

The Bradford Bridge

COMMUNITY NEWS *for* NEIGHBORS *by* NEIGHBORS

Bradford's Cornerstones in the 21st Century

Inns of Bradford

Bradford has welcomed travelers from the very early years of its settlement. One of the first was the Raymond House, built in 1804 at what is now Lafayette Square. It was said to be the oldest continuously operated hotel in New England at the time it burned in 1897. Many other inns lined the main streets of the town increasing as the railroad line from Concord to Bradford opened on July 1, 1850. It was expanded from Warner to Claremont in 1872 and Bradford with its sparkling lakes, rolling hills, and mineral waters became a mecca for summer visitors.



Rosewood Country Inn

Photo Credit: Rob Clifford Photography

Although some of the inns burned, many of the buildings still grace our streets with varying uses. The Butman House is now St. Peter's Masonic Lodge, Col. Mason Tappan's home operated as the Woodside Inn and is now the home of Burton and Ellen Hersh. Echo Lodge on Main Street and Wayside on High Street are also private residences. The Lakeside Inn is a restaurant, the Appleseed. Peter and Mary Beth Fenton are proprietors.

At the time the Cornerstones were chosen for preservation, several inns were still in operation: the Bradford Inn, the Mountain Lake Inn (formerly Davis Hotel), and the Candlelite Inn (Gillis House). Currently, none of these are open as inns. The Bradford Inn has taken on a new role as home of the Sweet Beet Market with plans to expand the space for other community purposes.

The Messer family opened Pleasant View Farm in 1896 and it has operated as an inn or bed and breakfast for most of the time since then. The property was sold in 1979 and changed hands several times until it was purchased in 1991 and restored by Leslie and Richard Marquis. In keeping with the changing preferences of the traveling public, the Marquis established an upscale Bed & Breakfast with many special weekend events and changed the name to the Rosewood Country Inn. Odo and Stan Ovrevik purchased the property in 2005 and continue to offer accommodations and special events at the Rosewood Country Inn.

(Continued on page 6)



HOLIDAY EVENTS

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9TH

Cookie Walk and make your own Gumdrop Pops. Bring your own cookies. Gumdrop Pop materials to be provided. Tin Shop at 160 Main Street 1PM

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9TH

Visit Santa and Tree Lighting
Brown Memorial Library 4PM
Followed by, Get To Know Your Neighbor. Hot soups, bread, and fellowship at Bradford Community Church. Free to all.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17TH

Santa's Coming to Town
Bradford Fire Department 12-3PM

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21ST

Holiday Dinner Reception for Meals on Wheels with KRHS Chorus Performance
Bradford Community Center 11:30AM

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24TH

Christmas Eve Pageant
Bradford Center Meetinghouse 5PM

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24TH

Candlelight Christmas Eve Service
Bradford Community Church 7PM

KRSD CHRISTMAS VACATION

Monday, December 25, 2017 -
Monday, January 1, 2018

Town Hall Progress — Settled and Filled



Left: Town Hall on new foundation from the parking lot. Right: Front entrance of Town Hall after it was lowered onto the foundation.



The Bradford Bridge

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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.

Town Offices

SELECTMEN'S OFFICE

Phone: 938-5900
Monday – Thursday: 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM
(closed 12 Noon – 1 PM)
Friday: 8:00 AM – Noon

TOWN CLERK/TAX COLLECTOR

Phone: 938-2288
Monday & Tuesday: Closed
Wednesday: 12 PM – 6 PM
Thursday & Friday: 8 am – 4 PM
(closed 12 – 1 pm)
2nd & 4th Saturday: 9 am – Noon

PLANNING BOARD HOURS

Office hours Tuesdays 12:30 – 4:30

*Town offices are temporarily located at
Bradford Area Community Center, 134 East
Main St. P.O. Box 6. Bradford, NH 03221*

Letter from the Editor

There are both advantages and disadvantages to being an editor of the Bradford Bridge. Sometimes news comes here before it gets to the public, but is not always what you want to read, notably the letter just below this. In the few years they have called Bradford home, Camila Devlin and her family have been a big part of this community. Camila stepped in early on as secretary for the Planning Board and soon expanded to assist many of the other boards in Town. She worked wonders with the Fourth of July celebration while awaiting Benjamin's arrival. Filling a vacancy as Town Clerk was next and this she did with her upbeat personality and great efficiency as regulations changed and the Town Hall had to be adapted for voting.

While doing all of this, Camila joined the Bridge Advisory Board, contributing as Treasurer and initiating the Commemorative Tote as a fund-raiser. Personally and on behalf of the Board, I want to wish Camila and her family all good wishes and congratulate whatever community becomes their next home.

The second item came from Brackett Scheffy announcing in From the Ground Up that we will no longer benefit from his insight and his wit as work on the Town Hall Restoration continues. Who else could compare the efforts of Geddes Building Movers to the Bolshoi Ballet as the Town Hall was raised? Thank you Brackett.

Rest assured, The Bridge will continue to bring news of Town Hall progress for those (like this editor) who prefer to get their news in print.

Choose from the many holiday happenings listed in The Bridge in Bradford and surrounding towns to add to your festivities. Support the organizations that work to help others.

The Bradford Bridge Board joins me in extending our best wishes for a joyful and safe holiday season.

Marcia Keller, Co-Editor

To the Residents of Bradford,

I will be resigning from my position as Town Clerk/Tax Collector effective early December 2017. It has been an absolute pleasure serving the residents of this wonderful little town— easily the most enjoyable job I have ever had! I am pleased to announce that in my stead, Melissa Cloutier, will continue to serve the Town and uphold the office mission of quality service as the new Town Clerk. Melissa has demonstrated integrity and acuity over the past 5 years during her tenure as Deputy. Our office is also excited to report that Bradford newcomer,

Amelia Dohrn, has been hired to serve as the new Deputy Town Clerk/Tax Collector.

I would like to thank everyone who has been so supportive of me and my family, personally and professionally. The people of Bradford will always hold a very special place in my heart.

Please remember to check the town website for new hours coming January 2018, scheduled holiday closings, and a list of open Saturdays.

Sincerely Yours,
Camila Devlin

Town Hall Progress Report: From the Ground Up



I am pleased to report what most of you know: The Town Hall was successfully lowered onto its patiently waiting foundation early in November as planned. For the period of over a half year that it was elevated and the wind free to whistle between the building and its foundation it was quite unsettling. So now we can relax a bit. The descent event allowed the beginning of the process of attaching the building itself to the foundation. I ridiculously thought that gravity and a two hundred sixty-ton building would combine to keep it where it was put. Not so. Keeping it from going back up in the air or some other and worse place involves straps and plates and other stuff I have no notion of.

In addition to leashing and lashing it, the general contractor will also be framing in a floor and walls to enclose the new room at the Southwest corner. You may recall that for over a century there has been a room on the *second* floor at that corner but not on the *first*. There will now be a legitimate room in that corner useful for town business and employees. I wanted it to be a Moderator's wet bar but mine was the only voice in favor of that proposition.

There are also a number of holes (some not modest in size) in the ground floor and other air gaps that

need to be filled in order to make the building weather resistant for the winter.

Within a week or two of December 1st, all of the drawings, plans and pricing will be in place. That will allow the selectmen to make a decision as to how far the project can go on the available money. Keep an eye out for notices of various meetings concerning the project and join us!

Because of the shift from leadership by the THROC to leadership by architect and engineers, there has been a change in the committee's responsibilities. The THROC will evolve into more of a fundraising and public relations committee.

In addition, the Selectmen will likely hire a Clerk of the Works within the next very few weeks. That person will have responsibility for monitoring the work being done on the building and making sure that materials and labor reflect what is called for in the plans. The person who will take on that job will have substantial construction experience.

With the change in the Committee functions, it is likely that I personally will not be on it any longer although I will cheer the project on and help where needed. Similarly, I will likely not be writing monthly articles for The Bridge. I may write occasional pieces if the need arises but I refer you to the Committee's FaceBook page and to the Town website for updates from the architect and news. It has been an interesting exercise and a great pleasure to write these articles.

Thanks very much for the many kind comments that have found their way to me about them over the past months.

Brackett Scheffy for the THROC

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Holiday Fun



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**34 Bible Hill Road
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**244 Cressy Road
Sold for \$220,000**



**0 Johnson Hill Road
Sold for \$75,000**



To share in our success and to thank our wonderful hometown and its residents, Tall Pines Realty is making a donation to the many town organizations, committees and non-profits that work tirelessly every day to make Bradford a better community and a great place to call home.



Thank You For Your Business & Support!

Local Feast - Seasonal Recipes from Local Produce

In Praise of Onions

Have you ever thought how underappreciated and hard working the onion is? As a common aromatic used in stocks and broths and sauces, it creates magic in dishes with its pungent flavor. Sliced, sautéed, and chopped it adds dimension to salads, stir fries and stews. Always relegated to ‘ingredient’ rather than the featured star.

Onions have amazing anti-inflammatory, anti-allergen and antioxidant properties. They contain ‘quercetin’, one of the most powerful antioxidant properties. And, if that wasn’t good enough, apparently onions help to keep your skin wrinkle free, too.

When I was checking out Sweet Beets Market last week I was happy to see baskets full of red and yellow onions and coppery skinned shallots, fresh and grown here in Bradford. I thought it would be perfect to cook up a few recipes where the Onion definitely is the star.

The Red Onion is generally milder and favored in salads and on burgers, but try making pickled red onion. This simple condiment, which, by the way, couldn’t be easier to prepare, can transform any sandwich, burger or salad it touches. It has a slightly sweet flavor, tender crunch and pretty, pink color. Just bring 2 tbsp red vinegar, ½ tsp salt and 1 cup water to a boil. Remove from heat and stir in 1 small red onion thinly sliced. Let cool and drain before serving.

Shallots are elongated bulb shaped onions, and have golden brown, copper or flushed pink skin. They have a milder taste with a hint of garlic. While there is almost nothing better than roasting shallots until their insides are soft, I found a wonderful recipe for Spicy Shallot Relish: Roast 5 shallots with the skin on for 15 mins, till slightly charred, remove the skin, and chop into fairly small pieces, then sauté in 3 tbsp oil. Add balsamic vinegar, honey, thyme and red pepper flakes, salt & pepper and simmer for 5 minutes. Great addition to steaks, sausages or burgers.

The large Yellow Onion has a stronger taste and roasts beautifully. Remove the skins of 4 medium sized onions, simmer in water for about 25 minutes until tender. Lift them out with a slotted spoon. Slice in half from root to tip. Place them in a baking dish cut side down. Mix 1½ cups of heavy cream, a handful of parmesan, thyme and salt and pepper, pour over the onions and bake for 25 minutes.


And while there was a rich, sweet smell of onions and shallots baking in the oven, I had time to make a small jar of Garlic Shallot Oil:

- 4 shallots peeled and sliced
- 3 garlic cloves
- 1 cup of olive oil
- 1 cup of vegetable oil
- 1 tbsp black pepper
- 1 tbsp dried rosemary



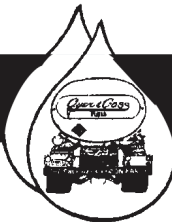
Put shallots and garlic in a sterilized jar with the oil. Let steep for 4 days (no more). Pass oil through a sieve. Pour into a pretty bottle, add pepper and dried rosemary. Keep in the fridge to use in salad dressing, or to drizzle over pasta, fish or shrimp.

Barbara Bridgewater and Tracey Quigley operate a local personal chef and catering service, Feast of New Hampshire, feastofnh.com.



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Cornerstones

(continued from page 1)



Old Bradford Center

Bradford Center was the geographic, civic, and business center of the town from the early years of settlement. Farms, homes, a tannery, tavern, store, post office and blacksmith were located along with a schoolhouse and the Town Meetinghouse, which was erected there in 1797. This building was used for all meeting purposes, including the Congregational Church until 1838 when the church was built. The Meetinghouse was dismantled and re-built as the second floor of the Town Hall on Main Street in the 1860's when the railroad was built along the corridor that is now Route 103. The Center School House was moved across the street and served many purposes until the owner Walter Heselton agreed to have it returned to its originl location. The Bradford Historical Society re-built it as part of a Bicentennial project in the 1990's.

In 2004, voters approved establishment of the Bradford Historic District on the parcel that encompasses the Center Meetinghouse (former Congregational Church), the Center School

House, the Center Burial Ground and the Town Pound. Five Historic District Commissioners, representing the Union Congregational Society, Bradford Historical Society, Conservation Commission, Cemetery Commission, and Selectmen oversee work proposed to be done within the District.

Funds have been raised over the years to restore stencils on the walls and ceiling of the Meetinghouse and to make many necessary repairs to the building. One of the main trusses was rebuilt, exterior repairs were done to the tower, which included removing a massive honey bee hive, electricity was discreetly introduced, and metal roofing now protects the building. The building is handicapped accessible and screens have been added for summer comfort.


Attention to historical accuracy as this work was carried out resulted in placing the building on the National Registry of Historic Places in 2013.

The Bradford Historic District is a successful collaboration of the groups involved. The Town owns and maintains the land and Burial Ground, the Historical Society owns and maintains the School House, while the Meetinghouse is owned by the Union Congregational Society. The Societies jointly care for the period-appropriate and very necessary privy that was constructed between the School House and the Meetinghouse.

Many types of events make use of both buildings – school reunions, weddings, celebrations, quilt shows and melodramas. Summers bring the ice cream social and concerts on the lawn, local musical groups and the very successful Lettvin Chamber Music Series. A Thanksgiving celebration is held each year with donations for the food bank gladly accepted. The annual Christmas Eve Pageant was begun many years ago by a few neighbors for their children. The still unheated hall is filled with people coming from Bradford and beyond to enjoy the program as the next generation is now part of the Pageant.

Truly Bradford Center is a cherished and well preserved Cornerstone.


Marcia Keller

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The Kat Corner

The Holiday season is quickly approaching! All our festive foods and decorations aren't just exciting to us, but also to our furry friends.

Most cats are not interested in sweets or treats (although I do know of some who would disown their owners for a chance to steal some nachos), yet they are often fascinated by new decorations and plants. For them, it is a time when the great outside world comes indoors!

There are ornaments that have been placed on the tree just for them! A few taps— now these decorations are on the floor, ready to be swatted around like soccer balls (usually around 2:00 a.m.). Some decorations, however, can be trouble, mainly tinsel and strings. These can become dangerous foreign bodies if swallowed. I once took 15 Christmas hair ties out of a cat's stomach. Why this cat ate fifteen (ok, I can see one, by mistake, but 15!!) is

beyond my comprehension!

Plants are also curious new adventures to cats. They investigate by chewing on them. Lilies and mistletoe are very toxic. Poinsettias have an irritant sap that can ulcerate the mouth and cause vomiting. If you are worried that your cat has been chewing on a toxic plant, you can call your vet for advice. Alternatively, the ASPCA has a great web site (just google them) and has a listing of plants toxic to cats (who are NOT small dogs!), horses and dogs. It is a great site to have on hand. They also have a poison control hotline.

I had a friend whose cats would constantly climb his Christmas tree to get to the high ornaments. The tree would come crashing down over and over. His solution - he hung the tree from the ceiling. The cats loved it! They had their very own indoor swinging jungle gym!

My two cats, Inky and Blue (disclaimer - all typos are due to Blue

trying to help me type this article) wish you and your furry friends a winter filled with fun filled adventures!!

Laurie Farrell, DVM

Classified Ad

Indoor Flea Market: You will find some wonderful gifts here! Open by appointment and special hours for the holiday season only. Christmas items galore and an eclectic mix of everything from antiques and collectibles, CPAP machines and supplies, Nordic Air Purifier, clothes, electronics, office supplies, books, DVDs, CDs, and frames to name a few. Deco glassware, huge collection of LuRay Pastel dishes, Halls casseroles, tea pots and so much more. Will be open Friday through Sunday until Christmas and by appointment. Only 2/10s of a mile off Route 114! Call 603-938-2603

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Bradford Community Church
88 West Main St, Bradford, NH
603-938-5313

December Events

Sunday Worship Services and Kingdom Builders (Sunday School)- 10AM every Sunday.

Mom's Group- Dec 6 & 13 at 9:30-10:30AM - church office building.

Bible Study- 1 Samuel- Dec 7 & 14 at 6:30PM - church office building.

Youth Group will travel to Rise Again in Concord on Dec 2 at 8AM to help hand out clothing to the homeless. Regular meetings will be on Dec 10 & 17 at 11:30-1PM.

Christmas Gifts- Angel Tags with the children's gift wishes will be available Nov 18 - due back by Dec 3. There will also be a box in the church for donations of new toys.

Christmas Food Baskets and gifts will be distributed Dec 16 at 9-11AM.

A Community Outreach Meal- Get to know your neighbor - will be held on Saturday, Dec 9 at 4:30-6PM. Right after the tree lighting at the Library. Come and enjoy hot soups and bread and fellowship with one another. Free!

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Grief Gathering- Tuesday, Dec 12 at 6:30-7:30PM - church office building. Christmas can be a painful time for people whose loved ones have died. Whether your loved one died in the last year or years ago, please come and share your memories, light a candle in their memory and receive an ornament in their honor.

Christmas Cantata- "Breath of Heaven" is a closer look at the compassionate heart of Mary through songs and narration. Sunday, Dec 17 during the Worship Service

Candlelight Christmas Eve Worship Service - Dec 24 at 7PM. Come worship and celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ.

Supervisors of the Checklist

The Bradford Supervisors of the Checklist will hold a Public Session on Saturday, December 30, 2017 between 11 & 11:30 at the Community Center (Youth Room) to make corrections to the checklist and accept new registrations.

In order to register to vote you must be at least 18 years of age, present a valid photo ID and have proof of residency

Judy Marshall, Sandy Paul, Jacklyn Pehrson

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Joe's Socks



You know how when your feet are cold, you seem to be cold all over? Well, imagine having that feeling and unable to do anything about it. Joe's Socks was started by Joe Harris, a veteran himself, when he attended the opening of the New England Shelter for Homeless Veterans in Boston. He became aware that many of the veterans had broken relationships with family or friends and had no one to provide them with presents at Christmas. He also found that many of the veterans admitted to the shelter had no socks and upon leaving the shelter would take their donated clothing with them, creating a shortage especially of socks. He began asking people and groups to buy plain white (one size fits all) socks so these men could have socks and could take them along with them when they were released.

Today, each year at this time and in time for Christmas, The South Newbury Union Church takes on the task of collecting packages of new, one size fits all, men's white crew socks. We then, open the packages and make smaller packages of three (3) and wrap them in Christmas wrapping paper. Included with this package is a Christmas Card that says "To a Veteran. You are not forgotten." Then they are delivered to the VA Hospital in White River Jct. The hospital is so appreciative to have these packages of socks to give to the veterans who are hospitalized and in need of nice, warm socks.

If you would like to help out and donate socks for this project, there is still time...we will be wrapping them on December 3rd. You may leave socks (in plastic bag) on the porch of the Friendship House in South Newbury. We are so grateful for the communities' help.

Obituaries

Marcia (Martin) Strout

Marcia (Martin) Strout was born on October 17th, 1938, in Manchester, NH, to Vivian (Farmer) Martin, a bookkeeper for the State of New Hampshire and Harold Martin, a politically-minded business owner. Growing up in Contoocook, Marcia loved to dance, cook, and sew. In high school, she was a 4-H Junior leader, won the Elks youth leadership prize, played basketball, acted in and directed plays, and taught Sunday school.

She received her BA and Master's degrees in Home Economics from the University of New Hampshire, and taught for many years at Timberlane High School in Plaistow, NH. She founded the Happy Homemakers of Plaistow, became a Girl Scout troupe leader, and served as President of the New Hampshire Home Economics Association.

Marcia met Perley Roger Strout, then serving in the Coast Guard, at a square dance. They married and raised three children in Plaistow where Perley worked as an electronic technician for AT&T. Family vacations were spent driving across the country in their station wagon, setting up their pop-up tent at campgrounds from California to Texas to Florida.

Marcia and Perley retired in their early fifties and moved to Bradford, where they bought The Sunshine Farm and ran an antiques business. In Bradford, when the Moon Mountain Arts Committee was formed to produce musical and theatrical performances on Bradford's historic Town Hall Stage, Marcia was an active member of the committee. She acted in a 1996 performance of Rebecca Rule's play, Town Meeting, starring as Town Clerk Gladie B. Her part was a foil to the character of Town Moderator, played by Bradford's own, Ev Kittridge. Perley Strout played the part of Dump Master.

The couple continued their love of dancing and of traveling, visiting forty-nine of the fifty states and several European countries. She loved coming home and having family around her. She opened her home to friends, relatives, and exchange students, and was known as a wonderful host. Her pies and cookies were out of this world, and her handmade quilts and afghans made her house feel like home.

She is survived by her husband Perley, sister Marlene Kreister, brother Michael Martin, son Nathan, daughters Sheryl and Linette, and grandchildren, Asana, Arman, Russell, and Ian.

Donations may be made to the Alzheimer's Association. <https://alz.org/> To sign an online guestbook please visit www.chadwickfuneralservice.com.

Patricia A. (O'Loughlin) Gardner
Patricia A. (O'Loughlin) Gardner, 74, of Bradford died October 21st, 2017 at Pleasant View in Concord. Patricia was born August 12, 1943 to the late John & Phyllis P. (Turner) O'Loughlin. She is survived by her husband of 53 years, James J. Gardner of Bradford; a daughter, Janet and her husband Neil Manning of North Andover, MA; brothers Stephen and Charles O'Loughlin of MA, and Thomas O'Loughlin of FL; a sister Linda Shaughnessy of ME; grandchildren, Abigail and Eric Manning.

The Bradford Bridge welcomes obituaries of your loved ones. Please submit them to us by the 20th of each given month. bradfordbridge345@gmail.com

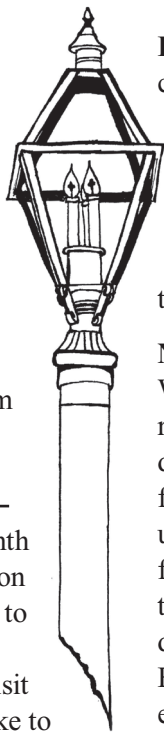
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Library Hours:

Monday 10:00am – 8:00pm
Wednesday 10:00am – 7:00pm
Saturday 10:00am – 3:00pm
Sunday 11:00am – 3:00pm

Santa. The big news this month is our visit from Santa Claus on Saturday, December 9. Come to the library at 4pm for holiday stories, Santa will arrive to visit with each child who would like to meet him, then we will go outside to light the library tree and sing some carols. We hope you and your family can join us for this festive event.

Toys for Needy Children LLC.

Come in to the library to see the display of children's toys made by Hal Liberty in his Bradford workshop. Hal makes thousands of toys and donates them to children in need all over New Hampshire. Some of the toys are in the Children's Room for hands-on fun!

Book Discussion. Our next book discussion is on Wednesday, January 17 at 7pm. Because we are skipping December, we will have heaps of time to read a book that is longer than our usual selection. Multiple copies of *Cutting for Stone* by Abraham Verghese are now available at the circulation desk.

Holiday Hours. The library will be closed on Sunday, December 24, Monday, December 25, and Monday, January 1. That's fair warning...now come on in and stock up on books, videos, and audio-books to keep you entertained during the holiday season.

New Children's Book Donations.

We have recently been very lucky to receive two nice donations of children's books. One is a holiday gift from a darling two-year-old. She gave us four board books on empowerment for toddlers. That may sound dry, but these books are top-notch! The second donation is from the daughter of a Bradford resident who gets many excellent books for children and young adults as part of her job. She then periodically sends them on to us. New books added to your library in November:

For Adults

- From here to eternity: traveling the world to find the good death* / Caitlin Doughty
- Obama: an intimate portrait* / Pete Souza
- Parting shot* / Linwood Barclay
- The right side* / Spencer Quinn
- The deep dark descending* / Allen Eskens
- Bonfire* / Krysten Ritter
- Origin* / Dan Brown


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For Children and Teens

- The getaway* / Jeff Kinney
- The sands of Shark Island* / Alexander McCall Smith
- Ten: a soccer story* / Shamini Flint
- It all comes down to this* / Karen English
- Otherwise known as Possum* / Maria D. Laso
- Making friends with Billy Wong* / Augusta Scattergood
- A tale of highly unusual magic* / Lisa Papademetriou
- The giant's seat* / Dave Butler
- That's me loving you* / Amy Krouse Rosenthal
- Knightology: a true account of the most valiant knights* / Dugald A. Steer

Meg Fearnley – Librarian



Schoolhouse #9 sign — temporary location until it can be placed on the restored Town Hall.

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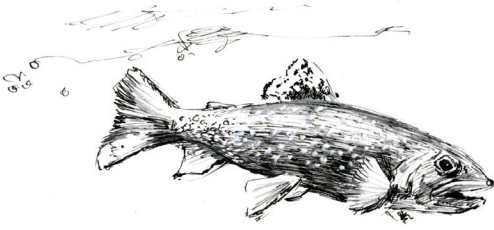
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Outside

There are streams here – lots of them – and they have one aspiration – to go downhill. One molecule following the next. One mantra but in execution it's a complex performance.

There are roads here – lots of them – and they follow few guidelines. Uphill, downhill, through hills. To places known and places used-to-be-known. Faster, wider, ditched, paved, and salted now, roads are crossing streams and rivers in uneasy relationships with water.

One day in August, I set out with fellow volunteers, members of Trout Unlimited, and NH Fish and Game employees to check on the health of streams near roadway crossings. We were stalking the wild native brook trout in particular and judgmental eyes and measuring equipment considered whether these artificial pass-overs will withstand big rain events; whether water dwellers can complete vital migrations; and whether the waters still run clean. Only a small percentage, 9%, of rivers and streams within the historic range of brook trout can still support them and here the size of wild brook trout has fallen to less than half what it used to be. These days, they average only 4–7 inches in length.

At each of the two stream crossings we surveyed that day; one group performs a proscribed sort of in-stream dance with nets and then paws through buckets of recovered sediment to identify macro invertebrates. These are the very small buggish animals lacking skeletons that

are still large enough to be glimpsed by unaided eyes (or with reading glasses, in my case). If there is no fish food there will be no fish. Which tiny species are living there and how many of each of them we find will illustrate the water quality. Some can't tolerate silty or polluted water. Each stream's temperature was also taken.

The second team momentarily stuns the inhabitants with an electric current. This process resembles an overly zealous housecleaner vacuuming a particularly problematic wet and forested hallway. Impossibly camouflaged fish were then identified, counted, weighed, measured, and quickly released.

Another team member records turbidity, dissolved oxygen, pH, and conductivity (something about ions and dissolved solids). All of this lets the sort of person who can sort all this out know what the stream inhabitants already know – how intact and livable are these places?

At the first site in a westerly corner of Bradford, wild native brook trout are sharing the water with blacknose dace, a juvenile dusky mountain salamander and a few green frogs. Larvae of mayfly, caddisfly, stonefly, dragonfly, water penny, midge, and riffle beetle dart among the debris. The water here is relatively cold and well-oxygenated, the gradient steep. The culvert has a few issues, however. If heavy logging removes the shade of trees or drought heats this stream these trout will be gone unless they can migrate to cooler water.

The second site is at a road crossing nearby in Newbury. Slower and warmer, it's the downstream exit of a broad, open wetland of emerging lush vegetation and these conditions are reflected in its inhabitants. Too warm for trout. But there are young eastern chain pickerel, creek chub, golden and common shiners, common sunfish, and again blacknose dace. Mayfly, caddis-

fly, dragon and damsel fly, riffle beetle and now hellgrammites coexist – all indicators of decent water quality.

Often lacking in grace and encumbered by our artificial pelage and pockets full of stuff, our air-gulping species trudges through or leaps over these streams without noticing their differences - much less noticing the variety of elegant silver fish gliding soap-like through the water or the trembling gills of the young dragonfly nymph. They notice us however, every vibration and shadow, every change in turbidity, chemical, and temperature.

A stream can't be thought of as separate from its upland watershed and it's the landscape that feeds the water. All that happens there is reflected in the waters running through it. There is a strong correlation between the density of roads and other impervious surfaces and the health and abundance in its attendant waters.

By October, streams are cooling down and moving toward winter. Trout patiently hang, gazing upstream and holding position, barely feeding. Their pearl eggs, now safely nestled in specially prepared gravel beds called redds. Perhaps trout dream the glacial dreams of their meltwater ancestors. Maybe they envy the dragonfly's freedom to sample distant streams. Or maybe they sense each generation growing smaller, resigned to travel restrictions but, with luck and time and a little help from us, hopefully better able to cope.

Ann Eldridge

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Town Board Reports

Board of Selectmen

Schoolhouse Signs Laurie Buchar brought a map showing the location of all the old schoolhouses in Bradford. The Historical Society made and placed signs for each one except the Town Hall. The Board decided the best option is to place the sign on a post outside the construction area. Once construction is complete the sign will be attached to the front of the building.

Town Hall Actions Jim Bibbo read the motion the Town Hall Restoration Oversight Committee passed on November 1, 2017: “The THROC recommends to the Board of Selectmen that we lower the building, collect costs, then make a decision on the next steps going forward. Also, the THROC reaffirms the wisdom of the project going forward.”

Selectmen hosted a productive meeting with Architect Jay Barrett and representatives from WV Engineering who will finalize the details of specifications for plumbing, heating, mechanical, electrical, and fire safety, including sprinklers. Completion of these plans is expected early in December.

At a subsequent meeting of the Board, Mr. Barrett said he is now very optimistic on the progress and looks forward to the next phases. The building is now back on solid ground and all looks good except for a few places where the sills were showing age prior to the lift. Overall the building is secure. He recommended the Board consider Option 2 which authorizes the continuance of construction work on the building at the most recent estimate of \$509,325.

The motion was made by Jim Bibbo to accept that recommendation; seconded by Sonny Harris. Selectman Pfeifle asked that figures to move back into the building by fall of 2018 be provided in December and stated that the completed project is still \$2,000,000. The

motion was unanimously approved.

Selectmen decided there is no need yet for a clerk of the works, but that Town Administrator Karen Hambleton would be the ‘point person’ to respond to any questions.

Superintendent of Schools Winfried Feneberg was welcomed to the meeting to present an overview of the school district and the budget. He outlined the different studies coming from each of the schools and the positive impact it has on the district overall. He outlined some staffing needs and current programs taking place at each of the schools. When he was asked what Bradford can do to support the district, he replied “continue to support your local elementary school.”

Electric Service The Board voted to remain with the current service, Nextera, to provide the supplier portion of the Eversource bill.

Health Insurance Rates for health insurance are decreasing for 2018. Therefore, the Board agreed to continue the employee portion contribution at 9% of the premium.

Tax Rate Set at \$26.40 – no change from last year.

Zoning Board of Adjustment

A Public hearing was held on the application for a special exception from Kate Ormiston Map16/Lot21 9 High Street. She brought letters from abutters supporting installation of the original historic porch over the front entrance. The Board voted to approve the application.

Wanda Watson inquired what steps would be needed to relicense her Kennel on Ring Hill Road because the State of NH has changed their regulations. She was given an application for a variance to accomplish this.

A public hearing has been scheduled for December 6 on the administrative appeal from a Planning Board decision approving a home business on Fortune

Road to manufacture ammunition.

Planning Board

Lot Line Adjustment Route 103 Map3/Lot55&56 The application was accepted as complete and a public hearing will be held on December 12th at 7:00pm.

Compassion Vet and Twigs Signage The property owners will be advised to contact the ZBA to request a Special Exception for the signs.

Junk Yard application County Rd and Rowe Mountain Rd- Map9/Lot45 The Board reviewed the application and voted to accept the application as complete. There was discussion of how to deal with hazardous materials and the whether the width of the driveway was sufficient to allow two way traffic. These will be addressed at the Public Hearing on December 19 at 7:00pm. A site walk is scheduled for December 16 at 10:00am.

CIP Claire James passed out copies of the CIP and the Board reviewed the requests from Library, Transfer Station, Police Department, Community Center, Highway Department and the Fire Department. Claire explained how the CIP works and the benefits of continuing to move forward with this tool.

Minutes of all meetings are on file at the Town Office and online at bradfordnh.org.



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Weekly Wellness

The time change can bring a fun day of extra sleep or an hour of free time, but it can also wreak havoc for some people with their sleep patterns, productivity, or state of mind. It can especially impact those diagnosed with Seasonal Affective Disorder or Depression.

As shorter days settle in, a potentially helpful tool is phototherapy in the form of a light box which emits full spectrum light for a prescribed period daily.

Another tool, that I use, just to help me wake up more easily is an alarm clock that slowly emits light for a half hour before waking. These come in a variety of options.

For those who use coffee to start their day, there's some good news from Dr. Andrew Weil on coffee's health benefits:

- The latest research shows no connection between coffee and the low level chronic inflammation tied to so many inflammatory diseases, like heart disease, cancer and neurodegenerative diseases.
- A 2015 study in Greece showed that regular coffee consumption decreased Type 2 Diabetes by half.
- Another 2015 study showed that the antioxidant polyphenol, found in both coffee and tea, has a positive effect on immune function and chronic inflammation.
- A third 2015 study showed lower levels of serum amyloid, an inflammatory marker.
- Also in 2015, a study showed lower rates of death for coffee drinkers whether using caffeinated or decaffeinated, showing that the protective aspect of coffee is related to something other than the caffeine.

Bear in mind that some people who are sensitive to coffee can respond with anxiety, insomnia, digestive issues and a racing heart and may even have some reaction to decaf. They may do better with the benefits of tea!

Lisa MacLean, RN at KRHS

Sarah W. Chapin
Registered Pharmacist

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**Marine Corps Reserve
is looking for new
unwrapped toys
for toddlers to teens.**

**Drop off by December 14 at
Mountain View Senior Center.
Contact Bob Selig 938-2677**

December Calendar

All events take place at the Bradford Area Community Center (938-6228) or the Mountain View Senior Center (938-2104) unless otherwise noted. Call to confirm dates and times in case any changes have been made.

Friday, December 1st

11:30AM First Friday Brunch with Rich Araldi - Call to Reserve!

Monday, December 4th

1PM Bridge Group
5:30PM Selectmen Meeting

Tuesday, December 5th

10AM "Surviving the Holidays" with Judy Cook
10:30AM Quilting Group
12 noon Senior Dining
12:30PM Mahjong Group
12:30 - 4:30PM Planning Board Office
2PM Watercolor Class

Wednesday, December 6th

6PM Yoga
7PM Zoning Board

Thursday, December 7th

12 Noon Senior Dining
12:30PM Mahjong Group

Saturday, December 9th

9AM - Noon Town Clerk Open
1PM Cookie Walk, Tin Shop
4PM Visit Santa & Tree Lighting, BML

Monday, December 11th

1PM Bridge Group
5:30PM Selectmen Meeting

Tuesday, December 12th

10AM Quilting Group
12 Noon Senior Dining
12:30PM Mahjong Group
12:30 - 4:30PM Planning Board Office
2PM Watercolor class
7PM Planning Board

Wednesday, December 13th

1PM Knitting group
6PM Yoga

Thursday, December 14th

12 Noon Senior Dining
12:30PM Mahjong Group
5PM BACC/P&R Meeting

Friday, December 15th

9:30 - 11:30AM Foot Care Clinic with LSVNA at North Ridge
10AM Third Friday Movie
12 Noon Senior Dining

Sunday, December 17th

12 Noon - 3PM Santa at Bradford Fire Department

Monday, December 18th

1PM Bridge Group
5:30PM Selectmen Meeting

Tuesday, December 19th

10AM Quilting Group
12 Noon Senior Dining
12:30PM Mahjong Group
12:30 - 4:30PM Planning Board Office

Wednesday, December 20th

6PM Yoga

Thursday, December 21st

10- 11AM BP Clinic by LSVNA
11:30AM Holiday Dinner Reception for Meals on Wheels with KRHS Chorus performing. Reservations please!
1:30PM Mahjong Group

Sunday, December 24th

Library Closed
5PM Pageant at Center Meetinghouse

Monday, December 25th

Christmas Day!
Town Offices Closed
Library Closed
Senior Center Closed
No Meals on Wheels

Tuesday, December 26th

10AM Quilting Group
12 Noon Senior Dining
12:30PM Mahjong Group
2PM Watercolor Class
12:30 - 4:30PM Planning Board Office
7PM Planning Board

Wednesday, December 27th

6PM Yoga

Thursday, December 28th

12 Noon Senior Dining
12:30PM Mahjong Group

Saturday, December 30th

11 - 11:30AM Supervisors of Checklist for corrections and new registrations



BACC - Bradford Area Community Center

BBC - Bradford Baptist Church

BML - Brown Memorial Library

FGC - Fish & Game Clubhouse
Gillingham Drive

KRES - Bradford Elemen. School

MVSC - Mountain View Senior Ctr

TH - Bradford Town Hall

ZBA - Zoning Board of Adjust

Ongoing Events

Children's Storytime - Mondays 10am 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, open by appointment. Please call 938-2078.

Library Trustees - 1st Wednesday at 6PM, 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, 7PM, BACC

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BrackettScheffy@tds.net 938-5600

AREA EVENTS

WARNER

Friday, December 1 at 7PM - Join us in the MainStreet Gallery for an evening of string music in the Barn! Grain Thief is a 5-piece Northern Country Barn Grass band from Boston. Suggested Donation of \$10 per person at the door to the MainStreet Warner, Inc., our community non-profit foundation. Doors 6:30PM. Show at 7:00PM.

Saturday, December 9 at 6:30 PM

Join us in the MainStreet Gallery for The Bradford Bog People in Concert. Take a step back in time, meet, and listen to the Bradford Bog People performing mostly traditional acoustic music from the Appalachian Mountains. Beth Eldridge, Tii McLane, and Woody Pringle. Look for their new CD "People of the Bog". Proceeds support the musicians and the efforts of the non-profit MainStreet Warner, Inc. Ticket: \$10 Adults, \$5 Students, Kids under 12 free.

SOUTH NEWBURY

Saturday, December 9 at 9-10:30AM

Breakfast With Santa at South Newbury Union Church, Friendship House at the Corner of Village and Sutton Rds. at the blinking light. Adults \$5, Kids \$1, Kids under 5 free.

BRADFORD

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9TH at 1PM

Cookie Walk and make your own Gumdrops. Bring your own cookies for the cookie walk. All materials for gumdrop pops to be provided. Tin Shop at 160 Main Street.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9TH at 4PM

Visit Santa and Tree Lighting Brown Memorial Library 4PM Followed by, Get To Know Your Neighbor. Hot soups, bread, and fellowship at Bradford Community Church. Free to all.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17TH

Santa's Coming to Town Bradford Fire Department 12- 3PM

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21ST

Holiday Dinner Reception for Meals on Wheels with KRHS Chorus Performance Bradford Community Center 11:30AM

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24TH

Christmas Eve Pageant Bradford Center Meetinghouse 5PM

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24TH

Candlelight Christmas Eve Service Bradford Community Church 7PM



Here's an interesting "nest" I found on the side of Goodwin Hill.

Out an About

Many of you are enthusiastic about recording the beauty that surrounds us. Therefore, I'd like to invite photographers to share images to be included in this article. Of course, proper credit will be given. The most interesting photographs will be from Bradford and close-by places. An accompanying caption would be nice. One last request is to submit the images in .jpg or .jpeg format.

Kathleen Bigford

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- **Adopt a family** and fulfill their holiday wish list

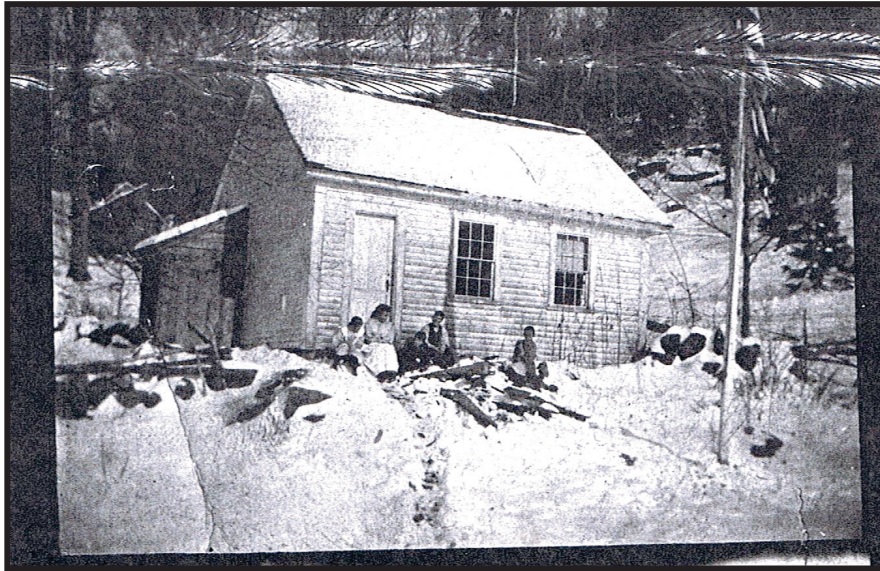
Please call the **"Elf Line"** to let us know your desire to help:
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We ask all sponsors to contact us by November 17th

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Imagine how chilly classrooms were in winter a century ago when home-made ink froze in the inkwells. Yet learning was held in high esteem as a means toward bettering a family's income, so most made the effort. Students would recite passages, sing songs and share food at holiday gatherings in their local school house. The one pictured here was #7 of the twelve district schools in town and still stands at the end of Dunfield Road.

Daffodil Hill

Several years ago Bindy started planting daffodils on the hill on Route 14 across from Oakdale Road. Thus the name Daffodil Hill was born. Over the years she has planted clusters of tall phlox, day lillies, zizia and lupine. Most recently she has planted clusters of rudbeckia herbstonne.

With this latest addition, Daffodil Hill will be in bloom from spring into fall. People have expressed their appreciation of such a place of interest and beauty. They have also commented about the time and effort that Bindy

has put into climbing the hill and employing her horticultural knowledge and skills. It is clear to many that Bindy has been industrious and thoughtful in creating a one-of-kind highway garden. Thank you, Bindy, for giving the residents and many passers-by this gift of three seasons of spectacular beauty!



Lois Kilnapp

Support Your Town Newspaper!

The Bradford Bridge Commemorative Tote

Made of heavy cotton canvas and made in New Hampshire, this large bag is great for groceries, books or tools. Proceeds will help fund our town's only community newspaper.

Price is \$15 plus \$6.95 for shipping and handling (s&h covers up to 5 totes). You can also pick up a tote at Appleseeds Restaurant and save on the shipping!

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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.

Please send your ad to:
bradfordbridge345@gmail.com.

