

The Bradford Bridge

COMMUNITY NEWS *for* NEIGHBORS *by* NEIGHBORS

MONTHLY BRIEFING: Town Board Reports

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Street Signs Road Agent Steve Hall presented the Select Board with various options for new street signs. The current signs are only held with two bolts and get blown by the wind. The Board approved a motion to allow Steve to make changes to the road signs. Broken signs will be replaced as needed.

Goals The Board discussed their goals for the year. Selectmen Andrew Pinard suggested updating the Bradford Website and adding a google calendar. Selectwomen Marlene Freyler would like to hold a potluck to give the community an opportunity to come together. Selectwomen Mel Pfeifle would like to revisit fees for building permits, learn more about what Bradford is doing with gravel, and create Vision Bradford, a ten-year plan for the town with input from Town Boards and Committees.

Town Clerk Erika Gross was sworn in as Town Clerk/Tax Collector by Andrew Pinard.

Meeting Schedule The Board of Selectmen will meet the second and fourth Monday of the month. The Board will meet at 5pm during the summer and at 6pm the rest of the year.

Building Permits The Board approved a motion for the Select Board Chair to sign all future building permits until a building inspector is hired.

Taxes The Board signed the Tax Recommendation. There is currently \$168,173.50 in tax liens from 2012-2019. There is \$202,948.24 in unpaid property taxes for

(Continued on page 10)

Bement Bridge Update



The Bement Bridge move has been rescheduled and will now be slid back onto its abutments on Tuesday, April 27th at 8:00 am. Once set back into place, the remainder of the deck planks will be laid, fire retardant coating will be applied and the siding and portals will be completed. The last step will be to install the guardrail and roadway approaches. The bridge is expected to be open to traffic in early June.

Donate Life



The green and blue flag is flying once again over the Bradford Area Community Center

calling attention to the need for organ and tissue donations. Although April is the official organ donation month, the flag will continue to be displayed as a reminder that the need is not limited to one month. More information about the organization and how you can help save lives through organ and tissue donation can be found at:

www.donatelifenewengland.org

From the Road Agent

During the week of May 10th there will be treework happening on Water Street. Please be aware of any potential delays due to rerouting.

Street sweeping will be in progress beginning in the end of April and extending into the first week of May, until it is complete.



MAY HAIKU

sunny day dreaming
song of a bluebird aflight
light magic within

Kathleen Bigford



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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P.O. Box 463 Bradford, NH 03221

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

After rereading and reflecting on what I wrote in this column in May 2020, I am filled with gratitude for how we are pulling through the emergency that is COVID 19. Twelve months ago we were on the cusp of the reality of the magnitude of the pandemic. Now we are living with the real possibility of an end in sight. A year ago we were looking for “some good news.” Today with the presence of an effective vaccination the President of the United States recognizes New Hampshire at the top of eight states where 60% of the state’s population have received at least one shot. This IS some good news!!

COVID 19 has presented immense challenges and heartbreaking consequences. However, it’s clear that Granite Staters have taken the necessary precautions and followed guidelines. Continuing to do so will brighten the light at the end of the tunnel.

Here’s what’s in store in the pages of this May 2021 edition:

- ✿ The Monthly Briefing and Town Meeting Review by Devin
- ✿ *Outside* with two species of jumping mice by Ann
- ✿ Grilling safety by Fire Chief Jeff LeBlanc
- ✿ Teacher vaccination by Mary
- ✿ Bement Bridge Update (It’s our icon!)
- ✿ Remembering When... by Mike
- ✿ Recent Real Estate Activity in Bradford
- ✿ And other tidbits of local interest

Shout out to Bradford businesses!! The Bradford Economic Development Committee is putting together a Bradford Business Directory and would like submissions. See Page 7 for details.

And, forever, thank you to our advertisers whose continuing support brings this monthly community newspaper.

Enjoy May’s hints of summer!!

Kathleen Bigford, Editor

and all the neighbors who contribute to the news of Our Town



COVID-19 specific call-takers are available Monday through Friday 8am-7pm and Saturdays 8am-5pm. 2-1-1 NH is available 24/7.

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Letters to Our Editor:

To the Editor

Many of my senior friends join me in thanking the Appleseed for sending us holiday meals and the Police and Fire Departments for delivering them.

This makes us feel we are not forgotten.

*Harriet Douglass
Bradford*

Talk of the Town 

This month, we've been asking our neighbors and friends, *"What is a change you've made due to the pandemic that you'd like to keep in your life even as restrictions ease?"*

Better self-care. -MARY

Continue to have time to "just be" which has been lovely. -SUSAN

Find more responses throughout this issue and submit your own next month. In June we will be asking, *"What brought you to Bradford and what keeps you here?"* We'd love to know! Submit your response to 603leah@gmail.com.

News From Sweet Beet Market

Sweet Beet Market is open once again for in-store shopping! Come check out all the goodness that the local food system has to offer – you might be surprised by how much you can get from local farms in the springtime! More than veggies, we have an array of local products from produce and meat to baked goods and grocery items that we grow and make ourselves or source from nearly 100 local partners. Our staff is always happy to help you figure out how to make the most of seasonal ingredients, ready to share recipes and general knowhow!

We now accept SNAP/EBT to help make local food more accessible to more folks, as well as 25% off for veterans on all products, all the time.

Come on by Wednesday-Friday 12pm-6pm and Saturday-Sunday from 10am-4pm. We have some community agreements in place to help shopping be as safe as possible – find those on our website sweetbeetmarket.com and in-store. We are still offering online shopping and curbside pickup, if that feels safer for you. We are so excited to see you shopping in the market once again!



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Supervisors of the Checklist Sessions

New Hampshire law requires that the Supervisors of the Checklist verify the checklist every ten years. Any person on the checklist who has not voted in the past four years must re-register to remain on the checklist. The Supervisors are sending notice letters to these voters at the address the voter provided when registering.

The Supervisors of the Checklist for the Town of Bradford will hold a session for re-registering voters who have not voted since April 1, 2017, accepting applications for new voter registration, accepting requests for the correction of the checklist, and or change of political party affiliation on:


Date: Tuesday, May 4, 2021
Time: 7:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Date: Tuesday, June 22, 2021
Time: 6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Location on both dates: Bradford Area Community Center, 134 East Main, Bradford, New Hampshire, Downstairs Meeting Room

Voters may check party affiliation online: <https://app.sos.nh.gov/Public/PollingPlaceSearch.aspx>

Applicants for registration who possess proof of identity, age, citizenship, and domicile should bring that proof when they come to register. Qualified applicants who do not possess proof or who do not bring proof with them may still register if they sign an affidavit attesting to their qualifications for identity, age, and citizenship, and/or domicile.

Washing hands. For over a year I haven't had a cold or even a sniffle and I think all of the hand washing has really helped. -DON 

PUBLIC NOTICE

Lake Todd Village District 2021 Annual Budget Hearing

In accordance with RSA 32:5.I, notice is hereby given that The Commissioners of Lake Todd Village District in the Towns of Bradford and Newbury, NH, will hold a hearing on a proposed budget for the District.

Date: Saturday, May 29, 2021 Time: 9:00 AM

**Where: Bradford Area Community Center
134 East Main Street, Bradford, NH**

All persons, residents and non-residents of the Lake Todd Village District are invited and encouraged to attend.

Lake Todd Village District, P. O. Box 169, Bradford, N03221-0169



enjoy the bridge in **COLOR!** bradford bridge .org



A Teacher Gets Vaccinated

Hundreds of teachers and staff members were vaccinated against COVID-19 last month at the Steeplegate Mall in Concord. We were getting the Johnson and Johnson vaccine as part of the phase of New Hampshire's inoculation plan which prioritized school staff. As a newly retired teacher, back teaching part time two days a week, I was elated to get the vaccine.

I arrived 15 minutes before my scheduled time (the parking lot was packed) and got on line outside the old Sears store at the Steeplegate Mall. There were about 100 teachers and staff in line outside, donned in masks, on a chilly spring morning. There was a buzz, a crackle of excitement in the air as we waited for our turn to enter the vaccination site. I was sandwiched between two Concord teachers and we easily struck up a conversation about our day ahead. A physical education teacher was behind me and a school counselor in front.

The line moved with ease and within 30 minutes I was entering what I would call a vaccination zone: A small city of hundreds of people in neatly formed lines snaking their way toward the shot. Volunteers manned tables and checkpoints to confirm appointments, look at paperwork and answer questions. Over 50 volunteers

were inside and as I snaked toward the nursing stations for the vaccine, the buzz seemed to quiet down. Each shot was administered in a private pod with a nurse, and a volunteer on a laptop. I was excited to get the one-shot Johnson and Johnson vaccine.

After the shot, I headed to another waiting area for 15 minutes to be observed for any side effects. I found some friends in that area and we talked while we waited. By the time I left and got to my car, I had only been gone an hour and drove home. No real side effects, just a bit tired the next day.

It was a very well organized event in a large space which could accommodate all that social distancing. I am sure there were in excess of 500 people in that Sears when I was there. Everyone seemed to be following protocol and as teachers and school staff, we like that. I am now back teaching, still in a mask, still behind a plexiglass divider with in-person students, and with new-found confidence each day.

Mary Keegan-Dayton

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. Share your words with us.

Could it be?

The bad news is that there is still trash being tossed out of vehicles driving in Bradford.

But the good news is that at least on Center Road in Bradford, there is much less of it!

Last spring, we collected two giant trash bags full of beer cans, beer and mini wine bottles, and take out food trash along a 1.5 mile stretch of Center Road.

This year, we collected about ¼ of what we found a year ago. Maybe people were home more during Covid, or maybe fewer people are thinking it is okay to drop their trash on the roadside.

But we hope it's the latter!

Sue and Laurie

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TRANSFER STATION NEWS

Time for Roadside Clean Up

The warm springtime sunshine has finally melted the snow – and what is this? And this? Oh no, and this?

The odd things that we see along the roadsides are things that tossers and the wild winter winds have scattered. The Bradford Transfer and Recycling Center has three cases of “NH the Beautiful” blue bags available for Bradford residents who wish to participate in road cleanup in Bradford.

Over the years many Bradford residents have cleaned up the roadsides during spring cleanup time and throughout the year. More townspeople are beginning to see the benefits of clean roadsides and are participating in cleanup efforts. Getting out to clean up the highways and the back roads of Bradford is personally beneficial. Fresh air, sunshine and nature renew us in many positive ways. Bending over and picking up things is physical exercise. And enjoying the peace and quiet of the back roads we have cleared gives a sense of satisfaction of a job well done.

When residents bring the blue bags they have used for road cleanup to the transfer station, Ken and I will recycle their contents. As trash is cleared from the roadsides throughout our town, Bradford will gleam once again!

Lois Kilnapp, Manager



Donna Forest
BROKER ASSOCIATE

Is This A Housing Bubble?

You might be wondering if the housing market will crash given the high demand, record prices, and bidding wars. The short answer is “there is no bubble.” It would be natural to assume the same thing is happening that led up to the economic crash in 2008. However, the influences are very different. Below are 3 reasons why you can still sleep at night.

1. The limited supply of homes for sale is driving up prices. It is simple economics of supply & demand. Inventory has been declining for years yet buyer interest is increasing.
2. Demand has risen as millennials, currently the largest generation in the US, are entering the housing market. Throw in historic low interest rates, the ability to work remotely, and rethinking of housing requirements due to COVID, and now the need exceeds supply.
3. Poor lending practices was a big contributor to the housing implosion. If you could breathe you got a loan. Also homeowners used the equity in their homes like an ATM machine and ended up owing more than what their house was worth. As a result, foreclosures and short sales depreciated home values nationwide. Lending guidelines today are much stricter and refinancing over the last 3 years is 1/3 of what it was 3 years before the crash.

Here is a quote in late January from Laurie Goodman, director of Urban Institute’s Housing Finance Policy Center, “I’m feeling very optimistic about the health of the US housing market.”

Does it make sense for you to venture into the market this spring? Reach out to Donna, or any one of us, for a no pressure conversation on what the best plan of action might be for you. This is a very challenging market and having an experienced agent by your side is even more important than ever!

Marilyn Kidder, Broker Owner



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Cindy Snay, Owner\Pharmacist

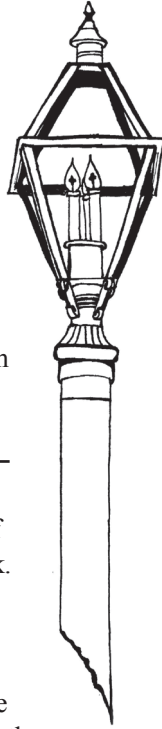
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603.456.3556

Mon.-Fri. 9am-6pm & Sat. 9am-1pm

We are open to foot traffic. Please wear your mask!

Library Lantern



Brown Memorial Library

78 West Main Street
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:

My family and I are heading off to Niagara Falls for spring break. There will not be any lounging by the pool with sunscreen and a fruity drink, frolicking in the waves, or midnight strolls on the beach. Instead, we'll be packing the car for a road trip! I keep thinking about the whining we're going to hear when we tell the kids the majority of the trip will focus on hiking, seeing charming towns, and visiting the wondrous waterfall. After this thought, I had to refocus and steer away from the constant see saw of parent-centric vs. kid-centric culture. I'd like to believe I'm living my life with my children fitting into my world, but the last year or so seems to feel the other way around. I groan when I think back to our visit to the Grand Canyon, and neither of the kids seemed incredibly impressed with the awe-inspiring views. I showed my daughter a picture of Niagara Falls last night, and she said, "I thought it was going to be in the jungle, with no buildings around it." I'm pleased we cleared up that expectation. I'm looking forward to getting to know upstate NY. We will be visiting New Paltz, Cooperstown, Buffalo,

Niagara, E. Aurora, and Saugerties.

Last month we had fun putting together the Easter Scavenger Hunt. Thank you to those that participated. Thanks to the FRIENDS of the Library for helping with this event. This month we have the Memorial Day Plant and Book Sale to look forward to. This year it will be on Saturday, May 29th from 9am-2pm. The library will be closed on May 31st for Memorial Day.

Warrant Article 29 passed! This will help to reduce the cost of heating/cooling the library. Thank you to the Bradford Energy Committee for working hard to make this pass. I think this will provide a much more comfortable library and will ultimately save the town money. The project will entail effort in insulating the perimeter of the basement. This will require moving the basement books out from the wall several feet. The work will most likely begin later in the summer, but the library will need volunteers in order to be ready for the project. This will be discussed with Trustees and a plan will be formulated.

We will have a summer reading program this year that will start after school is finished. I hope it encourages reading by incentivizing kids by visualizing their progress, earning prizes, and participating in a raffle at the end of the summer.

Recommendations:

Books: I have been inspired to re-read Hemingway due to the recent Ken Burns' PBS special. My recent favorites have been his short stories, *In Our Time*, and *A Moveable Feast*, both of which you can find at the library. He is famous for being clear, concise, with his use of simple words and short sentences. Anyone can read Hemingway!

I also read Joyce Carol Oats' *The Falls* as I'm heading to that area. It's a sprawling family saga, a tragic story of suicide and a legal drama connected with the Love Canal case.

Movies: I enjoyed most of the Oscar selections this year! With this said, my least favorite and the one I was looking forward to the most was *Nomadland*. It was so much less than the book. It was slow and missed all of the details that made the book rich with character. I adored *Minari*, the story of a Korean American family who moves to an Arkansas farm hoping to carve out their own piece of America. It was told in such an original and natural way. As a viewer, I fell in love with the characters and understood without condescension, the difficulty of being both an immigrant and trying to make it in our country. *United States vs. Billie Holiday* told Holiday's story of being targeted by the Federal Bureau of Narcotics for singing the song, *Strange Fruit*. I learned so much about her as a performer, her struggles with drugs/alcohol, and the ridiculous attack against her by the US government. Lastly, I'll recommend all the Academy Award nominated movies for best documentary this year. *Time / Garret Bradley, My Octopus Teacher / Pippa Ehrlich and James Reed, The Mole Agent / Maite Alberdi, Crip Camp / Nicole Newnham and Jim LeBrecht, and Collective / Alexander Nanau*. They were all interesting, insightful, evocative, and inspiring. If I had to pick two I'll never forget: *Crip Camp* and *The Mole Agent*. I will make sure the library gets a copy of these when they are released.

Ellen Barselle



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Bradford Business Directory – Call for Submissions

The Economic Development Committee is putting together a Bradford Business Directory, and would like submissions including the name of the business, a short (one line) description of the products or services offered, and contact information such as a street address, phone number, email address, or web site (any or all of those). Please make submissions by email to: economicdevelopment@bradfordnh.org

Bradford Town Scholarship Announcement

The Bradford Town Scholarships are awarded each year to high school seniors from Bradford with good academic standing, demonstrated community involvement, strong leadership qualities, financial need, and other considerations as determined by the committee.

Applications are available at the guidance office at Kearsarge Regional High School and online at bradfordnh.org. Applications are due **April 30, 2021**.

Ice Out 2021

A different year, a different winter and very definitely, a different ice out from the previous forty years that I have watched from the shore of Lake Massasecum. Using Lake Winnepesaukee's method as a guide, judging although never actually doing, when a canoe could be paddled from the north end of the Lake and beached at the Casino.

Even with a mild winter and little snow, the ice fishermen were out for many weekend days, using colorful pop-up bob houses for shelter. Sunday, March 14 was very cold with gusty winds, alternating between blue sky and snow squalls so dense the other side of the Lake disappeared. The fishermen persisted and the green and blue bob houses did not blow over. As the daylight ended, the houses were dismantled and removed. The resident eagle stopped by to clean up whatever the fishermen had left – always a welcome sight.

Ten days later was very foggy and beginning to warm up a bit. The ice turned dark and looked very thin with water channels creating a maze if you tried to find your way through to open water. For a week the thin skim of dark ice drifted back and forth as the wind direction changed. On a windy day when most of the Lake was open and the wind was coming from the south, pieces of the white ice that had built up at the south end would break off and drift north until they melted.

Ice out was unofficially declared on April 1 – no fooling – within the usual time period.


Marcia Keller




The Bradford Scholarship Committee Needs Your Help - Our goal is to raise \$2,000

For almost 60 years Bradford has been awarding annual scholarships to Bradford students to pay for higher education. With your help this legacy can continue.

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From the Bradford Fire Chief

When the warmer weather arrives, there is nothing better than the smell of food on the grill.

Seven out of every ten households in the U.S. have a grill or smoker, which translates to a lot of tasty meals. But it also means there's an increased risk of home fires. According to the NFPA, fire departments responded to 8,900 home fires involving grills, hibachis or barbecues, including 3,900 structure fires and 4,900 outside or unclassified fires last year. Bradford Fire Rescue would like to pass along a few tips to assist you in safely enjoying outdoor activities.

Can I use my grill inside my home, garage or under my porch?

No, propane and charcoal BBQ grills and smokers should only be used outdoors in well ventilated locations.

How close to my house can I have my grill?

When in use the grill should be placed at least 3-6 feet from combustible materials and well away from the home, deck railings and out from under eaves and overhanging branches. Keep young children and pets at least three feet away from the grill area, and never leave your grill unattended.

Do I need to clean my grill before I use it?

Yes, keep your grill clean by removing grease or buildup from the grill. Always make sure your gas grill lid is open before lighting it.

How do I check my gas grill myself?

Make sure the connections are made according to the manufacturer's recommendations. Turn on the tank. If you smell propane (distinct odor that smells like rotten eggs or cabbage) or hear any leaks shut the tank off. If gas is not smelled or heard apply a light soap and water solution to the hose and connec-

tions. If your grill has a gas leak, by smell or the soapy bubble test, and there is no flame, turn off the gas tank and have the grill serviced by a qualified person before using it again. If the leak does not stop, move away from the grill and call the fire department. Do not attempt to move the grill.

I have a charcoal grill. How should I prepare the briquettes?

Charcoal chimney starters allow you to start the charcoal using newspaper. If you use a starter fluid, only use charcoal starter fluid. Never use any other flammable liquids to start your grill. When you are finished grilling, let the coals completely cool before disposing in a metal container.

I have a small fire pit. Do I need a permit?

Yes, the State of New Hampshire requires that every person who kindles or causes to be kindled any fire, except when the ground is covered with snow, shall obtain a written fire permit from the fire department. This includes steel and iron fire pits because they are used to kindle Class A wood products. Contact the local fire warden or you can email us at firechief@bradfordnh.org

The Bradford Fire Rescue would like to remind all that having working smoke and carbon monoxide detectors saves lives and early notification to 911 during

medical emergencies is paramount to ensure the best possible outcome in the event of sickness or injury. We encourage you to follow us on social media and for non-emergency questions or for more information about joining the department you may contact us at (603) 938-2231 or firechief@bradfordnh.org

Jeff LeBlanc, Fire Chief

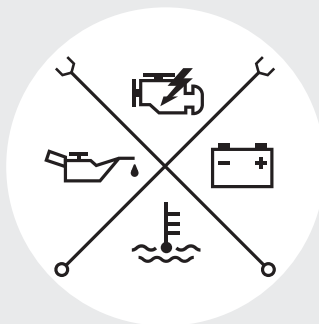
March 2021 Training / Call Statistics

Training	Hours
Fire Operations	24
Driver Training	22
Salvage Overhaul	20
Forestry	20
UTV / Rescue	20
Total	106 Hrs

Bldg. Fire	2
EMS	12
Fire	12
Haz-Mat	2
Mutual Aid	1
Service Call	2
Outside Fire	2
Fire Prevention	7
MVC	0
Total Requests	40

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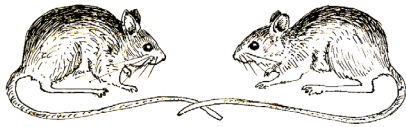
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-OUTSIDE-

WOODLAND JUMPING MOUSE



MEADOW JUMPING MOUSE

DEER MOUSE



WHITE-FOOTED MOUSE

In April, the jumping mice that spent the winter as folded furballs are starting to stir. All winter they were silenced by their personal anesthesia and stuffed into underground crevices, tunnels, and root margins. Life is hard though and a third of them may sleep on eternally.

Not as common as ‘regular’ mice, there are two species of jumping mice here, forest and meadow. I have tried to fit the word ‘saltatorial’ in here somehow but failed. It means ‘adapted for leaping’.

The forest jumping mouse can achieve an astonishing six-foot leap, the wet-meadow jumping mouse, a mere three. With overlapping habitats, both are primarily nocturnal and both resemble miniature kangaroos when headlighted bouncing across the road on their huge hind feet. Proceeded by their undershot profiles and followed by their long, long tails, the two species are virtually indistinguishable to us, but not to them, and probably not to the foxes, owls, and others that rely on them as comestibles.

The family Rodentia comprises a quarter of the species of animals on the planet. The bat family, Chiroptera, takes up another one fifth. For this reason alone, we can see how statistically they might be likely to be implicated as vectors in most of the world’s pandemics.

Rodents are defined by their two-toned chisel-sharp teeth. (Rabbits and hares have different teeth and habits and are not rodents.) Two above and two below, these rodent-teeth are constantly elongating and are self-sharpening as they chew. Their long co-evolution with the nuts and seeds they eat has them engaged in an arms race millions of years old. Plants like

oak trees attempt to design increasingly difficult seed containers just as rodents (and others) perfect their package-cracking techniques. In a very real way, they have influenced, and still influence, each other’s form and function.

For mice and other rodents, the gap between the incisors and the grinding molars creates a handy space to fold and store those endearing grocery-bag cheek pouches. Most

clearly seen on chipmunks in the fall, these same furry expandable pouches block splintered debris from choking the consumer. Inedibles are shunted out to the side.


Cohabiting with the local jumping mice, are two very common, traditional-looking mice – three if you manage to live with the more suburban house mouse. These last are entirely reliant on humans and are paralyzed with fear at the thought of experiencing the outdoors. Possibly they originated in India or thereabouts. It’s been so long no one knows for sure.


Deer mice and white-footed mice are difficult for even biologists to tell apart. White-footed mice are more adept at swimming and deer mice are better at climbing trees. These are not practical tools for identification. Both species are nocturnal but they generally take different shifts with white-footed working the 7pm till 1am shift and deer mice from 1am till 7am.

The reproductive possibilities of the rodentia I have described here are nightmarish. They start young, birth many, and repeat virtually year-round. Someone who claims a head for math calculates a sum of 2,688 house mice resulting from a compatible pair in just six theoretical months. Obviously, they must live lives of chronic instability or we would be over our heads in small, furred bodies. Their lives are making the lives of so many others possible though – hawks, fox, owls, coyote, snakes and so on.

The two species of jumping mice and the two species of deer/white-footed mice have been around many millions of years longer than us and have made peace with their differences. Differences that we spend a lot of energy trying to understand and label - because that’s what we do. Meanwhile, we imagine great differences amongst our own single species of Homo sapiens when in fact, we are all one.

Ann Eldridge






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MONTHLY BRIEFING: Town Board Reports

(Continued from page 1)

2020; \$2,542.34 in timber taxes for 2020 and \$221.25 in land use taxes. These property owners will be contacted by the tax collector.

Town Hall The Board accepted unanticipated revenue from the Land and Community Heritage Investment Program (LCHIP) in the amount of \$200.00 The Board approved a motion to place the LCHIP funds into the Town Hall fund.

BUDGET COMMITTEE

Bement Bridge Chris Frey informed the committee that at Town Meeting he was going to recommend increasing the bridge budget line to \$280,000 since bridge construction costs came in higher than originally thought. This would put us over the 10% rule and Mr. Frey suggested tabling the town fire truck until next year. Committee member Tim McKenna asked why this was not brought to the Budget Committee. Town Administrator Karen Hambleton said it should have been a warrant article, but it was overlooked.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Facebook The Committee is in support of a pair of Facebook pages that were started, one for Bradford Businesses and one for the Bradford Community.

PLANNING BOARD

Members The Board approved a motion to appoint Doug Troy as a member of the Planning Board. Doug will fill the vacancy left by Mel Pfeifle. The Board appointed Katie Olohan as an alternate.

Site Plan The Board approved a motion to conditionally approve the site plan for The Bradford Junction, 2370 Route 114 Bradford, NH Map 06/Lot 108. Conditions are as follows: 1. Add downward facing externally illuminated sign to the site plan pertaining to signage wording.

ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

Election of Officers The Board elected Brooks McCandlish as Chair and Ken Parys as Vice Chair.

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Election of Officers The Board reelected current BCC officers to the same positions, Ann Eldridge as Chair, Meg Fearnley as Treasurer, and Patty Furness as Secretary.

Local Birds Michelle and David Halsted from the Rural Heritage Connection are assembling a list of bird species seen in the Bradford Area and are requesting BCC member input. The goal is to share the ongoing compilation with the town and hospitality industries, thereby promoting and encouraging protection and appreciation of local natural resources.

Trails The Economic Development Committee is interested in creating a map with some of the BCC trails on it. The BCC formed a subcommittee to determine which trails to exclude from the map due to limited parking capacity or a private land site.

CEMETERY TRUSTEES

Rules and Regulations Revisions have been completed for the new rules and regulations. Once approved a public hearing will be scheduled.

ROAD AND BRIDGE COMMITTEE

Gravel With no known locations in town available for gravel, committee member Matt Ordway suggested it would be in Bradford's best interest to buy five acres on East Washington Road for gravel. He said it would be a big amount of money to start with but then it would pay off in a few years. They would need to purchase the property and then prepare it.

Budget Concerns Steve Hall explained that if the Highway Department budget is approved at \$550,000 there will only be \$72,000 to use on projects after paying for



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already approved projects, fuel, electric, etc. That is not enough to work on any other projects throughout town.

LIBRARY TRUSTEES

Election of Officers The Board elected Devin Pendleton as Chair, Jason Grey as Treasurer, and Laura Beaton as Secretary.

Investing The Board has been reviewing the libraries finances and would like to be earning money towards program funding with money that is currently held in low interest CDs. Michael James spoke to the Trustees about possible investment options for the library.

Vacancy There is an open position on the Library Board of Trustees that needs to be filled. Interested candidates can inquire at the Library.

PARKS AND RECREATION

Election of Officers The Board elected Devin Pendleton as Chair and Jonathan Roy as Vice Chair. Secretary remains unfilled.

Repairs The Board approved a repair quote for up to \$300 from the One Stop Shop for repairs to the Snack Shack at Brown Shattuck. Door and frame will be repaired, and a new lock installed to secure the building.

Cleanup French's Park cleanup is scheduled for Sunday, May 16 at 10am.

Independence Day Registration is open for the 5k Road Race. Race will be on Saturday July 3, 2021 at 9am. Fireworks will be at 9:30pm. The Board approved a motion to schedule the fireworks rain date for September 25, 2021.

KRSD SCHOOL BOARD

Officers and Board Appointments

The Board elected Ken Bartholomew as School Board Chair and Alison Mastin as Vice Chair. The Following Board appointments were approved: Joni Boucher as District Clerk, Soule, Leslie, Kidder & Loughman as Legal Counsel, Roberge & Company, PC as Auditor, Nancy Barthol as Treasurer, and Doreen Salera as Deputy Treasurer.

Municipal Budget Committee The Committee elected Richard Anderson as MBC Chair and Brian Dumais as MBC Vice Chair.

Chromebooks The Board approved the purchase of Chromebooks for the 1st graders in the amount of \$51,450 to be awarded to Malor & Co. The Board approved the purchase of Chromebooks for 5th graders in the amount of \$31,492.50 to be awarded to thinkEDU.

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



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April 2021 Town Meeting

Town Meeting was held on Saturday, April 10, 2021 at KRMS in Sutton. Approximately 76 registered voters were in attendance. Bracket Scheffy, Moderator, opened the meeting at 9am with the Pledge of Allegiance led by Distinguished Veteran, Bob Selig. Selectwoman Marlene Freyler presented the Fenton Family with a plaque that read “In appreciation of the Fenton Family/ Team Appleseed for demonstrating neighborly goodwill to the Bradford Area, from the Town of Bradford.”

Budget Highlights

Building Code Department was increased from \$1,100 to \$15,000. Chris Frey and Selectmen Andrew Pinard both explained that because the Town did not vote to repeal the Town Building Ordinance that the Building Inspector position needs to be filled and funded.

Bridges was increased from \$1 to \$280,000. Chris Frey explained that the project was estimated to cost

\$1,300,000.00 but when COVID hit supplies were harder to get and prices went up. When bids were opened in May 2020 the lowest bid was \$1,600,000.00. A warrant article should have been put together in January, but the error was not realized until after the Budget Committee held their public hearings. To prevent exceeding the 10% rule it was recommended that the fire truck appropriation be struck down and voted on next year.

All other line items were passed for a total budget of \$2,633,847.00.

Warrant Article Highlights

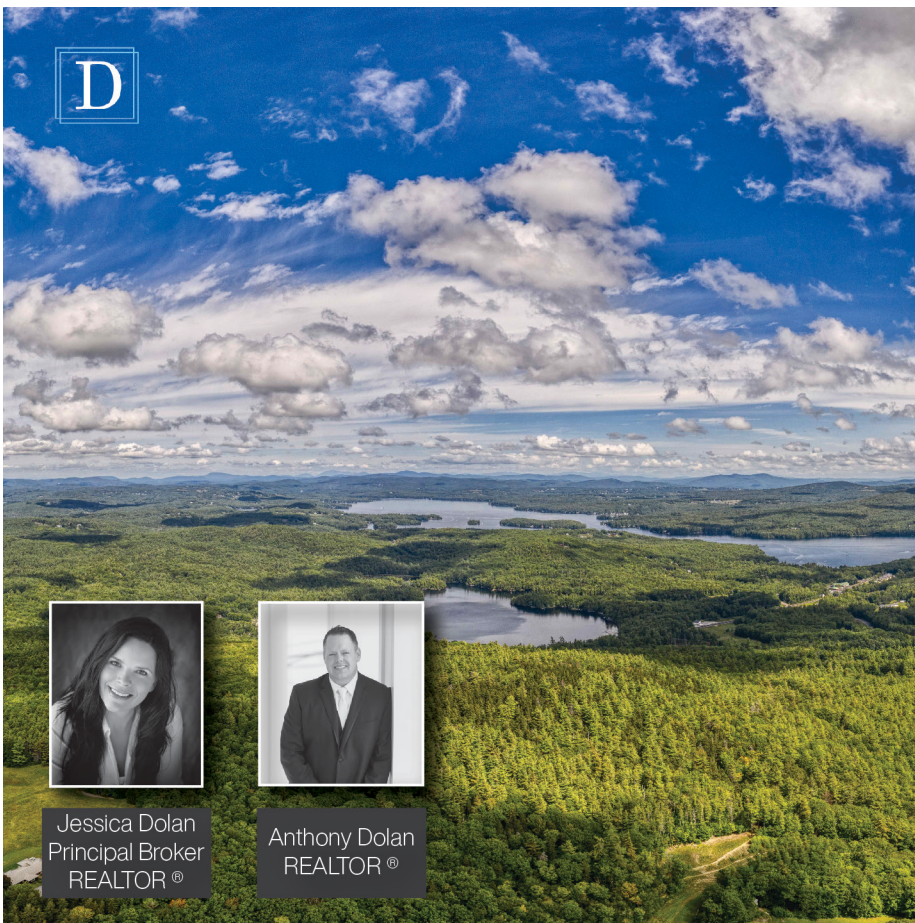
Following the vote for the general budget, a motion was made to move up article 17, a warrant article for the purchase of a new Class A pumper truck for \$375,000. Fire Chief Jeff Leblanc explained the need for the new pumper. Selectmen Andrew Pinard expressed concern that the town does not have actual quotes for the pumper and that \$375,000 may not be enough money. The article was amended to read: To see if the Town

would authorize the Select Board to form a committee to provide specifications and costs for a Class A pumper, the purchase of which is to be presented at the 2022 Town Meeting. The article passed as amended.

Another Fire Department article was amended to change the appropriation from \$70,000 to \$150,000 for the 2006 Fire Department Heavy Equipment Capital Reserve Fund. The article passed as amended.

The article to appropriate \$5,000 for 2015 Town Equipment Repair Expendable Trust Fund was amended and increased to \$40,000. The article passed as amended.

All other articles passed. The meeting ended with a message from Jacqueline Pherson letting voters know that the two girls that received the Bradford School Scholarship in 2020 also received \$1,000 scholarships each from the Bradford Women’s Club. The meeting adjourned at 11:46am.



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Moon Mama Herbals - Local Business Feature



We always love to connect with local businesses and get to know about the operation and the people who make it all happen! This month's feature is on Moon Mama Herbals and owners Kris Foss and Maria Fowler, pictured above.

Warner Public Market.

When did you start the business? Our official launch was October 2020!

Why did you start the business? Just as we have witnessed a return to sourcing and eating our food locally, we recognized a need to have local, trusted, sustainable solutions for our health and wellbeing. We started Moon Mama Herbals

Name of Business? Moon Mama Herbals

What do you do? We are an herbal apothecary and gift shop based here in Bradford. We currently have an online marketplace where we ship across the country as well as deliver to our local customers. We make our own herbal products and bring those together with products from diverse makers to offer various family wellness and beauty products. We have just started running herbal education programs and workshops, and have already built the foundation of an open-hearted community.

We've also been incredibly fortunate to have the support of other local businesses like 5 Acres Garden Center & Pet Supply. They've allowed us to hold pop-up shops at their location and they also carry some of our products. Our Moon Mama products are also available at collaborating businesses in the area including Nourish Holistic Health and Nutrition and the

as a local source of both herbal products and learning. We also wanted to encourage people back to nature in a way that is a more empowering, accessible, and integral part of them than they may realize.

What is your background? That is a short question with a long answer! In my previous life, I have been an HR leader, a diversity consultant, public speaker, and workforce educator, all within the health and human services disability field. I began studying herbalism about eight years ago around my "day job." Two years ago, we moved to Bradford and felt very welcomed by our neighbors and community. I became part of the Evergreen Healing Arts community, and Leah Cummings and the rest of the team encouraged me to start teaching. I launched a monthly Full Moon Womyn's circle which has grown and been an essential part of my life. That circle earned me the nickname "Moon Mother" by Leah, eventually sparking our business name – Moon Mama Herbals!

I partnered with a longtime friend, Maria Fowler, who has a background in retail, marketing, editing, graphic design, and logistics. She's also a

mixed media artist and jeweler who lives with her family in Penacook.


What is your favorite part of being a business owner? For me, it is so much more than running a business. It is coming home to self. It is a chance to build something special that allows us to serve our community while following my passion and purpose. It's not easy! There is no "end of the day" when you are building your own business. However, all the hard work and effort feels like an investment in myself and what I care about. In this case, that's bringing others back to herbalisms art and science through trusted local products and education.

Who helps you run the business? Maria and I run the business together. My husband, Stephen, helps around his work schedule building fixtures, helping to wildcraft herbs, and make herbal products with me. During the holidays, it was not unusual to find him late at night, heat sealing bottles for me to keep up with orders! A great problem to have. Our husbands, Stephen and Ken, are childhood friends, and they both roll up their sleeves to help.


Who are your customers? Our customer base is anyone seeking alternative solutions for body care, first aid, and wellness for themselves and their families.

What is your most popular service/product? Our Elderberry Syrup and signature moon teas have been extremely popular since we launched.

What are your plans for the future? We've been searching for space in Bradford to open up a full herbal apothecary. We have had some starts and stops with potential space, but we continue our quest for the right spot. Although there has been some availability outside of Bradford, we would like to open here as part of the community I fell in love with when we bought our house. Our physical space will house the retail shop carrying herbal teas, bulk herbs, tinctures, tonics, body botanicals, gift items, books, and more. It will also serve as a learning center hosting workshops, speakers, and ongoing programs. If anyone has a lead on space, please let us know!



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Remembering When...

I'm not sure what the motivation was, but I was outside on our deck having my morning coffee and listening to the cow birds in the overgrown pasture next door when I found myself thinking back to some of the businesses in town that are now either gone or replaced along with the many owners that ran them.

I am not a "native" of Bradford, I moved here with my family in 1969 at age 13 initially hating to move here and be apart from my many friends in Concord, NH. However I soon adjusted to my new surroundings. Aside from two very brief times living away, I have lived here in this town most of my life and I remember when snowbanks seemed to be two stories high and when Sonny Harris's dad Del Harris would yell at me during baseball practice for picking strawberries in the outfield at Brown Shattuck.

I remember Cressey and Williams and Ralph's Texaco service station on West Main Street. Carl Cressey could tinker up any small engine and sell you a farm tractor in the same breath. And Ralph could fix any automobile that showed up in his garage.

How about Danforth's IGA and the old Merrimack Farmers store? You had to hold onto your grocery cart at the IGA or it would just take off down the aisle on the sloped floors, but they had pretty good groceries. Merrimack had everything from hand tools to food and grain for livestock and the place smelled really good too. Across the street was Dodge's Hardware where they had everything from a soda fountain and ice cream to paint and any type of hinge you could ever need.

I remember when Trade Winds on East Main Street was the first "convenience" store in town. They had everything from motor oil to fishing and hunting supplies and pretty bad sandwiches. Speaking of hunting and fishing supplies, how about Dickie's Bait and Tackle Shop? Dickie didn't sell sandwiches, but he had everything anyone ever needed to fish or hunt along with good advice on how to use it.

I remember when Bracket Scheffy had a law practice down at Lafayette Square in town and there used to be auctions outside the garage across from the IGA I think on Friday nights? And square dancing at Fortune's Barn up on Fairgrounds Road, too, but I never went to any of those.

Well, these are just a few of the things I remembered about Bradford as my coffee got cold. How about you? Maybe this could be an invitation for readers to send along some of their remembrances of times long gone in town.

Almost a local, Mike Carter

[Editor's note: Bradford memories and stories are always welcome at bradfordbridge345@gmail.com]



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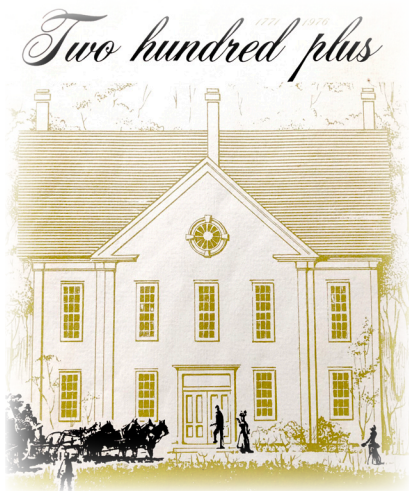
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In 1976 *Two Hundred Plus Bradford, New Hampshire in Retrospect* was presented to the Town by the Bradford History Committee (now the Bradford Historical Society) to "... chronicle an inland community from the time of its settlement in 1771 and incorporation... in 1787, until the present..."

Thirty years ago, The Bradford Bridge began the continuation of this chronicle with a monthly newspaper, covering events, people, organizations, natural and historic features, arts and culture, and the political structure of Bradford.

Join us as we review a more current history. Watch for comments from recent and long-time residents and a memory or two from a member of the original History Committee.

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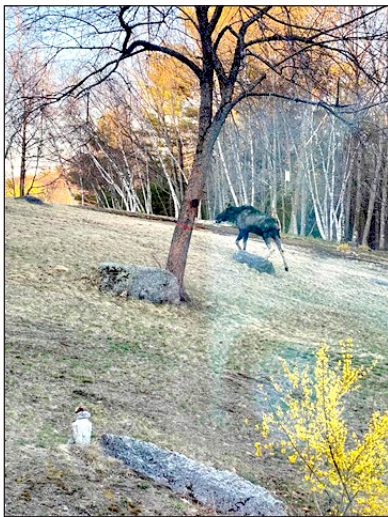
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Out & About: A Mirror and a Moose



Marcia Keller caught this mirror image of a Lake Massasecum shoreline on a windless day.

Trinity Bigford watched this moose frolic on a hillside.

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



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Active Homes:

- 55 Water-\$99,900 - 19A Center-\$729,000 - 345 Deer Valley-\$2,250,000

Land sold:

- Hogg Hill-.92A-\$27,000 (\$2,900 below asking) - Lot 1 North Ridge-3.6A-\$52,500 (\$5,000 below asking) - 50 Tuttle-54A-\$140,000 (\$9,000 below asking)

Land under contract:

- Forest St.-2.7A-\$49,000 - South Ridge-4.12A-\$60,000 - Lot # 10 North Ridge-4.09A-\$145,000

Active Land parcels:

- 2050 Rte 114 1A-\$75,000 - 375 West-8.62A-\$110,000 -Loon Island-.35A-\$119,000 - Old Warner-40.57A-\$295,000 - 2400 Rte 114-8.3A-\$1,000,000