

Bradford Bridge

COMMUNITY NEWS FOR NEIGHBORS BY NEIGHBORS

Volume 28, Number 1

January 2017

Bradford Winter Carnivals “Winter Wonderland”

by Laurie Buchar

One could wonder why anyone who doesn't like winter would choose to live in Bradford. Some of us even exalt the winter months as the most favorable for sports and peace of mind. Certainly, this was the mood enjoyed by our predecessors during the Winter Carnivals of the 1920s, 1930s and 1940s.

Each decade, the Bradford Winter Carnival expanded its scope. **Parade, Sports Events and Masquerade Feature Best Carnival in History of the Town of Bradford**, read the headline of the Union-Leader on February 16, 1928. *The parade, with some 35 decorated floats, was the principal feature of the program, which included a hockey game, various sorts of winter sports, and a masquerade ball in the evening.*

A pair of bay horses, draped in the national colors led the parade, followed by several other teams. *Miss Mary Cheney, garbed in royal purple trimmed with ermine and gold, presided over this event as Carnival Queen. Adorning her pretty hair was a crown of gold trimmed with ropes of pearls.* The program included skating, snowshoe and obstacle races, ski jumping and a glide waltz contest.

On February 18, 1934, The Union-Leader headlined **Mammoth Parade Adds to Elaborate Program** and



said, *Bradford's reputation for carnival parades was established long ago but never before had such an elaborate spectacle as yesterday's been presented.* The parade was over a mile in length and featured 57 floats. The antique four-horse double road roller was hauled out for the event, with drivers sharing a traditional cider jug. That year's event was organized by the Bradford Athletic Association and offered morning contests on Todd Pond, a midday dinner at the Grange Hall and afternoon events at Shove's Hill (near the Covered Bridge), followed by a . . . *gaudy carnival ball in the Town Hall.*

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PLEASE NOTE

Email Contact for the Bradford Bridge is
bradfordbridge345@gmail.com
 Please delete
contact.us@bradfordbridge.com

Positions open for election for town officers at March 14, 2017 Town Election

- Selectman for 3 years 1
- Supervisor of the Checklist for 3 years 1
- Trustee of the Trust Funds for 3 years 1
- Trustee of the Library for 3 years 3
- Scholarship Committee for 3 years 1
- Scholarship Committee for 2 years 1
- Budget Committee for 3 years 2
- Planning Board for 3 years 2
- Planning Board for 1 year 1
- Zoning Board for 3 years 2
- Cemetery Commission for 3 years 1
- Cemetery Commission for 2 years 1

The Bradford Bridge is actively looking for reporters to cover town events and news. If interested, please contact us at bradfordbridge345@gmail.com

File declarations for candidacy at the Bradford Town Clerk's Office during the following hours:

- Wednesday, January 25th, 12- 6pm
- Thursday, January 26th, 8- 12 & 1- 4pm
- Friday, January 27th, 8- 12 & 1- 4
- Saturday, January 28th, 9- Noon
- Wednesday, February 1st, 12-6pm
- Thursday, February 2nd, 8- 12 & 1- 4
- Friday, February 3rd, 8- 12 & 1- 5pm

Camila Devlin, Town Clerk/Tax Collector • TC@BradfordNH.org • 938-2288

Winter Foraging for Spruce Tea

by: Peter Charles Blank

Of all the delights of a winter evening, few compare in my mind to a book, a crackling fire, the soft light of a steady candle flame, hot soup and fresh bread, and a cup of hot spruce needle tea. The spruce tree grows in great abundance here and can easily be distinguished from other trees high up on hills and smaller mountains, where it forms great colonies, and seems from far off a deep green toupet on an otherwise bald cap. Those who have wandered there will know the dense canopy and open floor of a spruce forest, of its wonderful scent in summer and the softness of the thick beds of fallen needles. Those same needles, harvested green

(continued on pg 4)

The Bradford Bridge



P.O. Box 463
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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.

Selectmen's Office Hours 938-5900

Mon - Thu: 8:00 am - 4:00 pm
(closed 12 noon - 1 pm)
Fri: 8:00 am - noon

Town Clerk/ Tax Collector Office Hours 938-2288

Mon & Tues - Closed
Wed - 12 PM - 6 PM
Thu & Fri - 8 am - 4 PM
(closed 12 - 1 pm)
2nd & 4th Sat - 9 am - Noon

Planning Board Circuit Rider Wednesday

call 938-5193 for appointment
*Town offices are temporarily
located at BACC*

From the Editor

– Not this month. The editor has chosen to share the following piece by “author unknown”, which was forwarded on behalf of her two year old great granddaughter. Her Mom sent it with the comment that “I think this is what Juniper was trying to say. She really is amazing.”

“Please accept with no obligation, expressed or implied, my best wishes for an environmentally conscious, socially responsible, low-stress, non-addictive, gender-neutral celebration of the winter solstice holiday, practiced within the most enjoyable traditions of the religious persuasion of your choice, or secular practices of your choice, with respect for the religious/secular persuasion and/or traditions of others, or their choice not to practice religious or secular traditions at all. I also wish you a fiscally successful, personally fulfilling, and medically uncomplicated recognition of the onset of the generally accepted calendar year 2017, but not without due respect for the calendars of choice of other cultures

whose contributions to society have helped make America great. This is, of course, neither to suggest nor imply that America is necessarily greater than any other country; also, this is not to imply that “America,” as noted herein, is the only America in the Western Hemisphere. May these heartfelt wishes be received with equal intensity regardless of distribution of individual wealth, documented carbon footprint, or perceived social privilege among the wishees addressed herein. This wish is made without regard to the race, creed, color, age, physical ability, religious faith, or sexual preference of the wishee.”



Marcia Keller

Juniper admiring a ‘paleo’ gingerbread person



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Carnivals Cont.,

The February 22-23, 1946 Carnival Program, sponsored by Bradford Fish and Game, hailed tourists:

Welcome to the Friendly Town of Bradford. Some may call it Dreamland, to the sports enthusiast it is Paradise but to us it is Home. Skating on Todd Lake! Skiing down the loose snow banks and over windy hills, through woodland paths where deer travel in summer, where drooping pine boughs hide a snowshoe rabbit, past a painted trout brook! Here we feel the stir of street and hall, merry girls, watchful young men, shout of merry voices, sound of sleigh bells. Here you will find food and shelter, warm and healthful.

When day has passed, somewhere meet we must – in the old Town Hall – at the Snow Ball and the Crowning of the Carnival Queen! And when the moon shines in the western sky, the stars twinkle through bare branches, and fires burn low, to the dreamer, it's a Winter Wonderland!

That year (1946), the ski tow ran until 8:00 pm on Heath Hill (later called Ring Hill) where downhill, cross-country, snowshoe and slalom races were held. There were also wood chopping contests and buggy races on Todd Pond. Eighty-five cents bought you admission to the Carnival Ball where you could dance to the tunes of Ray Russell's Orchestra.

On February 13-15, 1987, the Bradford Winter Carnival was reprised as the kick off to twenty events planned throughout the year to commemorate the bicentennial of



our town. The carnival was run by the Bradford Parks and Recreation Committee and featured a bonfire and family skating at Brown Shattuck Memorial Park and cross-country ski races on the old Loch Lyndon Golf Course grounds. An ice replica of the Bement Bridge was displayed, a beautiful quilt was unveiled, and a magical torchlight "Ski Down" graced the slopes of Mt. Sunapee, preceding the dinner dance held in the lodge. A fishing derby was held on Lake Todd despite the frigid temperatures as the weather found most folks inside for a Country Breakfast at the Masonic Hall that day. One float in the parade featured a truck bed of hay, a milking urn and a sign "Sorry, too cold for Bossy." A longtime resident, Ethel Brown, quoted in the Concord Monitor on February 16, 1987, remembered riding through town in a hay-cart for one of the early festivals. She said she liked modern Bradford even better than the intimate town she knew as a child. Others expressed confidence that the town can be as good, or better, a place to live than the past.

Maybe it's time to plan another Winter Carnival to celebrate Bradford's unique outdoor opportunities – complete with 21st century innovations – and out-sparkle all the rest.



A Poem from Sweet Beets

One chapter closes
Another opens
The passing of a year

Moving forward
Into the unknown
Some things feel unclear.

But truth be told
We feel quite good
To be just where we are

Right here in Bradford
Growing veggies
For folks from near and far.

We dig our heels
And hands and hearts
Into the dirt below

It fills us up
With hope and joy
Sharing what we grow.

Lucky are we
Who see it through
from tiny seed to fruit

The beauty of
The things that grow
The power of their roots.

When Bradford's youth
Comes bouncing down
To lend a helping hand

We see the brightness
Of the future
Witness it firsthand.

The older folks
They visit too
And share with us their tales

Young and old
Old and new
These friendships will prevail.

So what we're saying
I suppose
Is all will be just fine

One chapter closes
Another opens
Look for that Sweet Beet sign.

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A Review

by Laurie Buchar

A trip to the Hatbox Theater is like opening a gift package. First, like favorite ribbons and wraps, there are the artfully refreshed elements of theater seats and lights which were recycled from neighboring schools. Next, there are the classic elements of anticipation and intrigue as the lights dim and the performers begin.

And then there is delight! The elegant simplicity of the sets, enhanced by state-of-the-art technology, and the thrilling interaction with live performers offer a gift to cherish.

A group of us ventured to the Hatbox Theater, at its repurposed storefront in Concord, to see "A Christmas Carol" this season. The experience made us all want to become members and support the wide array of shows planned for the upcoming months. The tickets are affordable and easy to purchase online. Many of the shows are family-friendly and the intimate setting awakens the magic of theater. Bravo to Bradford's own Andrew Pinard for making this dream a reality in our community.


Open yourself to the promise of live performance.

Check out hatboxnh.com

NOTICE

The subscription price of The Bradford Bridge will be raised for 12 issues from \$20 to \$25 per year due to the cost of stamps and envelopes. The increase will be effective when you renew your annual subscription.


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Worship on January 1 with
Communion

Worship on January 8th will
be the cancelled Christmas
Program "M is for Manger"

6 pm Prayer nights on
Wednesdays in the church

Thursday Night Bible Study
will begin on Jan.5th at 6:30
pm in the Church Office
Building studying the book
of Exodus

Bradford Historical Society



Sweet Success! Katherine Blagden learned new ways to ice gingerbread cookies from ace baker Brenda Poirier at a holiday event held at BHS Tin Shop. Stay tuned for exciting new plans at the Bradford Historical Society on 2017

Spruce Tea Cont.,

from the tree itself, can be made into one of the most fragrant, delicious and naturally sweet drinks, even surpassing some special blend on a shelf in a grocery store. Any conifer, or evergreen, will do, yet spruce needle tea stands out among them, in my experience, as the most flavorful. To brew it, simply drop a full hand of cut boughs, short enough to fit in a quart or two saucepan, into water at a rolling boil. Replace the lid and let the tea simmer for some time, perhaps fifteen minutes. I have yet to find it bitter or too long steeped, as black or green tea may get when ignored, but always quite tasty. Once it has boiled long enough, remove it from the flame and strain into mugs or a teapot, and allow it to cool (the enjoyment of a thing has never been augmented by a burnt tongue!). In addition to its wonderful aroma and taste, spruce tea is packed with Vitamin C, which for

those without access to a grocery store stocked from far-away fields to the south, can be in precious short supply during winter months. In fact, a mug of tea, left to steep overnight after a hard boil, contains one hundred percent of our daily need."

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Kearsarge Regional School District News – January 2017

by Andrew Pinard

2016 was an incredibly busy year in the Kearsarge Regional School District. Our leadership team has been very busy responding to needs throughout the district. Teachers and staff and have been working hard to provide the very best education for our students. Our students have been winning awards, excelling at their work and serving as shining examples of citizenship as they give back to our community through charitable work and leadership on civic projects. I am very proud to be a part of a community that truly supports and engages with each other to make the world a better place.

The last year has not been without some challenges. We have had some facility projects that have needed attention finally come to term and the district has acted to ensure that our students have a safe and effective learning environment. Back in August we had a catastrophic failure of an alarm system at the high school, which revealed some flaws with the design for the fire suppression system (the sprinklers) and the fields (irrigation). This required redirecting funds to get the system up and running in record time to be able to open school on time. Thanks to everyone who helped make that happen. The last few years the district has been addressing an aging wastewater treatment system at the high school and will move forward replacing it in the summer

of 2017. Funding for this project will come out of the emergency fund that voters established a couple of years ago that enables school districts to retain up to 2.5% of the budget from any budget savings on hand. Access to these funds must be agreed upon by the School Board, Municipal Budget Committee, Department of Education, and the Department of Revenue Administration. Kearsarge is one of the first districts to utilize these funds and it will have no additional tax impact on the coming budget. Finally, the status of the 1941 building (vacant since the middle school in Sutton was built) has finally been resolved and it will be demolished in the summer as well, removing additional overhead that would have been needed to maintain the facility. Some positive work includes the installation of LED exterior lights at the middle and high schools that was mainly paid for by grants. The cost and maintenance savings will help to reduce overhead. This work was self performed by the district electrician and staff to also help keep costs down.

Bradford property owners should notice that school taxes (both local and state) have gone down this year. The District takes the budget and spending very seriously and works hard to spend funds wisely.

The 2017 Deliberative Session will take place on Saturday, January 7 at 9am. We will be discussing the budget that will be voted on by ballot in March. Both the School Board and MBC recommended budgets are the

same figure this year: \$42,492,091 (up 2.91% from the previous year). The increase is mainly associated with the salary increase to teachers approved by the voters and mandated increases to health insurance and retirement. Thanks to the release of the emergency funds, the School Board will be recommending a third budget to reduce that total by an additional \$350,000 which I hope will be approved by voters at the deliberative session. There are three other warrant articles to discuss: a new contract with the Para Educators, and two items to add to existing trust funds from budget savings for unanticipated Special Education costs, and the School Buildings Maintenance Fund.

My current term is up in March. I have been very privileged to serve Bradford. I have worked hard and have always kept education and fiscal responsibility as high priorities for our citizens. I will be running for re-election in March and hope I can count on your continued support. As always, please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns. I can be reached at apinard@kearsarge.org or by phone at 603-938-5158. I wish you all a wonder-filled New Year!

For more detailed information about our incoming staff, budget preparations, teacher websites/contacts, sports/activities schedules or any other news concerning the district, please be sure to visit www.kearsarge.org.



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OUTSIDE

by Ann Eldridge

Two enormous honey locust trees, *Gleditsia triacanthos*, reside on Gillingham Drive. The story has passed from owner to owner that they are 'wedding trees'. They were planted to commemorate a union - likely the marriage of a descendant of Madison Gillingham in the early 1900s. The romantic couple didn't imagine the tree's eventual girth and planted them perhaps a *mite* too close to the house.

Honey locust, relations to peas and beans, are unusual in that male and female flowers are borne on separate trees. The male tree has been awarded State Champion status and is over ten feet in circumference and eighty four feet tall - larger than his mate in part because he is not expending energy producing a crop of enormous seed pods.

For plants, success means scattering seeds far from the shade, competition, and pest/disease load of the parent stock. A great many plants do this by enlisting the aid of birds, mammals, or reptiles. [Ascribing intent and forethought is shorthand for describing the forces of natural selection that shape plants and animals over incredible periods of time by producing slight variations. The environment determines which variations work best by yielding the most successful offspring.] The extreme spines of honey locust and

their underutilized pods suggest bygone partnerships with fauna that no longer exist. Consider the clusters of 4-6" spikes that adorn these trees - especially prominent on vulnerable saplings less than fifteen feet tall. Yes, they may deter an absentminded landscaper from backing a lawnmower into a sapling but what persistent herbivore alive now could not delicately pick around them to reach the delectable leaves or bark?

More puzzling are the bushels of foot long nutritious pods that persist on the trees until dropping and succumbing to beetles, fungus, leaf rakes, and the occasional rodent. The sugary pulp holds tight to the hard seeds - just waiting for the large gape of a tall beast to swallow them whole and deposit them with a dash of fertilizer at some distance. Honey locust can grow in nearly any soil conditions.

Not just any large animal will do. Ruminants such as cows, sheep, and elk have a 'foregut' digestive system designed in part so that they can 'eat and run' and chew their food later in safety. Though they might relish the leaves, their grinding teeth and inability to digest sugars make them a poor 'dispersal agent' for pulpy seed pods. It must be the likes of a horse or an elephant, a mastodon or a gomphotheres - someone that chews less thoroughly and can pass large seeds. The largest 'hindgut' digester still with us, besides us, is the American beaver.

A precipitous extinction ended the age of mega fauna that had dominated for over sixty million years. In North America, between 75 and 90% of the genera of large mammals were gone by 11,000 years ago, not so long after the land bridge formed in the Bering Strait allowing the first humans to arrive. Where there were perhaps six kinds of bison, now there is one. Where there were multiple genera of native camels, horses and antelope, for instance, now there is only the pronghorn. Large predators disappeared along with them. Similar extinction rates occurred with the arrival of humans in Europe, Asia, South America, and Australia and every island in between. Africa, where large animals evolved along with humanoids, fared better until recently.

This megafauna extinction has been a problem for many of the planet's plant species. There are ghosts among us and tens of thousands of years is not enough time for the plants to adjust. The range of many of these animal dependant plants diminished greatly after the Pleistocene extinction, according to fossil and pollen records. Thousands of years later Europeans arrived in North America with their horses, mules, and their curiosity. The honey locust has again spread as city trees and even as 'wedding trees' on front yards. They still await the seed dispersers evolution designed them for though.



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January's birthstone is a garnet! They encourage regeneration, vitality and order. Garnets come in a whole rainbow of colors and can be found worldwide. Garnet is associated with the root chakra and is often considered a "stone of health."

Amy Blitzer Obituary



Amy Hughes Blitzer, born Amy Longfellow Hughes, a longtime Bradford resident, died on October 29 at the age of 90. She lived on Center Road from 1987 until 2015. She died unexpectedly during dinner on a cruise off the coast of Spain in the company of her younger brother, Thomas Hughes and her daughter, Mary.

Amy was born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin on June 15, 1926. She and her husband John, who died in 2004, purchased the property on Center Road in 1967, where they raised horses, goats, and geese. They made it their primary residence in 1987. At the time of her death, Amy resided in Exeter at the Riverwoods retirement community.

The Blitzers were extremely active in the Bradford community. They were leaders in efforts to preserve and restore the Meeting House in Bradford Center, to preserve the Bradford Bog, and to preserve and protect other wetlands in the area. They donated a conservation easement in 1999 on a 148-acre tree farm that they owned in Bradford, ensuring that it will remain a working forest, and a second easement in 2014 of 41 acres on Center Road.

Amy was an accomplished sculptor, working with wood, bronze and clay. Her works were displayed at shows throughout the region.

They reflected her love of animals. She remained active as a sculptor until her death.

Her three surviving children - Peter Blitzer, 65, of Fort Meyers, Florida, Mary Blitzer Field, 62, of Merion Station, Pennsylvania, and Charles Blitzer, 61, of Durham, New Hampshire, and nine grandchildren - miss her sorely. Amy is also survived by five great-grandchildren, with one more due in the spring. Spending time with family was one of her greatest delights. Amy's day-to-day companion, the poodle Lucy, is living happily with Mary.

Donations in Amy's memory may be made to the Ausbon Sargent Land Preservation Trust

www.ausbonsargent.org

Bradford Business Association

The Bradford Business Association held its first meeting in a long time on Tuesday, December 13th at Tall Pines Realty to discuss the future and hear a presentation from Dan and Mary Watts of the Kearsarge Area Chamber of Commerce. Before the meeting began we had a presentation by Pam Bruss and Claire James from the Bradford Planning Board regarding changes to the sign ordinance and notifying business members that two public hearings will be held in January to voice any concerns. They did an excellent job updating the group.

The benefits of membership as a subgroup in the KACC was discussed in detail and a vote was taken to go in this direction with the exception at this time of our budget and our website. So, members will no longer pay dues to the BBA, rather they will join the KACC. Their dues are \$50 for a business of 4 staff or less and \$99 if higher. Non-profits will pay the lesser amount. Membership will get businesses a spot in their brochure at the next printing and on their website. What appealed to several members

is you can have a separate web page for free if you don't have your own website! You can also participate in Business After Hours and the KACC prepares and distributes a wonderful email newsletter regularly. The KACC is so accommodating, too, offering to list Bradford businesses as a whole in the brochure and to create new headings for a business if they don't fit a certain category. It truly is a win-win as their membership grows and we will have a more steady, active presence.

We have \$1,655.47 in our budget and we voted to donate \$500 next spring to the Bradford Scholarship Fund and keep the rest for any other Bradford events we wish to hold. Members were concerned about our losing our identity but we will still do the highway clean-up and have social events and sponsor town events so our support for each other will not disappear! We will re-establish our www.bradfordnh.com website and be able to post events there and point people to the KACC website as well.

If you wish to join the KACC their application is available online and you can pay online as well. The links are: <http://kearsargechamber.org/page/memberapp> and <http://store.kearsargechamber.org/> or feel free to call me at 938-2366 with any questions. We thank everyone for their support and look forward to a busy 2017!

Laura Hallahan, Co-President

In January 2017 the Town of Bradford will receive a refund of \$10,462.00 from the Concord Regional Solid Waste Cooperative because of an overpayment in tipping fees.

Getting a pleasant surprise in the new year is refreshing !!!!!!!

Transfer Station Manager,

Lois Kilnapp



LIBRARY LANTERN

By: Meg Fearnley

Library Hours

Mon 10:00am - 8:00pm

Wed 10:00am - 7:00pm

Sat 10:00am - 3:00pm

Sun 11:00am - 3:00pm

Check out RETOLD, our new program starting on Wednesday, January 4 from 6-7pm. Unplug every Wednesday night from 6-7pm at the library. Relax and enjoy a live reading of a classic book. Bring a pillow, snacks, anything to make yourself comfortable. The series begins with *The Dog Who Wouldn't Be* by Farley Mowat. We hope you can join us!

Winter is a great time to dig into your family history. Come to the library any time to use our online Ancestry Library Edition genealogy research tool. It functions just like Ancestry.com, but you may not save any information on the program. We have a copier and printer available to save any search results. We charge 10 cents per page. On Monday evenings from 5:30 until 7:30pm, stop by for DROP-IN GENEALOGY HELP. Bring in your own laptop or use one of our computers.

This month's BOOK DISCUSSION (Wednesday, January 1st at 7pm) is of *We are All Completely Beside Ourselves* by Karen Joy Fowler. *The Guardian* calls it a "provocative take on family love". Multiple copies are

available at the circulation desk. The library is closed on January 1 & 2 for the New Year holiday and the 16th in observation of Martin Luther King Day.

New Books for adults:

A Warrior of the People : how Susan La Flesche overcame racial and gender inequality to become America's First Indian Doctor / Joe Starita
Hillbilly Elegy : a memoir of a family and culture in crisis / J.D. Vance
This Was a Man / Jeffrey Archer
A Midsummer's Equation / by Keigo Higashino
The Mortifications / Derek Palacio
Surrender, New York / Caleb Carr
Swing Time / Zadie Smith
Moonglow / Michael Chabon
Turbo Twenty-Three / Janet Evanovich

for children & teens:

Bear Stays Up for Christmas / Karma Wilson
The Christmas Wish / Lori Evert
The Most Perfect Snowman / Chris Britt
Woodpecker Wants A Waffle / by Steve Breen
There's a Bear On My Chair / Ross Collins
The Land of Stories : the wishing spell / Chris Colfer
Where the Mountain Meets the Moon / Grace Lin

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Award Spotlight!

The Vision & Tenacity Award has been given to Andrew Pinard.

Andrew Pinard has been a full-time performer and theatre artist for over twenty-five years. Not only an accomplished performer, Andrew is also a teacher, writer, and creator of magic. His most recent production has been the development of Hatbox Theatre in Concord, NH. Working with a large group of dedicated volunteers, they transformed a former 4,500 sq. ft. retail storefront at a declining mall into a dynamic cooperative 99-seat theatre venue that has already featured over 120 performances for thousands of appreciative audiences. *NH Magazine* recognized Hatbox Theatre in their 2016 «Very Best» issue as New Hampshire's best new theatre! The "Matty" Award for Vision and Tenacity is presented by *New Hampshire Magazine* in recognition of former employee, Matty Gregg, who helped create the New Hampshire Theatre Awards organization and Awards Night. Andrew will be presented the award at the January 21st award show at the Capital Center for the Arts in Concord, NH.

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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.

Sun Jan. 1st
NEW YEARS DAY!
Transfer Station Closed
Library Closed

Mon. Jan. 2nd
New Year's Day Observed
Mt. View Senior Center Closed
No Meals on Wheels
Town Offices Closed
Library Closed
No School

Tues. Jan. 3rd
 10am Stitches from the Heart
 12pm Senior Dining
 1pm Mahjong Group

Wed. January 4th
 5:30pm Town Hall Oversight
 6pm Yoga
 6-7pm RETOLD, BML
 7pm Zoning Board

Thurs. Jan. 5th
 8-12pm Planning Board Office
 12pm Senior Dining
 1pm Mahjong Group
 6pm Budget Committee

Fri. Jan. 6th
 8:45am MVSC Fitness
 11:30am First Friday Brunch w/
 50/50 raffle, Ramblin' Richard &
 door prizes

Mon. Jan. 9th
 8:45am MVSC Fitness
 1pm Bridge Group
 5:30pm Bement Bridge Citizens
 Meeting
 5:30pm Selectmen's Meeting
 5:30-7:30pm Drop-In Genealogy
 Help, BML

Tues. Jan. 10th
 10am Stitches from the Heart
 12pm Senior Dining
 1pm Mahjong Group
 1:30pm Watercolor Class
 7pm Planning Board- Public
 meeting on changes to Sign
 Ordinance
 7pm Rural Heritage Connection

January 2017

Wed. Jan. 11th
 1pm Knitting Group
 5:30pm Town Hall Oversight
 6pm Yoga
 6-7pm RETOLD, BML

Thurs. Jan 12th
 8-12pm Planning Board Office
 12pm Senior Dining
 1pm Mahjong Group
 4:30pm BACC/P&R

Fri. Jan. 13th
 8:45am MVSC Fitness
 9:30-11:30 AM Foot Care
 Clinic by LSVNA at North Apts.
 1:30pm Mahjong Group

Sat. Jan 14th
 9:00-12:00 Town Clerk open

Mon. Jan. 16th
Martin Luther King Holiday
Senior Center Closed
No Meals on Wheels
Town Offices Closed
Library Closed
No School

Tues. Jan. 17th
 10am Stitches from the Heart
 12pm Senior Dining
 1:30pm Watercolor Class

Wed. January 18th
 5:30pm Town Hall Oversight
 6pm Yoga
 6-7pm RETOLD, BML
 7pm Book Discussion, BML

Thurs. Jan 19th
 8-12pm Planning Board Office
 11am- 12pm LSVNA BP Clinic
 12 Noon Senior Dining
 1pm Mahjong Group
 5pm Friends of BACC
 6pm Budget Committee

Fri. Jan. 20th
 8:45am MVSC Fitness
 10am Friday at the Movies:
 SULLY with Tom Hanks
 12pm Senior Dining
 1pm Mahjong Group

Mon. Jan. 23rd
 8:45am MVSC Fitness
 1pm Bridge
 5:30pm Selectmen's Meeting
 5:30-7:30pm Drop-In Genealogy
 Help, BML

Tues. Jan. 24th
 9:30-11:30 Foot Care clinic @
 Warner Pharmacy, call for appt.

10am Stitches from the Heart
 12pm Senior Dining
 1pm Mahjong Group
 1:30pm Watercolor Group
 7pm Planning Board Public Hearing
 on proposed changes to Sign
 Ordinance

Wed. Jan. 25th
 10:30am- 12pm Blood Pressure
 Clinic at Warner Sr. Rm. by Lake
 Sunapee VNA
 5:30pm Town Hall Oversight
 6pm Yoga
 6-7pm RETOLD, BML

Thurs. Jan. 26th
 8-12pm Planning Board Office
 12pm Senior Dining
 1pm Mahjong Group

Fri. Jan. 27th
 8:45am MVSC Fitness

Sat. Jan. 28th
 9:00-12:00 Town Clerk open

Mon. Jan. 30th
 8:45am MVSC Fitness
 1pm Bridge
 5:30pm Selectmen's Meeting
 5:30-7:30pm Drop-In Genealogy
 Help, BML

Tues. Jan. 31st
 10am Stitches from the Heart
 12pm Senior Dining
 1pm Mahjong Group
 1:30pm Watercolor 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*



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
 ZBA-Zoning Board of Adjust.
 KLC- Kearsarge Learning Center

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Town Clerk's Office

Thank you to all of the voters who came out to vote at Town Hall Tuesday, November 8th. We had over 1000 Bradford voters cast a ballot (both in person and absentee), that's over a 79% turnout! Additionally, I would like to thank all of the incredible election staff and volunteers who maintained complete professionalism and a positive attitude all day. We truly could not have done it without you!

A few notes: 2017 Dog Licenses and 2017 Boat Decals are available *now* in the Town Clerk's Office. Filing for town offices will be during regular business hours January 25th- February 3rd. Also, don't forget to check the town website for our posted hours and scheduled Saturdays at www.bradfordnh.org

Thank you,
Camila Devlin
Town Clerk/Tax Collector

Ongoing Events

Children's Storytime - Mondays Mondays and Wednesdays 10am at BML
Retold Story Hour - Wednesdays 6-7pm 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 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



Ice Rink

Parks and Recreation voted to purchase a NiceRink and set it up on the paved court located off of left field at Brown/Shattuck Field. Because the pad was used, the stakes had to be removed from the brackets. 60 to 70 sand bags were filled and used to support the brackets and sides. The rink measures 36 by 80 feet. We used blue tarps under the liner to save the liner from the abrasive pavement. Next the sides were set up. We finished filling bags and unrolled the liner. After the liner was pulled out and positioned, the side boards and top rail were positioned. Volunteers from the Bradford Fire Department shuttled water from the Warner River to the rink. The volunteers are Chris Frey, Rich Stanley, and Eric Houlne. Work on the rink was done by Jim Valiquet, Kevin Faria and Ed Shaughnessy. Bradford Parks and Recreation thanks all the volunteers that pulled this project together.

James S. Valiquet
Chief of Police, Bradford Police Department

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Planning Board Highlights

Public Hearing: Map16/Lot105: Sweet Beet will be moving into the old Thistle and Shamrock Inn. The application was reviewed and determined to be complete. Garrett Bauer informed the Board that there will be no additional building added at this time and that they plan to use a portion of the first floor of the building for the farmer’s market. A strong letter of support, written by Oona Tropeano, was read at the public hearing on November 29th. The Conservation Committee also informed the Board that they are in support of this project. Motion to approve change of use and business on Map16 Lot 105, was approved via a 5-0 vote, with 1 abstention.

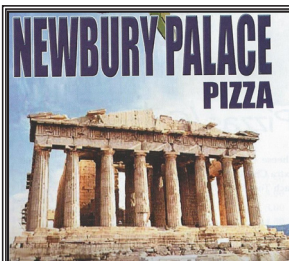
Sign Ordinance: Board member Pam Bruss has presented a revised draft of the current sign ordinance to the Selectmen, the Bradford Business Association and all Planning Board members. Comments and suggestions have been solicited from each group and are continuing to come in. A public meeting to present and discuss some of the revisions is scheduled for January 10th. A public hearing is scheduled to follow on January 24th. This zoning amendment will be voted on by ballot at the next town meeting on March 14th. Additional details will be forthcoming in the next issue of the Bridge.

G&A Automotive/Max Enterprises: Board member Carol Troy spoke with the state DOT and received a sign removal deadline extension date of January 3, 2017. The Board further advised that a state approved sign could be obtained via an application to the state and provided a copy of the current Bradford Sign ordinance to property owner, Martin Chivers, who will be working with the state to resolve the matter.

Bradford Pines: David Krause informed the Board that he will be submitting a lot line adjustment application. As one of the abutters to the Pines, he has a driveway on the Pines land and has been working with the State to swap out equal parts of the land. If approved, the property owner’s driveway would no longer be on the Pines property. This will be an equal parcel transfer.

Compiled by

Claire James



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KRSD Municipal Budget

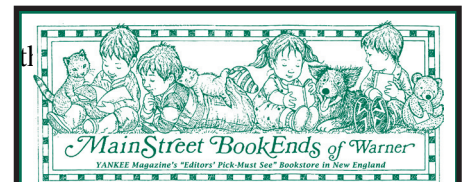
Committee *by Jim Bibbo*

The school budget for next year shows an increase of 3.03%. Bradford’s school tax this year was \$2,500,153 which is the second lowest assessment with Wilmot being the lowest. That is 2% less than last year and brings us back to what it was two years ago. Although the budget is up over a million dollars next year our percentage of that is low. We are the only town whose percentage dropped this year. Even Wilmot went up 1%. There are yearly changes in the percentages due to the formula based

on student numbers and valuations

The total budget will be \$42,492,091.00 this year, an increase of \$1.2 million dollars. Most of the budget increase is in wages and benefits that have been previously approved by voters when contracts were approved. The amount that is not contract obligations, state and federal mandates and utilities is about \$92,000.

There is a deliberative session at the high school on January 7th at 9 pm. Any specific questions, comments and amendments can be made there. We would like a large number of people to attend



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Out and About

by Kathleen Bigford

A regular feature of the Bradford Bridge, Out and About, posted a picture of a place in the Bradford area with a hint about where it can be found. Readers could then send in the location of the place. Thank you to the readers who have responded to this challenge. I'd like to change the format of this column with the hope that photographs that appear in the Out and About will continue to spark some curiosity and recognition of our beautiful community.

Many of you share my enthusiasm for 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.



Here is one I took during a quiet mid-December snowfall in a neighbor's pasture with a cemetery in the background, just off Center Road. I know there are some accomplished photographers Out and About in Bradford. Send us your best shots!!

Sweet Beet Market
Saturdays 9am - 4pm
11 West Main St.

5½ Questions by Kathleen Bigford

This article is a continuation of the regular feature "10 Questions" in which Phyllis Wilcox interviewed a local person of interest. Phyllis has retired, living in Florida and I am happy to continue this tradition, however, I've found asking 10 questions to be a bit daunting. Therefore I'll plan on about 5 questions. Michelle Makowiecki, the new graphic designer for the Bradford Bridge, granted this month's interview. Here's what I learned about Michelle one recent evening during a delightful conversation.

Members of the Bradford Bridge have come to know Michelle as a creative and willing partner in producing our monthly "News by Neighbors for Neighbors." Our discussion of this question filled a great deal of the interview since it is obvious that Michelle's days are full of creativity and discovery. Many Brown Memorial Library patrons will know Michelle as an assistant librarian. Michelle is also an accomplished fiber artist specializing in yarn production. She has worked on a cashmere goat

farm in Maine where she helped care for the goats and combed them to collect the precious cashmere fiber that is spun into yarn. Yes, those sweaters come from goats! Presently she works with local sheep farmers to collect wool fleeces. She arranges for the fleeces to be processed and spun into yarn which she markets under her company name, Bevy available at the Sweet Beet Market. Another exciting prospect along the same lines is that she is working with Harrisville Designs in Harrisville, NH to establish their own local sheep farm.

When asked about her passions, without hesitating Michelle answers, "My passion is learning. I especially want to learn about homesteading. People in Bradford have and share a wealth of information about growing food, foraging, and cutting wood." Her job at the library also helps satisfy this passion. "The library is a huge resource. Libraries are the best thing that America is still doing. Small town libraries give me hope."

Where did you live before coming to Bradford? This girl has lived in a lot of places: She grew up Maine, and has also lived in South Carolina, Oregon, Florida, Texas, Washington, D.C.,

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Rhode Island, New York City, Dallas, Los Angeles, and Tennessee. She said she appreciates cities for the constant availability of whatever she wants to eat and she appreciates rural life for the availability of close connections to people.

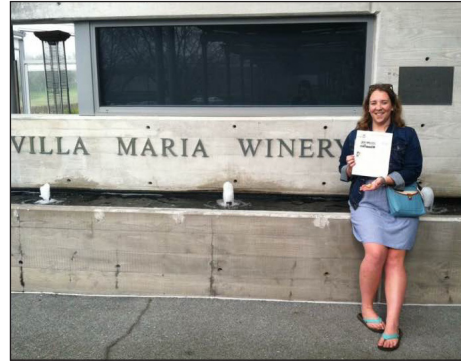
Then there's the always-asked question, "What brought you to Bradford?" This elicited a modest laugh before she replied that she came to Bradford for love and has stayed for several reasons. "Bradford has given me so many gifts, not the least of which is the transfer station where things just appear. Bradford is full of gifts. Generous people will donate time and talent for the good of everyone. There are people having innovative ideas and working super hard to make them happen. There is lots of change and opportunity to do whatever you want as long as you have the gumption to make it happen."

Thank you Michelle for this little window into your dynamic life and for your enthusiasm and grit, two always-admired attributes that you are sharing with the Bradford Bridge and the rest of Bradford.

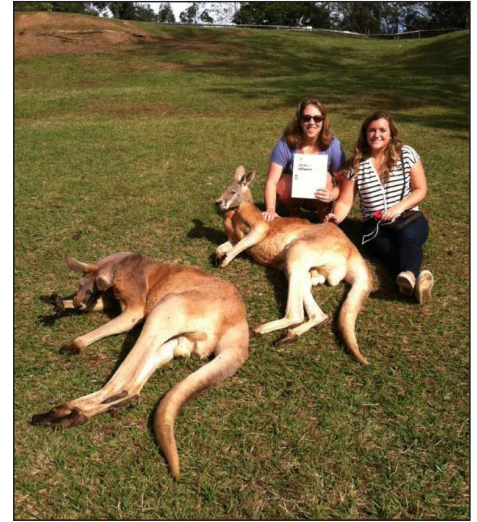
How Far Do We Go?



We are wondering how far afield the Bridge is read, in print and online. Send us a picture of some far away place the Bridge has reached so we can prove that we are just as good as the New York Times. *Send photos to bradfordbridge345@gmail.com.*



Hi! I brought the Bradford Bridge to the Villa Maria Winery in Auckland, New Zealand! The second picture is the Bradford Bridge in Brisbane, Australia! Molly Quigley



To the Editor

I want to publicly thank John Belanger for rescuing the chain saw that slid out of the back of my truck in Bradford Center. I reported to the Bradford Police that it was missing and within 24 hours John had found and returned it to me. It is heart-warming to know that good Samaritans live in our town. Thanks John!

Laurie Buchar

Bradford Tax Rate

The Board of Selectmen, in consultation with NH DRA, set the 2016 tax rate for Bradford at \$26.40/\$1,000 of assessed valuation, a decrease of \$.56 from the rate in 2015. Thanks to the diligence of the Budget Committee, concurrence by the Board of Selectmen and support from voters at Town Meeting, the town rate remained flat, with the decreases coming from the county, school district and state education taxes.

Notes from the Selectmen's Minutes

Independence Day-Fireworks:

Atlas Pyro Vision Entertainment Group discussed options for making our 2017 fireworks display larger and more impressive in honor of Staff Sgt. David Whitcher. It was suggested that the Independence Day Committee connect with Bob Selig to coordinate the involvement of the Armed Forces in the celebration. Extra fundraising will be needed to take place to offset additional costs. The 2017 Fireworks will be held on Saturday July 1st. Atlas offered to match up to \$5,000.00 of additional funds raised. The Board thanked Atlas for their generous gesture.

Health Insurance: The Town's current health insurance plan is being discontinued as of December 31st. The Board reviewed the new health insurance options recommended by HealthTrust. A decision on

the insurance and on employee contributions will be determined at a scheduled Budget Review meeting.

Autocraft: There has been progress but the clean-up is far from being done. The Board set a plan of action with specific dates of removal. Mr. Wilcox agreed to all conditions.

Town Hall Update: Sal Magistro will begin installing the furnace. A fire rated door is needed.

Town Meeting 2017: The Board voted to hold Town Meeting on Wednesday March 15th.

New Weapons: Jim Bibbo informed the Board that Officer Shaughnessy reached out to a local manufacturer on his own and as a result new weapons were donated to the Police Department.

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



**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 3"	\$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 Note: 10% discount allowed for local non-profits, paid-in-advance and 12 month ads.

The Bridge can help to design your ad. There is a \$25 charge for this service.

Political ads must be pre-paid

Ad copy should be sent in PDF format by the 20th (firm) of each month to: bradfordbridge345@gmail.com.

Reminder The deadline for submission of both ads and articles to The Bridge is the 20th of each month. Receiving anything after that date is costly in terms of the time involved and could result in the articles or ads not being printed until the following month. Space can be set aside for a few days if we are notified prior to that date. Your assistance with this is greatly appreciated.



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Bement Bridge Citizens Meeting
Monday, January 9, 2017 at 5:30
Bradford Area Community Center

Representatives from Hoyle, Tanner & Associates, the firm selected to perform an engineering study on the Bement Bridge, will be presenting citizens and public officials with information regarding the project. This will include an update on the work completed to date, funding requirements, the project schedule and a general overview of the scope of work. Perhaps most importantly, Hoyle, Tanner & Associates will be soliciting the public's input on the project. Please join us for a discussion about Bradford's historic treasure!

This project proposes to design and perform rehabilitation and repair efforts to address the overall deterioration of this bridge, as generally outlined in the list below:

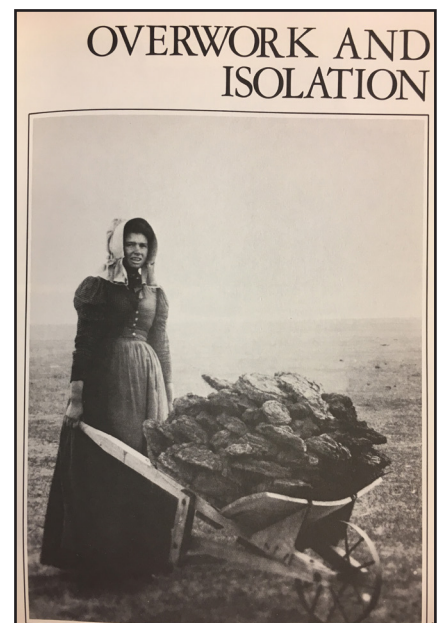
- * Completely rebuild the dry laid stone abutments and properly backfill to address the loss of roadbed material and resulting sink holes (replace abutments if absolutely necessary).
- * Correct wracking of the bridge frame and install bracing as needed
- * Replace worn and deteriorated deck planking
- * Reframe roof and replace roofing material
- * Evaluate restoring the portal framing to match original shape, which has been modified over time
- * Repair and/or replace rotted and decayed truss and framing members
- * Additional required tasks as identified during rehabilitation

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.

Lets try to remember to take a break this winter, get out and see friends and family, and slow things down...





JANUARY

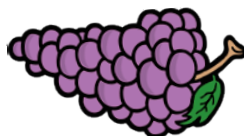
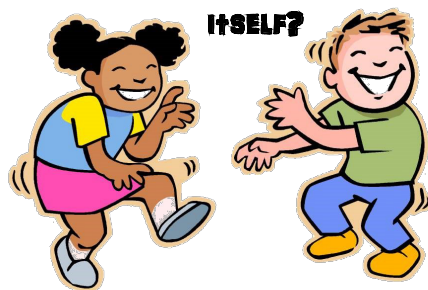


Is there something you'd like to see in the Kids Bridge? E-mail us! thekidsbridge@gmail.com

Did You KNOW?

In many Spanish speaking countries (like Costa Rica, Cuba and Spain) people eat 12 grapes as the clock strikes Midnight for good luck! One grape for each month of the new year. It's called *Las Doce Uvas De La Suerte* or *The Twelve Grapes of Luck.*

Q: WHY can't a BICYCLE STAND UP BY ITSELF?



A. BECAUSE IT'S TOO-TIRED!

COLOR ME!



Looking Back January 1992
Volume 2, Number 1 of The Bradford Bridge had reports of two recent legal issues. One summarized a consent order in the case of an illegal landfill in Bradford, filed by the State of NH. It dealt primarily with removal of tires from the former Marshall property. The removal was to be supervised by the Division of Waste Management, documentation maintained by State Attorney Leslie Ludke, and protective seals on three monitoring wells constructed by April 1, 1992.

The second was a ruling by the NH Department of Labor Compensation Appeals Board that former road agent Robert Patten should be granted disability pay, finding that the disability was the result of his employment by the Town of Bradford.

Noted also were two announcements and several obituaries. Jim Pickman received his master plumber license. Brenda McGovern (granddaughter of Elizabeth Cilley) was elected to Phi Beta Kappa.

Obituaries were for Nola G. Brown, John E. Ward Jr., Bertha Pugliese, Charles Cassady, Estelle Stearnes and Jimmy Felton. Pictured were Thorsten Lohmann, an exchange student from Germany, hosted by Parker and Edythe Craig and Lynette Strout, daughter of Perley and Marcia Strout, who joined Troika, a Broadway Company on tour with "Ziegfeld – a Night at the Follies." Fred Winch, in his column Gardening, suggested several uses for Christmas trees after the holidays, including using them as cover near bird feeding areas. He discussed seed catalogs and

planning for the spring planting. Fred ended his article with: *After the holiday parties, it's time to look forward to the greener season – after all the days ARE getting longer.*

Compiled by
Marcia Keller

Happy New Year!

Thank you to all our loyal readers and subscribers, we look forward to providing news for neighbors, by neighbors for many years to come.