

THE Bradford Bridge

COMMUNITY NEWS FOR NEIGHBORS BY NEIGHBORS

Volume 18, Number 3; Issue 199

March 2008

Needs Assessment Update

The selectmen had a meeting prior to the bond hearing. The Needs Assessment Steering Committee gave our selectmen their recommendation for the contractor to construct the proposed Highway Safety and Police facilities. Horne Construction of Rochester, NH was approved by the selectmen.

Tom Riley, Chair, gave the following presentation for the bond hearing.

A new Needs Assessment Steering Committee was established by the selectmen in May, 2007, to continue last year's work. This committee reports its recommendations to the selectmen, and the selectmen make all the decisions. The mission of the steering committee is to oversee a building proposal with the following three objectives (in order of priority): replace or erect new highway facilities; erect new police facilities; address a phased-in rehabilitation for the current town hall. The committee began meeting on May 10, 2007, first to examine the work done by the previous year's committee and then to work with building, financial, communication and town hall renovation sub-committees to accomplish the needed tasks.

Our first task was to carefully review the previously selected sites at the transfer station. We flagged the buildings sites and dug a few test

holes. We found that last year's site was unacceptable due to probable contamination and other factors which limited use of the area. We will address these later. After examining the upper level of the same property, we presented this alternative to the selectmen as new sites for the buildings. A site walk of the entire area was held on June 2, 2007, with the participation of the selectmen, the committee and residents of the town.

We created a new plan for the traffic entrance and road to the transfer station, with a new road to reach the building sites. This was proposed to the selectmen and approved by them on June 18. We then sought permission from the state for widening and straightening the current Route 114 access which was approved with the suggestion that we fix the steep section of the grade (which is currently at a 12-13 rise in

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TOWN MEETING

WHEN: First Session - **Tuesday March 11, 2008**, 8:00 AM – 7:00 PM

WHERE: KRES - Bradford Elementary School

WHAT: Elect Local Officials , Vote on Zoning Amendments

WHEN: Second Session - **Wednesday March 12, 2008**, 7:00 PM

WHERE: KRES - Bradford Elementary School

WHAT: Remainder of Warrant - Bonds, Budget, Appropriations, Petitions, Resolutions

Absentee Ballots available from Town Clerk for First Session

10 QUESTIONS:

By Phyllis Wilcox

JON STEINER

This is a continuation in a series of Bradford Bridge interviews with people in Bradford.

Jon Steiner was born in Wakefield, Mass. The family moved to Rhode Island where his father worked with an agricultural program at the University of Rhode Island. The next move was to New Hampshire where Jon's dad continued his work at the University of New Hampshire. Manchester was the place where Jon spent his next years and where he met his wife, Robin Ryan. Jon attended Central High School and then UNH where he majored in Political Science and English followed by a Masters in Public Administration.

Jon and Robin found Bradford by way of Champ's Auction House . Jon's mother, an antiques dealer, came to Champ's and Jon and Robin liked Bradford and built a home here in 1988. At the present time Jon is Assistant Executive Director of the NH Government Center. They have a much loved daughter Isabelle who is eight years old and attends Bradford Regional Elementary School.

Q. You seem to enjoy your duties as the town moderator and have received positive reviews. Have there been times when you felt ruffled by voter conflict? If yes, how do you resolve this problem?

As moderator I need to remain neutral. There are always two sides to an issue. Everyone should have a

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The Bradford Bridge



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Advertising

The Bradford Bridge is a free community newspaper supported by advertisers. To place an ad, call Beth Rodd at 938-2692. Ad deadline is the 15th of the month.

Submissions

The Bradford Bridge is written by neighbors, for neighbors. Anyone is welcome to submit articles and/or photographs of interest to the community. We reserve the right to edit submissions.

From The Editors

Would that the national election process followed that of our local elections – ten day filing period, five weeks of campaigning, election day, then swearing-in, and get to work. The endless federal process dulls the senses and results in disinterest and confusion. In Bradford on Tuesday March 11, from 8 am – 7 pm, voting on two zoning amendments and candidates for a variety of local offices will be held at the Kearsarge Regional Elementary School on Old Warner Road. Wednesday evening, March 12, beginning at 7 pm, the remaining articles on the warrant will be discussed and voted on.

In this issue, the Bridge plays its part in bringing information to the voters by presenting the complete warrant and answers to basic questions that were sent to each candidate. It is hoped that many of you also attended the Candidates' Night, sponsored by the Bradford Improvement Association, on February 29th (or the upcoming snow date of March 7th) to listen to the candidates and ask your own questions.

Consider carefully who can best help to guide Bradford and carry out the wishes of the voters for the coming year. Consider equally each item on the warrant. These votes will greatly affect your taxes for the coming and future years.

We thank all who filed for offices in Bradford. Whether or not you are the successful candidate, please continue your interest in your town. There is a great need for volunteers in many capacities.

In the meantime, enjoy the snow, avoid the ice, and think spring!!

Marcia Keller

Selectmen's Office Hours

938- 5900

Monday-Thursday: 8 am - 12 noon
1 pm - 5 pm
Friday 8 am - 12 noon

Selectmen meet 1st and 3rd
Tuesday of each month at 6 pm

Town Clerk/ Tax Collector

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Tuesday: 7am-11:30 am
12:30 pm 5 pm
Friday: 8 am - noon
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KRES at Bradford Students Share their Writing

In February, KRES at Bradford held its second quarter "Writer's Spotlight Assembly." Students were asked to write a story about a picture that they were shown. Grade level teams of teachers selected the following students to share their original stories at a special, school wide assembly: Jenna Cook, kindergarten; Jocelyn Young, grade 1; Brad Underhill, grade 2; Maddie Cook, grade 3; Jonathan Bellino, grade 4; and Kelvin Greene, grade 5.



Pictured above from left to right: Kelvin Greene, Jonathan Bellino, Maddie Cook, Brad Underhill, Jocelyn Young, and Jenna Cook.

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Candidates for Bradford Town Offices

Each year, the Bradford Bridge asks all candidates for local town offices to submit answers to the following questions in order to introduce themselves to the voters.

- 1. What office are you running for?**
- 2. Why are you running for office?**
- 3. In your opinion, what is the most important issue facing Bradford today?**
- 4. What approach will you employ to address issues facing Bradford?**
- 5. What professional / personal experiences do you possess that will enhance your candidacy?**

Moderator (vote for one)

Jonathan Steiner

1. Moderator
2. It's everyone's responsibility to get involved in our community in some way. Town Meeting is a unique democratic and social event and I'm proud to be a part of it.
3. Balancing the needs of the community with people's ability to pay. Bradford needs investment but there is only so much people can afford.
4. As Moderator, I will try to run an efficient and fair meeting, so all voices are heard but not to the point of redundancy
5. I have served on the ZBA, the School Board and have worked full time on local government issues since 1990. I also have a degree in public administration.

Selectman (vote for one)

Don Stumph

1. Selectman
2. I would like to assist our community to continue to be self reliant on our own merits, abilities and thriftiness. I am proud of my western heritage of self reliance and the heritage of Bradford's example of the first volunteer ambulance in NH. Knowing that the residents of NH are strong volunteers – Second in the Nation.

I would like to see our community increase our current sense of service to the community. I would like to keep our historical presence which New England is known for. Not

losing this precious heritage as many have lost in the West which I feel some of our neighboring towns are losing.

I feel I have the abilities to help our community manage ourselves in meeting the goals which I have heard our community share and we are hoping to reach. With 18 years as a resident of Bradford, I hope to serve with empathy and understanding of our residents.

Meeting the needs of growth of our youth, our financial responsibility as families and as a community, our emergency needs, our stewardship of environmental accountability and maintaining our historical heritage.

3. Goals: Reduce taxes, family financial burden; increase community interest – ask residents to help; youth education – assistance to reduce school budget; youth employment – pay for college / skill development; youth residency retention – value for cost of education / support to family structure; encourage business stimulation.
4. Using the proven models found in the organization which I have served. Using the practice of working with volunteers to reach their goals.
5. Boy Scouts of America – volunteer service, 35 years. political service, 12 years, infrastructure development church volunteer service community service

Peter C. Fenton

1. I am running for the position of Selectman in the town of Bradford.
2. I have been a selectman for the past six years. During that time I

have worked with the other selectmen in many different situations. The present board has worked well even though there are differing opinions on some ideas. I feel that all 3 Selectman have the best in mind for Bradford even though we disagree at times. I would like to continue being part of that process.

3. The new Town Highway Building and a new Police Building. We have been dealing with this for three years now and I feel that it has become an obstacle to moving Bradford ahead. It has caused a division among the people of Bradford. I feel if we could get this accomplished then we could move on to other important items such as our Town Hall, fixing or replacing our sidewalks, and making Bradford a great place to live.

4. I will continue to approach the job with an open mind as I hope I have done in the past.

5. I have lived and owned a business in Bradford for thirty years. I am a past member of the Town Budget Committee, Bradford Rescue Squad and served as president of the Bradford Business Association. I think Bradford is a great place to live, work and raise a family!

R. Jane Johnsen

- 1) Selectman





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- 2) I believe it is time for a change. A fresh approach.
- 3) Controlling the taxes and town growth.
- 4) Common sense approach with consideration for all residents.
- 5) 8 years on the Planning Board, a number of committees, The Bradford Women's Club, working on local projects, owning my own businesses and 3 years in the Women's Army Corp.

Supervisor of the Checklist (vote for one)

Ann Lucier

- 1. Supervisor of the Checklist
- 2. This will be my second term. I really enjoy the position and all the challenges that come with it.
- 3. The building of a new highway facility and police station. We have had three committees for three years working on these two issues and both have been defeated. I am hoping that this year at least the highway facility will pass if not both. As with the Middle School, every year it gets more expensive and will cost the taxpayers more by the time they do get passed. Ultimately this will have to happen if not for the safety issues to the employees of the town but the liability to the town. I just hope it is sooner than later.
- 4. Having worked in the Town Clerk's office when the residents see me they will ask my opinion on many different subjects. I communicate with as many as I can about what I know or tell them who to get in contact with for more information or the answers I do not know.
- 5. The experience from my first term. I was one of 40-50 Supervisors and Town Clerks (from the entire state) that were involved in writing of the program for the centralized voter registration system.

This was to insure that we had all the necessary tools to do our job more efficiently and avoid voter fraud with duplicate voters in this web based site, Electio-Net.

We have come a long way in 6 years from an Excel program done at home to a centralized system that can give you information minute to minute. For example, when a new voter has been added to our checklist, an automatic message is sent to the last town the person registered to vote, notifying them they have moved to Bradford.

Trustee of the Trust Funds

Thomas Riley

- 1. Trustee of the Trust Funds
- 2. This will be my third term. I am pleased to assist in this committee. This year we put the cemetery perpetual care lot holders on a data base to include their cemetery and lot information for the ability to cross-reference.
- 3. The need for new Police and Highway facilities.
- 4. Aid and support those seeking to accomplish this goal.
- 5. Member of the Trustees since 2002.
Member – Cemetery Commission since 1999.

Trustee of Brown Memorial Library (vote for three)

Joan Perry

- 1. Library Trustee
- 2. I feel it is important to give back to the community and reading and books are my passion so it has always seemed like a good match. I have served one term and was chair for this past year and would like to make good use of the knowledge I've acquired to help support the library.

- 3. The issue with the town hall, police department and road shed.
- 4. In the library we have used a sound fiscal approach while raising outside funds to supplement our budget and provide extras for library patrons.
- 5. As I indicated above, I have been on the board for 3 years and chair the past year. In addition, I have chaired other organizations in the past.

Amy Blitzer

- 1. Brown Memorial Library Trustee
- 2. I have served one term as a library trustee. Now that I know the ropes, I feel I can be more useful.
- 3. Improving and revitalizing the downtown area.
- 4. As a library trustee I will try to maintain the library as one of Bradford's beautifully restored buildings.
- 5. I have been a long-time participant in a variety of town committees.

Rod Jones


- 1. Trustee, Brown Memorial Library
- 2. Folks living in small towns should contribute any way they can with any skills they possess.
- 3. Taxes too high, education too low.
- 4. Work with people to get a job done well.
- 5. I have been a Trustee before this time.

Scholarship Committee (vote for one)

Dawn Rich


- 1. Town of Bradford School Scholarship Committee
- 2. For the past six years I have been honored to serve the community by helping Bradford students to further their higher education. I would like to continue this endeavor.
- 3. The community needs to come together and let go of personal agendas. We need to vote for the buildings that are so needed for our Highway and Police Departments.
- 4. I am presently part of the Needs Assessment Steering Committee for communications working to make our residents aware of the issues.
- 5. First, as a Mom of five children, I was very involved with my children in seeking scholarships for their college education. Professionally, a past

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Candidates - continued

school secretary in New Jersey and now retired school secretary from KRES at Bradford. Our family continues to be involved in pursuing education needed for all age levels.

Budget Committee (vote for two)

Jack Meaney

1. Budget Committee
2. My term expires and I decided to run for re-election.
3. To save the taxpayers money by preventing wasteful spending.
4. Common sense.
5. My running a small business and past experience in this position.

Christopher Aiken

1. Budget Committee
2. To help keep Bradford's tax base within the means of its residents while also providing it with the proper tools and services necessary for growth.
3. Its ability to handle new growth and development.
4. I believe the issues in Bradford need to be handled with a straight forward approach.
5. I am currently involved with different departments and committees in town and have an understanding of their budgets and needs.

Planning Board for three years (vote for two)

Philip LaMoreaux

1. I am running for one of the three year seats on the Planning Board.
2. I feel that Planning Boards have tremendous potential to positively affect patterns of development. I regret that public opinions of Planning Boards throughout the state are often so negative. For the past three years I have served on the Planning Board out of both a sense of civic responsibility and to affect positive influence on the community we live in.
3. I think maintaining a high quality of life for the residents of Bradford is of very high importance. While quality of life is a multifaceted concept, there are a few things that we can do in the immediate future to positively impact it. Providing adequate modern facilities for those who provide us with clean passable roads, safety services, and town

administration is a great start toward that goal. That said, keeping operating cost and taxes low is another component of quality of life that can't be neglected. I have a strong appreciation for our Selectmen and Budget Committee for continuing to maximize the returns on our tax dollars.

4. I intend to continue my approach of fair consistent application and enforcement of the Zoning Ordinance, Subdivision Regulations, and Site Plan Regulations. I do feel that as property owners we have inherent rights that should be maintained but that those rights should be balanced with a long term responsibility and land stewardship for the benefit of all future users.
5. In addition to nearly four years of experience on the Planning Board, I am also a member of the Need Assessment Steering Committee. I feel that previous work experience in this state and other New England states has opened my eyes to patterns of development that have the potential to negatively affect the quality of life we enjoy here in Bradford.

Bill Glennie

1. Planning Board – 3 year term
2. To continue helping Bradford prepare for the future.
3. Lack of participation in essential community processes. We need fresh perspectives in many critical town functions. It is not possible to keep doing things the way they have been done for decades, because change is coming. The only thing in our control is to be prepared for it, not just let it happen without any foresight.
4. Collaboration, outreach and listening. I will participate in community events (beyond the town meetings I'm already attending) to meet a wide cross-section of town members.
5. I have worked in the field of Architecture for my entire professional life and have a Bachelor of Arts in Architecture and a Masters in Civil Engineering. This gives me a lot of experience with interpreting building and site plans as well as other technical documents, such as drainage studies. In addition, I've

been a member of the Planning Board for three years and have served on the Zoning Board of Adjustment for six years as an alternate (currently) and full member.



VOTE !

Town Crier, Freddy Sheehan,
during the 1987 Bradford
Planning Board for two years
Bicentennial
(vote for one)

Carol Meise

1. Planning board - 2 year appointment.
2. In the 3 years I have lived in Bradford, I have grown to love the town's country landscape and small town atmosphere. I would like to help preserve these attributes as well as help the town's business sector grow to offset our property taxes.
3. The most important issue for the town today is what we will allow to happen tomorrow. In the 25 years I have lived in New England, I have seen many small towns overrun by development. Their taxes have gone through the roof with little or no increase in town services. When businesses have come in to serve these communities, they have built with no appreciation for town aesthetics. Holding to the intent of the ordinances Bradford currently has in place would prevent this.
4. A town of this size functions by heavy reliance on volunteers. I will continue to familiarize myself with the various groups working to direct

the growth and character of Bradford's development with a mind to keeping Bradford's rural character and open space, its property taxes as low as possible and encouraging centralized business development in a way that preserves the town's quaintness.

5. I have spent the last 2 years as an alternate on the planning board, learning about Bradford's development issues. I have also attended seminars on town planning and incorporating the town's environmental concerns into planned growth. My work experience has been as a field research scientist. This profession required coordinating with diverse departments and interests. These experiences have given me the ability to work well with others by listening to the needs of others and in reaching consensus by which everyone's needs are addressed.

Delbert "Sonny" Harris III

Planning Board for One Year (vote for one)

Barry Wheeler

1. Planning Board, 1 year.
2. First, I would like to state that I have no agenda and personal gain is not the reason I am running for the Planning Board.
3. Generating tax dollars for the town and promoting business while keeping in mind the conservation of the area.
4. As an individual nothing, but as a board member, I hope that we can work together and come to acceptable and pleasing solutions for any issue.
5. Forty seven years ago, in 1960 when my father Wayne was working at Sterling Smith's garage, the same place that Champ Wright held auctions on Main Street across from the I.G.A. - I was born and have been walking the roads and hiking the hills of Bradford ever since. I have been in the Logging, Excavation and Farming Business for twenty seven or more years in this town.

Jeffrey Aarons

1. Planning Board (one year seat)

2. I am currently an alternate and am interested in participating in a more profound way by becoming a seated board member. As a seated member, I can have more impact.
3. Uncontrolled development at the expense of environmental, regional and historical impact. Growth with balance should be our philosophy.
4. I will consult all members and measure the benefits versus the adverse effects of proposed subdivisions or businesses and vote along the lines of what is best for Bradford's integrity and survival.
5. About one year as Planning Board alternative with additional experience in real estate, natural science and state statutes; also familiar with surveying techniques and maps.

Zoning Board for three years (vote for one)
Lester Gordon

Cemetery Commission for three years (vote for one)
Thomas Riley

1. Cemetery Trustee
2. This will be my fourth term. This past year we copied the cemetery maps that have been completed, laminated them and produced a copy for the Town Clerk. We are continuing work on listing the cemetery deeds with current lot numbers to make it easier to answer inquiries and serve the public.
3. The need for replacing the current police and highway facilities with safe and adequate quarters.
4. Aid and encourage those who are trying to solve this problem and support those who have spent so much time seeking to accomplish this goal.
5. Working with several cemeteries 1961 - 1967.
Member - Cemetery Commission since 1999.

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Town Meeting Warrant Articles

Town of Bradford
State of New Hampshire
Town Warrant

The Polls will open from 8:00 am to 7:00 pm on March 11, 2008.

To the inhabitants of the town of Bradford in the County of Merrimack in said State qualified to vote in town affairs;

You are hereby notified to meet at the Bradford Elementary School on Old Warner Road in said Bradford, NH on Tuesday, the eleventh of March next, at eight o'clock in the morning to act on the following articles:

Article 1. To choose all necessary Town officials for the ensuing year.

Article 2. Are you in favor of the adoption of amendment number 1 as proposed by the planning board for the Bradford Zoning Ordinance as follows?

To amend Article III.D, 1 so that the minimum distance between building and the edge of the public right-of-way or an accepted public road shall be fifty (50) feet; (omitting the currently included phrase: or seventy-five (75) feet) from the center which ever provides the greater set back (distance). YES NO

Article 3. Are you in favor of the adoption of amendment number 2 as proposed by the planning board for the Bradford Zoning Ordinance as follows?

To amend Article VIII, the Floodplain Development Ordinance to include changes identified by the New Hampshire Office of Energy and Planning in order to remain compliant with the National Flood Insurance Program. YES NO

Article 4. To adjourn the meeting until Wednesday, March 12, 2008 at 7:00pm, at the Bradford Elementary School on the Old Warner Road. The raising of money and remaining articles in the Warrant to be taken up at the adjourned meeting.

Article 5. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate One Million Four Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$1,450,000.) (gross budget) to construct a

10,800 square foot highway garage and a 2,400 square foot salt shed on town owned property at map 3 lot 110.(upper site)and to authorize the issuance of not more than One Million Three Hundred Sixty Five Thousand Dollars (\$ 1,365,000.) of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA Chapter 33) and to authorize the board of selectmen to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon, the term, and other details. Further, to authorize the withdrawal of Eighty Five Thousand Dollars (\$85,000.) from the Highway Garage Capital Reserve Fund created for this purpose. The selectmen recommend this appropriation. The budget committee recommends this appropriation. (2/3 ballot vote required.)

Article 6. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate Six Hundred Ninety Thousand Dollars (\$690,000) (gross budget) to construct a 3,300 square foot police station on town owned property at map 3 lot 110.(upper site), and to authorize the issuance of not more than Six Hundred and Forty Four Thousand Dollars (\$644,0000.) of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA Chapter 33) and to authorize the board of selectmen to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon, the term, and other details. Further, to authorize the withdrawal of Forty Six Thousand Dollars (\$46,000) from the New Police Facility Capital Reserve Fund created for this purpose. The selectmen recommend this appropriation. The budget committee recommends this appropriation. (2/3 ballot vote required.)

Article 7: To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate One Million Three Hundred Fifty Thousand dollars (\$1,350,000) for the purpose of building a highway garage and salt shed on the lower portion of the transfer station lot. This will also provide for the issuance of not more than One Million Three Hundred and Fifty Thousand dollars (\$1,350,000) of bonds or notes for this purpose. This warrant will also authorize the Selectmen

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Warrant Articles - continued

as agents to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon. Paper Ballot required. By Petition. Selectmen do not recommend. Budget Committee does not recommend.(2/3 ballot vote required.)

Article 8. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Hundred One Thousand Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$201,250.) to construct a road to improve access to the existing transfer station. This will be a non lapsing appropriation and will continue until the funds are expended or December 31, 2013. Selectmen recommend. Budget Committee recommends.

Article 9. To see if the town will vote to purchase road access from the State of NH for map #3 lot#110 and to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000.) for that purpose. This will be a non lapsing appropriation and will continue until the funds are expended or December 31, 2013. Selectmen recommend. Budget Committee recommends.

Article 10. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Million Six Hundred Ninety Three Thousand Five Hundred and Twenty Eight dollars (\$1,693,528.00) for the general municipal operation. This article DOES NOT include amounts appropriated by other warrant articles. (Majority vote required)

a.Executive	106,170.00
b.Elections and Vital records	11,716.00
c. Financial Administration	86,940.00
d. Revaluations	24,400.00
e. Legal	17,000.00
f. Employee Benefits-excludes elected officials	218,069.00
g. Planning and Zoning	23,500.00
h. General Government Buildings	42,432.00
i. Cemetery	18,918.00
j.Insurance	52,800.00
k. Other General Government	20,450.00
l. Police Department	276,110.00
m. Fire Department	92,000.00
n. Rescue Services	14,525.00
o. Building Code Department	14,150.00
p.Emergency Management	1,000.00
q. Highway Department	368,847.00
r. Bridge Maintenance	100.00

s. Street Lighting	3,800.00
t. Solid Waste Collection	52,303.00
u.Solid Waste Disposal	60,600.00
v. Inoculations	2,000.00
w. Welfare Administration	4,155.00
x.Welfare Vendor Payments	25,000.00
y. Parks and Recreation	11,540.00
z. Library	58,480.00
aa. Patriotic Purposes	15,500.00
bb.Community Center	66,278.00
cc. Other Conservation	745.00
dd.Interest on T.A.N.	<u>4,000.00</u>
Total	\$ 1,693,528.00

Article 11. To see if the town will vote to authorize the board of selectmen to choose the date for the second session of the town meeting (the business meeting), which may be a date other than the Wednesday after the town election. This article is necessary because the original vote to authorize two sessions of the town meeting included language that requires the second session to be held on the Wednesday following the town election, giving the selectmen no flexibility to choose a different day.

Article 12: To see if the town will vote to establish the Rescue Squad as a unit within the town Fire Department under the authority of the Fire Chief, pursuant to RSA 154:1.

Article 13. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Three Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$3,500) for the first year of management reviews by an outside contractor to evaluate and improve town department efficiency. This will be a non lapsing appropriation and will continue until the money is spent or December 31, 2013. Selectmen recommend. Budget Committee does not recommend.

Article 14. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000) to provide "on call" and training wages and administrative costs for rescue personnel for the nine month period of April to December 2008.

Article 15. To raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Five Thousand (\$25,000) to begin necessary repairs to the current highway garage. This article will be withdrawn

continued on page 10

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Warrant Articles - *continued*

if the bond issue for the Highway garage passes. This is a non lapsing appropriation and will continue until December 31, 2013 or until used. Selectmen recommend. Budget Committee recommends.

Article 16: To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Thirty Thousand Dollars (\$30,000) to fund the Highway Heavy Equipment Capital Reserve. Selectmen recommend. Budget Committee recommends.

Article 17. To see if the town will raise and appropriate the sum of Forty Thousand Dollars (\$40,000) for Road Sealant. This is a non lapsing appropriation and will continue until December 31, 2013 or until used. Selectmen recommend. Budget Committee recommends.

Article 18. To see if the town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to purchase a parcel of land now owned by Richard and Anne Branch, identified as Map 3 Lot 107 for the sum of One Dollar (\$1.00). The purchase of this property is needed to accommodate the Jones Road Bridge reconstruction project, and will replace easement rights to the same parcel previously authorized by the 2007 town meeting and negotiated by the Selectmen. Selectmen recommend. Budget Committee recommends.

Article 19. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000) to complete the paving between the intersection of Jones Road and Cheney Hill Road. This will be a non lapsing appropriation to continue until the money is spent or December 31, 2013. Selectmen recommend. Budget Committee recommends.

Article 20. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000) for the New Highway Garage Capital Reserve. This article will be withdrawn if the bond passes for the new Highway building. Selectmen recommend. Budget Committee recommends.

Article 21. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000) to be placed in the Bridge Repair Capital Reserve. Selectmen recommend. Budget Committee recommends.

Article 22. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000) for the Ambulance Capital Reserve. Selectmen recommend. Budget Committee recommends.

Article 23. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000) for the Town Facilities Capital Reserve. Selectmen recommend. Budget Committee recommends.

Article 24. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000) for town hall improvements. This will be a non lapsing appropriation and will continue until the money is

spent or until December 31, 2013. Selectmen recommend. Budget Committee recommends.

Article 25. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000) for the Repair of Town Buildings Capital Reserve. Selectmen recommend. Budget Committee recommends.

Article 26. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000) for the Fire Dept Heavy Equipment Capital Reserve. Selectmen recommend. Budget Committee recommends.

Article 27. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000) for the Fire Dept Building Repair Capital Reserve. Selectmen recommend. Budget Committee recommends.

Article 28. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000) for the Police Building Capital Reserve. This article will be withdrawn if the Bond passes for the New Police Facility. Selectmen recommend. Budget Committee recommends.

Article 29. To see if the town will raise and appropriate the sum of Seventy Five Thousand dollars (\$75,000) for the design of Bridge #098-114 on West Road. This will be a non lapsing appropriation until the money is spent or December 31, 2013. Selectmen recommend. Budget Committee recommends.

Article 30. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Three Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$3,500) for road signs to complete the 9-1-1 renumbering process. This will be a non lapsing appropriation continued until the money is used or December 31, 2013. Selectmen recommend. Budget Committee recommends.

Article 31. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000) for the Main Street Sidewalk Improvements Capital Reserve. Selectmen recommend. Budget Committee recommends.

Article 32. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Three Thousand Dollars (\$3,000) for the Gravestone Repair Expendable Trust. Selectmen recommend. Budget Committee recommends.

Article 33. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Thousand Eight Hundred Eighty Dollars (\$2,880) to reimburse the Fire Fighters Association for the money originally invested in the forestry truck. This truck was sold at state auction in 2007 and will be funded from surplus. Selectmen recommend. Budget Committee recommends.

Article 34. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Thousand Seven Hundred

Warrant Articles - *continued*

and Fifty Dollars (\$2,750). for the Bradford Newbury Sutton Youth Sports.

Article 35. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Five Thousand (\$5,000) for the Boat launch.

Article 36. To create a Reevaluation Capital Reserve Fund for the 2010 state determined review, and to raise and appropriate the sum of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000) to fund the reserve. Selectmen recommend. Budget Committee recommends.

Article 37. To see if the town will vote to withdraw Forty Thousand (\$40,000) from the New Highway Garage Capital Reserve for the purpose of continuing research and preparation for a new highway garage. This article will be withdrawn if the Bond for a new garage is approved. Selectmen recommend. Budget Committee recommends.

Article 38. To see if the town will vote to accept the dedication of the private road known as "Chestnut Hollow" as a Class V town road. The road is located adjacent to Forest Street in Bradford, and meets the requirements of the Land Subdivision Regulations for the Town of Bradford as adopted in 1986. By Petition

Article 39. To see if the town will vote to approve the following resolution to be forwarded to our State Representatives, our State Senator and our Governor:

Resolved: We the citizens of Bradford, NH believe in a New Hampshire that is just and fair. The property tax has become unjust and unfair. State leaders who take a pledge for no new taxes perpetuate higher property taxes. We call on our State Representatives, our State Senator and our Governor to reject the "Pledge", have an open discussion covering all options and adopt a revenue system that lowers property taxes. By Petition.

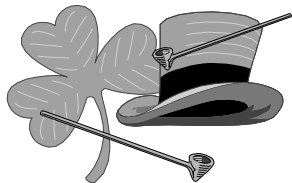
Article 40. To see if the town will vote to accept the reports of the Town Officers. To transact any other business that may legally come before the meeting.

Bradford Board of Selectmen

Peter Fenton, Chairman

Andrew Pinard

Charles Meany



BRADFORD NEWS

Easter Cantata, March 16 during the 10 AM worship service. First Baptist Church of Bradford, 88 West Main, Bradford, NH. The Cantata will be open to the community on Sat. March 22 at 7 PM in the church.

New Bradford Website Check out the new official Bradford website: *Bradfordnh.org*. It has the up-to-date minutes of town board and committee meetings and all the information on the warrant article and on the bonds for town meeting.

Bradford Country Squares monthly square dance on Saturday, March 15 at the Kearsarge Regional Elementary School in Bradford, NH. Mainstream/Plus dance will be from 8 - 10:30 p.m. Matt McGovern will be the caller and Jo Yakimowski, the cuer. Admission for dance is \$6 per person. Spectators are free and always welcome. For more information call 603-763-0187.

Bradford Barn Dance with the Bradford Bog People: Vermont dance caller Lausanne Allen to call March 21st at the Bradford Barn Dance offered by the Bradford Parks and Recreation Department. Kearsarge Regional Elementary School; 7 to 10pm. Beginner dances will be from 7pm to 8:30 pm followed by a potluck, snack/ intermission, and raffle drawing. More complex dances follow the break. Admission is \$5.00, seniors and students \$3.00. For more information call (603) 938-6228

Bradford Women's Club: Reminder to women in Bradford, Newbury, and Sutton that our scholarship is available again this year. Women of all ages who are in college or starting college are eligible. Forms are available at the Kearsarge Regional High School or by calling Jackye Pehrson, 938-5951.

Town of Bradford School Scholarship: 2008

To apply, high school students should meet the following requirements:

- Live in Bradford.
- Must be furthering their education in a university, college, school of nursing or technical institute.
- Submit a typewritten application telling the committee about their academic goals, extracurricular and community activities and how living in Bradford has helped promote these goals.

Your high school guidance department will have the information available about this scholarship. Please send your written application to Dawn Rich, P.O. Box 225, Bradford, NH 03221 no later than April 30, 2008.

Mountain View Senior Center programs. Wednesday March 12, a trip to the Boston Flower Show. Call Sandi at 938-2104 for details and a reservation. Don't wait on this trip...it's sure to be lots of fun!

Friday March 21 at 10:15 am the monthly movie is "Sicko", a controversial documentary by Michael Moore. This Academy Award nominee takes a look (sometimes humorously) at our nation's medical system and where it's "broken".

Check out the Center's newsletter for First Friday Brunch, cooking classes and much more.

CALENDAR

CALENDAR



BRADFORD - Newer 26' x 40' cape located on **7.19 acres** of mostly level and wooded land, long road front, 3BRs & 2 baths. **\$246,500.00**



WARNER - VIEWS in most all directions, Mt Kearsarge, White Mt's, Sunapee Range & towards Concord. Older cottage setting on **10.42 acres** with long road frontage. **\$549,000.00**



BRADFORD - Older farmhouse with outbuildings, huge barn, silo, stream, 50 acres of field and a total of **163 acres**, long road frontage, VIEWS, stonewalls **\$1,175,000.00**

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Needs Assessment cont'd from p. 1

elevation) to comply with state requirements. (A maximum of 10). You will see on the illustration how this can be accomplished.

With some of the funds that had been appropriated for our use, requests for proposals for engineering work were then sent out and, after review, the Board of Selectmen voted on August 7 to award a contract to Eckman Engineering to develop detailed plans sufficient to allow the town to solicit bids to accomplish the necessary site work. Both sites were examined. Because some of the townspeople questioned the change of site, the selectmen voted to request the State Environment Dept. to perform an on premise walk-through of the east site to assess possible problems. This was held on August 30, 2007. It confirmed a previous reply from the State that stated that, as long as the area was not disturbed, no further testing would be required.

The building subcommittees spent the next few months in researching, visiting other communities, and planning for what are the best decisions for our community. In the plan submitted to the town, we tried to present a solution with 40-year-life buildings, at the lowest possible cost for the town, a safer and OSHA compliant area for workers, and room for expansion.

The Steering Committee presented their findings to the selectmen and they were approved on November

6. Requests for proposals for both the road and the buildings were then released through the media and a preliminary site walk through for any interested parties was held on November 29, with 33 attendees. Proposals were due December 14, to be opened on December 17. We received seven bids for the transfer station road and three for the highway and police buildings. The bidding process gave us competent, credible results. We then narrowed the building bids to two which were marked with close pricing and quality products, including gauge of steel, proper plumbing fixtures, windows and doors, and correct depth of concrete for the footings and poured floors. The selection was so close that we used a third professional party to help evaluate the two, so that we could present our recommendation to the Selectmen and the Budget Committee for their approval.

The original plans called for a cistern to serve both buildings. We were told later that as long as the police holding cell had an automatic lock release, which is the case at our neighboring towns, we did not need to sprinkle the building. Subsequently, our Fire Chief, has told us that it will be necessary to sprinkle our buildings. (We need a 30,000 gallon cistern. The price we have for a 50,000 gallon cistern is about \$100,000.00). Following Tom Riley's presentation slides of the present facilities were shown.

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Selectmen's Highlights

Many of the issues dealt with during February and March by the Board of Selectmen are reflected in other Bridge articles dealing with the warrants for town meeting, including the budget, and the proposals from the Needs Assessment Steering Committee that will be presented at the March Town Meeting. Some other items included:

Elections: KRES Principal Jim Spadaro advised that it is an honor to host town voting at the elementary school and said that all town departments worked very cooperatively with the school staff.

Town Hall: Audrey Sylvester provided a packet of information concerning painting contractors and estimated costs of repairing windows at the town hall to Administrator Cheryl Behr. The selectmen agreed that Ms. Behr should contact the local painter and set up a schedule to paint the town hall windows.

Transfer Station: Ken Anderson advised that a reconditioned baler with a six month warranty is available for \$5,000. Motion carried to release \$3,000 from the revolving fund account to be added to a grant from NH The Beautiful to purchase the equipment.

A meeting was scheduled for February regarding single stream recycling. Ms. Elizabeth Bedard from Concord Regional Waste Association will attend along with Ken Anderson and Cheryl Behr.

Gravel Supply: Selectmen voted to issue a request for proposal for gravel to be provided by local gravel pits and see if there is any response.

Complete minutes of all Meetings are available at the Town Hall.



Library Lantern

by Meg Fearnley

First, please let me apologize for all the snow and ice closings and cancellations this winter. I probably don't need to explain why. We sincerely hope not to have inconvenienced you too much!

The library will hold our annual "Mud Season" Book Sale on Saturday, March 15 from 9am until 2pm. Our book sale volunteers have been busy organizing all the great donations we have received since our last sale in October. Be sure to come in.

The Friends of the Library sponsor the Annual Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, March 22 at 11am. Will there be any glimpses of grass by then? This month's book/movie discussion is on Stardust by Neil Gaiman. Join us on Friday, March 7 at 7pm. In April we will discuss a movie made from a short story by Will Weaver.

The International Movie Series continues on Friday, March 21 with a selection from France. April's movie is from Korea.

The library will be closed on Easter Sunday, March 23.

Some of the many books added to your library in February

For adults:

1999 by Morgan Llywelyn

His Illegal Self by Peter Carey

This Republic of Suffering by Drew Gilpin Faust

The Secret Between Us by Barbara Delinsky

The Appeal by John Grisham

The Reserve by Russell Banks

For children:

Little Pea & Little Hoot by Amy K. Rosenthal

Airman by Eoin Colfer

Candyfloss by Jacqueline Wilson

Joey Pigza Swallowed the Key by Jack Gantos

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Follow Your Dreams

Bradford resident Trinity Bigford is teaching English in Quito, Ecuador for 11 months with WorldTeach, an organization based at the Center For International Development at Harvard University. Bigford, a 2002 graduate of KRHS and a 2006 graduate of Ithaca College is living with a host family, learning Spanish and following her dreams.....

I live in Quito, Ecuador about 10 miles south of the equator. The temperature ranges from about 40 degrees to 85 degrees. The people in Quito think the weather is crazy (dicen el clima es loco). No way can the weather be crazier than in NH. Boy was I wrong. During a single day here the weather can turn from sunny and a beautiful 72 degrees to 50 degrees and raining...and I mean RAINING! It is literally like experiencing all four seasons in one day.



I work at the Centro de Educacion Continua (CEC) which is part of a university in Quito called La Politecnica Nacional. CEC is run by a wonderful American from Alabama named Henry Guy Gooch. I am teaching three English classes a day, five days a week. The students are all above the age of 15 and I have an average of 13 students in each class. There is a great network of about 150 English teachers that teach at CEC, which is fabulous for a first time teacher like me. Everyone here is very nice and willing to help. All of this is boiling down to the exciting fact that I LOVE TEACHING! It is definitely my life calling and I will most likely pursue a Master's degree in English in Foreign Language Education when I return.

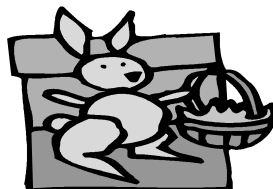
Like any city, Quito is good and bad. El Centro Historico is very beautiful

because all of the building were built during the colonial period. There are many churches and old buildings to tour on streets of brick or cobblestone. The rest of Quito is less desirable. I work in the tourist district, which is busy every day of the week and is full of hostels, restaurants, bars and clubs. The neighborhood where I live is called Jipijapa and is similar to northern New Jersey. It is mostly residential on the side streets and commercial on the larger boulevards.

I am living in an apartment building owned by my host family who have two children ages 10 and 12. My Spanish is improving. Spanish classes were part of my three-week orientation here and after living here for 5 months, I can get around and am comfortable in conversation.

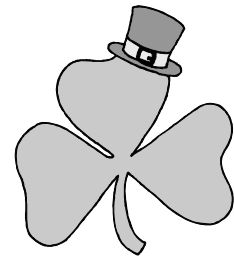
I often visit a friend, a Peace Corps Volunteer, living in a small town called Baeza, about 60 miles east of Quito. The town has about 1,000 people and is in the transitional cloud forest. Fifty miles south of there in the Amazon Basin is Tena, voted the best river rafting in the world. It is very hot and humid in Tena and people speak Kichwa. Wow! Que diferencial.

Overall, I enjoy living in Quito, especially now that my Spanish and my knowledge of the city is improving. It is hard to get used to living in a busy, South American city after growing up in Bradford, New Hampshire, but I am enjoying following my dream in Ecuador.



KRES at BRADFORD SCHOOL SPELLING BEE

On Wednesday, January 30, 2008 twenty fourth and fifth grade students took part in the KRES at Bradford School Spelling Bee. Dawson Curry, a fourth grade student in Mrs. Sweet's class, won the spelling bee in a very close competition that went 15 rounds. Juliet Girard, a fifth grader in Mrs. Perkin's class, was the runner up. Dawson will go on to represent KRES at Bradford in the Concord Area Spelling Bee that takes place on Saturday, March 8. The school spelling bee is the first step in the Scripps Howard National Spelling Bee.






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KEARSARGE DISTRICT NEWS

SCHOOL DISTRICT REPORT

Jon Steiner

It has been a tough winter with many delays and cancellations due to snow, ice, freezing rain and combinations of all three. I know sometimes I look out the window and wonder why we have a delay when my road seems okay. And then I remember all the variables that go into making that decision: First, it is made very early in the morning after consultation with the bus company, weather reports and in some cases, by road agents. Also, Kearsarge is the largest geographic district in the state and the weather in Bradford can be different from the weather in New London and Springfield (remember the ice storm a few years ago?) Also, think about some of the steep and narrow roads in our town (Breezy Hill, Hogg Hill come to mind) and all the similar roads in the other 6 towns...now think about driving a bus on these roads. I think the old adage "better safe than sorry" comes to mind and I'd rather have our kids a little bit late than out there in unsafe conditions. Besides, it gives me a little more time with Isabelle in the morning as well as the neighbor's kids, who get dropped with us for the delays. Cheer up, it's March and we are almost through it.

Also, by the time you read this we should be heading into our new Middle School! Many thanks to all who made such a wonderful investment for our kids and communities. Lastly, this should reach you prior to town meeting. I ask your support for the school warrant articles.

Students Start Classes At New Middle School March 3



On Thursday, November 1, 2007 the Kearsarge Regional School Board approved the opening date for occupancy of the new Middle School. Students are scheduled to begin school in the new building on Monday, March 3, 2008 after the winter vacation. The school district has hired Diamond Relocation of Wakefield, Mass. The move will take place on Monday and Tuesday, Feb.25 and 26.

KRMS students toured the Middle School on February 11th. Air quality was tested Feb.5th and keys were given out to staff Feb.7th. Staff has been moving in since Feb. 9th and 10th over the weekends. February school vacation week was earmarked for the bulk of the move.

New busing schedules are available online on the Middle

School's website. Go to www.kearsarge.org and select a school. There is a transportation update on the Middle School's home page. Students will be dropped off by buses or by parents behind the new school at the gym entrance where students will go into the cafeteria. Students who are late can be dropped off at the main entrance and must sign-in at the main office. School start times and end times remain the same.

Open house for parents and the community will be scheduled shortly according to Don West, principal. "It's better in every single way," said 8th grader, Owen Dayton who is excited about the move. "The whole thing is huge!"

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continued from page 1

chance to make their point except when it gets repetitive. There were emotional issues last year over the bond hearing and the fire department. I felt that most people were cordial and held their feelings in check.

Q. You've involved yourself as a school board member and have a school aged child. Do you enjoy this responsibility? Do you have thoughts on other elected offices in the future? If so, which office appeals to you?

I like doing the school work. It's like what I do at work. I know a lot about local government. I know enough to be effective. I think that everyone should do something for the town or the school. I have no thoughts about other offices. This is fine for now. There are lots of sub committees. I am also on the New Hampshire School Boards Association and am second vice president of that organization.

Q. Being an elected official in a small town has its pros and cons. What is the most difficult aspect of your duties as an elected official? What is the best?

People come to me with issues and problems. I like them to do that but sometimes it's too much. We can't make everyone happy. It can be about a bus stop or an issue with a teacher in the system. You always work through the principal. The school board works with the superintendent. The board steers the boat and he rows it.

Q. You are the Associate Executive Director of the Government Center in Concord. What is the nature of your duties? How do the services and training of that department benefit officials of New Hampshire towns and cities? What kind of training is offered? Can non-elected, non-municipal residents participate in information and training?

In my present job I have been magazine editor and run the insurance program. Now I'm upper management. We do training for local officials. We have training for town selectmen. We run budget, financial and planning and zoning workshops. We also have moderator's training and workshops for insurance and health insurance for most town and school employees. We're Anthem's biggest client in the state. In order to participate you must be affiliated with a town or school.



Q. As a follow up question to the above, you appear to have an interesting job. Is this a stepping stone in your career? Are your sights on a re-invention in the future?

I'm happy with what I'm doing now. I'd love to be the executive director. Possibly at some point I would like to write. I've had short stories published. I've written a couple of novellas. Writing fiction is difficult.

Q A few years ago your family purchased a lake house on Massassecum. Was this always a dream that you and your wife shared or was it a sudden impulse decision?

We've always been poking around looking for a place on a lake. We just didn't know we would find it in our backyard. I met the owner at the Lumber Barn. He said he was going to sell

and we looked at it and bought it. It's great. We can stay there six months a year. We have the same friends and the same sports for our daughter.

Q. Did you have people in your life who inspired you and led you to career and life choices?

My mom helped to push me along. She was a state representative for twelve years from Manchester. My dad was a school board representative. I was the youngest in my family. My brother and sister were eight years older. My mom used to write. She grew up in New York City but really enjoyed small town life.

Q. Is there anything in your life that you would like to change? What would that be?

I would have had more kids sooner. We were married fourteen years before we had Isabel. I also had an opportunity to get a Master's Degree in fiction but didn't do that either.

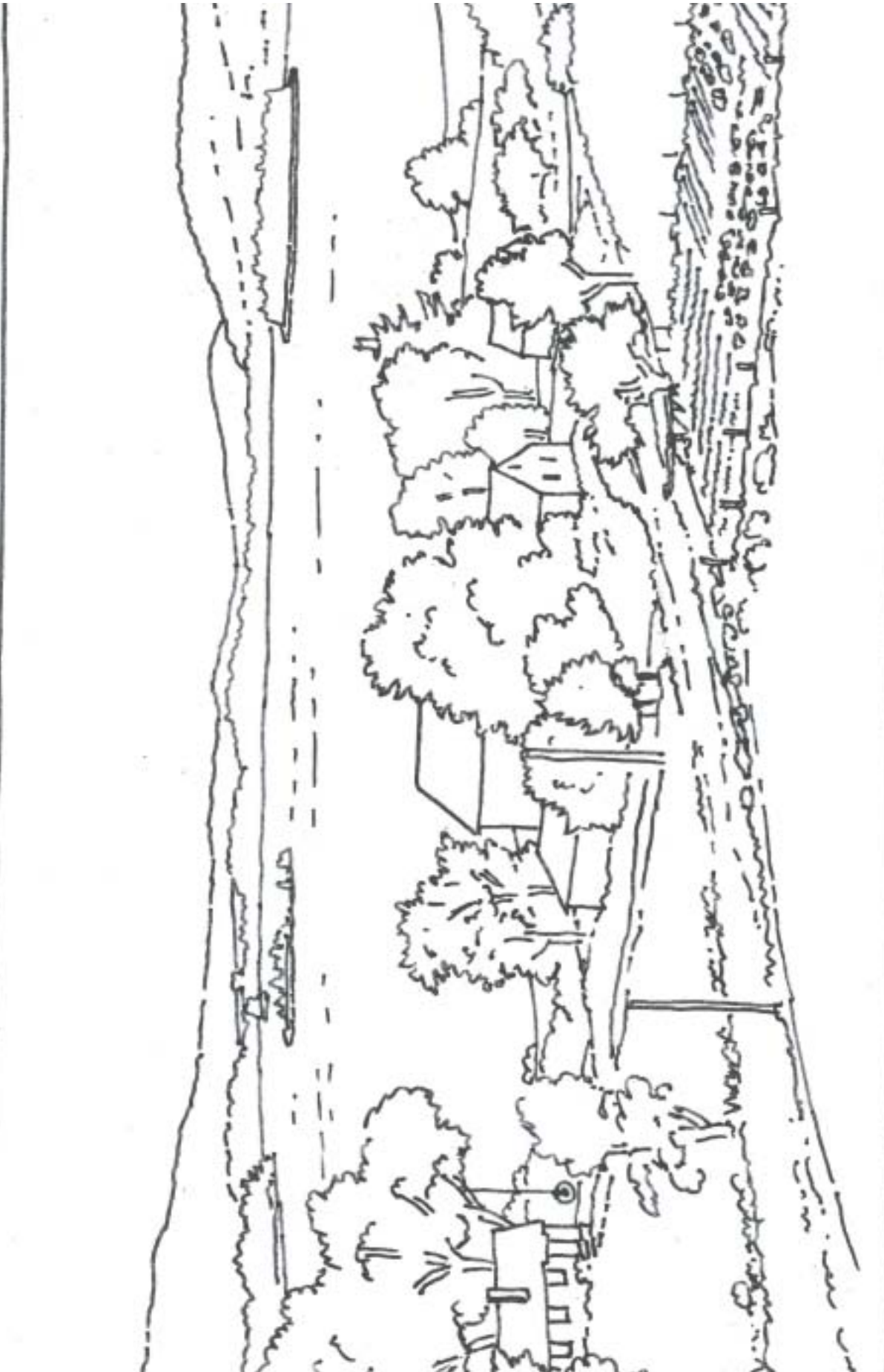
Q. You have a good sense of humor and wonderful interpersonal skills as well as a lovely wife and a charming daughter. How did you get so lucky?

I don't know. My wife is a great woman. I've known her since I was sixteen. I owe a lot to her. She may not find me sensitive and charming

**Conservation Commission
News**

Natural Resources Inventory Update

After the cancelation of multiple meetings due to weather concerns, the Conservation Commission met to form a plan of action for the update of the Natural Resources Inventory. First issued ten years ago, we hope to add to this work with a detailed snapshot of the forests, fields, and waters as they are in 2008. A main goal will be to identify and prioritize the best of the remaining landscape with regards to water quality and flooding issues, wildlife habitat, viewsheds, forestry and agricultural uses etc. Grants will be sought to cover the costs of mapping and printing. The public is encouraged to participate. Watch for meeting notices!



The Coloring Page - Have some fun and learn Bradford's history at the same time.

LOOKING ACROSS LAKE MASSASECUM

This is a view of Lake Massasecum from the hilltop home of Don and Shirley Keith. The picture is drawn from a photograph showing Route 114 as a dirt road. The large garden in the lower right is a reminder that in the past most vegetables were grown locally. Originally called Bradford Pond, the name was changed in the 1850s to Lake Massasecum to honor Chief Massasecum, the last great sachem of the Penacook peoples. An old-time pioneer, hunter and woodsman named Eastman left a story of meeting the Great Chief when he spied smoke from his fire near the lake. Chief Massasecum told Mr. Eastman that he settled there to be near it in his old age. The chief is said to be buried with his wife and child near Massasecum Rock. Late in the 1800s people started coming by the train which stopped in Bradford from Concord to the lake on weekends to picnic and enjoy its beauty. Many of the now year-round residents established camps around the lake in the last century.

Letters to the Editor

To the Editor:

WHY?? Why the petitioned article for a highway garage? This is in response to a question raised at a January meeting of the Needs Assessment Steering Committee about an alternative should the proposed articles not receive the necessary two thirds vote. Approval of this petition would resolve what is generally agreed to be the most pressing problem – a safe, efficient building for the highway department.

The advantages of the petition are numerous: not having to relocate and rebuild the road to the Transfer Station at a cost, in itself, of \$200,000; eliminates the need to shave off the trees along the existing road; eliminates the retaining walls necessary to retain the area designated for the police station; eliminates the new roadway up to the garage; eliminates the need for a complicated foundation and floor system for the garage based on setting half the building on 6 – 8 feet of fill; provides direct access to Route 103; eliminates conflicting use of the road to the transfer station, and last, but not least, saves taxpayers in all between \$300 - 400,000.

The objections to the lower site have faded. The fear of contaminates faded back in 1978 when surveyor Doug Sweet identified the location of the septage pit, which is where glass was stored for many years after that date. He also noted that the area, now being suggested for the highway garage, had been partially stripped in the past to provide coverage for the former dump site (located below the transfer station itself). More recently, efforts to confirm the access to Route 103 have been successful after years of avoiding that issue.

So, why not use this level, accessible area of the site, considering the advantages?

Dick Keller

To the Editor:

The following is my response sent to Janet Sillars the following day after reading her letter to the committee at our meeting on January 24.

Dear Janet,

Thank you for your letter. I will try to answer your questions as well as I can.

The question of possible pollution on the former site is up to the Selectmen and not within our charge. It was brought to their attention and they have affirmed this fact.

The access from Rte 103 is being processed by the state. This is a lengthy process and they are still months away from even giving us a cost for allowing us to do so, and then approvals have to be given by various departments in the state.

The building site will be close to level.

The police station has to be built to state specifications, hence the size and cost.

The two projects will be in separate warrant articles and financing.

There will be more information forthcoming as soon as it is finalized.

Tom Riley, Chairman
Needs Assessment Steering Committee

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

This year at town meeting the voters of Bradford will be asked to approve a warrant article for \$50,000 to compensate the Emergency Medical Services personnel who staff the Bradford Ambulance. This service has been provided by volunteers since 1973, but in keeping with a nationwide trend, there are no longer enough volunteers to provide this service.

The rescue squads in the state, with the exception of Bradford and possibly one other town, compensate their EMS squads.

Selectmen and Rescue personnel have investigated the possibility of Henniker, New London Hospital, or Hopkinton providing coverage but none of these services have the capacity to undertake full time coverage for our town, although they have provided mutual aid when they are available. Bradford also provides mutual aid for these and other towns when we can.

Research has shown that hiring full time staff to cover 24/7 would cost approximately \$500,000 per year. Fulltime day coverage would cost about \$250,000 annually.

Monies appropriated through this article would be used to compensate EMS personnel who would commit to provide coverage on specified shifts. Those who are called out to respond would receive a run stipend in place of the on-call stipend. This model, one of several reviewed, is based on that of Washington, NH.

NH law requires a minimum ambulance staff of at least one EMT and one First Responder. Many of the Rescue Squad members are presently covering multiple day and/or night shifts. This warrant article is an attempt to retain the staff that we have now and attract additional members to better serve the town.

We have been working very hard this year to improve ambulance service in Bradford. Nights are now covered by at least 2 people per night and we have made improvements as well to our daytime coverage.

Thank you again for your continued support to improve this valuable service to our town.

Bradford Rescue Squad

How Your Tax Rate Is Really Affected

Again this year the Bradford Needs Assessment Committee has designed a well thought out and very workable plan to situate and build a new highway garage and a new police station on property owned by the Town and adjacent to the transfer station.

Warrant Articles 5 & 6 – to be voted on at the Town Meeting – and both approved by the Selectmen and the Budget Comm., total (if taken together) \$2,066,000.00 which represents an additional 62 cents per

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Letters - *continued*

thousand on the tax rate in 2009. The rate this year will not be affected by the Bond being passed.

No one likes to see a tax increase, but here's the picture if the Warrant Articles do not pass: Aside from the fact that a deteriorating highway building will continue to incur inordinately large operating costs (heat costs more than double what it should be for a building that size), money must BE BUDGETED annually towards repairs to maintain the existing building just to a sub-standard level.

Additionally, and more importantly, the town must continue to set aside (reserve) dollars to eventually replace the building on a "debt free" basis. That cost is in the ten of thousands and is included in the tax rate. Essentially, that holds true for the Police Station- money is reserved also.

In a nutshell this is how the tax rate would work out if the warrant articles do not pass: The current (2008) rate would be at \$6.60 per thousand valuation. All things being equal (based on past years reserves and costs) the 2009 rate would be in the range of \$7.30 per thousand valuation.

If the warrant articles (5 & 6) do pass: The current (2008) rate would be \$6.36 per thousand valuation and the 2009 rate would be approximately \$6.65 per thousand, including the \$.62 per thousand for the new buildings, and the 2010 rate would be less than \$6.75 per thousand.

This is not "fuzzy math". It is the combined effect of not having to reserve funds for an eventually needed debt free building, reduction in operating costs, etc. In effect, the rate of savings for debt free buildings coupled with repairs and large operating costs of old facilities is more than the cost of the bond!

Cheryl Behr, Town Administrator, has the appropriate spread sheets that delineate all the town expenses and reserve accounts and show the comparisons between approving a bond for the new buildings and staying the way we have been - budgeting for repairs,

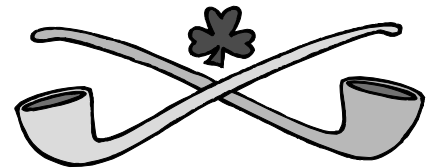
reserves and (increasing) operating expenses.

We can continue on the way we have been, but it will only become more expensive as time goes on and the situation with the highway garage is at the critical stage. If you truly do not want a tax increase I urge you to take a good look at the information available at the town hall. If you think the bond approval will hurt, you may be surprised how not approving it will hurt more!

Robert Manchester, Member
Needs Assessment Committee
Communications Subcommittee

Attention Ballot Clerks

There will be a **Mandatory** training and refresher class for all Ballot Clerks who will be working at the Polls for Town Elections. This will be held at the Town Hall on Monday March 10, 2008 at 10:00am - 12:00pm.



Area Happenings

SRKG Annual Meeting: speaker is Prof. Tim Allen on Sunday, March 9 at the Kearsarge Community Presbyterian Church on Route 11 in New London. The meeting begins with a potluck dinner at 5 p.m. Call Jean LaChance (927-4345) to offer food for the meal. At this meeting, get a first look at the updated trail guide set for release in March.

For more information, visit the website at www.srkg.com, or write: Sunapee-Ragged-Kearsarge Greenway Coalition, PO Box 1684, New London, NH 03257-1684.

Soo-Nipi Chapter Program Friday, March 14, 2008. A very important program entitled *NH Wildlife & Habitats in Greatest Need of Conservation*: Emma Carcagno will speak at Tracy Library, New London, NH. Refreshments at 7 pm, program at 7:30, 526-6790 or 456-2480 for more information.

Soo-Nipi Chapter Field Trip: Sunday March 16, 2008 *Merrimack River and Concord Hot Spots*: Meet at Warner Park & Ride, exit 9, I-89 at 8:am. Bring lunch, snacks, water, binoculars.

Leader: Robin Gray, 927-4127 Inclement weather cancels trip.

South Newbury Union Church: Saturday, March 29, 9:00am to 2:00pm, Friendship House, "Annual Flea Market and Bake Sale". Lots of "treasures", indoors, handicap accessible. More info? Call 763-4296

The Fells, The Barn Playhouse, the New London, Newbury and Sunapee Historical Societies, and the Lake Sunapee Protection

Association announce the 2008 schedule of programs and exhibits, beginning with: A Woman That Keeps Good Orders: Women, Tavern Keeping, and Public Approval. Speaker: Dr. Marcia Schmidt Blaine, Plymouth State University, March 27, 6:30 pm Dessert Social; 7pm Lecture Location: New London Historical Society, Meeting House, 179 Little Sunapee Road, New London, NH 03257 603-526-6564

For more information and complete schedule, contact Debbie Campbell, Beyond Design (603) 938-5800, debbie@beyond-design.net

The Learning Institute at New England College (LINEC) six-week spring term runs from April 1 to May 8. The courses range in scope from The Constitution and the Supreme Court, to Shakespeare and Russian Literature, with something in between that will appeal to all who enjoy the sheer pleasure of learning.

For the full schedule Contact: Theresa DeWitt 603-746-5386
tg.dewitt@comcast.net

Planning Board Notes

Two amendments to the Zoning Ordinance will be presented to the voters by ballot at the first session of Town Meeting. Amendment One amends Article III.D. 1. so that the minimum distance between any building and the edge of the public right-of-way or an accepted public road shall be fifty (50) feet. (The amendment omits the currently included phrase: or seventy-five (75) feet from the center of the road which-ever provides the greater set back distance and is offered as a clarification.)

Amendment Two amends Article BIII, The Floodplain Development Ordinance to include changes identified by the New Hampshire Office of Energy and Planning in order to remain compliant with the National Flood Insurance Program.

Your careful consideration of both of these amendments is appreciated.

Mapleview Development

(Ledgewood Pines) The Planning Board voted to begin revocation procedures against the Ledgewood Pines subdivision on Old Warner Road based on the applicant's failure to meet conditions within the time set or to request an extension of the time period.

Complete minutes are available in the Town Hall



First Baptist Church News

From Lynn E. Hubley

Weekly Prayer Group: A weekly prayer group meets in the Fisk House every Thursday evening during the month of March from 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. Anyone is welcome to attend.

Youth Group: Youth in grades 5-8 are welcome to come to our youth group gatherings on Friday, March 14 and March 28 from 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.

Cruise Night to Hawaii: Join us for a cruise night to Hawaii to help fight the winter blues. On Saturday, March 15, our church vestry will be transformed to look like a Cruise Ship headed for Hawaii. Embarkment is at 5:30 p.m. The evening will include a pot luck dinner and entertainment.

Easter Cantata: Sunday, March 16 at 10:00 a.m. (during the Worship Service) and Saturday, March 22 at 7:00 p.m. We are combining two Cantatas—one to be sung by our children called "I've Been Redeemed" (This is about kids celebrating Easter in a fun, up-beat concert of Worship and Praise). The adults will be singing from "You Thought of Us" which helps people look at Jesus, not just as a Savior, but as a friend.

Food Pantry: The March distribution date for the pantry is Wednesday, March 29 from 5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. Food can also be received by calling the church office at 938-5313.

Maundy Thursday: We will have a Maundy Thursday worship service on Thursday, March 20 at 7:00 p.m. which will include celebrating 'The Last Supper'.

Good Friday: Our sanctuary will be open on Friday, March 21 from 12:00 noon - 3:00 p.m. for prayer and meditation

Movie Night: On Friday, March 21 at 6:30 p.m. we will be showing the movie "Magdalena — Released From Shame". Mary Magdalene acts as both narrator and participant in this movie.

Easter Sunrise Service: Our Easter Sunrise Service will be on Sunday, March 23 at 6:40 a.m. at Burnt Hill Road in Warner. For directions, please call 456-3447. A breakfast will be held immediately following the service at the United Church of Warner. A free-will offering will be taken. The following churches will be participating in the service: United Church of Warner, First Free Will Baptist Church of Sutton and First Baptist Church, Bradford.

LAST DAY TO CHANGE PARTY BEFORE THE PRIMARY ON SEPTEMBER 9, 2008 IS **June 3, 2008 11:30 am - 12:30 pm** Did You Vote In The Presidential Primary? Are you an Undeclared Voter? You can go to the Town Clerks Office, or one of the following meetings the Supervisors of the Checklist have scheduled: March 9, 2008, 11:30-1:30 pm Town Hall or Election Day, March 11, 2008 8:00am-7:00pm KRES

Zoning Board of Adjustment

February: Clarkson Cavan LLC, 40 French's Park Rd., special exception granted to expand a deck. Shoreland conditions to be followed.

March 4, 7:35 Town Hall Public Hearing for Dennis & Linda Clark, requesting a Special Exception to expand a deck on a non-conforming building, East Shore Footpath, Map20 lot3.

Outside *by J. Ann Eldridge*

End of February. This weather we've been having has been awkward for school buses and meeting attendance. It's been treacherous for pedestrians and owls. All over town residents are delightedly reporting the sight of barred owls sulking about their bird feeders at midday. Owls are not pleased in equal measure.

Barred owls prefer the hawk-free and mouse-filled darkness. They can easily hear a squeak a half mile away and kill a scuttling rodent beneath two feet of 'ordinary' snow, but this two pound or less raptor cannot break through this pavement of ice. Owls are out during daylight hours because they are working overtime and the payoff is not commensurate with the time spent. To add to the problem, there seem to be more winter owls here than in recent years due to the cyclical drop in the Canadian vole population. Owls do not have a set pattern of migrations, but shift as the food supply waxes and wanes. Wildlife rehabs in the northeast are populated with all kinds of weak and car-clubbed owls.

Most of these are barred owls, our most common resident owl. These are the only local owls with dark eyes and the one that cackles and hoots and warbles through the night through most of the year. Its combination war cry and love song is remembered with the phrase "Who cooks for youuuu? Who cooks for youalllll???"

The eyes of owls, unusual in non-primates, are set square on the front of their faces to achieve binocular focus. Because they thus remind us of ourselves, we have assumed in folklore that they have our kind of intelligence and are as wise as we like to think we are. Unlike most of us, owls are quite color blind, concentrating instead on perfecting night vision. This they do by multiple adaptations of cornea, specialized bundling of rods, yellow tinting of the fundus oculi, and an accessory membrane behind the retina that re-reflects light back to those important rods and cones. Because of all these machinations, those frank elongated eyes cannot turn in their huge sockets. Instead, the owl must spin its head on innovative and extra cervical bones.

"The smooth, shapely head, large brown eyes, and pale facial disks give the bird the rather mournful appearance of a shy person at a masked ball". So the barred owl is described by Jonathan Evan Maslow in his book *The Owl Papers*, available at our library. A 270 degree head turn is an impressive party trick. We might be horrified though to find that this masquerader has, underneath its lovely costume, ears not only mismatched in size, but asymmetrical in placement. And they can wiggle each ear flap independently. These asymmetries cause sound waves to arrive at one ear a fraction of a second earlier than at the other. Comparing the two messages, an owl can triangulate in both the vertical and horizontal planes and can calculate the precise origin of the slightest noise. Similar in function to a TV dish, those charming facial disks decorating the gorgeous eyes are designed with short, stiff layers of feathers to concentrate and funnel sound to the enormous eardrums. Owls can catch mice literally blindfolded.

The approach of the barred owl stealth bomber is superbly muffled by specialized flight feathers. Not only must the target not hear the arrival, but the owl must be able to accurately hear over its own wing beats. The ratio of wing surface to bodyweight is great which allows for more glide and less flap.

After a successful mouse mission, a barred owl gulps its meal headfirst without the nicety of premincing or of chewing twenty times. The predictable result is a regurgitation of pelletized indigestible hair and bones. Due to this winter's cycle of freeze and thaw, the mousing has not been successful enough for some weeks now. Maintaining a balance in the prolific rodent population is as important to the long term health of the rodents as it is to the survival of owls. Thinking of all those non-hibernating meadow mice (voles) merrily reproducing under the protective shield of ice, getting ready to explode in my carrot bed come spring, has caused me to stomp around and bait the field with bird seed...hoping for mice and hoping for owls.

VOTING INFORMATION

Rules for the Polls

1. All parking to vote must be at the back of KRES. Entrance and exit the school only from the back.
2. You can register to vote at the polls. Go to the Supervisors of the Checklist table to fill out your registration form. You need proof of age and residency. Electric bill, vehicle registration or anything that shows your address and a picture ID. RSA 654:7
3. If you were not born in the United States, present a copy of your Naturalization papers for the Supervisors to keep with your Registration form. If you do not have them a Citizenship Affidavit form will be completed and kept with your registration form.
4. When you arrive at the polls and check in you will be asked to announce your name. The poll worker will verify this information: full name (no middle initials), address. Please be patient. If you vote every year it does seem redundant. The list must be accurate to avoid duplicate voters within the Town and State wide data base to prevent voter fraud.
5. The same information, name and address, must be stated to the Town Clerk when you check out to verify who has voted.
6. Ballots are handed to the moderator who places them in the ballot box.
7. Any questions regarding either the voting procedure or the ballot itself must be directed to the moderator.

Ice Rescue Drill



Fifteen members of Bradford Fire and Rescue participated in an ice rescue drill on January 26, 2008.

Some of the participants donned heavy cold water rescue suits and walked on the thin ice at the Breezy Hill Bridge on Lake Massasecum until the ice broke. The suits, referred to as "Gumby suits" were developed to improve survival rates on North Sea oil rigs. They are water-tight (mostly), very buoyant, and quite warm. Other members used the ice rescue sled, a throw ring, and other tools to get the person out of the water. The ice rescue sled is designed to spread the weight of the rescuer over a much larger area, reducing the chances of breaking through the ice. The sled can also be paddled over open water. It has a harness the rescuer attaches to the victim which allows the rescuer to safely lift a person who may be heavier than the rescuer. Squad members on shore then pull the sled, victim, and rescuer to safety.

The members of Bradford Fire and Rescue remind everyone to be careful on frozen waterways. The NH Department of Fish and Game recommends that people stay off the ice unless it is 4 to 6 inches thick and bluish color. If you see someone or a pet fall through the ice, call for help. Don't try to rescue the person yourself and risk creating two victims!

More information on ice safety can be found at NH Fish and Game Department's website at http://www.wildlife.state.nh.us/Fishing/Fishing_PDFs/Safety_on_ice.pdf.