinance, which was submitted as a warrant article by our selectmen. Because of our cooperation in disposing of our waste, Bradford will continue to reap the benefits of keeping our trash hauling costs to a minimum and of gaining income from recycling. The environment also thanks you.

Thank you for your support.

—Debbie Bruss

Letter to the Editor,

It is important for voters to know the facts regarding the cost of a new middle school. Although question 1 asks voters to raise \$24.7 million to construct the school, 55% of this money, \$13.5 million, will be reimbursed by the State

of NH as part of the school building aid program...IF WE BUILD IN SUTTON. If voters choose New London, the State has said it will not provide any building aid because they feel the site is substandard. We will be stuck paying the entire \$24.7 million.

I believe the Sutton site is the right choice for reasons related to education and fairness. Now we have 13.5 million more reasons to vote for Sutton!

Further information on the Middle School Project can be found on the Kearsarge Regional School District website at [www.kearsarge.k12.nh.us](http://www.kearsarge.k12.nh.us)

Please be sure and vote March 14th at KRES at Bradford. Every vote counts!!!!

—Mary Keegan Dayton

To the Editor,

We urge you to join us in supporting Andrew Pinard for Bradford selectman when you go to the polls on Tuesday, March 14. Andrew has the leadership skills, vision and creativity to represent our town's interests now and in the future.

Like many New Hampshire towns, we are facing issues of mounting taxation, population growth and environmental challenges that will require time, judgment and commitment to address. Andrew has a young family, is invested in the community for the long run and is enthusiastic and committed to maintaining the character of our town while addressing the fiscal issues that concern all of us. Forthright, thorough, energetic and in possession of excellent interpersonal skills, Andrew will balance the town's resources and needs with fairness and common sense. Please vote for Andrew Pinard. He will help us make Bradford an even better place to live.

—Amy Blitzer, Joe & Maryse Conway,  
John & Ruthann Harris, Jane & Don  
Johnsen, Mary Keegan-Dayton, Eileen  
Kelly, Nancy McEachern, Beth  
& Carey Rodd, Alex Spiliotis, Audrey  
V. Sylvester, Caryl Walker, Pam & Gary  
Wall, Phyllis Wilcox

# and More Letters...

Letter to the Editor,

As we approach the vote on the bond issue to purchase and revamp the Valley Transportation property, some background may be of help. I mention this to show that the Needs Assessment Committee itself was sensitive to the issues now under discussion.

The Committee, prior to the Selectmen's direction to the Committee to focus on the Valley property, had voted on the construction of a new highway garage and police station to be located at the Route 103 access to the Transfer Station site and to refurbish the Town Hall for town offices. The rationale was to provide new, much needed facilities for both the highway and police departments that would be maintenance-free for at least 10 years, would keep the town offices on Main Street, could be accomplished well within the budget proposed for the purchase of the Valley property, and would keep the Valley property on the tax rolls. There was no accommodation for parks and recreation in this proposal.

The vote was rescinded when the Selectmen directed the Committee to further consider the Valley proposal. In this configuration, the main garage building would be converted into town offices and police station with the large garage space used for parks and recreation. The separate, and smaller, garage building would be dedicated to highway department use.

Two further questions to consider:

1. Will the \$905,000 purchase price for the Valley Transportation property be reduced if 2 acres with frontage on Route 114 are sold off prior to the purchase?
2. What is the loss of taxable income to the Town if this property is taken off the tax rolls and is the assessment of the property correct and reasonable?

This is a complex issue and whichever decision is made will have a long term impact on the Town of Bradford.

—Dick Keller, Member,  
Needs Assessment Committee

Letter to the Editor,

Relocating our Town Hall a mile from town center would effectively dismantle Bradford. Past solutions to the issue of more space for our police and highway departments were not acceptable. The reasons boiled down to "the plans weren't comprehensive." All reasonable alternatives had not been examined and presented so that a balanced judgement could be made by voters. We are asked to move ahead on the Valley Transportation property. But where is the comprehensive plan? What is missing?

Justify pulling the Town Hall out of the heart of our town and dropping it a mile away into a commercially-zoned area. Professional civic planners have told us this is a major mistake which will adversely effect Bradford's future development. Simply stating "times have changed," "it's been looked at" and "trust us" are not sufficient reasons to vote yes.

The projection of a \$0.91/thousand impact doesn't address other funding warrants—in town and from the school district. Voters should know beforehand the worst-case and most-likely tax impact projections before voting on any of the school/town requests. There is a plan for allocating spaces and adding new siding, etc. That is a start. The \$0.91 figure addresses solely the annual payment on the bond to purchase and renovate the Valley Transportation property. Costs of operation and maintenance (O&M) have not been projected. Renovation and O&M of the vacated current Town Hall? If not, it would still be unusable due to all its defects and the specter of a lawsuit would still be hovering over the building.

Why do we need such a complex of structures and acreage for a town whose inhabitants number somewhere between 1500 and 1800? Neighboring towns with significantly larger populations & tax base have nowhere near the floor space for town functions as this would provide to Bradford. How have we reached the point where we can fund for "future expansion" when our roads are in dire need? Let's renovate and retain our Town Hall. Adjacent properties are available

for acquisition to resolve problems of septic, water and parking. Keep it active IN town where it belongs. We do need adequate facilities for our police and highway departments; but there are other workable solutions for the police and highway functions. Solutions which are better suited to our size, ability to pay and desire to keep our existing town identity.

Letter to the Editor,

Having been born and lived over half my lifetime in the family home on Main Street, I have witnessed on Bradford's Main Street the disappearance of a railroad, three grocery stores, seven gas stations, three auto garages, a farm machinery dealership, and Center School as well as an ice-cream parlor, post office, an inn and a hardware store. In 1964 Route 103 divided the town and made Main Street, just a street, East and West. Five homes that were private residences on Main Street are now multi-apartment buildings.

The Town Hall has been neglected not by the selectmen, but by the voters (voters that do vote and ones that don't) of the town. The building has been decimated by overloading the electrical system and our unwillingness to make it an insurable and people-safe building.

The townspeople had an opportunity to make the old Central School an office building in 1999 and rejected it. There has been nothing done since that time to solve the problems with the Town Hall housing the municipal functions of our town as well as the Police Department. How many more years can we have the attitude that we need to review all the options? We have done just that for the past twenty years. It is now time to act.

Now there is an opportunity to do something about it again and a strong feeling in town is to turn it down again for further study. Where have these people been for the past ten years?

—George A. Cilley

*continued on page 24*

To the Editor:

We would like to thank the members of the Bradford Needs Assessment Committee. Many dedicated people have worked hard on the town facilities project and their work is genuinely appreciated.

As Bradford citizens, we want to ensure that our town's facilities are adequate and not excessively burdensome to town taxpayers, and that our town remains a vibrant community that keeps its small town character. Previous planning reports for the town have emphasized the importance of keeping our Main Street and village center active. The Charette report even made recommendations about how our Main Street could be enhanced to serve as a unifying center for the town.

At first glance, the Valley Transportation proposal looks like a good idea. It offers an alternative site to present town facilities in decline. Is it the best option?

This project will be the largest financial investment in Bradford's history at an initial projection of \$2.8 million. If Bradford's town services move to the Valley Transportation complex, who will repair and preserve our historic Town Hall? Who will bear the cost? We worry that moving the Town Offices away from our village area will remove the vibrancy from Bradford's Main Street in much the same way that strip mall developments have displaced the economic life from other Main Streets and downtowns. The scale of the Valley Transportation proposal and the large economic impact on our small town should be balanced with a well-researched alternative plan to refurbish and/or expand our existing Town hall. Why have the citizens of Bradford been offered only one alternative?

We encourage the Selectmen and the Needs Assessment Committee to take another look at the longer-term impact that the Valley Transportation proposal is likely to have on the character of our small town. Regional and statewide planning agencies may have good resources to offer. No feasibility studies were commissioned. We believe that a more in-depth analysis of our town's future is warranted.

This is not only a chance for the citizens of Bradford to address much-needed facilities issues, but also an opportunity for us to reinvigorate and reinvest in our community through planning, discussion and participation.

Let's talk about how we want the quality of life in Bradford to be for our children and what we need to plan and do to make that happen. Working together can result in a well-researched proposal that citizens can assess at Town Meeting in 2007.

—Annie Ball, Amy Blitzer, Sarah Chaffee, Carol Conforti-Adams, Joe & Maryse Conway, John & Ruth-Ann Harris, Don & Jane Johnsen, Eileen Kelly, Phil & Andrea Lamoreaux, Corey & Cheri Noble, Andrew & Jill Pinard, Beth Rodd, Alex Spiliotis, Audrey V. Sylvester, Oona Tropeano, Caryl Walker, Gary & Pam Wall Phyllis Wilcox

Letter to the Editor,

We are sorry we will be missing Town Meeting, it seems like it will be a good one. Have become Snowbirds in the sunny south. Have said in the past if you don't vote you can't complain. But would like for people to really think about a few things.

First, Town Hall. If it is brought up to "specs" we spend a fortune and lose all the historical aspects of the building. It will still not fill the needs of the Town. If a private group took it over they would be able to get grants to keep the building historical. The Valley building would take care of the problems we are facing with the Highway Department, Police, Town offices and the availability of meeting rooms and storage.

We speak for Parks and Recreation. We have lost the Town Hall for our baton twirlers, line dancing and regular dances. There is no place at this point for us to hold our activities. With the Valley building we'd finally have a place large enough to hold these activities and much more. Indoor sports, dances, expos, flea markets, fairs and, most of all, Town Meetings. This building would bring back the chance to have town gatherings like the old days.

Know there are some people in favor

of doing something about Main St. To me Main St. was the Post Office, IGA and large gatherings at the Town Hall. These are all GONE. We still have the Library, which carries itself. Today most people drive everywhere.

So please think hard about the future of Bradford. The price is right and the time is right. We can't do it on Main St. anymore.

—Jane Lucas

Letter to the Editor:

Town meeting is an important part of our democratic process. This is the night when everyone and anyone should be able to ask questions, raise issues, and certainly present factual information. If your time allows, please make a concentrated effort to attend this year's Town meeting.

Bradford is facing many challenges in the upcoming year, and the townspeople should not be afraid to ask the tough questions. Many new proposals will be on the forefront, such as purchasing new sites, selling town-owned properties, preserving historical buildings, and maintaining an integral part of our town's Main Street. In lieu of other facts that have been disclosed to the voters these past few months, we all need to know in which direction our town is going. We need to know that we can depend and rely on integrity and ethics within the local government and especially remember that every elected official is elected to serve the community. Let us not forget that those you choose are put in that capacity to assist and safeguard the town and its citizens. It is a volunteer deed that should not expect anything in return, but the simple fulfillment of helping and serving the township and its residents. Being recognized as a local government official should not be an expedient act, or an avenue that will benefit those individuals only.

Please take time to vote on March 14th for the important issues concerning our town AND our school district, and please be a participant on March 15th at Town Meeting, as an informed taxpayer. Your voice and opinion count. Now is the time to become involved in our town, and help shape its future.

—Maryse Conway



**Candidates**

continued from page 19

4) To help steer the budget process to look for ways to bring the tax increases under control and help implement a feeling of 100% responsibility to the taxpayers.

5) Past President of the Bradford Business Association; Past member of the Bradford Planning Board; Local Business Owner for 21 years; Resident and taxpayer for 25 years; Past member of the Bradford Facilities Committee; Past member of the Bradford Economic Opportunities Committee.

**JANE M. LUCAS, WRITE IN BUDGET COMMITTEE**

Jane, daughter of Wacky and Jane Lucas, and has been a resident for over 30 years. Jane has supported the town even when she was working out of state. Jane has had much responsibility in her line of work. She has been Plant Superintendent and Plant Manager, giving her considerable experience in planning budgets and carrying them out. Jane is very interested in affordable growth for our Town. Backed by Lucasville.

**BARBARA VANNATA 1) PLANNING BOARD**

- 2) I would like to preserve the rural characteristic of Bradford.
- 3) We have many developments being planned in Bradford. I would like to make sure they are built to planning board and town specifications.
- 4) We know that town growth can not be stopped so we need to have smart growth. Having owned my home in Bradford for thirty years, I love the small town atmosphere as do others and will try to keep it that way.
- 5) Alternate on the planning board for two years. Regular member one year. Knowledge of real estate.

**SUSAN A. JANICKI 1) PLANNING BOARD**

- 2) I believe our Town needs a fresh perspective with an eye toward creative options for managing the impact of future growth and development. I love this Town and want to see us flourish without sacrificing our rural standards.
- 3) An objective adherence to the Town's Subdivision Regulations and the ever-increasing need for better, swifter code

enforcement.

4) Personally, I'd love to be able to cite statutes from memory. Seriously, I'd like to pass on as much information as I can learn about the workings of our Town. I want to inspire other residents to pay attention and become involved.

5) I have lived in NH for over 25 years and have been a resident of Bradford for 19. I have been attending Planning Board meetings for several years and was appointed as an Alternate in 2005. I am a good listener and can be objective despite my own opinions. I am articulate and a strong facilitator with professional background. Mostly, I am fair and I care deeply about the direction this Town is moving in.

**EVERETT KITTREDGE**

**1) ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT**

- 2) Volunteer public service is a privilege and responsibility in a democratic society.
- 3) Evenhanded application of the zoning ordinance to all properties.
- 4) Turning 76.
- 5) Member of the ZBA for 15 years.

**STEVE PIERCE**

**1) ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT**

2) Opportunity to serve at a time where significant development is impacting the town. Concerned that all existing property, as it might be impacted by development pressure, is reasonably accommodated before development proceeds. Very mindful that exceptions granted under Zoning Rules do not create a future hardship for existing property in the long-term view.

3) A. Changing appearance of the High St.-Main St.-Old Warner Rd. corridor and Rtes. 114/103 area surrounding downtown. Carefully protecting the residential character where it currently exists as commercial proposals are presented in nearby areas. B. Lake Massasecum protection from overdevelopment. C. Encouragement of green space within proposed developments.

4) Offering a fair and impartial vote on matters brought to the Zoning Board. I shall guard the public good from individuals or groups harboring "hidden" agendas.

5) Good listener. I possess the knowledge and ability to separate a proposal into its component parts. In turn, I can better identify pertinent information that bears on a problem and avoid spending time on information that does not have any effect on the problem to be resolved.

**JANET RILEY 1) CEMETERY COMMISSION**

- 2) I became interested when my husband, Tom, was mapping 17 town cemeteries and the process took over our dining table for many days at a time.
- 3) It is an ongoing process discovering some of the missing information about those buried in our cemeteries from old records and making connections so that our records are up to date. It is like solving a puzzle. I also see part of my role in offering support and encouragement to our sexton, Dick Moore, who has been working in our cemeteries for 28 years. We value his hard work, dedication and knowledge.

**LIVE-IN CAREGIVERS NEEDED**

**Are you compassionate, trustworthy and a good communicator? Would you like to make an important difference in someone else's**



TRAINING

**The Lake Sunapee Region Visiting Nurse Association is now recruiting for employees who will live in with a client for 3 to 4 days at a time to provide help with:**

- light housekeeping ► meal preparation ► personal

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Please call  
Kathy Labbe  
at 603-526-

## South Newbury Union Church News

The South Newbury Union Church is busy making plans for a fabulous Spring Flea Market and Bake Sale. It will be held indoors, rain or shine, on Saturday, March 18 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Friendship House (corner Sutton and Village Roads in South Newbury).

There will be household goods, toys, tools, books, collectibles, puzzles, attic treasures—something for everyone.

Don't forget about our bake table. This will be the chance for everyone to bring home a special goody.

Come and visit with old friends and make new ones. Have a cup of coffee, a donut, lunch and shop, shop, shop! The Friendship House is handicap accessible.

For more information call 938-2064.

—Gail Bostic



## First Baptist Church News

From Lynne E. Hubley

**ASH WEDNESDAY:** On Wednesday, March 1 at 6 p.m. we will have a light meal of soup and bread in the vestry and then go into the sanctuary for an Ash Wednesday Service of songs, prayers, readings and a message on one of the "I Am" sayings of Jesus.

**WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN GUILD:** Their March meeting will be a potluck luncheon on Friday, March 3 at 11:30 a.m. at the church. The program is entitled "Mind Games."

**FOOD PANTRY:** The March distribution date for the food pantry is Wednesday, March 15 from 6 to 7 p.m. Food can also be obtained at other times by calling the church office at 938-5313.

**MEN'S FELLOWSHIP:** The men will meet on Wednesday, March 22 at 7 p.m. at the home of Fred Hubley for pool, refreshments and fellowship.

**MARCH MADNESS BEACH PARTY:** Immediately following the worship service on Sunday, March 26, we will enjoy a beach party in the vestry. It will be a picnic with fried chicken, sandwiches and lots of games.



### BRADFORD NEEDS

- Balanced Growth
- Long-Range Vision
- Expanded Communication
- Increased Community Involvement
- Broader Asset Management
- Rural Heritage Protection
- Diverse Experience
- Leadership

## PINARD FOR SELECTMAN

Working for Bradford's future while respecting its past

# Outside

by J. Ann Eldridge

Odd winter we're having, isn't it? Spring keeps coming and going months ahead of schedule.

I have what you might call a desk job. I'm basically a paper-pusher. A seasonal progression of insect wildlife travels through this parched, bright landscape of cellulose and 100% cotton rag, dining, apparently, on a progression of more microscopic wildlife. In the deep of winter, after the spiders and flies have worn themselves out, an occasional assassin bug stalks the window frames. When spring really arrives, the tiny red spider mites will race across my papers. Slender-legged cellar spiders will appear later on. In damp summers I'll find large numbers of my least favorite insects, the paper lice, which will be eaten by one of my most favorite, the pseudoscorpions, which indulgently carry their young on their backs. Right now it's the ladybugs that are out in numbers.

All of these creatures are something of an intrigue and something of a problem. Their bodies caught between my papers leave brightly colored gore or an awkward Rorschach of legs. Spider droppings and discarded dinners fall to whatever lies beneath. The ladybugs in their fright or for spite squirt foul-smelling yellow insults.

But ladybugs are endearing, the "pandas of the insect world." Their bright, simple shapes remind us of cute children's drawings, which remind us of cute children charmed by bugs. We have grown accustomed to books, note cards and refrigerator magnets adorned with spotted red beetles. At some point, however, a billion smiley faces all over your windows can put you in a slightly altered state of mind.

Ladybugs are more properly known as beetles because of their hardened wing coverings folded over a single pair of fragile wings. They are the only insects in N.H. known to congregate in numbers in winter. Their intention is to overwinter as adults in good enough shape to eat aphids in spring, mate, lay eggs, and start it all over again. One beetle will find a promising hibernacula and release an odor that will attract others. There they will huddle till the warm weather of spring arrives. Houses with their many perforations seem like ideal real estate to them. The warm indoor air eventually convinces them of an early spring and they head for the warmth. Once there, they turn to the sun for direction - in this case focusing on light

fixtures and windows. Nothing in this species previous 200 million years of existence prepared them for this predicament and they are still working out the kinks.

My solution to the problem of excess beetles has been to detain them in ladybug ghettos of glass dishes over saucers and there supply them with a send-off snack of fruit or honey.

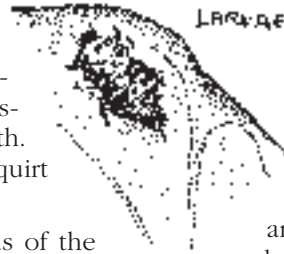
On warm days I set them out in the sun to take their chances. "She should probably get out more often herself," you're thinking.

No one yet knows how to properly feed ladybugs in captivity though entrepreneurs and biologists are working on it. The benefit of having them in gardens and greenhouses eating aphids and other soft-bodied pests has been recognized for more than 200 years. In their short lives from larvae to adult, each beetle can consume at least 5000 insects. Ladybugs are one of very few insects that most people can name. This coincides with the demonstrable human benefit and thus a multimillion-dollar gardening supply industry was born.

The problem is that the only feasible way of supplying the pumped-up demand is by harvesting beetles from the western states, primarily the cooler Sierra Nevadas, where they amass in tremendous numbers to wait out the hot valley summers. When released on foreign turf, such as New England, the confused beetles promptly fly away as they are programmed to do in their native setting. Tip: buy green lacewings if you're looking for an effective pest predator.

There are 46 genera and 400 or so species under the family heading of Coccinellidae, many of which are common to N.H. Recently, we have become home to an introduced variety from Asia. These ladybugs are tan to reddish orange with zero to eighteen black spots. A black "M" on a white background is emblazoned on the pronotum, just behind the nearly invisible head. It appears from my indoor survey that they are doing very well here. I have found a very few Two-Spotted ladybeetles which are redder with only two large black spots, some Convergent Ladybeetles (the western variety of which is sold in garden catalogues) and once in a great while, the charmingly named Twice-Stubbed Ladybeetle which are black with two red spots. Interbreeding occurs and sorting out the exact parentage of my incarcerated beetles would be difficult. I'm looking forward to another warm day for a major beetle release event.

—Reprinted from the Bradford Bridge, April, 2002



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## Spelling Bee Champs



Photo submitted by Kathy McKenna

*KRES at Bradford Spelling Bee Champion, Mark Sweeney (right) and Runner-up, Meghan Fortier (left) are fourth grade students in Mrs. Sweet's class. They will represent KRES at Bradford at the Concord Area Spelling Bee on Saturday, March 11.*

*Mark won the Spelling Bee in the 7th round by correctly spelling the word, "heavenly."*

## KRHS Boys Win Ski Championship

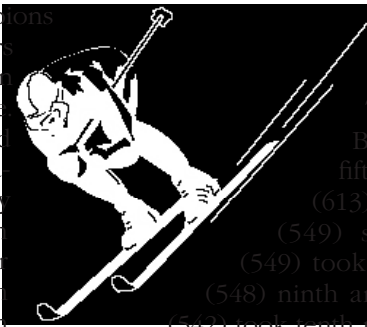
The Kearsarge Regional High School Boys Alpine Ski Team captured the Division III State Championship at Pat's Peak on February 15th. Beating two time defending Division III champions Gilford 759-751, the Cougars went on to place four skiers in the top nine to capture the title. Mike Dutile of Wilmot placed first in the GS and 5th in slalom, Jake Seidel of Newbury was sixth in GS and third in slalom, Ryan Serell of Warner placed seventh in GS and 8th in slalom and Paddy Dayton of Bradford placed ninth in GS and 10th in slalom. Great runs were also put in by Jeff Andrews and Nick Hauk from New London and Ben Dobrowski, Warner.

KRHS ski team alumni Tim Bianchi and Jake Stratton coached the Cougars to win the state title. Tied with Gilford after

the morning slalom run, Kearsarge knew what was in store...perfect runs. The pressure was on and continued to mount throughout the afternoon. Bow High School (730) took third place, St. Thomas (660) fourth, Bishop Brady (621) fifth, Prospect Mountain (613) took sixth, Belmont (549) seventh, Newfound (549) took eighth place, Berlin (548) ninth and Hillsboro-Deering (542) took tenth place.

Top skiers from each state Division are chosen to ski in the Meet of Champions each year. Top four finishers from Kearsarge, Dutile, Seidel, Serell and Dayton represented KRHS, February 21, in the Meet of Champions at Gunstock Ski Area. Go Cougars!

—Submitted by H. Bliss Dayton



## Classifieds

**WANTED:** The Bradford/Newbury Youth Sports program needs a microwave oven in good condition. Call Tina at 938-2993.

**FOR SALE:** 36" Zenith Color TV-Like New! \$275 Call 938-5596

**FOR SALE:** 1995 Dodge Neon "RED", only asking \$1,500. or BRO. Presently needs sensor for gas gauge and interior light. Tires have less than 100 miles. Contact Linda at 428-6569 or Tracy at 938-6196. Car located at MLI.

**FOR SALE:** Antique maple bed (full size), pine dining room hutch. Both in excellent condition. Presently in local storage. Reasonably priced. Call 938-2056, evenings to view.

**FOR SALE:** Radioshack 3-Channel Intercom System, FM wireless, selectable 3-channel operation-talk between 3 stations. Great monitoring device for caregivers. Like new. \$30. Call 938-2603.

**ENJOY PAINTING?** Looking for experienced painter to assist with exterior staining of new construction and main house. Staging and ladders necessary. Please call homeowners @ 938-5959 (days) or 938-2056 (eves) to view project and give estimate.

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

### Bradford Bridge April 2006 Deadlines

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

To list events for the April Calendar—e-mail bradfordbridge@mcttelecom.com by or before March 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.  
Call 938-5509.