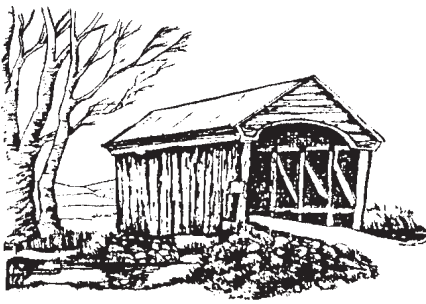


THE Bradford Bridge

COMMUNITY NEWS FOR NEIGHBORS BY NEIGHBORS

Volume 25, Number 1, Issue 275

February 2014



Hiking in Our Hometown

by Laurie Buchar



Bald Sunapee stands majestic over the varied terrain.

Bradford is a treasure-trove of trails to explore on skis or snowshoes during the winter months. My favorite pastime is to explore our backyard in the snow, following

tracks left by our neighbors, both animal and human. Whenever our own trails are too icy or the snow is just too deep, I head across town to what we call the Big Valley. There, thanks to the Lake Sunapee Snowmobile Club, the conditions are always prime. Since 1988, the LSSC has managed 85 miles of multi-use trails in central New Hampshire through their partnership with the NH Department of Resources and Economic Development Trails Bureau, NH Fish and Game, the NH Snowmobile Association, and 200 local landowners.

You can park at any of several trailheads along Pleasant View and Fairgrounds Roads, some of which are marked by signs. The trails that fall within the Bradford town limits are varied and scenic. Some cut across wide farmland, with views of local peaks. Others wind through woodlots or along streams and over wooden bridges. Discover thrilling descents or more placid terrain, depending on your taste and talent. Appreciate the historic role of this unique



Support local partnerships.

continued on page 5

Free Local Fun for Kids in February

Wednesday, February 12th

3:30 – 4:30 pm

Make Victorian Valentines at the **Historic Tin Shop** at 160 E. Main Street with the Bradford Historical Society. Limit 20 elementary school age children. Call to register: 938-2041. No charge. Snow date: Thursday, Feb 13th



Monday, February 24th

11:00 am – 12:00 noon

School vacation week activity for free!

Bring your favorite doll or stuffed animal to a **Tea Party** at **Brown Memorial Library** – Refreshments and stories for all ages. Snow date: Wednesday Feb. 26th
For info: call 938-5562

The Bradford Bridge



P.O. Box 463
Bradford, NH 03221
Ph.: 603-938-2692
contact.us@bradfordbridge.com

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Subscription Information

To receive The Bridge by mail, please send a \$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. The firm deadline for all ads and articles is the 20th 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

By the time this issue of The Bridge is published, we will know which of our citizens have answered the call and signed up for the open positions in our town government. As has been said numerous times, our small town depends on its volunteers. The Bradford Bridge will host a forum on March 8, the Saturday before elections, to give the candidates a chance to introduce themselves to voters and for voters to ask questions.

Hearings have been set for a bond and the budget (check the calendar for dates and the town website for any last minutes changes.)

Improvements continue along Bradford's East Main Street. The Historical Society held an open house to show off the first stage of changes at the Tin Shop. There is now an open area that can be used for displays and meetings. Check out the Wish List and see where you can help as this project moves along.

There is a welcome vacant lot at the corner of Route 114 and Old Warner Road replacing a very sad building that had passed its prime long ago. If we wish to retain old buildings, they must be cared for. We would be remiss as a town to let this happen to our Town Hall.

Yes, it is winter and we expect it to be cold and snowy, but this year it's COLD! The 'old days' are remembered, but this winter seems extreme. Bundle up if you are going out and stay warm wherever you are. Spring will come.

Selectmen's Office Hours 938-5900

Mon - Thurs: 7:30 am - 5:00 pm
Friday: 7:30 am - noon
Selectmen meet every Monday
from 5:30 pm - 7:30 PM
Special Meetings will be posted
24 hours in advance

Town Clerk/ Tax Collector
Office Hours
938-2288

Monday: noon-7:00 pm
Tuesday: 7:00 am-11:30 am
12:30 pm-5:00 pm
Friday: 8:00 am-11:30 am and
12:30 pm-5:00 PM
Saturday: (2nd & 4th) 9-Noon

Planning Board Circuit Rider
Wednesday
call 938-2253 for appointment

Town offices are temporarily
located at BACC



Marcia Keller,
February Editor

RESIDENTS OF THE TOWN BRADFORD NH

Supervisors of the Checklist will be in session on Saturday March 1, 2014. This is for the purpose of making any corrections to the checklist and accepting new registrations or changes.

If you are a new voter in town and wish to register, you must be at least 18 years old. Please bring a picture I.D. and proof of residency.



Supervisors of the Checklist

Judy Marshall
Ruth Marden
Jackye Pehrson

Bradford News Notes

Historical Society

The Society hosted an open house in January to display the newly renovated Tin Shop. More than 20 people came to admire the work done recently to create a versatile new space that can be used for displays, meetings and other functions. Tim Rodd and Laurie Buchar outlined future plans for the building, distributed a Wish List to complete the project (contributions to be matched by an anonymous donor), and invited suggestions for items to be included in a time capsule that will be placed under the stairs in April.

Starting in February, the Tin Shop will be open at 160 East Main Street on Wednesdays from noon to 2pm and by appointment. New contact info: bradfordhistoricalsociety@gmail.com

Fish & Game Club

Please note that the Bradford Fish & Game meetings have been moved to the FIRST TUESDAY of each month, beginning with February 4th, 2014, at the club house on Gillingham Drive.

Bradford Business Association

The BBA continues to actively seek returning and new members and the 2014 Member Guide is being finalized for print and distribution. Because of continued interest we have decided to publish twice this year in order to include as many members as possible, so the first edition will be out this month with a follow-up in June. Our Business After Hours continue to be popular and are open to anyone who is interested in learning more about our local businesses, not just business members, though it is a great way to network. Tall Pines Realty will host the next Business After Hours on Wednesday, February 26th from 5:30 to 7:30. This is a change from the 19th so please mark your calendars and hope to see you then.

----- Laura Hallahan

Business Updates

Congratulations to Sunapee Cruises and the Fenton family for being selected as this year's Lake Sunapee Region Chamber of Commerce Business of the Year!

The KRSD School buses have been moved by Goffstown Trucking to Valley Transportation on Route 114.

Kearsarge Area Preschool

by Jessica Hearne

Located in the Bradford Area Community Center, the Kearsarge Area Preschool has currently enrolled students from Bradford, Newbury, Sutton and Warner. Kearsarge Area Preschool (KAP) is a parent-run cooperative preschool serving three, four, and five year olds. The organization is governed by a board of directors and licensed by the State of New Hampshire. KAP has approval from the state to also take 5 six through nine year olds after school, so if they have a younger sibling coming to the preschool they can ride the bus to the Community Center and the parents will have just one place to pick up.



At KAP, parents and teachers collaborate to create a safe, warm and nurturing environment where children can have a positive preschool and after school experience. Children are engaged with developmentally appropriate materials and activities to support and encourage social, emotional, physical, and intellectual growth.

The Foundation of the Kearsarge Area Preschool is a community. The preschool has developed strong ties in the community with the help of its parents and families. In February, we will host a dinner and a movie for

(continued on pg. 5)

Selectmen's Highlights

Budgets – Recent meetings have focused on preparation of the town budget and warrant articles for Town Meeting 2014.

Rescue Squad – The Selectmen agreed to analyze four possible options for providing rescue services for town residents.

Transfer Station Manager Lois Kilnapp reported that the compactor is now being emptied every three weeks rather than the previous two week schedule.

Composters Available



See Lois at the Transfer Station to order a backyard composter while they are on sale.

Area Events

Sunapee-Ragged-Kearsarge Winter Hikes

The SRK Greenway Coalition winter hikes are free to the public. Please call the volunteer hike leader to learn starting location and time. (E) Easy; (M) Moderate; (D) Difficult, Be prepared for winter conditions: extra layers, hot drink, prepared for ice and snow.

Feb 1 (Sat) In Wilmot: Nick Baer (526-8233) A family snowshoe hike up and over Bog Mountain on SRKG Trail #7. Children with adventurous spirit welcome. 4.6 miles. (M)

Feb 8 (Sat) In Bradford: Brooks McCandlish (938-5354) Snowshoe to Ayers Pond from the old Washington (Mountain) Rd . 4 miles. About 900 ft elevation gain, mostly on old trails with some open bushwacking. Moon Mountain summit may be included. (M-D)

Feb 15 (Sat) In New London: Dave Cook (526-6404) The famous

“Moonlight Madness” snowshoe hike on the Cook easement trails. Generally starts at 9 PM if full moon up. Check with Dave a few days ahead. (M)

Feb 22 (Sat) In North Sutton: Nathan Richer (344-0287) If Mother Nature cooperates this will be a XC ski tour of the old King Ridge ski area, off SRKG trail #13 (M)

Mar 1 (Sat) Mount Sunapee and Pillsbury State Parks: Gerry Gold (526-2857) Snowshoe to Lucia’s Lookout on Sunapee-Pillsbury Ridge from Andrew Brook Trail and Lake Solitude in Newbury. (D)

Mar 9 (Sun) In Newbury: Lisa Correa (518-281-1494) Snowshoe in Fishersfield Town Park on the hilly Perimeter Trail. 2 miles. (M)

For SRKGC information go to www.srkg.com. SRK Greenway Trail Guides are available at local book stores. The SRK Greenway Coali-

tion is an all-volunteer non-profit organization with members throughout the Sunapee-Ragged-Kearsarge region and beyond.

Concord

Saturday & Sunday Feb 1-2, 2014
2014 NOFA-NH Winter Conference
Rundlett Middle School
Theme: "We Are All Farmers: Seeding Our Common Soil"

MainStreet Bookends in Warner are the booksellers for the conference speakers Gary Paul Nabhan and Ben Hewitt.

Warner

Artisan breads are now available in the MainStreet MarketPlace & Gallery.

Pre-order by Tuesday for pick-up on Saturday
galler@mainstreetbookends.com



Bradford Historical Society

Logging is and always has been an important part of the Bradford economy.



(Above) Sonny Harris measures logs with a Biltmore Strip to estimate the number of 12' logs of timber that might be obtained from a tree.



(Left) Logs harvested with traditional silviculture values in Bradford Center in 2014.



(Right) Sullivan Stevens stands beside a prize log on a wooden skid in Bradford Center, circa 1900.



(Above) Chris Mock restored this 1980s era Timber Jack cable skidder to use for logging in tight spaces.

(Hiking continued from pg. 1)

area used for both farming and recreation. (Did you know that this valley hosted a golf course a century ago? It was also the site of the famed Bradford-Newbury Fair that drew thousands of spectators from 1875-1920.) Above all, enjoy this fine example of neighborliness as Newbury and Bradford residents share the exquisite natural landscape that we call home.



Kathleen Bigford glides over the river and through the woods.



Share these multi-use trails responsibly.

Pick up a map at Lumber Barn for \$5.00 and consider supporting the LSSC by becoming a member. For details, call 865-7262 or Google Lake Sunapee Snowmobile Club. Trails are closed to snowmobiles until December 15th, but foot traffic is encouraged year-round.

Watch for traffic. Safety first!



(KAP continued from pg. 3)

children on Valentine's night from 5:30 – 9:00 pm while parents enjoy an evening out. In April we will have a bake sale at the Brown Memorial Library during their annual Easter egg hunt.

Last November, Preschool families donated items for a local family in need through the South Newbury Union Church Thanksgiving Basket Drive. In December, KAP hosted a "Supper with Santa" where local businesses donated food (The Appleseed, New London Confections, Dunkin' Donuts and Hannafords). Children got to have supper with Santa and have their picture taken.

KAP is located within a short distance of many valuable community resources, extending classroom walls beyond its physical space. Throughout the year, the class takes walking trips to the Brown Memorial Library for story time and has taken walking field trips to the fire station, police station and post office.

The Kearsarge Area Preschool takes great pleasure in offering an affordable, high quality early childhood program to our community. For more information about enrollment at KAP, please call 603-938-2442



Alert to Advertisers

To ensure that your ad is printed as you (and The Bradford Bridge) wants it to appear, it must be submitted in "press quality" PDF format, at least 300 pixels per inch (ppi). The Bridge cannot be responsible for the reproduction of your ad if this format is not provided. Also, keep in mind that trying to fit too much text in a small ad can lead to less than satisfactory results. Firm deadline is the 20th of the month.

Your understanding and help in this matter is appreciated.

Covered Bridge Design

Six design proposals were submitted for the covered bridge - one from the elementary school, two from middle school and three from the high school. The winner will be announced at the Selectmen's meeting on February 3.

Bradford Snow Removal

Quality Plowing & Roof Clearing
 Completely Reasonable Rates
 Call Erik @ 892-8231
 for a free estimate

Dockside Hair Design

**Jenny Wright (Critch)
 Creative Stylist**

Walk-In Wednesday's 9-3
 Evening Appointment's Available

**17 Old Sutton Road, Bradford
 (603) 938-0090**

Children's Clothing Swap

by Sue Rayno

The first of four children's clothing swaps will be held, Feb. 1 at the Kearsarge Regional Elementary School in Bradford. Organizers Sue Rayno (at LiveWire) and Jeffrey Glover described the swap as "just good old fashioned sharing within our community". The first swap features outgrown clothes and winter sports equipment. People may donate to the swap by dropping off items on Thursday Jan. 30 or Friday, Jan. 31, 3 - 5:30 pm or Saturday morning before 9 am. The swap runs from 9am to 1 pm.

Sue said, "If you would like to take clothes for your children to grow into, please take some. No limits, no judgment, no money." Swaps will be held four times a year, on Feb. 1, May 3, August 23, and Dec. 6.

High schoolers wanting to fulfill community service hours should show up Saturday morning at 7 am to help organize the clothing and sports equipment in the gym. To help or call for more information, call 863-0519.

Kid's Ice Fishing Derby

This annual event, hosted by the Bradford Fish and Game Club, will be held Sunday February 23, 2014 on Lake Todd. Children 15 years of age and under are invited to compete but we invite the entire family to come out to the lake for a great day of fun on the ice. Free registration begins at 7:00 AM at the clubhouse at 89 Gillingham Drive, across the road from the lake.

Kids can start fishing anytime after registration but all fish must be back to the clubhouse by 1:00 PM for measurement. Awards ceremony shortly thereafter. Breakfast and lunch are provided free of charge. Assistance to bore holes in the ice is available. Please see our website, bfandg.com for more information and see pictures from previous derbies.

Hope to see you there!



Letters To the Editor

Letter to the Editor(s):

I believe Laura Hallahan is one of the best experts on the local housing and property markets in our area. That said; I must reply to her recent January article, specifically the somewhat mis-leading analysis of property taxes.

Laura's figures on the individual property tax burdens is correct; however, it does not take into consideration the overall individual State tax burdens; all but Federal. This would include tax charges for gas, liquor, personal income, property, inheritance and estate taxes.

The Tax Foundation calculations based on data from the Bureau of Economic Analysis, the Census Bureau, the Council on State Taxation, the Travel Industry Association, Department of Energy, and others that the following rates should be applied (a low number is bad, high = 's good!)

- CT #3
- Maine #9
- Mass #8
- NH #44
- NJ #2
- NY #1
- RI #6
- VT #13

Other than New Hampshire, New England is not in good shape! We must insure others understand our overall tax burdens are excellent. We also should insure that our State Legislators do not go off in the wrong direction and disrupt our good tax situation.

John Pfeifle

To the Editor

Ken and I appreciate Dawn Conklin's expertise at the Bradford Transfer and Recycling Station's Swap Shop. She quickly and efficiently straightens up the table and surrounding area and disposes of the things that have remained too long and unclaimed by other residents. The Swap Shop is a busy place, thanks to the many residents who donate things they no longer need or want and thanks to the many residents who look over and take the things they need or can use. Dawn worked for years at Goodwill in Laconia where she learned her helpful sorting skills.

Thank you, Dawn!

Lois Kilnapp, Manager

Bradford Bridge Advertising Rates

Basic rate is \$8.00 /column inch
One column inch (2 3/8" wide)

x 1" high	\$8.00
x 2"	\$16.00
x 6"	\$48.00

Two column inches (4 7/8" wide)

x 1" high	\$16.00
x 2" high	\$32.00
x 3"	\$48.00
x 8.5"	\$96.00
1/2 Page	\$120.00
Full Page	\$240.00

Other ad sizes as designed will be pro-rated

Notes: 10% discount allowed for local non-profits, paid-in-advance and 12 month ads.

Political ads must be pre-paid
Ad copy should be sent in PDF format by the 20th (firm) of each month to:
contact.us@bradfordbridge.com



Library Lantern

by Meg Fearnley

Come to the library for a free school vacation week activity. On Monday, February 24 from 11 am-noon, bring your favorite doll or stuffed animal to a Library Tea Party. Refreshments and stories will sweeten the deal! (Snow date, Wednesday, February 26).

Don't forget, our book sale area is open to the public during library hours. Going on a trip? Buy a pile of paperback books to read and leave behind for other vacationers. Are the children bored? Bring them in to pick out a bunch of "new" books from the children's book sale area. All book sale items are for sale by donation, all proceeds benefit the library.

Library movie nights are on hold for a bit. We have been offering movies once or twice a month for over ten years! Stay tuned for the development of new programming. We welcome your suggestions.

For those of you who miss seeing Barbara McCartney at the library (we do!), she is at the Merrimack County Nursing Home (325 Daniel Webster Highway, Boscawen, NH 03303) doing well and would love to hear from everyone.

A selection of new books added to your library in January:

Adults

Andrew's Brain / E. L. Doctorow
Hild / Nicola Griffith
David and Goliath / Malcolm Gladwell
North of Boston / Elisabeth Elo
Standup Guy / Stuart Woods
Under the Wide and Starry Sky / Nancy Horan
My Age of Anxiety / Scott Stossel

Children and Teens

Rooftoppers / Katherine Rundell
Muckers / Sandra Neil Wallace
Snowflakes Fall / Patricia MacLachlan
Penny and Her Marble / Kevin Henkes



Library Hours

Monday, 10-8
 Wednesday, 10-7
 Saturday, 10-3
 Sunday, 11-3

Town Clerk Update

Happy February!

Dog licenses are available in our office; please make sure to have updated rabies information. Remember to get your dog licensed by April 30th to avoid additional fees.

2014 Boat decals are in and boats can be registered now.

The link to renew your vehicle registrations is up and running on the Town Clerk website at www.bradfordnh.org. You can easily put in your information using the renewal mailers that we send you. We will process everything that you submit and put it the mail to you the same day we process it.

The link for obtaining a vital record is also working from that page. The Tax and Dog Links should be up and running soon.

Having the ability to process your renewals through the internet is just one way we are trying to make things easier for our customers. If you have any questions, please give us a call during normal business hours and we will be happy to help out.

Don't forget we are now a one check town when processing registrations and we do accept credit and debit cards.

We will be open on Saturday, February 8th and 22nd from 9am-Noon.

Erica Gross,
 Town Clerk/Tax Collector
 Melissa Cloutier,
 Deputy Town Clerk/Tax Collector

Delicious Pizza!



Dine in, call ahead, or get it delivered!

Appetizers, Subs, Salads, Dinners and more!

(603) 938-2600

Daily Lunch Specials!

Slices available all day



Located at the corner of Rte. 103 & Main - Bradford, NH

Don't Forget!

The Bridge is online at bradfordbridge.com
 Old issues going back to 1999 are also available
 See the Bridge in color!



Questions and Answers on Town Hall Restoration

Q. Why return town offices to Town Hall?

A. To offer a comfortable inviting place for residents and visitors whether conducting town business or looking for information about Bradford.

To provide a work place designed to carry out the business functions of the town in an efficient work area with up-to-date equipment, adequate storage, and room to expand as needed.

In time, to return voting and Town Meetings to the building – all functions in one space designed for that purpose.

Q. Why not stay in the Community Center?

A. The narrow basement reception area is not inviting for visitors and privacy is elusive. Valued town employees should not be asked to work where space is limited and storage is inadequate.

The CDFA grant used to renovate the Community Center sets the allowed uses of the building. Town offices are there as visitors.

Q. What will the project cost?

A. Final costs are being determined by Bruss Construction to upgrade the basement, create an energy efficient envelope for the entire building, including roofing as needed, and complete renovation of the first floor for town offices. The second floor would be prepared for eventual completion. Work to complete the second floor will be done only as grants and donations are raised outside of town funds.

In 2015 when the first bond payment is due, two bonds effecting the tax rate will be retired – an annual payment of \$31,800 for the Bradford Highway Garage and Bradford's share to KRSD of the \$389,500 annual bond payment for the addition to the High School.

Q. Why not build a new building?

A. Cost of similar buildings in this area is estimated at \$200 - \$210 /square foot plus any additional expense for land acquisition building design and site work. The current building would continue to require maintenance and repairs over the coming years

Q. Why not wait for the economy to improve?

A. Cost of construction increased 7.9% last year in New England; estimates for the coming year range from 6 – 14%.

Of greater concern is a significant increase expected in the interest rate. Bradford is currently being offered last year's low rate.

Local Photographers Exhibit

Two Bradford photographers, Audrey V. Sylvester and Sasha Wolfe were among 63 participating photographers in the New Hampshire Society of Photographic Artists (NHSPA) 15th Annual Member Exhibit at the Exeter Town Hall Gallery, Exeter. The show continues through Feb. 1 & Feb. 2, noon - 4 p.m.

NHSPA is not a camera club. There are no print competitions, no juried admission to membership, probably never a headquarters, and likely no paid staff. It is a group of photographers interested in increasing their knowledge and expanding their creative vision, while sharing what they know with each other and the community. For more information, visit: www.nhspa.org.



Girl Scout Cookie Time

Girl Scout Junior Troop # 12467 (comprised of girls from Bradford, Sutton, Newbury, New London, Springfield and Wilmot) will be selling girl scout cookies at the following booth sales:

- February 8 - TDS parking lot - 242 Main Street New London 12-2 p.m.
- February 22 - Sutton Transfer station 10-1
- March 8 - Newbury Quick Stop 958 Route 103 Newbury 3-5 p.m.

There is still time to order your favorite girl scout cookies!! This year's cookie sale: 6 varieties @ \$4.00 each; Thin mints, Tagalongs (peanut butter patties) Samoas (coconut & chocolate), Do-si-dos (peanut butter sandwich), Trefoils, Savannah smiles (lemon cookies).

The girls also accept cookie orders for gifts of caring. These cookies will go to local food pantries and fire & rescue volunteers. The girls are raising money for a camping trip.

Call Anne Soule 927-4806 to place orders or with questions.



The Bradford Bridge (Community News for Neighbors by Neighbors) thanks all its loyal advertisers who have supported *The Bridge* in 2013. Since its first edition in July 1991 (nearly 25 years ago), our town's unique monthly newspaper created by volunteer reporters, feature writers, editors, designers, contributors and distribution team has been made possible by our advertisers who believe taking out ads in our newspaper benefits their business and our community. Great thanks to all.

And readers, please do business with our advertisers who believe in our town.

-----The Bradford Bridge Board of Advisors

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FEBRUARY CALENDAR**Sat. Feb. 1st**

8:30 AM – 5:30 PM – Girl Scouts

Mon. Feb. 3rd

8:45 AM - Mt. View Sr. Ctr. Fitness
 1:00-4:00 PM - Bridge Group
 4:00 PM – Watercolor Class
 5:30 PM – Selectmen’s Meeting

Tues. Feb. 4th

9:00AM–Noon Community Outreach
 10:00 AM - Stitches from the Heart
 12:00 Noon - Senior Dining
 1:00 PM - Mahjong Group
 7:00 PM – Bond Hearing
 7:00 PM – Revitalization Committee

Wed. Feb. 5th

4:00 PM – Special Group 5
 9:00 AM-Noon – Community Outreach
 6:00 PM – Yoga
 6:30 PM – Budget Hearing
 7:00 PM – ZBA

Thurs. Feb. 6th

12 Noon - Senior Dining
 1:00 PM - Mahjong Group

Fri. Feb. 7th

8:45 AM- Mt. View Sr. Ctr. Fitness
 11:30 AM- First Friday Brunch
 raffle, door prizes, music of Bill
 Parker!
 1:00 PM - Mahjong Group

Sat. Feb. 8th

9:00 AM – Writing Group
 9:00 – Noon – Town Clerk Open

Mon. Feb. 10th

8:45 AM- Mt. View Sr. Ctr. Fitness
 1-4:00 PM - Bridge Group
 5:30 PM – Selectmen’s Meeting
 7:00 PM – Rural Heritage Connection

Tues. Feb. 11th

10:00 AM - Stitches from the Heart
 12 Noon - Senior Dining
 1:00 PM - Watercolor Class
 7:00 PM – Planning Board

Wed. Feb. 12

3:30 – 4:30 PM - Make Victorian
 Valentines
 Historic Tin Shop
 6:00 PM – Yoga
 6:30 PM – 2nd Budget Hearing,
 If required

Thurs. Feb. 13th

10:30–Noon – Blood Pressure Clinic
 by LSVNA
 12 Noon - Senior Dining
 1:00 PM - Mahjong Group
 4:30 PM – BACC/P&R Committees
 6:00 PM – Bible Study

Fri. Feb. 14th

8:45 AM - Mt. View Sr. Ctr. Fitness
 10 AM - Special Valentines Day
 Movie: *An Affair to Remember*
 12 Noon - Valentines Day Lunch
 Please call for reservations.
 1:00 PM - Mahjong Group
 5:30 – 9:00 PM- Parents night out
 kids dinner & a movie KAP

Mon. Feb. 17th

Presidents’ Day Holiday
Senior Center Closed
No Meals on Wheels or Bus
 4:00 PM – Watercolor Class
 5:30 PM – Selectmen’s Meeting

Tues. Feb. 18th

9:00 AM -Noon – Community Outreach
 10:00 AM - Stitches from the Heart
 12 Noon - Senior Dining
 1:00 PM - Mahjong Group

Wed. Feb. 19th

4:00 PM – Special Group 5
 6:00 PM - Yoga

Thurs. Feb. 20th

12 Noon - Senior Dining Health
 South’s Importance of Heart
 Healthiness
 7:00 PM – Town Hall Restoration

Fri. Feb. 21st

8:45 AM- Mt. View Sr. Ctr. Fitness
 10:00 AM -Friday at the Movies:
The Butler.
 12 Noonish - Senior Dining
 9:30–11:30 AM Foot Care Clinic
 North Ridge Apartments
 Call for appt. at 526-4077

Sat. Feb. 22nd

9:00 AM – Writing Group
 9:00 – Noon – Town Clerk Open

Mon. Feb. 24th

8:45 AM- Mt. View Sr. Ctr. Fitness
 11:00 AM - Noon - Doll and Stuffed
 Animal TEA PARTY, BML
 1-4:00 PM - Bridge

4:00 PM – Watercolor Class
 4:00 – 6:00 PM – Health Ins.
 Marketplace
 5:30 PM – Selectmen’s Meeting
 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM – Health Ins.
 Marketplace

Tues. Feb. 25th

9:30-11:30 AM -Foot Care clinic
 Warner Pharmacy. For appt. call
 526-4077
 10:00 AM- Stitches from the Heart
 12 Noon - Senior Dining
 1:00PM - Watercolor Class
 7:00 PM – Planning Board

Wed. Feb. 26th

10:30 AM –12 Noon - BP Clinic
 Warner Senior Room
 6:00 PM - Yoga

Thurs. Feb 27th

12 Noon - Senior Dining
 1:00 PM - Mahjong Group
 6:00 PM – Bible Study

Fri. Feb. 28th

8:45 AM- Mt. View Sr. Ctr. Fitness
 1:00 PM - Mahjong Group

*For the MVSC call Phil at
 938-2104 with your ideas
 or questions*

*To schedule rooms at the BACC
 call Jim Valiquet at 938-2522*

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**

BACC-Bradford Area Community Center
 BBC-Bradford Baptist Church
 BML-Brown Memorial Library
 FGC-Fish & Game Clubhouse
 Gillingham Drive
 KAP-Kearsarge Area Preschool
 KRES-Bradford Elemen. School
 MVSC-Mountain View Senior Ctr
 TH-Bradford Town Hall



Bradford's 2013 Recycling Totals

Congratulations to Bradford for being such active recyclers! The recyclable materials listed below were sent to market to be remanufactured into new products through your non-profit recycling organization, the Northeast Resource Recovery Association.

Aluminum Cans 6,420 lbs.

Paper 88.29 tons

Plastics 10.29 tons

Scrap Metal 37 tons

Steel Cans 17,620 lbs.

Conserved enough energy to run a television for 653,299 hours!

Saved 1,501 trees!

Conserved 15,438 gallons of gasoline!

Conserved 36,769 pounds of coal!

Conserved enough energy to run a 60 watt light bulb for 458,12 hours!

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MAINTENANCE PROGRAMS
SYSTEM EVALUATIONS

938-2926

Ongoing Events

Children's Storytime - Mondays at 10 am and Wednesdays at 10:30 am at BML

Cemetery Commission - 2nd Thursday at 6PM/Call 938-2119 for info

Conservation Commission - 3rd Tuesday at 7PM, BML

Fish and Game Club -1st Tuesday 7PM at Fish and Game Club

First Friday Bunch -11:30AM at MVSC, reservations appreciated/
call 938-2104 for info

Historical Society - Tin Shop, East Main Street, Wednesdays 10-Noon

Library Trustees -1st Wednesday at 6:00PM BML

Planning Board - 2nd and 4th Tuesday at 7PM, BACC

Rural Heritage Connection - 2nd Monday, 7PM, BACC

Selectmen's Meeting - Every Monday 5:30PM, BACC

Zoning Board - 1st Wednesday, 7:00PM, BACC

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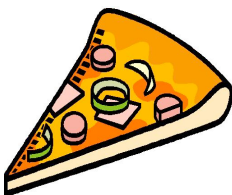
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Friday - Saturday 10 a.m. - 10 p.m.

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Obituaries

"Teena" Stewart

Arthena "Teena" M. (Wilson) Stewart, 51, of High Street died Jan. 1, 2014, at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center in Lebanon. She was born in Mattoon, IL, on Sept. 9, 1962, the daughter of Arthur and Elizabeth (Fulk) Wilson. She graduated from Martinsville, Illinois High School in 1980 and received a bachelor's degree from Southern Illinois University. Teena went on to earn her LNA license. She worked with Lake Sunapee Region Visiting Nurse Association as a LNA for the past year and just loved her work. It was a real calling for her and she enjoyed caring for people.

She served in the U.S. Air Force from 1981-2001, which took her to many areas of the country. The family has lived in Bradford since 2007, before that living in Virginia and Alaska. She was active with the Bradford Women's Club, volunteering for the Bradford Community Food Pantry and working with Destination Imagination at Kearsarge Regional Middle School. Teena liked needlepoint, sewing and quilting. She also enjoyed animals and rescuing them, which was obvious by the dogs, kittens, birds and guinea pigs at their home.

She was predeceased by a brother, James Oscar Wilson. Members of her family surviving include her husband, Alexander C. Stewart of Bradford; four children, David A. Phillips of Casey, IL, Lesslie Duernberger of Aurora, CO, Kelsey Duernberger of O'Fallon, IL, and Benjamin Stewart of Bradford; three grandchildren, Courtney and Riley Phillips and Aliceandra Hollenkamp; four siblings, Cheryl Garner and her husband, Michael, of Illinois, Bobbi Parsons and her husband, Michael, of Ohio, David and Samuel Wilson of IL, sisters and brothers-in-law, Robert C. and Emily Stewart Jr. of Newbury and Susan M.E. and George German of Kittery Point, ME; aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and cousins.

Burial with military honors will be held in Sunny Plain Cemetery, Brad-

ford, in the spring. Memorial contributions may be made to the Bradford Community Food Pantry, P.O. Box 57, Bradford, NH 03221, or to Norris Cotton Cancer Center, One Medical Center Drive, Lebanon, NH 03756.

Esther Spaulding

Esther Cressy Spaulding, 98, longtime resident of Bradford, died Jan. 10, 2014, at the Merrimack County Nursing Home, where she has resided for several years. She was born at the family farm in Bradford on Nov. 5, 1915, daughter of the late John W. and Esther M. (Schadt) Cressy. She was a graduate of Simonds High School, Warner, Class of 1934. Esther had worked as a sub in the Bradford Post Office and as a medical assistant for Dr. Anne Wasson and later Dr. Arthur Wright.

Esther was a member of Vesta Chapter OES, Warner, charter member of Silver Hill Chapter OES, Bradford, charter member of the Bradford Women's Club, and a member of the former Loch Lyndon Country Club, Bradford. She enjoyed playing on the Bradford town basketball team, was an avid golfer, loved tending her flower gardens and especially loved animals.

After living in Bradford most of her life, she moved to Hopkinton and later Warner. She was a member of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Concord. She was predeceased by her husband of 62 years, Nelson C. Spaulding, who died in 2002; one brother Richard Cressy; three sisters, including her twin sister Mabel Chapman, and Cynthia Mocek and Gretchen Cressy.

Esther is survived by a son, Peter J. Spaulding, and his wife Beth of Hopkinton and their children, Joshua, Benjamin and Christine; a daughter, Jane S. Jacques, and her husband Richard of Cape Coral, FL and their son Paul and his wife Lisa, and two great-grandchildren, Laura and Adam Jacques.

Burial will be in the spring at Sunny Plain Cemetery, Bradford. Donations may be made to the Concord Merrimack County SPCA, 130 Washington St. Penacook, 03303.

Miriam Lovett

Miriam Rose (O'Leary) Lovett, 87, of Lovett Road, died Jan. 11, 2014, at her home.

She was born in Lynn, MA on Oct. 31, 1926, the daughter of John Timothy and Margaret Rose (Gaffey) O'Leary and graduated from Lynn English High School in Lynn, MA in 1944. Miriam worked for Metropolitan Life Insurance Company and the Boy Scouts of America before marrying John M. Lovett. After they were married they moved to Blaisdell Lake in South Sutton, and she grew to love the lake as much as John and lived there for 49 years. In New Hampshire, she worked for Sylvania and the Bradford IGA for over 10 years. Working at the IGA was a chance for social interaction and her co-workers and customers remember her vivacious and friendly nature.

Miriam was a member of the Bradford Women's Club. She loved having luncheons with her girlfriends and would find great pleasure in setting a lovely table and having fancy little sandwiches. She was an avid reader. After reading through the Pillsbury Library in Sutton, she moved on to the Brown Memorial Library in Bradford. Miriam enjoyed being with her family and also baking cookies. Her grandchildren remember swimming and fishing with their Grammie as well as playing board games and cards.

She is predeceased by her husband, John; two brothers, James and Jackie; and a godson, Michael O'Leary. Members of her family surviving include five children, Charles W. Lovett and John M. Lovett of South Sutton, Arthur T. Lovett and his partner, Deb Cady of Newbury, Sarah L. Frank and her husband, Bryan of Wentworth and Phoebe Lovett Bischoff and her husband, Robert of Hampton; six grandchildren, Amy, Eddie, Noah, Emerson, Rose and Isabelle; a great granddaughter, Michaela; a brother, Tom O'Leary of Peabody, Mass.; a sister, Patricia Baker of Boxford, Mass.; and nieces and nephews.

The family extends many thanks to Lake Sunapee Region Visiting Nurse Association and Hospice, Melaney Poole and Carrie Bossi for the care given to her. A memorial service will be held Saturday, Feb. 8, at 11 a.m. at The First Baptist Church of Bradford, with The Rev. Lynne Hubley, pastor, officiating.

Memorial contributions may be made to Lake Sunapee Region Visiting Nurse Association and Hospice, P.O. Box 2209, New London, N.H. 03257 or to the Sutton Rescue Squad, P.O. Box 158, North Sutton, N.H. 03260. To sign an online guestbook please visit chadwickfuneralservice.com.

Stephen Shea

Stephen E. Shea, 68, of Court Street. Portsmouth, NH, formerly of Bradford, died Thursday, January 2, 2014 at Portsmouth Regional Hospital. He was born in Cambridge, MA on Sept. 24, 1945 the son of Edward Shea and Marie T. (Gould) Cayer.

Steve worked as a printer for Calendar Press in Peabody, MA. Members of his family surviving include his daughters, Victoria Freitas of Farmington, NH, Andrea Shea-Bartz of Newton, NH, Maura Shea of Dover, NH; a son, Matthew Shea of Amesbury, MA; 10 grandchildren; 3 great grandchildren; a brother, David of Bradford, NH; two sisters, Pam Cayer of Andover, NH and Laurel Cayer of West Peru, ME; nieces and nephews.

Services will be held at the convenience of the family.

Bridge Contributors Needed

The Bradford Bridge is looking for writers who would like to contribute to our town paper. Do you like to write? Do you have a specialty? Can you hunt and trap or do you know the best way to help a toddler get to sleep? Do you exercise regularly and why? Do you have financial advice we could benefit from? There are a host of topics our readers would enjoy and the Bridge is asking for your help. Would you like to write a column each month or just send us an article every 6 months?

Send us your writing, your poems, your opinions, your photographs with captions and we will print them. Help us continue to publish a fine newspaper going into our 22nd year. We would like to hear from you! Send entries to contact.us@bradfordbridge.com.

The Bradford Bridge Advisory Board




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Successful Town Hall Fundraiser




On a cold Saturday evening in January, a progressive dinner was enjoyed by a full complement of thirty diners. The dinner was arranged by Marge Cilley and Sandy Paul and hosted by some of Bradford's most willing and able cooks. Good food, good fellowship, and funds raised for the restoration of the Bradford Town Hall.


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 Robert A. Brust, DVM
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 Samantha Mazzucola, DVM

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Lake Sunapee Region VNA & HOSPICE

Did You Know???

Better Benefits for people with Medicare!!

The health care law means you'll get more from your Medicare

New protections and benefits in the health care law strengthen Medicare, protecting the benefits you've earned and providing more care from your coverage.

Your guaranteed benefits are protected

You've earned your Medicare over a lifetime of work. The health care law protects the benefits you were promised to ensure you can always get the care you need when you need it. The law also adds resources to fight fraud, scams and waste, and helps the Medicare program save money.

More preventive care is covered

Medicare now covers a yearly wellness visit and preventive care at no cost to you. This includes cancer, cholesterol and diabetes screenings, immunizations, diet counseling and more.

Lower prescription drug costs

If you have Medicare Part D, and you reach the coverage gap or "doughnut hole" in 2013, you will get a 52.5 percent discount on brand name prescription drugs and a 21 percent discount on generic drugs while in the coverage gap.

The discounts will continue until 2020, when the gap will be a thing of the past.

For more information or to calculate your savings with the new plan, visit www.aarp.com.

Lake Sunapee Region VNA and Hospice 526-4077

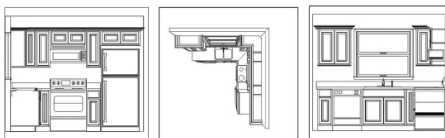
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New Library Exhibit "Model Citizens"

The Bradford Art Group opens a new exhibit at the Brown Memorial Library in February. Photographer Bill Duffy is showing a series of photographic portraits entitled, "Model Citizens." The exhibit is based on a simple idea: that the character of a town or city is defined as much by its citizens as it is by its architecture or locale. The portraits, focused on the small city of Hallowell, Maine, are not intended to be a gallery of Hallowell's most illustrious citizens. While many were certainly well known, others were just a familiar face or someone known to only a few residents in the city. They are all individuals that Duffy came to know during sixteen years of working and living in Hallowell.

Bill Duffy received a Bachelor of Fine Arts from the Massachusetts College of Art in 1976. He took courses in photography and majored in printmaking. After a long series of odd-jobs ranging from elevator operator to prosthetic limb maker, he returned to college and completed a Master of Science degree in marine geology from the University of Maine in 1989. He has an interest in both arts and sciences.

"Model Citizens" will remain on view through April. The handicapped accessible library, 78 West Main Street is open: Mon. 10 – 8; Wed. 10 – 7; Sat. 10 – 3; and Sun. 11 – 3. For more information about the Bradford Art Group, contact: sylvester@iamnow.net; or call the library, 938-5562.

Life in a Small Town

The Bridge recently received a very heart-warming letter from someone who had been given a copy of the Bradford Bridge by a former resident. Many thanks to Jim Schneider for permission to include the following excerpts:

"Ironically enough - in 1950 my parents and I moved to Bradford, New Hampshire. They bought a house on Main St. opened a small restaurant – as Richards Inn and Restaurant. We lived next door to house painter Charles A. Sanborn – on the other side lived a plumber. Across the street was a gas station – Frank's Garage – Frank A. Wise!

I went to the Bradford Elementary School, 6th, 7th, & 8th grades – then to Simonds Free High School in Warner from 1956 thru graduating in 1959. I attended New England College for 1 semester – but quit & went into the army (to see the world) Ha Ha!

My parents – Richard and Leona Schneider moved out of Bradford, around 1961-1962. They moved to Greenwich, Conn & when I got out of the service I moved in with them. That was the end of living in Bradford.

When I was 16-17 years old I felt then – they rolled up the sidewalks at 6 PM not much excitement on which to do with a population of 640. I felt I just had to get out & see other places. I was born in New York.

Ironically enough when you are young you dream of getting out of a small town- but when you get older and really learn & see other towns, cities, states & countries – you then dream of getting back to that small town of safe & secure living – once again.

Jim's career took him into law enforcement and eventual retirement to a 'somewhat' small town in Connecticut. He subscribed to The Bridge to keep up with current news about Bradford. The Bridge Advisory Board thanks him for his interest, his comments, and sincerely invite him to come to Bradford for a visit. See what has changed – and what hasn't.

Health Insurance Marketplace Information Session and Enrollment Assistance

Where: Bradford Area Community Center
134 East Main St Bradford NH

When: Monday January 27

4-6 pm Enrollments

6-7:30 Public Information Session

Enrollment Appointments 4pm – 6 pm: Certified Marketplace Assister available to help individuals enroll in the Health Insurance Marketplace. Call 228-6625 or email myoung@bm-cap.org to schedule appointment. Walk-ins assisted on a first- come first-serve basis. Located at BACC Office.

Health Insurance Marketplace Information Session A presentation will be given about the Health Insurance Marketplace, followed by a Q & A session. Open to the public. Located in BACC Mountain View Senior Center.

Sponsored by Merrimack County Service Link
Call 603-228-6625 or email myoung@bm-cap.org to schedule individual assistance appointments, community presentations or for more information

A Culinarian's Column

by Caryl Walker



Be My Valentine! Chocolate and “Tiny Bubbles...” come to mind. No, no, not champagne! Those magical bubbles of beaten egg whites that capture air in a film, grow to 6-8 times their original volume and create that beautiful, shiny foam called meringue. Let’s make romantic meringue swans filled with ice cream and floating on a Sabayon lake. Add some heart-shaped sliced strawberries for color, texture, and flavor. I’m off to the kitchen. Can’t wait for Valentine’s Day. Join me. This will be great, sticky fun.

Meringue Swans

4-6 swans, depending on size

4 egg whites

1 cup superfine granulated sugar

Separate whites from yolks using cold eggs from the refrigerator. Separate one at a time into a custard cup to prevent egg yolk contamination. (Even a speck of egg yolk fat will prevent the whites from expanding.)

In a spotlessly clean stainless steel bowl, let the whites warm to room temperature. To hasten the process, place egg white bowl in a slightly larger bowl with WARM water in it.

Beat whites on medium speed until soft peaks form (peaks with tips curl over when beaters are lifted. Add sugar, a tablespoon or two at a time, until stiff peaks form (peaks with tips that stand up straight).

Put meringue in piping bag or large plastic zip-lock bag with small corner cut off. Line baking sheet with parchment paper. Pipe a 2” x 4” nest for body; 2 wings in a lacy triangular shape—a right and left wing; and a question mark for neck and head. Begin at bottom of question mark and at end of curve, pipe a little extra to form head. (I make extra wings and necks since these can easily break. If you get frustrated piping wings, simply plop a spoonful of meringue on parchment and shape into triangles. Your taking the time and effort to do this will win over everyone’s heart.) Bake in 225° F. oven until dry, but not browned for 45 minutes - 1 ½ hours, depending on size. Cool before removing from parchment.

Sabayon

Makes about 6 servings

4 egg yolks

2/3 cup sweet Marsala wine or port, sherry, or Medeira

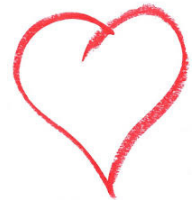
¼ cup sugar

Whisk the yolks, wine and sugar in a stainless steel bowl. Rest bowl in a saucepan over hot water (not touching bottom of bowl) over low heat. Whisk constantly for 4-5 minutes, or longer, to cook the sauce, until it has the consistency of lightly whipped cream and has tripled in volume.

Remove from heat and serve hot, warm, or cold.

Assembly: Place a “lake” on rimmed plate. Place swan body on lake. Place scoop of strawberry or vanilla ice cream on body. “Glue” neck and wings to ice cream. Tuck strawberry slices around body.

Hugs and Kisses,
Happy Valentine’s Day!



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DOES OPEN SPACE PAY?

By Seth Benowitz

How often have you heard the concern that the town will lose revenue when a conservation easement is put on a property? Or that land currently used for agriculture, or for timber production, or for a wildlife refuge would better serve the town by being divided up into housing parcels? Well, is it possible to determine if these concerns are supported by the facts?

A number of economists have studied this question, and some of them have developed a rigorous, standardized method to use called the 'Cost of Community Services Study.' In these studies, land in a community is divided into 3 categories:

1. Residential use
2. Commercial and industrial use
3. 'Open space' which includes working agricultural land, timberland, and conserved land

Then the economists determine how much it costs the community to provide all the services required by each of the 3 categories. Finally, this cost is compared to the revenue generated by each category.

The American Farmland Trust has compiled the results of these studies from more than 170 communities across the country. (See www.farmland.org) Their findings are as follows:

Median Cost of Community Services

Commercial / Industrial Land:	\$0.29 cost for each \$1.00 of revenue generated
Open Space:	\$0.35 cost for each \$1.00 of revenue generated
Residential Land:	\$1.16 cost for each \$1.00 of revenue generated

The University of New Hampshire has also compiled this data from studies done in 13 NH communities, including our neighbor, Sutton. (See www.extension.unh.edu) Their findings follow the same pattern:

Average Cost of Community Services

Commercial / Industrial Land:	\$0.37 cost for each \$1.00 of revenue generated
Open Space:	\$0.51 cost for each \$1.00 of revenue generated
Residential Land:	\$1.07 cost for each \$1.00 of revenue generated

So in every community studied, the data show that open space costs less in services, usually much less, than it generates in tax revenue. Residential land use, however, almost always requires more in services than it generates in revenue. The takeaway. .?

Conserving selected open space means lower taxes in the long run.

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938-2100

Shoreland Water Quality Protection

This is a shortened version of Chapter 7.5 of the Natural Resources Inventory for Bradford, completed in 2013. For the full chapters and maps see the town's website www.bradfordnh.org. Comments and corrections welcomed.

The Comprehensive Shoreland Protection Act was established in 1991. In 2011, it was streamlined and renamed the Shoreland Water Quality Protection Act. This act establishes rules and guidelines for activities within 250' of public waters. These rules are intended to protect the water quality of the state's larger water bodies and navigable waterways. The activities that are regulated include:

- construction of new buildings and enlargement of old ones
- the creation of impervious areas that increase runoff to water bodies
- the use of fertilizers
- new septic systems
- removal of trees, saplings, or shrubbery.

In Bradford, the areas that fall within the jurisdiction of the Shoreland Protection Act are:

- the unnamed stream at the outflow of Lake Todd
- Warner River after it forms at the juncture of West Branch and Hoyt Brook
- The lower part of the West Branch Brook
- Lake Massasecum
- Lake Todd
- Ayer's Pond

The Shoreland Water Quality Protection Act only governs new development and has no provisions for the responsible use of existing structures and lots. Current buildings and their lots also impact water quality, flooding, and erosion issues on lakes and rivers. The opportu-



nities for new development on our crowded lakes are limited and thus it is the already developed river and lake frontage that has the greater overall effect on the health of our public waters.

Some practices that will protect water quality are:

- Re-vegetating shorelines with native plantings to reduce erosion and slow storm water runoff
- Reducing the use of salt and sand on town roads near water bodies and their tributaries
- Limiting or discontinuing the use of chemical fertilizers and herbicides near shorelines
- Careful handling and proper disposal of household pollutants.

Landowner education is the most important tool for protection of lake shores and other navigable waterways. If you would like further information, please contact any member of the Conservation Commission or see one of the following helpful resources:

- Shoreland Water Quality Protection Act <http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/wetlands/cspa/index.htm>
- Lake Massasecum Improvement Association www.lakemassasecum.org

Church Happenings

PLEASE
JOIN US!



Focus Factor 4-5:30 pm in the church office building

Feb 2: Groundhog Day and superstition and other beliefs. What do you believe?

Feb 9: meet 1pm to travel to the Coopers for sledding, return at 4pm

Feb 16: Random Acts of Kindness

Men's Fellowship

Feb. at 6:30 pm at the home of Fred Hubley

Men's Breakfast

Feb. 1st @ 8 am in the church office building

Community Food Pantry

open Feb. 19 5:30-6:30 pm

Family Night/Dessert Buffet

Feb. 15 @ 6pm Pictionary and Christian Newlywed Game

Women's Prayer Breakfast

Feb. 8 @ 8am in the Church office building

Women's Sunday

Feb. 23 Theme: How Prayer Effects Our Lives

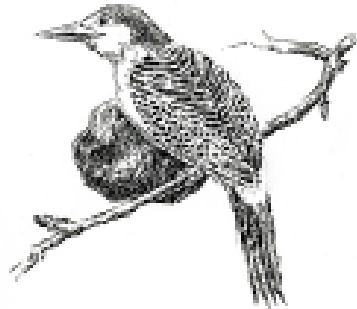
Rise Again Homeless Mission

Feb. 12 4-7pm Sorting clothes at Concord Warehouse

Outside

by J. Ann Eldridge

One of my earliest childhood ponderings of avian physiology was spurred by a mechanical toy. At my grandmother's house there was a 1930s plastic model of a red-headed woodpecker. It had four legs ending in suction cups and arranged on a hub like spokes on a wheel. In theory, one could wind a key and cause the woodpecker to scale a wall. I already knew that acrobatic woodpeckers could tight-rope walk vertically up trees but I was also pretty sure they had only two feet.



For greater anatomical accuracy, the toy should have had a suction cup on its tail rather than as footwear for it is their muscular, specialized tails that enable them to navigate tree trunks. The central tail feathers of most members of this tribe are reinforced, curved and stiffened and are covered with inward pointing barbs. By bracing their tails on rough bark the birds can lean forward into a quick two-footed upward hop.

The legs and feet of woodpeckers have the usual scaly, reptilian character common to most birds but their toes are arranged with two pointing forward and two bracing to the rear – which is most often downward. Further north lives the three-toed woodpecker – there's always an exception to any attempted rule we make. Northern flickers are non-conforming woodpeckers in many ways and they are the only ones living near us that can and do perch and often forage on the ground. All local woodpeckers are cavity nesters – requiring denning holes to rear young and also to sleep in.

Woodpeckers capture insects and other arthropods by visual inspection of crevices and also with hearing acute enough to pick up the tiny sounds of chewing insects. Their sensitive but

sharp, barbed tongues are the essential eating utensils and are often accompanied by sticky saliva. Often excavation is required to reach insects and their larvae.

If part of your job description is to be a long-tongued, feathered jackhammer, further adaptations are needed. The brain cases of woodpeckers are relatively large with skull bones that are folded to absorb impact. Extra muscles at the base of their beaks also act as

shock absorbers. Their long, spear tongues are attached in a complicated arrangement of dual hyoid bones and are looped over the back of their skulls. Their tongues are attached near a nostril or eye socket, depending on species. Hummingbirds and others with excessive tongue lengths have solved the problem of storage in a similar manner.

Not all of the woodpeckers around us subsist solely on insects. Last week a not-so-common red-bellied woodpecker spent time dismantling frozen apples still suspended in the trees. Deer tracks circle below – looking hopefully for fall out. A bit larger than a jay, this red-headed and slightly pink bellied male was having a guttural conversation with himself or whoever would listen. Besides eating fruit, red-bellied woodpeckers eat acorns, beechnuts and pine cone seeds. They will also come to feeders for suet and seed.

Sightings of southern red-bellied woodpeckers are frequent in NH this winter. These are not the only species

of bird becoming more common due to a warming climate. Roadside plantings, roadkill itself (turkey vultures are recent arrivals to this area), and particularly our propensity of offering handouts have combined to extend the range of mourning doves, cardinals, house finches, titmice, and red-bellied woodpeckers.

Now for a quick quiz: what species of woodpecker was the cartoon character Woody the Woodpecker (b.1940-d.1972) modeled on?

- Red-headed woodpecker
 - Acorn woodpecker
 - Pileated woodpecker
 - All of the above
 - A tropical Bird of Paradise
- Hint: Woody was blue-bodied, red-crested, white-fronted, two-toed, wore gloves on his four fingers, and had only two small, black tail feathers.

Holly Hock
Flowers Gifts

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**Important Dates for
2014 Town Meeting**

Bond Hearing

Tuesday February 4 @ 7:00

Bradford Community Center

Monday February 24 @ 7:00

If necessary

Budget Hearings

Wednesday February 5 @ 6:30

Bradford Community Center

Wednesday February 12 @ 6:30

2nd hearing if necessary

Presentation of Plans

Saturday March 1 @ 10 AM -

Noon KRES - Bradford

Candidate's Forum

Saturday March 8 @ 10 AM -

Noon

Bradford Community Center

Voting Day

Tuesday March 11 from 8AM -
7PM

KRES Bradford

Voting for local officials &
zoning amendments

Town Meeting

Wednesday March 12 @ 7 PM

KRES - Bradford

Business session of Town
Meeting

Town of Bradford

Notice of Public Hearings

Bond Hearing

Tuesday, February 4, 2014

7:00 PM at the Bradford Area Community Center

2nd hearing, if needed, Monday, February 24

Budget Hearing

Wednesday February 5, 2014

6:30 PM, Youth Room, Bradford Community Center

2nd Hearing, if needed, Wednesday February 12



Presentation of Plans

Bradford Elementary School, Old Warner Road

10 - noon Saturday March 1

The Town Hall Restoration Committee will present the plans for the renovation of Bradford's historic Town Hall. The Construction Management team led by Michael Bruss will review the plans and answer any questions.

**Come, listen, ask and be an
informed voter on March 12.**

Candidate's Forum

Saturday March 8 from 10 AM - Noon

in the Senior Room of the Bradford Community Center is your opportunity to meet the candidates for local office.

Selectman, Budget Committee, Planning and Zoning Boards. Hear how each one views the position they seek and express your ideas and interests.

Clip 'n Save