



THE Bradford Bridge

COMMUNITY NEWS FOR NEIGHBORS BY NEIGHBORS

Volume 21, Number 1; Issue 222

January 2010

Openings for Candidacy

**For March 9, 2010 Election to be held at
Kearsarge Elementary School at Bradford
8:00 AM to 7:00 PM**

Offices Open for Election are:

- Moderator for Two Years - One Opening**
- Selectman for Three Years - One Opening**
- Supervisor of the Checklist for Six Years - One Opening**
- Trustee of the Trust Funds for Three Years - One Opening**
- Trustee of the Brown Memorial Library for Three Years - Two Openings**
- Scholarship Committee for Three Years - One Opening**
- Budget Committee for Three Years - Two Openings**
- Planning Board for Three Years - Two Openings**
- Zoning Board for Three Years - Two Openings**
- Cemetery Commission for Three Years - One Opening**

Anyone wishing to sign up for these positions may do so at the following times at the town clerk's office:

- Monday January 25, 2010 - Noon to 7:00 PM**
 - Tuesday January 26, 2010 - 7:00-11:30 AM, 12:30-5:00 PM**
 - Friday January 29, 2010 - 3:00-5:00 PM**
- Susan Pehrson, Town Clerk, 603-938-2288 X4

Standard Operating Procedures Adopted

The Bradford Board of Selectmen recently adopted a set of policies and procedures for snow removal and ice control. "Objective: It is the goal and intent of the Town of Bradford, NH to provide timely, efficient, and cost effective winter maintenance, snow removal and ice control on the roadways of the municipality for the safety and benefit of the Town's residents and the general motoring public."

The document details the level of service to be provided and the procedures to be followed with direction of all winter maintenance activities vested with the Road Agent.

Highlights include:

- Treatment of paved surfaces with salt/sand at initial 1 to 2 inches of snow
- Drivers and equipment begin to plow all roads at 2 ½ to 3 inches (providing gravel roads are sufficiently frozen)
- No salt to be used on gravel roads to prevent frozen gravel from melting
- When storm has ended, road surfaces will be treated, if needed, sidewalks cleared,
- Fire cisterns/fire ponds may not be plowed until next day.
- Parking is prohibited in or on town roads and rights-of-way from November 15 – April 1. Town has right to tow or ticket violators.
- Priority for plowing begins with the school bus routes.

Copies of the complete ordinance are available at the Town Hall.

10 QUESTIONS

by Phyllis Wilcox

This is a continuation in a series of interviews with people in Bradford. This month we interviewed Kendra Messer, owner of West Meadow Stables, a horse farm which she runs with the help of her husband and four children. The stable has been open since July, 2007. Kendra was born in Deering, New Hampshire and her love of horses and riding began at the age of two when her mom acquired her first horse. She began to give riding lessons in her community at age sixteen and her passion for horses and riding and the dream of her own stable came to fruition when West Meadow opened .about two years ago.

Q. You moved to Bradford in 2006. What were the factors that influenced your decision to move here?

I lived in Sutton for a while. I think it was the access to trails for horseback riding and the quiet neighborhood. I thought this environment would be ideal for me to pursue my life with horses. We have access to all the snowmobile trails in the area.

Q. You said that your love for horses began at a very early age. Can you explain how it started?

I started riding in front of my mother when I was two years old when she acquired her first horse. By the time I was five years old, I got to ride alone. Then at age nine, I had my first horse "Stormy" I was so fortunate since I first saw her the day she was born in Canterbury, New Hampshire.

Q. I have heard that the female sex have a special affinity for

continued on page 8

The Bradford Bridge



P.O. Box 463

Bradford, NH 03221

Ph.: 603-938-2692

contact.us@bradfordbridge.com

VOLUNTEER STAFF:

Marcia Keller, January Editor

Maureen O'Keefe, Treasurer, Ad Rep

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tion

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Subscription Information

To receive The Bridge by mail, please send an \$20 check to cover mailing costs to the above address.

Advertising

The Bradford Bridge is a free community newspaper supported by advertisers. To place an ad, call Maureen O'Keefe at 938-2941. 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.

Letter from the Editor

A group of concerned residents recently asked the Selectmen for guidance on how to improve the image of our town starting with Main Street. Commerce still thrives in Bradford with many businesses in the homes, the hills, and the woods. Some of Bradford's successful commercial enterprises include Bruss Construction; Colonial Woodworking, Cobble Pond Farms, Pizza Chef, Appleseed, Dunkin Donuts; Valley

Fire Equipment; Lake Sunapee Bank; Walco; Lumber Barn, Ayer & Goss, real estate agencies Tall Pines and Eliot Hansen; and two bookstores whose reputation extends well beyond our boundaries.

Public commerce thrives too when the First Baptist Church, Brown Memorial Library, Farmer's Market, Bradford Area Community Center, and the Masons hold public dinners, flea markets, and book sales to raise money for scholarship funds, church restoration, food pantry; and library needs.

Cultural and entrepreneurial excitements include Open Studio tours, Lettvin Concerts; Fishing Derby; art shows and summer reading program at the library; French's Park, and educational programs at the BACC and the Library.

Historical treasures: Bradford Historical Society and newly built blacksmith shop; Historic District at Bradford Center, including 1838 Meeting House; 1797 Town Hall; a restored 100 year old theatrical backdrop; Lafayette Memorial Boulder; and the traditional Town Meeting.

Bradford offers natural environment beyond compare: conserved lands like the Bradford Bog and Aiken Town Forest. Lake Massasecum and Lake Todd are gems known and enjoyed by residents and visitors alike. To protect our environment, Bradford provides a comprehensive recycling program.

Bradford's Elementary School offers first class education and an entry level component for the Kearsarge Regional School District.

A note of thanks to all those businesses who advertise in the Bridge each month. Without your support, we could not bring community news to our readers. We ask all our readers to support these advertisers and invite other local businesses who would like to bring a message to residents of Bradford and the surrounding area to let us know. Email the Bridge contact.us@bradfordbridge.com to discuss placing an ad in the Bridge. We will help you design your message.

Our downtown may be down at the moment, but the town stays healthy and with the support of the Board of Selectmen and the continued interest of our citizens, we can and will survive and thrive as the 21st century continues.

HAPPY, HEALTHY, PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR TO ALL from
Marcia Keller, January Editor

Town Clerk/Tax Collector Hours

Town Clerk/Tax Collector Susan Pehrson announces that as of January 8th, 2010, Friday hours will resume. They will be 8:00 am to 5:00 pm. She hopes this will be of service to the many residents who have found the loss of these hours to be difficult.

Selectmen's Office Hours

938-5900

Mon-Weds-Thurs: 7:30 am-12 n

1 pm - 5 pm

Tuesday 7:30 am-12 n

1 pm - 7 pm

Selectmen meet 1st and 3rd

Tuesday of each month at 5:30 pm

Town Clerk/ Tax Collector

Office Hours

938-2288

Monday: noon - 7 PM

Tuesday: 7am -11:30 am

12:30 pm - 5 pm

Circuit Rider

Wednesday - call 938-2253

for appointment

Friday - 8am - 5pm as of 1/10

A Culinarian's Column
by Caryl Walker

This may look intimidating, but it's not if you *mise en place* (prepare all the ingredients) and make the base on one day and then finish the soup the next day. At the store, pull off a couple of fennel fronds and put in a bag—they won't even charge you ... or pennies. Some recipes call for a clear fish broth, but I like the chunkiness of the veggies. Strain yours if you want a clear broth. This is a crowd-pleaser!

Bouillabaisse (Boo-lay-bayz) Made Simply

- 8-10 Servings
- 1/2 Cup olive oil
- Orange zest from 1/2 orange
- 1 cup onions, chopped
- Large pinch of saffron threads
- 1/2 cup celery, chopped
- Sea salt and black pepper, to taste
- 4 cloves garlic, minced
- 2 1/2 pounds fresh or frozen-at-sea striped bass,
- 20-oz. can peeled tomatoes
- halibut, cod, grouper, etc.—a mixture, cut in 2 inch pieces
- 1 quart fish stock
- 1 bottle clam juice
- 1 pound littlenecks or steamer clams, scrubbed
- 1 sprig each fresh thyme, parsley, fennel fronds
- 1 pound mussels, scrubbed and de-bearded
- 1 bay leaf
- 1 pound shrimp, shelled and deveined

1. In 8-quart stock pot, heat olive oil. Add onions and celery and sweat (cook over a lower heat without browning) until tender, about 5 minutes. Add garlic and cook until fragrant, about 30 seconds.
2. With scissors, chop the tomatoes in the can! Tie the herb sprigs together with kitchen twine to make a bouquet garni. Add tomatoes, herbs, bay leaf, and orange zest to the pot; cook 15 minutes, covered.
3. Add the fish and cook 5 minutes. Add the mussels and clams and cook 6 minutes. Add shrimp and cook 3 minutes or until the shrimp are pink and the clam and mussels are open. Remove and any unopened mussels and clams, the bouquet garni and bay leaf. Taste and adjust seasonings.

Notes: Serve with a green salad and crusty bread.

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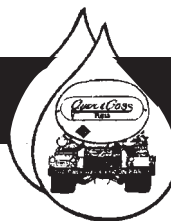
938-2926

**Filing Hours for
Public Office:**

Monday January 25, 2010 -
Noon to 7:00 PM
Tuesday January 26, 2010 -
7:00-11:30 AM, 12:30-5:00 PM
Friday January 29, 2010 -
3:00-5:00 PM (required by law)

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Budget The Board of Selectmen continued reviewing budgets as submitted by the town departments, approved them or made changes as voted by the Board before passing them along to the Budget Committee for its action.

Police Department: Discussion of purchase or lease of a copier, radios needed if a new vehicle is purchased, and installing a service window, an interview room and a small break room in the current office space.

Community Center: Voted to eliminate cost of music at the Farmer's Market and Summer Camp portion of the budget.

Insurance: Due to the fact that no raises are authorized for employees, the town will absorb the additional cost for medical benefits.

Bradford Sutton Newbury Youth Sports: will be asked to submit a petition regarding the money they request.

Note: The Budget Committee will meet on January 12th. The Budget Hearing will be held early in February.

Conservation Commission
Two warrant articles were discussed. One would implement a state law that allows the Commission to expend funds for contributions to "qualified organizations" for the purchase of property interests. This would allow local funds to be used for a conservation easement that would be held by an organization such as the Ausbon Sargent Land Preservation Trust. The second article

Selectmen's Highlights
would request matching funds for a conservation easement on the Battles Farm property if an application for an LCHIP grant is approved in January.

Building Inspection Jim Rowley of Maple View Drive described problems he has experienced with a house constructed for him that does not meet the building code. A certificate of occupancy was issued before the building was complete. Chair Charles Meany recused himself from the discussion. The Selectmen agreed to look into the matter and get back to him by December 15th.

Highway Department Selectmen approved a revised Standard Operating Procedure for winter maintenance of the roads. (See article on page ----). Road Agent Jeff Remillard explained that a recent State Supreme Court decision now requires all towns to keep sidewalks plowed. Selectmen approved purchase of a Caterpillar Skid Steer. The equipment can also be used at the transfer station.

In response to questions, it was explained that the \$28,000 to purchase this equipment came from unspent money in the highway department fuel budget and the first payment on the highway garage that the town did not have to make this year because it took so long to build.

Selectman Jack Meany advised that three trucks broke down during the first major snow storm, delaying plowing in some parts of town.

Highway Department employee Dan Perett advised the Selectmen that he will be retiring in February after working for the town since 1995. He also requested that if the Selectmen plan to talk with the highway department crew, they talk with them together to

prevent dissention as the crew works as a team.

There was discussion of road paving and getting prices for re-roofing the Bement Bridge. Road Committee member Chris Aiken advised that the Committee will meet again prior to finalizing the warrant articles for Town Meeting.

Transfer Station Selectmen took under advisement a request to change the opening hour at the transfer station to 8:00 AM for the convenience of businesses.

Unanticipated Revenues Selectmen held a public hearing to accept all unanticipated revenues received in 2009. These included funds for West Meadow and West Road bridges, storm related expenses, grants for archery, farmer's market, French's Park, generator under hazard mitigation, and a new baler.

Non-Public Sessions Several non-public sessions for discussion of personnel matters were held. Decision was made at one to write a letter; minutes for another were sealed.

Main Street Laura Hallahan, on behalf of the Bradford Busi-

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Selectmen's Highlights

ness Association, the Bradford Improvement Association, and concerned citizens, looked to the Selectmen for guidance. She presented a paper and a booklet of photographs showing properties on Main Street and said, "The overall appearance of Bradford's Main Street may well deter both potential developers of those properties and others looking at property in the town. A survey of Main Street indicates properties where the Selectmen have authority to take action and several others where encouragement and quiet support could be helpful in improving the appearance."

Chair Charles Meany mentioned that the town could vote to adopt a building code dealing with rental property and that a new state statute dealing with violations goes into effect in January could be adopted. This allows citations to be issued by mail and avoids extensive (and expensive) court appearances.

Selectmen said they will write letters to some of the property owners in question and reply to the group. They also stated that action can be obtained by filing a formal complaint when there is a violation of state or local regulations. The form is available at the Town Office and when one is submitted, all departments concerned will be notified.

Laura Hallahan, on behalf of the 15 people in attendance, asked the Selectmen to let them know if there is anything further the group can do to help and the Selectmen thanked the group for presenting the information.

Minutes of all Selectmen's meetings are on file at the Town Hall and online at bradfordnh.com.

Conservation Commission

What is a Conservation Easement?

A conservation easement is a legal agreement between a landowner and a land trust or other organization, that permanently protects specified conservation values into the future. This legal document is attached to the deed for the property.

New Hampshire has been losing 18,000 acres of farm and forest land each year to houses, roads, and commercial development. In response, many landowners have protected their land for the future through conservation easements. Since undeveloped land requires fewer expensive town services while still providing tax revenue, studies of New Hampshire towns have consistently shown that more undeveloped open space means lower tax rates.



their properties will be permanently protected, while continuing to allow traditional uses such as logging and agriculture. The land can still be sold, given, willed, or traded like any other property, but the easement is permanently attached to the deed. In some cases, limited development may be allowed. Conservation easements may specify public rights to use the property when appropriate.

The landowner may be able to take advantage of income tax incentives, but property taxes to the town do not change because of the easement.

Bradford is fortunate to be within the target area of the Ausbon Sargent Land Preser-

vation Trust (ASLPT). Ausbon Sargent has had more than 20 years of experience designing conservation easements. The Town and several Bradford residents have made use of their expertise.

If you have any questions about conservation easements or conservation issues, please contact the Ausbon Sargent Land Protection Trust at 526-6555, or the Bradford Conservation Commission, Nathaniel Bruss, at 748-2831 or nate.bruss@gmail.com.

Conservation easements are usually designed for lands that have special features. Some of the most common reasons are: to preserve large, un-fragmented blocks or wildlife corridors between large blocks, and to protect rare or endangered species and habitats, outstanding views, water resources, exemplary agricultural or forestry lands, or features of special historic character.

An easement can give landowners and others peace of mind knowing



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Members:
 Jayne Rayno, Chair
 Christine Waite
 Cheryl Behr
 Bud Morse
 Laura Hallahan
 Les Gordon
 Peter Fenton



First Baptist Church News

by Lynne Hubley

Focus Factor, a/k/a Youth Group: Youth who are in grades 6-12 are welcome to come to our Focus Factor gatherings. They will meet the following days/times in January: Sunday, January 10 (4:00 - 5:30 p.m.) to be held at the home of Dick and Phyllis Whall --fun day to include pool, ping pong and indoor basket ball game; Saturday, January 16 - Monday, January 18 -- retreat at Camp Sentinel in Ossipee, New Hampshire; Sunday, January 24 (4:00 - 5:30 p.m.) at the church --Bring a friend; Sunday, January 31 (4:00 - 5:30 p.m.) at the church -- Ice Cream Sundae Party.

Food Pantry: The January distribution date will be Wednesday, January 20 from 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. Food can also be obtained by calling the church office at 938-5313.

Leadership Gather: There will be a meeting of the leaders of our boards on Saturday, January 23 at 9:00 a.m. for leadership development and brainstorming.

Men's Fellowship: The men will meet at the home of Fred Hubley on Wednesday, January 27 at 6:30 p.m. for devotions, pool, refreshments and fellowship.

Church Supply Shower: On Sunday, January 31, we will receive supplies that the church uses, i.e. paper products and cleaning products to help defray the church budget. We are inviting people to wrap the items so that our children can open them during Coffee Hour --like a wedding or bridal shower.

Planning Board Notes

Boundary Adjustment Deeds were received for a Boundary Adjust between Erickson and Jackson on Center Road and the Mylar was recorded.

Letters were sent to Corsair Realty, and Daniel Kraft regarding information needed to complete pending approvals. Revision to the site plan regarding the front door and fence at the Day Care Center on West Main Street will be forthcoming from Jessica Selby.

Phone calls were reported concerning construction of a garage at property on Main Street. The potential owner was advised that if building setbacks can be met, only a building permit is required as long as the garage is used for residential purposes. A site plan would be required if it is ever used for commercial purposes.

The Planning Board will present a Workforce Housing Ordinance and a revised Sign Ordinance to voters for ballot vote at the March Town Meeting. Copies of both ordinances are available for inspection at the Town Hall.

Copies of all Planning Board minutes are on file at Town Hall and online at bradfordnh.com

	<p>Open for Dinner's Friday & Saturdays Starting on the 1st 3pm to 8pm Sunapee, NH</p>
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Tired of our old beige paper? Try getting the Bridge online and enjoy the pictures in vibrant color. Go to the new Bradford Bridge web site, <http://bradfordbridge.com> and download the latest Bridge as well as some of the older ones which are being put on line.



Benefits of Support Groups

Some people who have participated in support and bereavement groups say the experience gave them an emotional connection when they felt isolated from friends and family. A group can provide and share information ranging from disease research and new medications to how a bereaved person can cope during the first year after a loved one's death. People involved say this exchange of information is one of the most valuable elements of participating in a support or bereavement group.

Moreover, support and bereavement groups offer people the opportunity to release powerful emotions they may otherwise keep to themselves. Health care providers say support groups can improve a participant's mood and decrease psychological distress.

Research also indicates that attending support groups can be beneficial. Two cancer research studies indicated that patients who participated in support groups, in addition to their medical treat-

ments, reported less anxiety and depression and actually lived longer than those who did not attend. It is speculated that having the social support of others in the group boosts the immune system by reducing the persons' anxiety and psychological stress.

Lake Sunapee VNA and Hospice offers a variety of support groups, including our long-standing parent/child group, bereavement/grief support, Healing Through Grief (a six week program), Dealing with the Holidays After You've had a Loss, Ongoing Widow-to-Widow and Caregiver Support.

For more information about your health and support groups that may be of interest to you, please contact our office. Lake Sunapee Region VNA and Hospice 107 Newport Road

New London, NH 03257
603-526-4077 www.lakesunapeevna.org

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25 YEARS OF BUILDING GREEN

Messer - continued from page 1**horse and riding. Do you teach more females than males and what do you think about the reason for this special bond that seems to exist?**

It's more common for women and girls to love riding but men also enjoy this activity. My husband enjoys riding. I definitely have more girls and women that ride. AT the present time we have about eighty females both children and adults. I can't explain why this is true but in my own case it's my life and I love what I am doing.

Q. How do you juggle raising a family, and running a large stable with sixteen horses and the endless task of grooming and cleaning which the operation requires?

I have lots of help. Our kids , three girls and one boy , ages seven to fourteen are very involved with the stables. They help in the morning before school. My in-laws help and my brother comes most weekends as well . It's hard work but it's a good and rewarding life..

Q. Do you work with 4-H?

Yes, I am very involved. I opened a horse 4-H club in August , 2008. We have eighteen kids involved and they named it "West Meadow 4-H Saddle Club. We meet once a month on Sunday afternoons. I was in 4-H as a kid .

Q. You mentioned that you were taking "dressage" lessons? Is continuing education part of what you do? Are there always new things to learn?

This work does involve continuing education. Dressage is a form of riding -like dancing on a horse.

Q How many horses are presently in the stable? Do the children have set tasks? Do they sometimes rebel and want to do other things?

Right now , we have sixteen horses. The two younger children are in charge of feeding the two dogs. No one has a specific assign-

ment. Everyone does everything. It's good for them to do all the jobs. They don't seem to resent it or complain too much.

**Q. You were born in Deering and now you're living half an hour away in Bradford. Do you ever feel that you would like to travel and see other places and do other things?**

This is my life. I don't want to do anything else. One of the people who board a horse here gave me a plaque that says "Not all people who can ride can teach." I work with many five year old children and I try to make it fun I try to be creative and provide enjoyment but at the same time, all the riders have to care for the horses. They have to be as comfortable on the ground with the horse as in the saddle.

Q. Are there times that you and your family would like to just close the stables and run away to some far-off other life and world?

There are times when all of us would like a day off. It's a seven day work week. We all get up very early to start the day. I don't ever think about anything else. I do get tired but the good still outweighs the bad.

Q. There are many different breeds of horses but you seem to like "Percherons." Can you tell me why?

I have a fondness for the Percheron. They are good with children. Also, the older horses are more predictable and safer for youngsters. The Percheron is a large horse-a draft breed. I find them to

be gentle and level headed..

West Meadow Stables offer lessons for all ages. They also have wagon rides which switch to sleigh rides when snow makes this possible. Trail riding is available.

Bodkin at Copenhagen Conference

Bradford resident Chris Bodkin, a junior politics major at Ithaca College, recently returned from a week-long stay in Copenhagen as a member of the permanent student observer team at the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. Nearly 15,000 participants—including officials and heads of state from 192 countries—took part in the conference. Twenty Ithaca College students and their faculty advisor attended.

"Ithaca College was just a handful of academic institutions to be granted permanent observer status by the United Nations at these annual climate change treaty gatherings," said Susan Allen-Gil, the chair of the environmental studies and science department who accompanied the students.

In addition to learning more about the political and scientific aspects of the conference, Bodkin worked on a social media and public polling service he and fellow student delegates created. Each day of the conference, the students posted a single question on climate change to the public by blogging, twittering, e-mailing and obtaining responses in person, with the results displayed online and in a public exhibit space at the convention. The objective was to ensure that other voices are heard and widely held opinions are represented at the negotiations.

Bodkin is available for interviews and may be contacted at (603) 491-6106 or cbodkin1@ithaca.edu.

Letters to the Editor

To the Editor:

I always like to read Laura Halahan's articles. They are well written and informative. I agree with her on the need to improve our "down town" area. I would like to clarify one point in her article where she states "If we can't attract new residents and more importantly, new businesses..." A maintained or lower tax rate for Bradford residents will only come from a well-defined, and supported down town area. Taxes rise with new residential housing, as has been shown time and again through studies such as the one given at one of our local meetings "The Dollars and Sense of Open Space" (see <http://extension.unh.edu/news/SSPlaces.htm>). Developing and supporting a down town business area through town planning and backing are essential to lower tax rates in Bradford, but not residential development in the sense of new housing which only increases demands for town services and schools.

Sincerely,
Carol Meise.

To the Editor:

Good news at the start of a new year! (Don't we all need it?) At the Selectmen's meeting on December 15, the Bradford Improvement Association (BIA) presented a list of properties that are negatively impacting the appearance of the village as well as deterring potential development - fancy words for saying that main Street and Rte 114 look awful. All of us see it any time we are in the village.

A request was made for the Selectmen to take regulatory action and/or encourage improvement with regard to these priorities. A number of points were discussed, including new state legislation (ef-

fective in January) that can help with these kinds of situations.

We are not members of the BIA, but we care for our town and it is great to see that something might be happening for our Main Street area. We came away from the meeting with the feeling that the Selectmen are very willing to work on this issue, with the support and direction of the community.

Let's make this happen! Support the efforts to bring back the Village!

Sandra and Harry Wright

To the Editor:

On behalf of NFI North, the Bradford Advisory Board is seeking funds for ski passes for underprivileged students at the The Bradford School and Midway Shelter.

The Bradford School serves boys and girls who require special education for specific emotional and learning needs. The school serves students from NH communities from 6th through 12th grades. The Board is seeking monies to help with the costs of providing a ski enhancement program at Pat's Peak. Pat's Peak has generously provided a discount of \$25 per ski session which includes the pass, rentals and lesson, but for several of the students the families do not have the means to provide the funds for the 5 week program.

There are approximately 10 students who need the funds to enroll in this enhancement program. Studies have shown that children who participate in programs such as the ski program develop confidence in themselves and are more likely to succeed in spite of their special needs.

All contributions to this special fund are tax deductible as NFI is a non-profit organization.

For more information on how you can help or to make a contribution/donation, please contact Kristyn Bond at the Bradford School, phone # 938-2556.

Sincerely,
Bradford Advisory Board
Fran Chelland, Betsy Fowler,
Steve Manley, Laurie Methven,
Beth Rodd

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The Bradford Bridge welcomes letters to the editor. Word limit is 250 and all letters are subject to editing for style, grammar and taste. Anonymous letters will not be printed. Please include name and daytime telephone number. Space limitations do not allow for back & forth letters from the same writers. Send letters to contact.us@bradfordbridge.com

From the Bradford Fire Department

Heating sources and Ice safety

Wood Stoves

Did you know? That wood stoves cause over 4,000 residential fires every year.

Here are a few tips:

Make sure your wood stove is installed properly, according to manufacturer instructions.

- Check for cracks and irregularities and inspect stove regularly
- Use only seasoned wood for fuel
- Keep combustible objects at least 3 feet away from stove
- ***Never place anything on top of the woodstove***

This can not be stressed enough. Please do not attempt to dry wet wood, clothing, rugs, etc. on or around your wood stove.

Even if you are home, and you see no harm in it, fires can happen in an instant.

Fireplaces & Chimneys

Did you know? Chimney's need to be cleaned regularly to keep them working safely.

Here are a few tips:

- Creosote regularly builds up and needs to be cleaned.
- Chimneys should be inspected for obstructions and cracks to help prevent chimney fires.
- Make sure the damper/flu is open *before* igniting a fire
- Make sure fire is completely out before leaving the house
- Once embers/ashes are cool, remove and place in a covered metal container stored outside the home, on the ground not in a barn or on the porch.
- *Never put ashes in a paper bag or cardboard box.*

Signs of a chimney fire: Smoke coming into your home and/or the walls surrounding the fireplace is warm to the touch. If you suspect a chimney fire call 911.

Ice Safety

"Know before you go"

With ice fishing, snowmobiling and other winter activities it is vital we remember to stay safe while on the ice. Never guess about ice thickness and safety. Never drive vehicles on the ice unless you are 100% sure of the ice safety and thickness. The areas with currents and strong winds, along with areas around bridges tend to be the most hazardous.

Falling through the ice: Don't try to climb out using your whole body- this may break the ice even more. Lay both arms on the surrounding unbroken ice, and kick hard with your legs and then roll to safety.

More information can be found at: www.nfpa.org and <http://www.wildlife.state.nh.us>

Melanie Steiz- Bradford Fire & Rescue

Bradford Women's Club

For the members of the BWC, this has been a busy time. We had a successful Craft and Antique Fair in November. The Brown Memorial Library and the BWC had a visit from Santa. Seeing all the smiling little faces makes the season special.

Thanks to all who helped; Jane and Mike Moss, also Debbie and Morgan Flinkstrom. Our Holiday Party was relaxing and fun for our members with good food and kazoos. There wasn't an egg in sight as compared to last year.

On Dec. 20, following a wonderful luncheon, the Mason's gave the Bradford Women's Club their Community Builders Award for being an important contributor to this area. Jackye Pehrson, President of the BWC was there to accept and spoke of their accomplishments over the last 67 years. We were honored to receive this commendation and will treasure the award plaque.

Members, don't forget the Chinese dinner. It will be held at the Bradford Area Community Center 4:00pm on January 19, 2010

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Deadline for the next edition of the Bradford Bridge is January 15. Submissions after that may not get published. Submissions can be sent to us by email at contact.us@bradfordbridge.com or through the Bradford Bridge site at <http://bradford-bridge.com>



The Computer Column

My son/daughter needs a new computer for college. I've seen the Mac versus PC ads on TV. Which is really better?

I think the best way to ask the question is, "Which computer is best for you and your personal needs?" Let's look at several things.

Realistically what is my overall cost of ownership?

Macs generally cost substantially more up front. It can be upwards of \$2000 for a Mac laptop while its PC counterpart could be purchased for less than \$800 in many retail stores. The costs begin to balance out over the long run as maintenance costs become a factor. As an example a Mac machine could be a carrier of a virus but not infected. There are far fewer infections designed for the Mac operating systems than for PC's Windows. Meanwhile the windows machine needs viruses removed, system tune ups, virus software paid for and installed, anti-spyware software to be paid for... The operating costs of the less expensive PC can certainly add up in the long run. I have very rarely come across a Mac machine with an antivirus product installed while this is a must for PCs.

What things should I take into consideration when looking for support options?



Hopefully some young wizard in the family knows enough to help out. When that wizard goes off to work or school now what do you do. What are your friends and peers using? Look to your college or work environment. Many art programs (graphic design, photo editing, video editing etc.) almost exclusively use Mac programs. You can certainly get these programs for PCs but when your co-worker, classmates and professors are using Macs you're really limiting your support options when you need help.

When I was in business school, my peers and professors almost exclusively used PCs. It was natural to gravitate to the PC to receive help and support when I needed questions answered or something demonstrated. If my peers didn't know, I was on my own and my professors, although versed in the material were often far behind with technology. For me the time spent figuring out how to create Excel Financial balance spreadsheets as well as run financial applications on a Mac versus receiving help on a departmentally standardized PC platform would have been very expensive time in a competitive learning environment. Using the same software as my professors and peers was quite important from the learning support standpoint.

Is there really anything that one can do that the other can't?

Well one is certainly far better at getting infected but all joking aside it's a good question. There are small differences. Many online gaming communities are either Mac or PC but not both. If you wanted to network a game to play against other people over the internet you would be playing against other Mac users if you were a Mac user or other PC users if you owned a PC. PC online communities are far greater in number simply because of market share. There is a bigger difference in the ability to clone or backup software. On the Mac you can quite literally copy the folder that has your Microsoft Office installation as a backup of the actual program. In Windows you simply can't do this as Windows' installations put files EVERYWHERE. Out of the box Mac backup utilities are far superior to Windows. You can, of course, pay money for great Windows backup tools. Now the question is: Who do you know that can help teach you how to back up your Mac or your Windows PC machine?

James Thompson
IAMNOW

Mountain View Senior Center Hosts Holiday Dinner for Meals On Wheels Clients

Meals on Wheels clients from several area towns were treated to turkey dinner with all the fixin's at the Mountain View Senior Center. The first time event was hosted by Meals on Wheels drivers Bob Selig, Jim Denoncourt, and Bob Ferdinand with the generous help and support of senior center volunteers. Volunteers from the center's fitness and quilting groups assisted in transporting clients to and from the center, helped serve the delicious meal, and purchased and wrapped gifts for each of the attendees to take home. Each client also took home a loaf of fresh baked bread provided by volunteers.

Kearsarge Regional High School's Girls a Cappella Choir, under the direction of Ernie Mills, entertained the assembled with a variety of Christmas and popular songs.

Senior Center Director Phil Stockwell said "We may have started an annual tradition here. Everyone was delighted with the success of this holiday-inspired event!"

Sugar River Bank, Lake Sunapee Bank and many local residents helped to sponsor the gathering with their generous donations. Later in the week all Meals on Wheels clients also received fresh baked cookies compliments of High Spirits 4-H group.

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Area Events

Bradford

Parks & Recreation

Bradford Parks and Recreation is in the process of forming a group for those who are interested in Nordic /Cross Country/ Back Country Skiing and Snowshoeing. All skill levels are welcome to participate. Depending on future snowfall, the group will meet weekly for local outdoor adventure in various locations. Beginner clinics are being organized for those new to the sport. Please call to register your interest and choice of days or stop by the Bradford Area Community Center. 603-938-6228.

Newbury

The Fells: Art in Nature Preschooler Series: Snow Crystals - Tuesday, January 12, 10-11am Participants create three-dimensional models of these incredible geometric beauties. Lauren Cole-Johnson combines direct outdoor experiences with artistic media such as paint, clay, papier-mâché and print-making to increase children's awareness, curiosity and appreciation of the natural world through opportunities for creative artistic expression. Dress appropriately for indoor and outdoor activity. Member child \$2, nonmember

child \$5, (caregiver free). Call 603-763-4789 x3 for reservations. Rain or shine. Meet at The Fells Gatehouse, 456 Route 103A, Newbury, NH. Made possible by support from the Lincoln Financial Foundation.

Timber Harvest Tour at Hay Forest - A Program of the Society for The Protection of New Hampshire Forests Saturday, January 30, 10am-2pm (snow date Sunday, January 31) Winter timber harvest operations provide opportunities to see logging equipment and learn about timber harvesting and silviculture. Meet logging contractors and consulting foresters; learn about the layout of skid trails, woods roads and landings; get the latest news about logging practices, equipment, wood products and the timber markets where products are shipped and sold. Free. Registration required at www.forestsociety.org <<http://www.forestsociety.org>>. Meet at The Fells, 456 Route 103A, Newbury, NH. For more information call 603-763-4789 x3 or visit www.thefells.org.

Warner

Low Vision? NH Association for the Blind will be at the Pillsbury Free Library in Warner at 1 PM Wednesday Jan. 27 to explain their services and show some helpful devices such as magnifiers for reading. This was rescheduled from Dec. 9. Call 456-2289 for information.

Lyme Disease Documentary: Friday January 29 at 7 PM at MainStreet BookEnds. The Pillsbury Free Library is sponsoring a free screening of "Under Our Skin", an award-winning documentary about the controversy surrounding diagnosis and treatment of long-term Lyme Disease symptoms. Call 456-2289 for information

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Door Knocker
Brown Memorial Library

Stitches from the Heart Quilters Pick Raffle Winners

Mountain View Senior Center's quilting group, Stitches from the Heart, ended their highly successful quilt raffle fundraiser this week by picking the winners from the hundreds of raffle supporters who purchased chances.

First prize for the award-winning handmade quilt went to Barbara Palmer of Warner.

Second prize, a two-night stay at the Riverside Inn B&B in Intervale, N.H. went to Gail Alcantaro of Groveton.

The third place prize of a matching set of handmade quilted placemats was won by Representative Barbara French of Henniker.

Under the expert direction of Bradford's Mary Derry this dedicated and talented group of quilters creates one hand-stitched masterpiece quilt each year to raffle off. The group has grown in number this year, but welcomes anyone with an interest in quilting to join them any Tuesday morning at 10. Proceeds from the annual raffle help support programs and activities for area seniors at Mountain View Senior Center.



VNA | Self Care During the Holidays

During the busy holiday season self care is more important than ever. Lake Sunapee Region VNA and Hospice wishes you a happy and healthy holiday season and reminds you to take CARE!

- *Get enough sleep.*
- *Delegate, consolidate or eliminate projects and errands when possible.*
- *Give yourself ½ hour of self care each day: massage, read, nap, yoga etc.*
- *Set up walking dates instead of lunch dates with friends*
- *Eat breakfast.*
- *Put less focus on the food and more on conversation at holiday parties.*
- *Limit alcoholic drinks as they inhibit your body's fullness signals*
- ***Enjoy the moment!***



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Hikes in the S-R-K Greenway Region

The Sunapee-Ragged-Kearsarge (SRK) Greenway Coalition is offering three winter hikes in January. Be prepared with clothing layers, food, water and snowshoes. Please call the hike leader at least the night before to learn starting location and time. For SRK Greenway information go to www.srkg.com.

Jan 16 (Sat) Geocaching from Webster Pass to Dutchman Pond in Springfield. Bring a GPS unit, if you have one, or learn as you go, searching for 14 caches with Cynthia Bruss, gregcyn@myfairpoint.net, or 763-4570. 5 miles (Moderate)

Jan 23 (Sat) An interpretive snowshoe hike to Star Lake in Springfield. Followed by hot chocolate with the leaders, Susan and Michael Chiarella: 763-5879. 3 miles. (Easy)

Jan 30 (Sat) Cross-country ski to Morgan Pond from Twin Lake Villa in Springfield. Call Andy Hager 526-2846. 5 mi. (Moderate for experienced skiers)

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.

JANUARY CALENDAR

Fri. Jan. 1

Senior Center Closed
Happy New Year!!

Sat. Jan 2

9:00 – 11:00 AM – Writing group

Mon. Jan. 4

8:45 AM - Mountain View Senior Center Fitness
1-4:00 PM - Bridge Group
5:30 PM – Girl Scouts #12579

Tues. Jan 5

10:00 AM - Stitches From the Heart
12 Noon - Senior Dining

Wed. Jan. 6

3:15 PM - Brownies
6:00-7:30 PM - Girl Scouts

Thurs. Jan. 7

12 Noon - Senior Dining
9:00 AM – 12:00 noon – Fuel Assistance. Call
456-2207 for appointment
6:00 PM - Yoga Class – call Fran at 456-3099 for
information

Fri. Jan. 8

8:45 AM Mountain View Senior Center Fitness
9:30–11:30 AM Foot Care Clinic by LSRVNA at
North Ridge Senior Housing
Call for appt. at 526-4077 or 1-800-587-3382

Sat. Jan 9

9:00 AM Kearsarge Regional High School
Deliberative Session

Mon. Jan. 11

8:45 AM - Mountain View Senior Center Fitness
10:30AM - 1:00 PM - Easy Focaccio Bread
Making with Joan Warren. Reservations must
be made.
1-4:00 PM - Bridge Group
7:00 PM - Rural Heritage Connection

Tues. Jan. 12

10:00 AM - Stitches from the Heart
12:00 Noon - Senior Dining
6:00 PM - Yoga Class – call Fran at 456-3099 for
information

Wed. Jan. 13

4:30 PM - Bradford Area Community Center
Committee Meeting
3:00 – 5:00 PM – Brownies
6:00 -7:30 PM – Girl Scouts # 10178

7:00 PM – Library Book Group - *Olive Kitteridge*
by Elizabeth Strout, BML

Thurs. Jan. 14

11:00AM – 12:30 PM Blood Pressure Clinic –
Free
12 Noon - Senior Dining Reservations strongly
suggested.
12:30 PM - Dick Smith, The Attitude Merchant -
“The Secrets of Managing Stress”
4:30 PM - Parks & Recreation committee meet-
ing

Fri. Jan. 15

8:45 AM - Mountain View Senior Center Fitness
7:00 PM – International Movie (France), BML

Sat. Jan 16

9:00 – 11:00 AM – Writing group
10:00 AM - Bradford Barter
10:00 AM – Bradford Improvement Association

Sun. Jan 17

1:00-4:00 PM – Girl Scouts - #10178

Mon. Jan. 18

**Mountain View Senior Center Closed for
Martin Luther King Day**
Brown Memorial Library - Open

Tues. Jan. 19

9:00 AM – 12:00 noon – Fuel Assistance. Call
456- call 456-2207 for appointment
10:00AM - Stitches From the Heart
12:00 Noon - Senior Dining
4:00 PM Bradford Women’s Club – Chinese din-
ner – BACC
6:00 PM - Yoga Class

Thurs. Jan. 21

10:30AM – 12 Noon Blood Pressure Clinic at Mt.
View Senior Center provided by LSVNA
12 Noon: Senior Dining followed by Wayne
Blanchard from ServiceLink
1:00-3:00 PM Foot Care Clinic at Mt. View Senior
Center by LSVNA Call for appt. at 526-4077
or 1-800-587-3382
5:30- 7:00 PM - 4 H

Fri. Jan. 22

8:45 AM - Mountain View Senior Center Fitness
10:30 AM - Friday at the Movies - feature: *August
Rush*

JANUARY CALENDAR

Mon. Jan. 25

8:45 AM - Mountain View Senior Center Fitness
1-4:00 PM - Bridge Group

Tues. Jan. 26

10:00 AM - Stitches from the Heart
12 Noon - Senior Dining
6:00 PM - Yoga Class

Wed. Jan. 27

10:30AM – 12 Noon - Blood Pressure Clinic by
LSVNA at Warner Senior Room
3:15 PM - Brownies
6:00-7:30 PM - Girl Scouts – #10178

Thurs. Jan. 28

12 Noon - Senior Dining

Fri. Jan. 29

8:45 AM - Mountain View Senior Center Fitness

Mon. Jan. 31

8:45 M - Mountain View Senior Center Fitness
1-4:00 PM - Bridge Group

All events take place at the Bradford Area Community Center (938-6228) or the Mountain View Senior Center (938-2104) unless otherwise noted. Please call to confirm dates and times in case there has been a change to the submitted information.

Abbreviation Key

BBC - Bradford Baptist Church
BML - Brown Memorial Library
FGC - Fish & Game Clubhouse -Gillingham Drive
KAP - Kearsarge Area Preschool
KRES - Bradford Elementary School
MVSC - Mountain View Senior Center
TH - Bradford Town Hall
ZBA - Zoning Board of Adjustment

SKID STEER IS HERE!

The Caterpillar 257B Skid Steer sidewalk plow arrived at the Bradford Town Sheds on December 22. Seen here are (l. to r.) Selectman Jack Meaney and the new highway department head, Jeffrey Remillard. The used, multi-purpose Skid Steer has a climate control cab, set of forks, bucket attachment, and a new snow blower with additional attachments available. According to Town Administrator Cheryl Behr, the \$28,000 cost was paid for with money that the town did not have to spend on a first payment for the new garage and with unspent money in the highway department's fuel budget.



Ongoing Events

Children's Storytime - Wednesdays at 10:30 am BML
Cemetery Commission - 2nd Thursday at 6 PM. Call 938-5539 for information
Conservation Commission - 3rd Tuesday 7 PM, Town Hall or BML
Fish and Game Club - 1st Monday of each month - 7 PM, Fish and Game Club
First Friday Bunch - 11:30 am MVSC, reservations appreciated, call 938-2104 for information
Historical Society - open most Saturdays, 1:30 - 3 PM, or call 938-5386
Library Trustees Meeting - 1st Monday, 7:30 PM - BML
Planning Board - 2nd and 4th Tuesday, 7 PM, Town Hall
Rural Heritage Connection - 2nd Monday, 7 PM, BACC
Selectmen's Meeting - 1st and 3rd Tuesday, 5:30 PM, Town Hall
Zoning Board - 1st Tuesday, 7:30 PM, Town Hall



BRADFORD-Solitude Ridge is the location for this VIEW parcel of land **3.55 acres** with 700 feet of road front. VIEWS are of Bald Sunapee, Bly Hill and other Mt's facing west to NW. Area of nice newer homes, power is underground and lot is partially cleared. **\$99,500.00**



BRADFORD-Complete restoration & updates on this fine home, wood, tile & berber floors, 2 1/2 baths, 3 BR's, nice detail and quality work, level landscaped lot with outbuildings & detached garage. Nice country setting, paved road. **\$218,500.00**



BRADFORD-New to be built Cape with three bedrooms and two baths on **2 acres**. Photo is of similar cape built in Sutton by the same contractor. VIEWS facing west. Close to downtown. Foundation is in and ready to go. **\$219,000.00**

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This is Our Town

This is Our Town

This month's focus of officials who help to keep our Town running smoothly is on the Supervisors of the Checklist – the three people who prepare the voting list that determines who may (or may not) vote at any election local, state, or federal held in Bradford or the Kearsarge Regional School District.

RSA 654 Local and State Elections: *Any person having his domicile within the town and qualified to vote under RSA 654:1-654:2 and 654:4-654:6 and who is on the town checklist shall be qualified to vote in town elections.*

The Supervisors of the Checklist are responsible for maintaining the integrity of the voter checklist and are charged with maintaining an updated checklist to be used at all town meetings and all elections to ensure that only qualified voters participate in town meeting discussions and votes, by voice or otherwise. The checklist for a town meeting or election is prepared in the same manner as for state and federal elections.


The Secretary of State establishes the forms and procedures to be used and specifies the information to be gathered and maintained. Every checklist used at any election shall contain the full name, address, and party affiliation, if any, of each voter on

the checklist.

Over the past few years, a statewide data base has been developed to assure that voters are registered in only one municipality. This helps to eliminate duplicate voters within the system – information that would not be known to each town and city without this data base. Voters are removed from the checklist when:

- The Supervisors are notified electronically that a voter has registered in a new location. The name is then removed at the next session.
- A voter sends a written request to be removed, or
- Supervisors send a 30 day letter to voters who have left the town.

Supervisors of the Checklist serve for a six year term and are paid hourly for their time (as are the ballot clerks who put in time at the polls). Those currently serving the Town of Bradford are Ann Lucier, Ruth Marden, and Judith Marshall



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Library Lantern

by Meg Fearnley



Mother and daughter signing their application papers to join the Mercy Hathaway White Chapter NS-DAR. Nelda Coulter-Smith, right, of North Sutton and on the left her daughter Katherine Coulter Snaith of New London. Nelda's Revolutionary War ancestor Lieutenant Ebenezer Peabody served from MA and received a pension for his service. Katherine's ancestor Private James Coulter served from NY.

In November the Chapter Board held their meeting at the home of Chapter Librarian Sharon Williamson in Newbury. Sharon reported the Bradford 5th grade class will participate in the DAR American History Essay Contest along with the 6th grade at the Kearsarge Regional Middle School in Sutton.

Eight members of the Chapter attended the State Fall Meeting in Concord and the Chapter received a Level I Chapter Achievement Certificate (highest level).

On December 9th at 1:00 PM at the home of Merle Dustin, Contoocook, members enjoyed a "Christmas Tea Social". For information please call Roxana at 456-3537

We are very grateful to the Bradford Women's Club for organizing a wonderful visit with Santa Claus. The children were very excited to see him in their library and he kindly listened to everyone's requests. Photographs taken with Santa are available at the library circulation desk. The Library Book Group will discuss *Olive Kitteridge* by Elizabeth Strout on Wednesday, January 13 at 7:00pm. This book won the 2009 Pulitzer Prize for Fiction. We have a few copies available at the library (this is a very popular book with New Hampshire reading groups!). Please ask the librarian for a copy and I will do my best to accommodate all readers!

The book-to-movie discussion is taking a break this month. On February 5 at 7:00pm we will discuss *Wuthering Heights* by Emily Bronte. We will watch either 1939's *Wuthering Heights*, starring Laurence Olivier and Merle Oberon or the extremely melodramatic and gothic version made for television in 2009. Come in and cast your vote. The International Movie Series continues in January with a selection from France on Friday, February 15 at 7:00pm. See you at the library!

New books added in December:

The Land of Green Plums by Herta Müller
Say You're One of Them by Uwem Akpan
Last Night in Twisted River by John Irving
U is for Undertow by Sue Grafton
The Ground Truth by John Farmer
La's Orchestra Saves the World by Alexander McCall Smith
 For children and youth
Purple Heart by Patricia McCormick
How to Say Goodbye in Robot by Natalie Standiford
Christmas Magic by Lauren Thompson
Blackbringer by Laini Taylor



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938-2100

Bradford Police Department News

Telephone: (603)938-2522

On Tuesday, December 8, 2009 the Bradford Police Department, with the assistance of the Warner Police Department, conducted a search of 123 East Main Street apartment #4, in Bradford, NH. The search, pursuant to a search warrant, was conducted during the evening hours. Two people were detained during the search. Found were numerous marijuana plants, grow lights, scale, and other materials needed for the manufacture and distribution of a controlled substances. There were also a number of plastic baggies with a white powdery substance.

Wanted at this time is:

Tynan Brinkley
dob: 12/16/1987

Tynan is a white male, 5 foot 8 inches, approximately 140 pounds, Blonde hair and green eyes, tattoo on the right arm
Driving a 1996 Black Volkswagen, 4 door Jetta, bearing New Hampshire Registration # 259 6950

Officers returned to 123 East Main Street after Brinkley returned to the apartment. When officers approached the apartment Brinkley jumped from a third floor balcony. State Police canine responded but Brinkley was not located. Brinkley may be armed at this time.

The department would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. November was a busy month. We have recently started to fill the part time slots we lost over this past year. Craig Norton has started the field training program and will be attending the Part Time Academy in February, 2010. A number of other candidates are also being considered to file the remaining slots. We have been short on man power and have filled hours on a need basis along with trying support a regular schedule.

A criminal trespass and mischief case has been referred to the County Attorney's Office for presentation to the grand jury. We also have a number of other cases currently waiting Grand Jury consideration. There were a number of thefts that stand out during the month. A number of chain saws were stolen from parked trucks on Rt. 114 and new replacement windows were taken from a property on East Main Street. Anyone with information is asked to call the department at 938-2522.

We have added a Facebook account for the department. It is under the "Town of Bradford Police Department". We have tried to keep it posted with recent events of interest.

Again we wish everyone a very happy holiday season and good health into the New Year.

Police Activity for November

Theft - Unauthorized Taking	3
Auto Theft	1
Criminal Mischief	1
Domestic Violence	3
DUI - First Offense	1
Disorderly Conduct - Harassment	1
Dis Con - Neighborhood Dispute	1
Runaways	2
Motor Vehicle Crash - Property Damage	1
Motor Vehicle Crash - Personal Injury	1
MV - Citation Violation	2
MV - Citation Speed	5
MV - Warning	59
MV - Complaint	2
Parking Violations	2
Business Check	37
NFI Check	2
Alarm Response - Public Building	1
Assist - Ambulance	5
Assist - Citizen	1
Assist - Police	2
Animal - Nuisance	1
Animal - Livestock Complaint	1
Dog - At Large	3
M/V Lock out	1
Property-Lost	3
Suspicious Person / Vehicle	3
Road Hazard / Obstruction	6
Paperwork Service	3
Arrest Warrant Service	1
VIN Verification	3
Grand Total for all calls	158



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OUTSIDE by *J. Ann Eldridge*

There have been times, like this morning, when I've pondered how convenient it might be to be able to photosynthesize. Dig your feet in the ground, face the sun, and drink a glass of water. No shopping, no cooking, no dishes, all those time-consuming details. Perhaps spend the winter in patient suspended animation.

Plants manipulate sunlight to make sugars (energy) from carbon dioxide and water, and with inorganic elements from the soil, they synthesize amino acids and vitamins. To make up for our failure to create our own calories and proteins, we eat plants and we eat animals that eat plants.

For very nearly our entire sojourn on this planet, perhaps 200 million years, we have hunted and gathered along with virtually all the other animals. The hunting/gathering life has been calculated to require less actual energy to maintain, but it does come with risks. It wasn't until very recently on that long time scale that we learned to break the topsoil and plant selected foods. At this point we began to store quantities of food for hard times, accumulate great wealth, hire politicians, and do all the other related interesting things we do.



I am eating as I write this; you may be eating as you read this. With the exceptions of cranberries, turkeys, sunflowers and Jerusalem artichokes, every common fruit, vegetable, or grain originated in some equatorial home distant from the North American continent. Our lives depend on making the newcomers comfortable here. Our lives depend on dirt.

The State and Federal governments have kept soil scientists employed locating areas of what they term 'prime agricultural soils' and 'soils of state-wide importance'. These soils are deemed to have the mineral base, slope, climate and water permeability/availability to support the crops that support us. The largest acreages for these soils in the state are located where ancient glacial rivers left their deposits along the Connecticut and Merrimack Rivers. [For more information on Bradford soils, please look at the 'Forest and Farmland Soils' draft map for the Natural Resource Inventory available through the town website www.bradfordnh.org.]

The earliest settlers of Bradford quickly figured out that the best dirt was, predominately scattered in the northern, less hilly parts of town. Picture the Messer's fields out on Fairgrounds Road, the land behind 'Fortune's Barn' where the Brown's horses graze, Stan Brown's old farm at the top of Marshall Hill Road, Stone Ridge Farm on Cressy Road, and Battles Farm just across from it on

Center Road. There are other tracts in town, some have 'for sale' signs, some are growing houses, some are reforested.

And some people think that what happens to agricultural soils matters. A few towns go so far as to regulate the removal of the top skin of the earth because they recognize that, for all intents and purposes, topsoil is irreplaceable. What makes topsoil work so well for growing plants is that mysterious substance known as humus. Like faith and truth, humus is something that a gardeners and farmers everywhere recognize, but scientists have not quantified exactly what it is. Attempting a molecular definition results in speaking in mystical terms. It is what remains when all the microbes, algae, fungi, bacteria, invertebrates etc have had their way with the soil's organic content. Humus is the end product of it and the process of humus formation is what releases the necessary elements for plant growth. Humus itself is as variable as snow flakes but stable in amount and form in

undisturbed landscapes.

At the moment, western societies depend on an industrial agriculture based on depleted topsoil augmented with chemical additives. Enormous quantities of fossil fuels are required to plant, harvest, process and transport the results. If plant breeding and agriculture has taken a minute in the time scale of human history, modern high tech farming has taken much less than a second. Whether the industrial agricultural model is sustainable with a growing global population in the very long run is not yet known.

Somewhat comforting is that the number of farms is actually increasing in NH though the number of classic-looking farms with their broad views and traditional architecture is diminishing, especially dairy farms. The new farms are predominantly small in acreage and specialize in 'value added' products and growing plants/animals for resale. In NH, more than 95% of our food is estimated to come from outside the state. We may need micro farms and we may need a society of knowledgeable micro agriculturalists.

Also comforting is that it is possible to speed up the process of topsoil renewal. There is a steadily growing interest in gardening, mulching, composting – returning organic matter with all its attendant organisms onto sterile or undernourished landscapes.

The lawn where I live continues to be overtaken by vegetables. Now, if only I liked to cook...

Cornerstones - Bradford Inns

The earliest inns in Bradford served travelers throughout the area. Among the early inns was the **Raymond House**, built in 1804 at the corner now known as Lafayette Square. When Raymond House burned in 1897, it was reputed to be the oldest in New England operated continuously as a hotel.

The **Bradford Hotel** was built of brick in 1815 at the west end of Main Street. It was destroyed by fire in 1894. On the same site, a new inn opened in 1898 as the "New Bradford Hotel." It operated as a hostelry or rooming house under various names over the years. The current name is **Thistle and Shamrock** and it sits vacant waiting for its next use.



The advent of the railroad changed the complexion of the Town of Bradford. The line from Concord to Bradford opened on July 1, 1850 and was expanded from Warner to Claremont through Bradford in 1872 with the Sugar River Railroad connecting to the Sullivan Railroad. With this access to the area, Bradford, with its sparkling lakes, rolling hills, and mineral waters, became a mecca for summer visitors. In 1894, it was noted that "100 pieces of luggage arrived on the train in one morning."



ers, and winter sports enthusiasts. Mr. & Mrs. Edward Messer opened their home, **Pleasant View Farm**, to guests in 1896. It has continued to operate as an inn or bed and break-

Several of the nineteenth century inns are operating still and flourishing with summer tourists, October leaf-peep-



Candlelite Inn

fast during most of the years since. Now completely refurbished, its name has been changed to **Rosewood Country Inn** by proprietors Lesley and Dick Marquis.

Candlelite Inn began as Gillis House in 1897.

Through transfer of ownership, the hotel operated as Acokaka, Green Shutters, and Hitching Post, before being renamed the Candlelite Inn in 1954. Current proprietors, Marilyn and Les Gordon, purchased the Inn at auction in 1992, and began operation in January 1993.

The **Lakeside Inn**, operated for a number of years on the shore of Lake Todd and is now the **Appleseed Inn**, with proprietors Mary Beth and Peter Fenton.



The inn most recently known as **The Mountain Lake Inn** began serving guests as the **Davis Hotel** sometime before 1881. Over the years its name was changed to **Massasecum Lodge** and operated continuously until 1972 when it became a private residence for a short period of time. The most recent innkeepers, Tracy and Bob Foor, closed the inn several years ago and it is once again a private residence.

Other buildings that once served as inns include: **Butman House**, built on Main Street in 1890, became St. Peter's Masonic Lodge in 1929. **Woodside**, once the home of Col. Mason Tappan, operated as an inn for a period of time after 1878. Today it is the home of Burton and Ellen Hersh. **Echo Lodge** is now a private home just south of the intersection of Main Street and Route 114. **Wayside** is a private residence on High Street just north of the Brick Mill.

Note: This Cornerstone has changed more since the selections were made in 1991 than any of the others. There is so much information and so many picture of the old inn that a separate article will be prepared at the end of the Cornerstone series in order to do justice to this topic.