

The Bradford Bridge

COMMUNITY NEWS *for* NEIGHBORS *by* NEIGHBORS

MONTHLY BRIEFING: Town Board Reports BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Bradford Energy Committee The Board approved a motion to amend the name of the committee from the Bradford Alternative Energy Committee to the Bradford Energy Committee, as that better represents their focus. Sue McKevitt and Brad Keller have resigned from the committee and the Board appointed new members Sandra Bravo and Laura Ryder.

Scholarship Fund The Board accepted a donation for the Scholarship Trust Fund in the amount of \$100.

Budget The Board approved a general budget recommendation of \$2,358,668.

Warrant Articles The Board approved motions to remove the following articles from the Warrant; \$30,000 for the demolition of the Masonic Hall, \$1,000 for tree work at the Bradford Pines, \$7,500 for cemetery plumbing, and \$1,000 for the 2009 Salt and Fuel Fund.

Town Meeting The Board set the date for Town Meeting, Saturday April 10, 2021 at 9:00 am at the Kearsarge Regional Middle School in Sutton.

BUDGET COMMITTEE

Membership Chris Frey resigned from the Budget Committee due to his appointment as an interim Select Board member.

Budget The Committee revoted the total General Budget dollar recommendation as it had previously been voted \$2,000 short of the line item totals. The Board approved a motion to approve the General Budget total of \$2,339,948.

(Continued on page 8)

Town of Bradford March 9th, 2021 Town Office Candidates

The election of town officials will take place on Tuesday March 9th from 8:00 am to 7:00 pm at the Bradford Area Community Center, 143 East Main Street, Bradford, NH 03221.

These candidates will appear on the 2021 official ballot:

Budget Committee for 3 years, *vote for 2*
Beth Downs

Cemetery Commission for 3 years, *vote for 1*
Marlene L. Freyler

Cemetery Commission for 2 years, *vote for 1*
Jarna Perkins

Planning Board for 3 years, *vote for 2*
Thomas A. Dunne Jr.

Scholarship Committee for 3 years, *vote for 1*
Devin Pendleton

Selectman for 3 years, *vote for 1*
Alan McCartney
Mel Pfeifle
Carl Hanson

Town Clerk for 3 years, *vote for 1*
Melissa Cunningham

Treasurer for 3 years, *vote for 1*
Marilyn Goldberg

Trustee of the Brown Memorial Library for 3 years, *vote for 2*
Jason S. Grey

Trustee of the Brown Memorial Library for 2 years, *vote for 1*
No candidates declared

Trustee of the Brown Memorial Library for 1 years, *vote for 1*
No candidates declared

Trustee of The Trust Funds for 3 years, *vote for 1*
No candidates declared

Zoning Board for 3 years, *vote for 1*
No candidates declared



Town Meeting Date

The Bradford Town Meeting will be held on Saturday, April 10th, at 9:00 am at the Kearsarge Regional Middle School, 32 Gile Pond Road, North Sutton, NH 03260.

Election and Selection of Select Board Members

After the resignation of Michael James and Jason Allen in January, the Superior Court appointed Christopher Frey to fill the remainder of Michael James' term, to the end of Town Meeting, April 10th, 2021. All newly elected town officials will be sworn in at the conclusion of that meeting. Marlene Freyler and the person elected to fill James' term can then appoint the third selectman to serve the remainder of Jason Allen's term, ending in 2022.

Talk of the Town

This month, we've been asking our neighbors and friends, *"What are your hopes and dreams for our town?"*

My hope is to see our town keep moving forward.

-MARLENE

Find more responses throughout this issue and submit your own next month. For April we will be asking, *"What is your favorite thing to grow? And Why?"* We'd love to hear from you! Submit your response to 603leah@gmail.com.



The Bradford Bridge

P.O. Box 463
Bradford, NH 03221
bradfordbridge.org
bradfordbridge345@gmail.com

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To receive The Bridge by mail,
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SUBMISSIONS

Anyone is welcome to submit articles
and/or photographs of interest to the
community. We reserve the right to edit
submissions.

PRINTING

RC Brayshaw & Company, Inc.

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
Tuesday: 8 AM – 12 PM/ 1 PM – 4 PM
Wednesday: 12 PM – 5 PM
(by pre-arranged appointment only)
Thursday: 9 AM – 12 PM/ 1 PM – 6 PM
Friday through Monday: Closed

Town offices are temporarily located at
Bradford Area Community Center, 134 East
Main St. P.O. Box 436. Bradford, NH 03221

From the Bridge

*“For oft, when on my couch I lie
In vacant or in pensive mood,
They flash upon that inward eye
Which is the bliss of solitude;
And then my heart with pleasure
fills,
And dances with the daffodils.”*

William Wordsworth,
I Wander'd Lonely as a Cloud



Daffodils by Natalia Karaulova

Hello March! This month brings: The exchange of daylight hours from morning to afternoon (Sunday, March 14th), the vernal equinox (Saturday, March 20th), weather that “comes in like a lion and goes out like a lamb,” the “ides” to beware of, fresh maple syrup, and, potentially, the blooming the daffodils.

Let's get to it. This edition of the Bradford Bridge brings:

- Town election and Town Meeting dates and times,
- Information about the selection of Select Board members,
- Responses to our survey from town office candidates,
- Comprehensive information about the COVID-19 vaccine from Lisa,
- Devin's Monthly Briefing,
- Hopes and dreams for Bradford in “Talk of the Town,”
- Zero Waste Tips from Lois,
- Ads from loyal Bradford Bridge supporters.

As daylight hours lengthen find a sunny niche to read neighborly news and soak in the promise of dances with the daffodils.

Warmest wishes from everyone at the Bradford Bridge,

Kathleen Bigford, Editor



New Town Sign



Town sign construction is underway at Roberge Sign blanks are cut and primed ready for letter carving.
Photo: Evelyn Roberge.



Letters to Our Editor:

To the Editor:

Just a few lines to express appreciation for our great chief of police Jim Valiquet. He sometimes delivers meals to shut-ins, he always telephones during hazardous weather, and recently he spent a lot of time helping me access an appointment for the Covid vaccine.

All this, way above and beyond the call of duty. Many thanks to Jim – a true asset to our town.

Louise Clark

To the Editor:

While we tend to focus on the many challenges confronting us in our little town, Barb and I thought it particularly important to write this note of thanks to those who volunteer to make our lives safer and better. We experienced a chimney fire in early February and found it necessary to call upon the Bradford Fire and Rescue Department for assistance. Volunteers came from all directions on a Saturday afternoon and arrived promptly at our doorstep. It wasn't a particularly dramatic fire as chimney fires go, but it could have been if they hadn't arrived to help. Everyone was most courteous and respectful as they entered our home bringing tools necessary for the somewhat dirty work before them. With the assistance of a ladder truck from New London, BFR members worked as a team under the guidance of Lt. Steve Hansen to put the fire out. After many "chimney bombs", the fire was finally extinguished. They cleaned up the mess and almost immediately left for another emergency call.

Doug and Barbara Southard



To the Editor:

Relative to eliminating the building code and the need for a building inspector.

Where is Bradford going, other than taking another step backwards? Like being unable to re-establish use of our Town Hall with all its features. The office of building inspector has been eliminated and a zoning amendment to eliminate Bradford's building code will be on the ballot for your vote on March 9th. First off, if we are to rely on the state building code, this has to be made clear on a building permit application, approved and signed by a Town official so that the Town has a record of the intended construction. We then rely on the owner or his builder to meet the code requirements including adequate foundation, framing, energy standards, meeting the sanitary requirements and the regulations governing construction in the town's flood plains. What town official will inspect and confirm that all of these items are done properly? Another step back would be to eliminate our highway department. Just look at the money we would save, and at what cost. For one, I would have to vote NO on both issues.

Please vote NO on the zoning amendment to eliminate the building code until an alternative code has been adopted AND a local official designated to ensure that any applicant meets all building code requirements and Bradford's land use ordinances.

Dick Keller

Editor's Note: See "Zoning Ballot" article in next column for more details.

Absentee Ballots

If you need to vote by Absentee Ballot, please contact the Town Clerk's office or click the link at bradfordnh.org > Town Services > Town Clerk > Election Information for a form. An Absentee ballot request form needs to be filled out before you can receive a ballot. Please note that the request form is 2 pages.

Town of Bradford March 9th, 2021 Zoning Ballot

Are you in favor of the repeal of the existing Bradford building code as proposed by the selectmen and supported by the planning board?

If this article is adopted, references to the Bradford building code, BOCA code, or local building code in other Town ordinances or documents will default to the State of New Hampshire building code (RSA 155-A).

The Selectboard voted 2-1 to propose this repeal at its meeting on January 4th, 2021.

The Planning Board voted 3 in favor, 1 abstention, to support this repeal.

The two current selectmen do not support this repeal.

From the Selectmen

The Selectmen are pleased to welcome Donna Long as the Recording Secretary for the Select Board and Budget Committee. Donna is a long-time Bradford resident and also takes minutes for the Town of Newbury. She is a valuable addition to our team!

Mask/Facial Covering Required in Public Spaces

All persons over the age of 5 within the State of New Hampshire shall wear a mask or cloth face covering over their noses and mouths at any time they are in public spaces, indoors or outdoors, where they are unable to or do not consistently maintain a physical distance of at least six feet from persons outside their own households.

*Per order of the Governor,
State of New Hampshire*



For You and For All of Us

Important Message from Chief Valiquet

I have received recent reports of internet scams targeting our area. If you receive unsolicited pop-ups on your computer, do not click on them. Unsolicited emails or telephone calls may claim to be from a reputable company, but be wary! Call the company directly or call us at 603-938-2522 with your questions. We are happy to help!

Bradford Junction Café & Market

We are pleased to announce the opening of the Bradford Junction Café & Market, bringing a coffee shop and market for the community to gather and enjoy. We will be having a grand opening celebration soon. Stop in and help us enjoy this celebration.

Kyla Hamel

Why Wear Green?

From National Geographic Kids

The fact that Ireland is an island, as well as green with leafy trees and grassy hills, means that the nation is sometimes called the Emerald Isle. But the color that people originally associated with St. Patrick was blue! (Some ancient Irish flags even sport this color.) Green was finally introduced to St. Patrick's Day festivities in the 18th century, when the shamrock (which is, of course, green) became a national symbol. The color stuck to the holiday.

Leprechauns are another reason you're supposed to wear green on St. Patrick's Day – or risk getting pinched! The tradition is tied to folklore that says wearing green makes you invisible to leprechauns, which like to pinch anyone they can see. Some people also think sporting the color will bring good luck, and others wear it to honor their Irish ancestry. No wonder green decorations can be seen all over!

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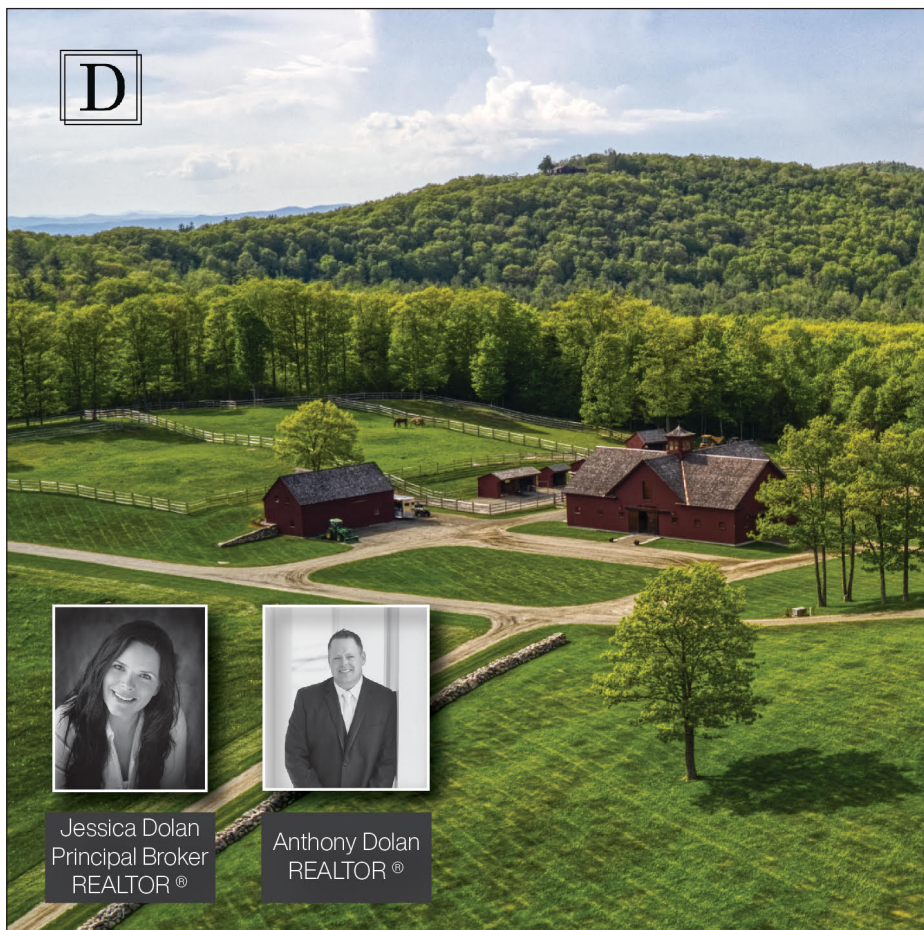
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2021 Bradford Town Office Candidate Survey Questions:

Each candidate for a town office who agreed to be contacted received an email survey with the following questions.

Q *What is your name and the office/committee membership being sought?*

What are your reason's for running for this position?

How do your background and interests relate to this position?

What do you like best about living in Bradford?.

2021 Bradford Town Office Candidate Survey Answers:

Here are the unedited responses from the candidates who returned the surveys.

Melissa Cunningham, A
Town Clerk/Tax Collector

Running again.

Have been working in the office for nine years.

Everyone knows me and waves to me while I'm out running.

Beth Downs, Budget Committee A

I am seeking this position because I care about Bradford. I want what is best for our town and our citizens.

I previously served on the Budget Committee and was also the Chairperson. I want to use my previous experience and abilities to encourage more citizens to become involved in town business.

My husband and I have been here for over 30 years. We love the outdoor spaces and the wildlife we have in our own backyard. We are still a relatively small town, where you know people and these people care about what is best for our town and I hope to make a difference.

Alan McCartney, Selectman A

To be able to serve the community, town and residents. Being a representative of the residents.

I served as an elected Alderman many years ago (in another state) and have had a desire to serve again. I have also worked professionally in the public sector (municipalities and the federal government) and have fundamental understanding of the intricacies of municipal administration; and the role the 'town' plays supporting the lives of the residents; as well private sector experiences. My post-secondary education encompasses all these fields; Fire Protection & Safety Engineering Technology, Human Relations and Social Work; with graduate work in Safety Engineering and Public Administration. By drawing upon work experiences, life experiences and my education, it is hoped that this will permit me to address issues and concerns of the town in a thoughtful and meaningful way.

I love living in Bradford. My family has been here since 1937. I lived here in the 70's, again 1986-2003 and now since 2014. When schooling and employment took me away, it was always Bradford that I returned to. Bradford embodies the community that cherish.

Mel Pfeifle, Selectman A

I think as selectmen I could maintain the rural character, protect the town's natural resources, while working on expanding our economic base by finding synergies between the public and the private sector. So public and private collaboration would be very important to me as selectmen. We have many dedicated townspeople that if we can unite the diverse ideas and groups we can utilize all of this to make Bradford stronger and build on the unique place we live.

- Public and private collaboration.
- Capture the traffic flow of 103 and 114 as a resource for developing mainstreet. Creating a larger tax base and growth of our tax base.
- Make Bradford the affordable option to Sunapee, New London, and Newbury while maintaining our natural resources. An example could be incentives for carbon neutral homes.
- Capitalize on our mountains, hiking and water, our natural resources.
- Attract key amenities to town. In general activate the town center.

I have been involved with town and state planning for many years. On a town level I have served as a three year member of the planning board and as an alternate. I am currently into the first year of a three year term on the planning board. I was part of a committee that wrote the last ten year master plan. I was vice Chair of the Bradford Com-

(Continued on page 6)



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2021 Bradford Town Office Candidate Survey Answers:

(Continued from page 5)

munity Corp. tasked with funding the capitol arm of the community center. On a state level I served on the N.H. public water access board. I was on the New England Council of Business where we explored the need for a second major airport versus expansion of our regional airports.

I love our small town and the diverse group of people who live here. Most of all I like driving my horse to Dunkin Donuts, the post office and around town. I like being able to walk out my door and snowshoe or x-country ski and enjoy the abundant wildlife. I like looking out my window and seeing the mountains covered in their change of seasons.

Devin Pendleton, Scholarship Committee

I have served on the Scholarship Committee for the past three years. I have enjoyed my time working with the committee to fundraise and award scholarships to Bradford students. I hope to continue to serve and help raise more money.

Before leaving my job to stay at home with my kids I worked in college admissions. I loved working with students and helping them navigate the admissions process.

I love how quiet Bradford is and all the beautiful views of nature we have here.

Jason S. Grey, Trustee of The Brown Memorial Library (3 years)

I had been previously serving on the library trustees board and hope to return to this position and to serve as the treasurer to support our public library and utilize its resources to the benefit of the town.

I am finishing my degree in accounting and I hope to bring some experience to the role of treasurer. Additionally, I love going to the library and all the benefits it offers the town.

I like the small community.

Carol Meise, Write-in Candidate, Planning Board (3 years)

I have been on the Planning Board for the last two years and I would like to continue to participate and continue the work we have begun.

I have lived in Bradford for the past 15 years and have been on the Planning Board as an alternate and elected member on and off during this time. My background as an aquatic research scientist gives me some insight into how development projects may impact Bradford's natural resources and how these impacts may be mitigated to allow for both development of the tax base and protection of Bradford's natural beauty.

We moved to Bradford because of our love for the outdoors, the woods and the freshwater resources. Bradford residents have been friendly and supportive of our goals to help conserve these assets. I particularly love how the townspeople come together to support projects like Sweet Beets, the Café, renovations for the town hall and each other in times of need.



Our hopes...

My hope and dream for Bradford is that everyone makes it a safe place to live forever. -ANNA BRUSS

Maria Storm, Write-in Candidate, Trustee of The Brown Memorial Library

While my husband and I have had a second home in Bradford for over 19 years and spent many happy days here, we finally moved here on a full-time basis last October. We are now looking for ways in which we can become more involved in and give back to our new community. Joining the Board of the Brown Memorial Library seems like a great place to start!

I served as the Chairman of the Board of a non-profit community service organization in our former town for close to 30 years and so am familiar with the role and responsibilities of a Board member. I am a avid reader and strongly believe that the library should be the heart of the community it serves.

There are so many things to love about Bradford: the slower and more tranquil pace of life, the opportunity to actively enjoy the beautiful nature that surrounds us, the warm reception we have received from our new friends and the opportunity to participate in the growth of a vibrant, caring and active community.

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Moon Mama Herbs is pleased to offer our first intro to herbalism workshop! Learn how to use herbs in your home each day—from teas and tinctures to oils—using the Wise Womyn method. You'll never look at lawn care the same once we explore the magic found throughout the year in our backyards! You'll learn about harvesting, wildcrafting, and sourcing, and get introduced to 10 plant allies. Join us for a fun 90 minutes of tea, talk, and teachings.



Choose from these options:
Tuesday, March 2, 5:30-7pm
Sunday, March 13, 10-11:30am
Thursday, March 18, 5:30-7pm



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Should You Buy A Home, or Keep Renting?

Here are 7 important questions to consider before jumping into the home buying process:

- 1.** Will you be able to qualify for a mortgage? Reach out to a local lender. They can help you to make that determination.
- 2.** Beyond being able to pay the monthly mortgage amount, can you also afford the closing costs on your loan? Again, your lender can help.
- 3.** Can you afford the neighborhood? Property taxes and other homeownership costs can vary from community to community. Make sure you research on this level as well so these don't come as a surprise.



- 4.** How long are you planning to stick around? If you're not totally settled in, sometimes it's better to rent and continue to save for a future purchase. There are costs to buying and selling, as well.
- 5.** Are you dying to renovate? Surely this can create value in a home which you own and might give you another reason to buy.
- 6.** Are you up for the maintenance involved in home ownership? It's pretty easy when the landlord takes care of mowing, plowing, painting, etc. Be sure you're ready for that side of it.
- 7.** Are you comfortable with some market volatility? Right now the market is really hot, but, although traditionally an excellent investment, housing values can fluctuate.

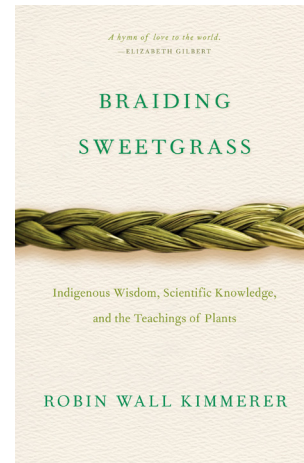
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Community Read



Braiding Sweetgrass by botanist Robin Wall Kimmerer is a book full of indigenous wisdom, scientific knowledge and the teachings of plants.

It's been described as being "every bit as mythic as it is scientific, as sacred as it is historical, as clever as it is wise."

Brown Memorial Library is hosting a Community Read of this book during the months of March and April in partnership with the Abenaki Trails Project to raise awareness of our connectedness to the natural world. Plans are being considered for refreshing the informational signage at the Bradford Springs to reflect its original use by native people.

All you have to do is obtain a copy of *Braiding Sweetgrass* from either your local library or bookstore and gather your thoughts. In May, there will be a Zoom gathering for those who want to discuss what they have read.


To learn more about the Abenaki Trails Project, check out their Facebook page or visit their website www.abenakitrails.com. Brown Memorial www.brownmemoriallibrary.org will have multiple copies available to sign out. Discussion prompts and Zoom details will follow in the April issue of the Bradford Bridge. For more information and to receive the Zoom link, contact lbuchar@gmail.com or call 603-938-5562.



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MONTHLY BRIEFING: Town Board Reports

(Continued from page 1)

Warrant Articles The Committee reviewed new Warrant Articles proposed by the Select Board as well as adjustments made to previous proposed Articles. The Board approved motions to recommend \$83,000 from the fund balance to payoff the Road Bond, and \$4,000 for an attendant at French’s Park. The Committee approved a motion not to recommend \$8,000 for energy improvements to the Library.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Work Plan Matt Monahan, from Central New Hampshire Regional Planning, led a discussion of the committees work plan for the coming year. The plan would include the trail map and promotion of local businesses, the ways to market Bradford as a recreational destination, and the tax incentives that might be useful in making Bradford more attractive to business.

PLANNING BOARD

Building Code Ordinance Following a public hearing held January 26, 2021, the Board took a vote to maintain or repeal the Town of Bradford Building Code Ordinance. The Board voted 3-0 to remove the Building Code. Mel Pfeifle abstained from the vote.

Site Plan The Board approved a motion to approve the Site Plan for Merrimack County Customs, for property located at Route 114, Bradford, NH Map 03/ Lot 07.

Non-compliance The Board discussed the Bradford Junction sign and new use. Pam Bruss, Planning Board Chair, will draft a letter of non-compliance and request for review with the Planning Board.

Sign Permit The Board received a sign permit from the Bradford Market regarding changing brands which will require changing signs. No size or lighting will be changing so this will be filed with plans.

ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

Variance Application Terrain Design, Map 23 Lot 20, applied for a Variance from article III section D for a 24'x24' garage attached to a nonconforming residence on a nonconforming lot on Lake Massasecum. Public Hearing is scheduled for March 3, 2021 at the regular ZBA meeting.

Special Exception Pierre Hahn, speaking on behalf of Dabney Kelsey for Map 6 Lot 34, applied for a special exception for a farm and educational agriculture business in a rural residential zone. Public hearing is scheduled for March 3, 2021 at the regular ZBA meeting.

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Easement Commission member Ann Eldridge was contacted by Andy Deegan from the Ausbon Sargent Land Preservation Trust regarding an inquiry into a potential 144 acre Bibbo easement. This land is contiguous with the Fearnley easement. BCC members recognized the value of this land in adding to an established wildlife corridor but need further details and information on the plan. Funding sources also need to be explored.

Shoreland Permit A DES Shoreland Permit was approved for Steele Rd Map 23/Lot 20 for a two-car garage.

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LIBRARY TRUSTEES

Energy Improvements Kathleen Bigford of the Bradford Energy Committee discussed the recent energy audit that was conducted on the library and presented a warrant article for \$8,000 for energy improvements for the Library. The Trustees approved a motion to approve the submission of the warrant article.

Software The Board approved a motion to spend up to \$150 to purchase Microsoft Office software for library computers.

PARKS AND RECREATION

4th of July The Bradford 5K Road Race is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, July 3, 2021 at 9am. Committee member Bruce Edwards is looking into new vendors to replace Granite State Racing.

KEARSARGE REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Education Freedom Accounts The Board approved a motion to state the district's opposition to HB 20 and authorize Superintendent Feneberg and Assistant Superintendent Besette to testify on the district's behalf. HB 20 is

an act establishing the Richard "Dick" Hinch education freedom account program.

Pre-Bond Civil Engineering Designs The Board approved a purchase recommendation of TF Moran for a lump sum total of \$12,000 to advance the STEAM Wing project.

Minutes of all meetings are on file at the Town Office and online at bradfordnh.org. Some meetings are now streamed live - check website!

**Selectmen's Office
Recording Secretary Position**

The Selectmen are accepting applications for a Recording Secretary for the Planning and Zoning Boards. Responsibilities include minute taking and transcription in accordance with the Rules of Procedure and applicable state laws, posting notices and agendas, written and verbal correspondence, keeping financial records, purchasing supplies, filing, tape recording and assisting Town officials and the public with access to the Boards' files.

The skills necessary to be successful in this position include attention to detail and deadlines; effective customer services skills; ability to juggle several projects at the same time; strong written and verbal communication skills; desire to become familiar with Town Ordinances and related RSAs. The successful candidate will also demonstrate computer capability with Word and Excel.

Position averages between two and seven hours per week. Availability in the evening is required.

Prior related experience preferred but not necessary for the right candidate. Interested candidates should submit their resume to: administrator@bradfordnh.org.

Applications will be reviewed until the position is filled. The Town of Bradford is an equal opportunity employer.

A Lot Has Changed Since This Was Main Street



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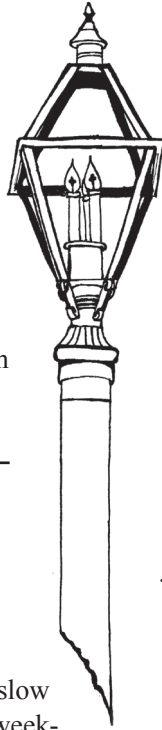
 *Our hopes...*

A more commonsense and realistic and approach in attempting a new project. -JANE

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Brown Memorial Library

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bmlbradford@gmail.com

Library Hours:

Monday 10:00am – 6:00pm
Wednesday 11:00am – 7:00pm
Friday 10:00am – 6:00pm
Saturday 9:00am – 1:00pm

From the Director's Desk:

I have so little to report in my hum drum life. The highlights for me these days are the little rituals I have put into place throughout the years. I prefer slow mornings with my family on weekends where I'm like a cat. I find the sunniest spot, enjoy a hot cup of coffee, read under a blanket, watch birds at the feeder during winter, and try not to talk about what has to be done until later. I look forward to cocktail hour with my husband where I light candles, listen to music, and typically talk about news of the day, work, our kids, and the omnipresent question right now, what we should do with our old house; build or move. It allows time for us to connect before dinner and the bedtime routine. The other repetitive conversation we have is about how much is too much technology time for both kids; he's more lenient where I tend to be more restrictive. Come on kids, pick up your books!! I think we've become much more relaxed with screen time due to COVID. I'm sure others can

relate. Having small rituals gives your day sweet spots of enjoyment. If you're interested in creating more rituals in your life we have a new book on the shelf called "The Power of Ritual" by Casper Ter Kuile. As the author suggests, ritual turns everyday activities into soulful practices.

We have a virtual NH Humanities Council Program, on Thursday, March 4th at 7pm, sponsored by the Friends of Brown Memorial Library, called *Wit & Wisdom: Humor in 19th Century New Hampshire* by presenter Jo Radner. If you would like to attend please contact friendsbmlibrary@gmail.com to register for virtual link.

We are on a roll with digitizing our collection. We are about 40% finished. We will not be issuing receipts for books, like other libraries, I found they tend to get lost quickly and you forget when the book is due. We will have a paper due date form in the book.

Is anyone yearning to participate in the library book group again? I'm missing discussing books with other people, but for now, I think we'd have to participate virtually. This aspect I'm not particularly attracted to, but would create the forum if others are interested. Please email me or call if this is something you'd love to join.

I'm excited for March to begin. Spring is getting closer! I love seeing the maple sugar lines start to go up throughout town, because it means our land is beginning to thaw.

Sincerely, Ellen



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Our hopes...

My hope is for a time to come when we all feel free to breathe and practice and be together inside the studio again. -LEAH



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TRANSFER STATION NEWS

Zero Waste Tips

Ever since Don Moss made a compost sign to display next to our large compost container, the Bradford Transfer and Recycling Center has received even more organic waste for recycling. Many Bradford homeowners are using our compost with great results in their do-it-yourself outdoor growing projects. Some ways to use our compost include:

- Fill pots with compost and sow seeds or plant vegetable sets directly.
- Fill pots with compost and plant annuals or perennials.
- Place compost into holes that will receive new or transplanted bushes or trees.
- Work compost into vegetable gardens before planting vegetable sets and seeds.
- Use compost as a side dressing for bushes and trees.
- Mix your own organic household wastes into our compost to enhance its value to your plantings.

Another zero-waste tip is buying reusable cleaning cloths to use instead of using one-use paper towels. These reusable cloths can be washed with the family laundry. Paper (and trees) will be saved.

Reusable grocery totes are stronger than one-use plastic grocery bags, hold more groceries than a plastic bag, and are especially useful at a farmers market. Uncaptured single-use plastic bags create a litter problem and can be hazardous to sea life in particular.

Bar soap is just as convenient to use, is as effective, and lasts longer than an equal amount of liquid soap. Buying and storing liquid soaps uses plastics needing recycling.

Bringing water or other beverages with you from your home in safe, reusable bottles will help to reduce one of the biggest pollutants: single use plastic beverage bottles. If your drinking water at home needs filtering, there are a variety of filtering devices available. Stainless steel straws are an amazing invention. They can be easily sanitized, last a long time, and can be transported in your reusable beverage container. Surprisingly, simple plastic straws are a huge problem for the environment.

Washable and reusable food wrappings and packaging made from organic cotton treated with natural beeswax, jojoba oil and tree resin can be used instead of plastic wraps and baggies.

Every bit of plastic waste kept out of our trash helps our environment in many ways. If you have any questions concerning reusing, repurposing, and recycling various items and materials, Ken and I are glad to help.

Lois Kilnaap, Manager



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Obituaries

Veda May Hosmer



Veda May (Whipple) Hosmer, 85, of Newbury, died February 1st, 2021, after a brief illness.

She was

born in Newport, NH, on February 1st, 1936 to Ralph J. and Emma (Eastman) Whipple. She attended Sutton Schools through grade 8, graduated from New London High School in 1954 and studied accounting for a year at Concord Commercial College.

Veda married Charley Hosmer on November 11th, 1956. They spent their lives together in Newbury. She worked at Kingsbury & Davis Machine Company in Contoocook and then was employed in the Newbury Selectmen's Office and the Bradford Selectmen's Office.

Veda was an avid Boston Red Sox and New England Patriots Fan. She enjoyed reading, crafts and mind puzzles.

She is predeceased by her husband of 58 years, Charley in 2015; sisters, Claire Heman of Concord, and Marjorie Gove of Wilmot; nephews, Timothy Patten of Wilmot, Rodney Gove of Newport, and Jon Gove of Franklin. She is survived by daughters, Debbie Hosmer of Sutton,

and Elizabeth "Betsy" Seufert and her husband, Chris of Fort Myers, FL; grandchildren, Nicole Cable and her husband, Chris of Wichita Falls, TX and Eric Seufert of Mesa, AZ; great grandchildren, Andrew and Lauren Cable of Wichita Falls, TX; sisters, Betty Lou Moore of New London, and Elaine Tracy of Charlestown; nieces, nephews and cousins.

A graveside service will be held on Saturday, May 15th, 2021, at 11:00 am. in Millwoods Cemetery, South Sutton, NH. Chadwick Funeral Service of New London, NH is assisting the family with arrangements.

Reverend Henry W. Fleming, Sr.



Reverend Henry (Hank) W. Fleming Sr. died from unexpected complications of an illness at Albany Medical Center Albany, NY, on February

8th, 2021, at age 92. Henry was born on September 22nd, 1928, in Boston, MA, to Michael and Kathryn (Bolger) Fleming. Rev. Fleming married the love of his life, Jeannine Tanish on September 28th, 1954. He was a long-time resident of Malden and Melrose, MA before moving to Bradford, in June 1980.

As a young man Henry danced and sang

on stage in Boston. He worked for the New Haven Railroad. He traveled from Boston to New York to Florida working on the lounge cars. Henry served as a corpsman in the United States Navy's first marine division in the Korean War and World War II. After his military career, Henry became a letter carrier for the United States Postal Service until his retirement. During those years Henry was actively involved in prison and lay ministry. He attended Gordon College to study for the ministry and became pastor of South Newbury Union Church, where he received his ordination as an American Baptist Minister.

Henry is predeceased by his wife Jeannine (Tanish) (1998), parents Michael and Kathryn (Bolger) Fleming, in-laws George and Mary (Coguzzo) Tanish, brothers John and Wilbur Fleming, sisters Teresa Grenon and Patricia Fleming, son John Fleming, daughter Melanie Carpenter and brother-in-law Benjamin Tanish.

Surviving members include children, Henry W Fleming, Jr. and wife Cheryl of Summerfield, FL, Gene Scott Fleming and wife Joan of Saugus MA, Marijo Varney and husband James of Arlington VT, Kari Greene and husband Terry of Tarboro, NC, brother Kenneth Fleming and wife Ruthann of Hansen, MA. He leaves behind a large extended family. Due to weather constraints, a celebration of life and burial will occur at a later time.

The family asks that donations be made to Bennington Project Independence, (BPI), Attention Gina Anzivino, 614 hardwood Hill, PO Box 1504, Bennington, Vermont, 05201 in memory of Henry. BPI is a not-profit agency providing adult day services to help many face the challenges associated with aging.



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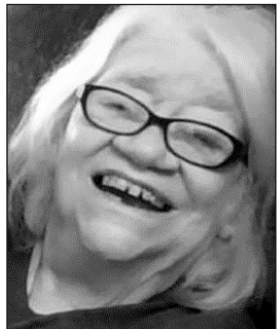
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My hopes and dreams for our town is that it continues to bring life and happiness to all those who live here! -KRISTEN

Janice Moore-Rowell

Janice Moore-Rowell leaves this world with a legacy of kindness, joy and laughter – flowing through all who were

fortunate to meet her. She celebrated her 75th birthday on February 9th, 2021 and departed to reunite with her true love, Buster (Edmund Rowell) on February 13th, 2021.

She nurtured three children: Scott Briggs, Susan Montminy and Shawn Rowell with love, laughter and wisdom. She was a chambermaid for Birch Lane, Newbury and worked for many years at Cricentis/Hannafords. She lavished her grandchildren, Logan and Corbin Montminy and Shawn Jr., and Krista Rowell with a positive, loving outlook on life. She leaves an extended family including her sister, Ruth Homes.

Janice moved to assisted living in Warner where she enjoyed planning, cooking and baking for rec room functions. She also lived at the Merrimack County Nursing Home where she received a new lease on life. After a short time there, she was honored with an outstanding citizenship award from her community. Janice enjoyed crafts, activities, and bingo. She enjoyed word puzzles, writing poetry, and coloring projects. Elected resident president, the “power of the gavel” made her smile. Janice felt blessed and was always grateful. When the world seemed out of sorts, she would advise you to remember, “No news is good news. Keep it simple. Be true to yourself, and treat others as you wish to be treated.” When asked “if you could tell the world something, what would it be?” She answered, “I love you all.” A Celebration of Life is tentatively set for June 27 (Janice and Buster’s anniversary) at Booth-Sherman Cemetery, Newbury.

COVID-19 Vaccine Information

There’s a lot of information available on the COVID-19 vaccine at this time. The purpose of this article is to provide you with an overview of the current information as well as some reliable resources for exploring further information or any questions you may have about the vaccine.

In the past year we’ve gone from an unknown virus to the availability of new vaccines for that virus. While in many ways it feels like a very long year, it may also feel like a very quick process for vaccine development. Due to the gravity of COVID-19, a rapid worldwide response was needed. Global efforts for sharing resources and knowledge occurred among governments, scientists, pharmaceuticals and medical and public health experts in order to develop a vaccine as quickly and safely as possible.

What we currently have are two vaccines, Pfizer BioNTech and Moderna, which have received emergency use authorization (EUA) from the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA). This type of emergency authorization occurs during a significant health crisis when the FDA carefully reviews all safety data from clinical trials after a final analysis of phase 3 of those trials. These trials involved hundreds of thousands of volunteers being vaccinated and monitored.

In addition to the FDA review there is a public meeting with the Vaccine and Related Biological Products Advisory

Committee, an external group of scientists and public health experts, to review all data for safety. Then the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practice (ACIP) recommends who is vaccinated in what order, by groups and phases. These guidelines are provided to states, who then create their vaccine plans. Post authorization vaccine safety is then monitored by the FDA and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), along with independent groups of experts as well as other healthcare agencies.

Johnson & Johnson is currently in the process of seeking EUA for their vaccine, which would introduce a third option to increase vaccine availability.

While these vaccines differ somewhat in their formulations they all teach the immune system to recognize and fight the coronavirus that causes COVID-19. The COVID-19 vaccines are NOT live virus vaccines. Live virus vaccines, such as the vaccine for measles, mumps and rubella prevention, work by providing a weakened dosage of the virus they are developed to target. Both Pfizer BioNTech and Moderna are messenger RNA (mRNA) vaccines. Details on how these activate the immune system are available through the resources provided at the end of this article.

Pfizer BioNTech is given in 2 doses, 3 weeks apart and is authorized for use in persons 16 years and older. Moderna is given in 2 doses 4 weeks apart and is authorized for use in persons 18 years and older. These vaccines are considered

(Continued on page 14)



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COVID-19 Vaccine Information

(Continued from page 13)

to be fully effective within two weeks of your second vaccination. Clinical trials showed both to be 95% effective in preventing severe illness with COVID-19. Severe illness constitutes those who are hospitalized as well as those who experience death with COVID-19.

Johnson & Johnson’s vaccine was given and studied as a one dose only vaccine. Studies indicate a 66% effectiveness against moderate to severe COVID-19 infection but, more importantly, it was shown to be 85% effective against severe COVID-19 infection.

Further study with all these vaccines is still needed to determine if those who are fully vaccinated can still carry and pass the virus to others. That’s why it’s key to continue wearing a mask, practicing physical distancing and hand hygiene even once you are vaccinated as well as staying home if you are ill. You can still be accurately tested for COVID-19 infection even if you have been vaccinated.

We are also not yet certain how long immunity will last in the long term and if booster vaccines will be needed. Effectiveness of these vaccines against the new strains, or variants, of COVID-19 are being monitored.

What we do know is that the vaccine currently provides excellent protection from both acute infection with COVID-19 and the long-term health consequences it can involve.

The vaccine is recommended for those who have previously been diagnosed with COVID-19, with a waiting period of 90 days since infection before vaccinating. There is no data supporting long term, natural immunity for those who were infected with COVID 19.

You may experience a short term reaction to the vaccine, known as reactogenicity, a sign that your body is responding with the desired immune response to the vaccine. You could experience pain or discomfort at the injection site or arm,

fatigue, headache, muscle and joint pain, and possibly even fever and chills. These are temporary and generally not cause for alarm. If you have unresolved swelling or rash or continued concerns with any symptoms you can contact your healthcare provider.

Not everyone experiences these and many people have minimal to no reaction to the vaccine. Most temporary reactions tend to occur for 24 to 48 hours following the vaccine. They are sometimes more common in younger people, possibly because they have a more robust immune system, and they are also more common following the second vaccination as the first vaccination primes your body to recognize the virus and the second vaccination strengthens that immune response. When you receive your vaccine, you will be offered the opportunity to participate in vsafe – a digital check-in for vaccine symptoms which also assists in the collection of post vaccine administration data.

In NH, we are currently still in phase 1 of our vaccine administration program, vaccinating those who fall into both phase 1a and 1b. This includes high risk health workers, first responders, people aged 65 and older and their caregivers, and residents and staff in several residential care settings and correctional facilities.

Go to www.nh.gov/COVID-19 for additional information about COVID-19 or for a link to vaccine registration. You can also go directly to www.vaccines.nh.gov to view all phases of the plan, check if you qualify and register to be vaccinated. If you don’t have access to a computer, you can access vaccine assistance by calling 211.

Further vaccine information is also available at www.cdc.gov with links to specific vaccine manufacturer information, frequently asked questions and vaccine myths and facts.

Get the facts you need from reputable sources, consult with your healthcare provider as needed and BE WELL!

 *Our hopes...*

I hope that Bradford will become totally powered by local green energy sources so that it will always be a clean, beautiful place to live.

-BARBARA



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March Happenings

Our Sunday Services start at 10am. In house and live streamed through Facebook. Our Communion Service is held the first Sunday each month. We are following the recommended CDC and NH Guidelines and NH travel guidelines. We ask that you wear a mask, use hand sanitizer and please stay home if you are not feeling well.

We began the Lenten Season with an Ash Wednesday Service on February 17th and will begin Holy Week on Sunday March 28th with Palm Sunday with in house worship. A Lenten Calendar with Scripture Readings for each day of the Forty Days of Lent are available on Sunday mornings at the front door or by request by mail or email: bradfordcommunitychurch@gmail.com

Food Pantry Donations can be mailed to: Bradford Community Church, PO Box 57, Bradford NH 03221 and memo: food pantry. For questions, please call the church office and leave a message and someone will get back to you.



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The Bradford School Scholarship

In 1964 the Bradford School Board received a gift of \$25 to start a scholarship fund, and later a \$20 gift was received for the same purpose. With \$45 the Bradford School Scholarship Fund was established with the hope that other organizations and individuals would contribute to the fund; and that in the hands of the Trustees of the Trust Funds the fund would grow and accrue interest until the available amount was sufficient for scholarship purposes. The money was to be given to a Bradford student graduating from high school for the purpose of furthering education in a university, teachers' college, school of nursing, or a qualified technical school.

Fifty-six years later thanks to generous donations from community members, businesses and organizations, and the fundraising efforts of the Bradford Scholarship Committee, the Bradford School Scholarship Fund has grown and has been able to provide financial support to Bradford students who are pursuing post-secondary education.

For safety purposes due to COVID-19, the Bradford Scholarship Committee has decided not to host the annual Snowshoe for Scholarship fundraiser this year. This event is our largest fundraiser and will be greatly missed this year. If you are able, please consider contributing to the fund by making a tax-deductible donation to: The Town of Bradford Scholarship Committee, P. O. Box 436 Bradford, NH 03221-0436.

Thank you on behalf of the Bradford students for your financial support!

*Bradford Scholarship Committee:
 Devin Pendleton, Mary Keegan-Dayton,
 Kathleen Bigford*

Friends of Brown Memorial Library Online Event

Wit & Wisdom: Humor in 19th Century New Hampshire by presenter Jo Radne Thursday, March 4th at 7pm.

Jo Radner shares excerpts from her forthcoming book about hundreds of "newspapers" written by community members that revealed hopes, fears, humor and surprisingly daring behavior! Email friendsbmlibrary@gmail.com to register.

Reminders From the Road Agent

To keep our community safe and assist our Highway Dept. in winter maintenance, please remember the following.

No Parking is allowed on sidewalks at any time.

No Parking on Town of Bradford streets or roads from November 1st to May 1st between the hours of midnight to 6:00 am.

No Plowing of snow in or across Town roads or depositing snow within the traveled portion of Town roads. Any person who violates these provisions will be subject to a \$100 fine. Subsequent offenses shall be subject to a fine of up to \$500.

Pursuant to RSA 236:20, RSA 47:17, paragraph VII and RSA 41:11, it shall be unlawful to plow snow across any and all Town roads, including Class 5 & 6, or to deposit snow within the traveled portion of Town roads. Across town roads- shall mean pushing snow from one side to the other, where snow would be deposited within the right of way of any road. Traveled Portion- shall mean any part of the roadway in which vehicles would travel or within the shoulders of said roadway.

Please see the complete Snow Removal and Ice Control policy at:

<https://www.bradfordnh.org/departments/highway-department/sop-snow-removal-and-ice-control-eff-120109/>

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Out & About: Canids



Coyote Den: Sandra Bravo found this den with tracks while snowshoeing recently.



Red Fox: This beauty was caught by Elliot Cooper's wildlife camera.

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. An accompanying caption would be nice. Please submit the images in .jpg or .jpeg format.

Kathleen Bigford

A Few Words

Readers are invited to share a few words here. Submit your fiction or non-fiction stories of 100 words or less to the Bridge. It could be a story about your cat, or the moose antlers you came across hiking one day. Readers may want to submit stories about how you helped a friend in need or making a favorite food. Share your words with us.

Tillie, Isabelle, Delores, Flossie, Ruth, Priscilla, Harriet, Phyllis and Nancy (not me) are just some of the names of the matriarchs I remember from Bradford in the 1970s and '80s. They sponsored swimming lessons, scholarships, flower gardens and fairs. There were monthly luncheons with interesting guest speakers; there was nonpartisan politics at Meet the Candidates nights and a can do approach to local issues. They baked whoopie pies and Jordan Marsh blueberry muffins, and who can forget Jackie's homemade donuts. They were hardworking and practical, thoughtful and kind. Halcyon days.

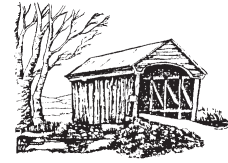
From Nancy McEachern



 *Our hopes...*

Continued community-wide appreciation for the possibilities that rural New Hampshire life provides.

-KATHLEEN



The Bradford Bridge

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