10 QUESTIONS
by Phyllis Wilcox

Our interview this month is with Jean Louise Pottinger owner of “Aint Thet Sumpthi’n” Bradford’s local thrift/consignment shop located next to the Bradford Post Office. The store opened seven years ago and has become a place to browse, shop and spend the time of day for many. Jean was not new to this business and was located in Hopkinton running “Second Chance” for the Episcopal Church for five years.

Q. What motivated you to move your shop from Hopkinton to Bradford?
Seven years ago I needed a place to sell thrifty clothing. I was in Hopkinton for years, first running “Second Chance” for the Episcopal Church and then I took it over and changed the name to “Aint Thet Sumpthi’n.” I would have liked to have the shop in my own home but that didn’t work out. Some of my consigners lived in Bradford and told me about Pickman’s store, which at the time was housing his plumbing supplies. I inquired about it and Dave Pickman said okay and cleaned the place up for me.

Q. Some years ago I visited “Second Chance” in Hopkinton. Was it the same setup with donations and consignments? What prompted you to change the name?
It was the same type of store. In the beginning I was the director for the church. After 9/11

Bradford Visioning Session Establishes Town Priorities

Jeff Taylor, the meeting facilitator, responded to our request to moderate discussion of three main areas; The Town Hall, The Community Center and the Marshall property.

Town Hall:

What are the issues here? What concerns do people have about undertaking a rehabilitation project here? How would people like to see this building improved and upgraded over time? Why is it valuable to residents?

It is a central meeting place, people want to utilize its space more, and it has historic, architectural and aesthetic appeal. This treasured New England building deserves an investment of time and energy to determine how best to maximize its use. An energy audit, upgrade of safety concerns and ADA access are needed. A sprinkler system, electrical replacement and elevators could make the Town Hall a safer and more comfortable space for employees and townspeople alike while increasing its usable space for more town use. Adding other properties from adjacent real estate, when on the market, could also help expand its use. The priorities as established at the meeting were 1) Study space allocation to determine what the uses of the building could or should be; 2) Undertake energy, mechanical and other code improvements and 3) Improve handicapped access to the entire building to improve safety.

Community Center:

Are people pleased with the way the center is being used and operated? Are there concerns about the facility?

(continued on page 5)
Letter from the Editor

There are so many people to thank for the very successful Town Forum - Cheryl Behr for the idea, Selectmen for supporting, Planning Board and BIA for the funding, Marlene Freyler for organizing the delicious food with assistance from BBA, Caryl Walker and others, Kearsarge Area Preschool for offering child care so parents could attend, the highway crew for preparing the building, and all to the others not named, but thanked none-the-less. Above all, thanks and gratitude to the more than 100 interested residents who devoted a fine Saturday morning to listening, considering and offering their thoughts and opinions on how Bradford can deal with three topics of concern to the future of our town.

Jeff Taylor and Irene Garvey led us through the process, provided a summary and offered suggestions to move forward. There are still many questions and even more possibilities. In the years to come when decisions are made as to how to move forward, funding will be required. Concern was expressed for any impact on the tax rate of the town. One resident summed it up in this way: “I can’t afford to pay any more taxes, but I realize that if there is no investment in improving the downtown, Bradford will continue to decline and we will all pay more taxes in the long run.” Beth Downs then expressed her willingness to contribute to the town as a volunteer as well as a taxpayer.

As the selectmen follow through on the suggestions, many volunteers will be needed to determine how best to use these prime assets of the town – Town Hall, the Community Center and the Marshall/Naughton property – and to help carry out the plans. Be prepared to step up and offer your particular area of interest or experience to help move Bradford toward a brighter future.

Future forums on other topics were suggested, perhaps on a semi-annual basis – a time to think, discuss, and plan without the pressure of budget concerns that prevail at town meetings.

The Board of the Bradford Bridge joins me in wishing everyone a peaceful, joyful holiday season.

Marcia Keller,
December Editor
Planning Board Notes

Corsair Realty: The Planning Board conditionally approved the application by Corsair Realty for a gravel pit permit for its property on Pleasant Valley Road. Conditions set include submission of a reclamation bond and approval by the Zoning Board of Adjustment of a special exception application for a commercial operation in the Residential Rural District.

CIP: The Board reviewed and accepted the proposed Capital Improvements Program for 2011 – 2016. This was prepared, at the request of the Planning Board by a sub-committee chaired by Don Jackson, with Harry Wright, (selectmen’s representative; Bill Glennie, (planning board); Marlene Freyler; Dick Keller and Jon Marden. Computer layout was accomplished by Jon Marden with the assistance of Bill Glennie. Printing of the document was courtesy of AutoDesk through its Charitable and Volunteer Support Program. For continuity, the committee has agreed to update the CIP for the next budget cycle.

Each town department was asked to project its capital needs for the next 10 years as a basis for keeping the increase in the capital budget portion of the taxes relatively even from year to year. For planning purposes, a capital project has the following characteristics: 1) gross cost of at least $10,000, 2) useful life of 3 or more years, 3) is not an annual budget item, or 4) any project requiring bonding.

Using the average capital expenditures approved by Town Meeting over the past five years as a basis, the committee projected specific purchases for the six year period of the CIP. Copies of the completed report have been delivered to the Board of Selectmen and the Budget Committee to assist them as they prepare the budget to be presented at the 2011 Town Meeting.

Minutes of all Planning Board meetings are on file at the Town Hall and online at bradfordnh.org

PhD in Leadership and Change Awarded to Susan McKevitt

Susan McKevitt of Bradford has been awarded a PhD in Leadership and Change from Antioch University. Dr. McKevitt’s dissertation, What Keeps Them Going: Factors that Sustain U.S. Women’s Lifelong Peace and Social Justice Activism, is a mixed methods sequential study of the topic. In addition to identifying sustainability factors, the study offers definitions for activist, social justice, and briefly addresses adult development, feminist standpoint and essentialist theories. Dr. McKevitt has served as a Grants Manager and Civil Rights Coordinator for the New Hampshire Department of Education. Additionally, she was former Deputy Director and Lead Investigator for the New Hampshire Commission for Human Rights.

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Selectman’s Highlights

BACC Over the past two months, the Board of Selectmen have held several discussions dealing with usage and activities at the Bradford Area Community Center. Included have been meetings with the BACC Governance Board, representatives from CAP (the Community Action Program that runs Meals on Wheels and many of the senior programs at the Center), Parks & Recreation Board, and comments and questions from the general public at Selectmen’s meetings. Statistics have been compiled, questions asked and concerns raised. To date, the only decision made has been to return the position of Community Center Director to part-time as of January 1, 2011, and seek to run the Parks & Rec. portion of the activities on a volunteer basis.

The BACC was also one of the topics presented for discussion at the Town Forum on November 6. The detailed minutes of all of these meetings (except for those that were non-public) are on file at the Town Hall and online at bradfordnh.org.

Rescue Squad: Rich Branch advised the selectmen that the squad will soon lose its day time coverage. Coverage from neighboring towns is not a likely option. The suggestion made is to hire rescue squad affiliates on a per diem basis for the needed 12 hour shifts. The cost to cover 3 days per week in this manner is estimated to add $35,000 – 50,000 to the current budget. After much discussion, the selectmen voted to fill the vacant Rescue Squad positions through the per diem process.

Highway Department: Two members of the department,

Brian Houghton and Jeff Remillard have received certificates as Road Scholars II.

Bridges: Discussion continued on when and how to approach replacement of the bridges on Breezy Hill Road. Word was received from NH DOT that both bridges are on the state schedule for 2018. Selectmen voted to move in that direction and to begin design work. The current plan is to put a temporary bridge in place at the Route 103 end and replace that bridge first to accommodate the trucks serving businesses. The second one at the north end of Lake Massasecum would then be replaced.

Safe Route to Schools: A grant in the amount of $4975 has been awarded to the town to move forward with this program CNHRPC will manage and organize this effort.

Police Department: Police Chief Jim Valiquet presented three appointments for part-time officers – Timothy Therrien, Kristofer Dupuis, and Brian Eaton.

Search/Rescue: Selectman Peter Fenton thanked members of the police, fire, and rescue squads for their efforts when an empty canoe was found floating in Lake Massasecum. Fortunately, the occupant had reached shore safely and was located the next morning.

Town Hall: An energy audit of the town hall has been completed by Bruss Construction Company with several suggestions for phasing of work that can be done to increase the efficiency of the building.

(continued on next page)
Selectmen discussed use of the Community Center with Laura Hall, Director of the Community Action Program that uses part of the facility. She provided a summary of the programs offered and how the funding is handled among the towns served by these programs.

Budget: Selectmen have begun to review department budgets for 2011. These will be forwarded to the Budget Committee as they are completed and approved.

Minutes of all Selectmen’s meetings are on file at the Town Hall and online at bradfordnh.org.

The lucky winners of the Women’s Club annual Christmas raffle are:

- Hand-made basket and sterling earrings – Kathy McKenna
- Covered Bridge Cross Stitch – Ruth Howe
- Paula Dee Gift Basket – Kent Hammerland
- Wine Glass Coasters and Bag – Keith MacKellow
- Magic Pillowcase – Marj Messer
- Crystal Earrings – MaryAnne Marchetti

What new activities could be added, short and/or long-term?

Residents voted as a first priority, that 1) There needs to be specific guidelines on the types of usage allowed there (children/police; profit/non-profit), 2) It should be included in the space allocation study along with the Town Hall and 3) Establish a common calendar of uses with the Town Hall to best utilize space and resources.

The Marshall Property: Is this property being used to its fullest potential? Are there concerns about the way it is being used currently? What new activities might be successfully introduced here?

Before launching into a discussion of this area, residents wanted to address the issue of contamination on the property since this would have an impact on the type of use that would be safe. Approximately two of the more than 30 acres are considered a “brownfields” site. Other sections are readily usable. Tied into the use would be the exploration of economic revitalization funds making it a 79-E (similar to a TIFF area) which encourages reinvestment of increased tax dollars (that result from development and improvement) into the property. Then multiple uses could be realistically considered.

The priority vote included: 1) Economic development projects; 2) Town septic field; 3) Elderly or mixed housing; 4) Possible sale of land to abutters; Parking for the Community Center and recreational potential did not register on the priority list although when development proceeds, these may become more important.

The concluding recommendations based on input from the community suggests that Bradford residents are interested in creating sound economic development programs, creating a community septic system on the Marshall property, improving energy, safety and handicap access at Town Hall, and deciding on policies about standards of use for the Community Center. In addition, exploration of the Marshall property for seniors would allow aging homeowners to downsize without having to move out of Bradford, which would keep the community intact.

Creating a Town Hall Taskforce and a Marshall Property Taskforce are the next steps needed to implement the very interesting and creative ideas that have sprung from the forum. Facilitator Jeff Taylor suggested that the Town Hall Taskforce could undertake the task of completing and/or promoting the space utilization study, and then coming up with a phased series of improvements that would upgrade the functionality, energy efficiency, safety, and accessibility of this critically important municipal structure.

The Marshall Property Taskforce could be asked to look at the full long term use of the parcel. It would appear to be large enough to incorporate a variety of uses: community leach field, senior housing, recreation activity, better access to and parking for the community center. As an adjunct, this group might also look at some of the economic development incentives that might attract new activity to this and adjacent parcels.

Volunteer and stay involved.
First quarter is over, NECAP testing is complete, report cards are going home and parent teacher conferences are mostly done. Things are going very well in the district from the elementary schools to the high school. Holiday music concerts, art exhibitions and school plays are right around the corner. Sports are transitioning from fall sports (including Kearsarge’s unbeaten Division V Football Champions) to winter sports and activities.

KRES at Bradford recently held its annual “Crazy Blue” spirit day to celebrate all the positive academic work this fall and to bring our students even closer together. I had the privilege to be involved with the ChiPS group’s annual Haunted House Fundraiser which raised over $1,800 to help support the elementary school’s field trips, winter activities, and other programming. Speaking of volunteers: once again Bradford (and other schools in the district) have been recognized as “Blue Ribbon” schools for the extensive volunteer efforts by parents and community members. Thanks to all the parents and volunteers who made this happen!

Bradford and Newbury taxpayers may have noticed that the school portion on their tax bill actually went down this fall. A majority of towns in the district experienced a drop in their tax rate in part due to responsible spending from the previous year as well as an increase in revenues. Spending for 2010-2011 seems to be on track and the hope is that this decrease in the school portion of the tax bill will be maintained next year as well.

The School Board passed along version 3 of the budget for the 2011-2012 school year to the Municipal Budget Committee in November. In response to the current economic conditions, administrators and faculty at each school and from the SAU worked very hard to keep all discretionary spending at a minimal to no increase. Unfortunately, due to increases in cost outside the district’s control the current version of the budget contains a total increase of 4.4% over the previous budget. Of this amount, almost 77% of the increase includes items that the district has no control over (including increased retirement benefit contributions, increasing health costs, utilities, principal interest on bonds, life insurance, long-term disability taxes, worker’s compensation and other costs approved by the voters when contracts were approved including workshops and dental benefits). Discretionary spending is budgeted to increase the overall impact by 1.02%.

Voters have seen no significant budget increases in discretionary spending in the last two years (and a reduction was mandated at the polls a couple of years ago). Increases in the 2011-2012 Budget reflect attempts by the School Board to reinvest in the five-year technology plan for the district and to address other facility and program needs, which have been underfunded or continually deferred.

The School Board is very concerned at the actions of legislators in Concord who, through their action to reduce the State’s legal portion of contributions to the State Retirement System, have placed an increasing burden on the local taxpayer. The funding required to offset these increases is significant and, if unfunded, will have a direct impact on one or all of the following areas: personnel, programs or facilities.

In order to achieve a 0% increase in the budget, the School Board and Superintendent would be forced to consider eliminating staff, cutting programs and even (considering the scale of the increases) closing some schools. It is vital for all tax-payers to be informed and involved in the process. I highly recommend attending MBC and School Board meetings as well as the Deliberative Session January 8, 2011, to understand the process and to provide input.

The District website (http://www.kearsarge.org) contains a calendar of meetings and all budgetary documents as well as a brochure detailing the process as well as updates of district/school information. See page 20 for December

I wish you and yours a wonderful holiday season!
Kearsarge Area Preschool News  
by Karen Lynn Hambleton

In November, the class learned about things that grow. Children planted pumpkin seeds and were thrilled to see them sprout. They explored growth through yoga, beginning as a small seed on the ground and “growing” into the tree pose. Preschoolers also learned about frogs. They explored the various growth stages of frogs, sang songs about frogs and practiced hopping like frogs. Toward the end of the month, the class discussed Thanksgiving and the Pilgrims. They learned about life as a Pilgrim and how the Native Americans helped the Pilgrims. Children wrote about the things they are thankful for.

Through the generosity of preschool parents, the children assembled two Thanksgiving Baskets that were distributed by the South Newbury Union Church to local families in need. This provided a platform to explore the concept of giving and helping others. An exciting addition to the classroom is Spanish! With Miss Nicole’s help, preschoolers have learned words that describe size and are working on words that demonstrate good manners. Preschoolers are also very excited to have a computer in the classroom. The computer was donated by New Hampshire Computer Specialists and is equipped with developmentally appropriate games that encourage hand-eye coordination, literacy skills, as well as problem solving and math skills.

This month, the class will focus on letters I and J, the holidays, snow and winter. Children will study author Jan Brett, reading her winter stories and discussing the common themes. Preschoolers will decorate our windows with snowflakes to celebrate the coming of winter. The class will work on the second edition of “Cooking with Kids,” a recipe book full of their favorite child-friendly recipes. As the holidays approach, children will explore the various ways in which holidays are celebrated around the world. Children will learn about the roles that food, music, decorations and dance play in the traditions of other cultures. They will talk about giving and make presents for their families. Just before our holiday break, the class will perform its very first Winter Show.

Come enjoy Breakfast with Santa on Saturday, December 11th from 8:30 – 11:00 am. The Preschool has made arrangements with Santa, who will make a special visit to the Bradford Area Community Center for our fourth annual Breakfast with Santa. Come enjoy a pancake breakfast, have your picture taken with Santa and receive a small gift. All who believe are welcome!!

It’s not too late to join our class! We offer flexible schedules in our Early Morning, Preschool and Afternoon sessions. For more information, please call 938-5787.

Above: Brittany, Ellery and Owen fill a Thanksgiving Basket
the economy began to change. I took over the store and changed the name. I bought the furniture and left over materials and that was the birth of “Aint Thet Sumpthi’nn.” That expression was something that I had heard all my life.

Q. The last years have seen a sharp economic downturn with people losing their homes to foreclosures and losing their jobs. How has this affected business at your shop? My prices have always been low but now there is a lot of competition so I kept prices reasonable. People are interested in bargains. People come in for the atmosphere and a kind word. It’s not like a regular store where salespeople follow you around and ask if you need help. It’s a relaxed atmosphere. If you just want to look around, that’s fine.

Q. You were born in New Hampshire but life has taken you to other places. Tell me about that? I was born in what was then “Mary Hitchcock Hospital”. We lived in Danbury and then Washington, New Hampshire. My dad was an electrician. He put electricity into Danbury and Washington. He was an electrical engineer on a ship during World War II! I remember ration stamps. I worked through high school at various places. I worked at Newberry’s and a vegetable stand on Clinton Street in Concord and then Blue Cross/Blue Shield. I saved money and had enough to attend Bible College in Columbia, South Carolina.

Q. You mentioned that your dream was to be a minister’s wife. Did this come true for you? No, that never happened. My husband was a school teacher. By the time I was twenty five years old, I had five children. We lived in Dunbarton. I had a book store and a dog kennel. I lived a “back to the farm” kind of life with raising vegetables, canning and freezing food. I loved that life.

Q. Would you say that being a people person is necessary to own and work in a thrift shop? Do people come in and just want to talk? I’m in a little country town. It’s important to get along with people. It’s not like selling bread in a supermarket. I do everything the old fashioned way. My customers like the person to person contact.

Q. You remember square dancing in Bradford as a teenager. Did this early experience influence your coming here to open the shop? I suppose that had some influence. Many of the consigners were from Bradford when I was in Hopkinton. I think the people that come in here are giving and caring people.

Q. You have worked at a number of jobs over a lifetime. You attended Bible College and thought about missionary work. Did that ever materialize? I think that life is a mission. I believe that I was put here to do good things. I like people. I love unique people. I never became a missionary. I have beliefs.

Q. One of the things you said earlier was, “I may make plans-----but God has a Big Eraser”. Explain please. Sometimes you can plan and plan but God has another plan. I think that people become frustrated when they plan and things don’t happen the way that they want. “God has a “Big Eraser” and he can erase your plans at any time, I think for the better.
Obituary

Thalia M. Brown, 91, of Hillcrest Terrace, died Nov. 13, 2010, after a period of declining health. She was born Jan. 3, 1919, in Pittsfield to Alma (Haywood) and Warren A. Ryder. Her family moved to Hillsboro, where she graduated from high school in 1937. Thalia received an academic scholarship to attend Tufts University and graduated cum laude with a Bachelor of Science in 1941. Upon graduation, she moved to Cambridge, Mass., to work in the Entomology Department at Harvard University. On Nov. 10, 1942, she married Stanley M. Brown of Bradford. The Browns moved to Manchester and lived there for four decades before retiring to Bradford in 1984. They enjoyed gardening, farming and golf, and they traveled extensively. After Stanley's death in 1998, Thalia moved back to Manchester but always maintained their farm in "God's Country." Thalia was civically involved as a member and president of the Junior and Senior Associates of the Elliot Hospital, treasurer and board member of the Manchester League of Women Voters, chairwoman of the Manchester Cancer Crusades, secretary of the New Hampshire Cancer Society, member of the New Hampshire State Hospital Auxiliary, founding member and first president of the New Hampshire Lawyers' Wives, and secretary of the National Lawyers' Wives. She was active in the local PTA. Thalia is survived by her son the Hon. Kenneth C. Brown and his wife, Diane, of Manchester; and four grandchildren, Andrew K. Brown of Manchester, Sarah Brown and her husband, Carter Davidson, of Manchester, Jeffery M. Brown of Hooksett, and Stephen D. Brown of Manchester. Thalia was also blessed with a great-grandson, Miles Davidson, also of Manchester. She leaves behind her longtime friends and companions, John Reale and Suzanne Watts. Burial was in Sunny Plains Cemetery, Bradford. Memorial donations may be made to the Thalia M. Brown Memorial Fund, c/o Lake Sunapee Bank, P.O. Box 326, Bradford, 03221.

Girl Scout News & Events

Thalia M. Brown, 91, of Hillcrest Terrace, died Nov. 13, 2010, after a period of declining health. She was born Jan. 3, 1919, in Pittsfield to Alma (Haywood) and Warren A. Ryder. Her family moved to Hillsboro, where she graduated from high school in 1937. Thalia received an academic scholarship to attend Tufts University and graduated cum laude with a Bachelor of Science in 1941. Upon graduation, she moved to Cambridge, Mass., to work in the Entomology Department at Harvard University. On Nov. 10, 1942, she married Stanley M. Brown of Bradford. The Browns moved to Manchester and lived there for four decades before retiring to Bradford in 1984. They enjoyed gardening, farming and golf, and they traveled extensively. After Stanley's death in 1998, Thalia moved back to Manchester but always maintained their farm in "God's Country." Thalia was civically involved as a member and president of the Junior and Senior Associates of the Elliot Hospital, treasurer and board member of the Manchester League of Women Voters, chairwoman of the Manchester Cancer Crusades, secretary of the New Hampshire Cancer Society, member of the New Hampshire State Hospital Auxiliary, founding member and first president of the New Hampshire Lawyers' Wives, and secretary of the National Lawyers' Wives. She was active in the local PTA. Thalia is survived by her son the Hon. Kenneth C. Brown and his wife, Diane, of Manchester; and four grandchildren, Andrew K. Brown of Manchester, Sarah Brown and her husband, Carter Davidson, of Manchester, Jeffery M. Brown of Hooksett, and Stephen D. Brown of Manchester. Thalia was also blessed with a great-grandson, Miles Davidson, also of Manchester. She leaves behind her longtime friends and companions, John Reale and Suzanne Watts. Burial was in Sunny Plains Cemetery, Bradford. Memorial donations may be made to the Thalia M. Brown Memorial Fund, c/o Lake Sunapee Bank, P.O. Box 326, Bradford, 03221.

Donna E. (Sutton) Swanson, 53, of West Main Street, died Nov. 3, 2010, from injuries sustained in an automobile accident. Born June 30, 1957 in Portland, OR, she spent her early years in Oregon and moved to Bradford 20 years ago. Earlier in her career, Donna worked at the Professional Building in New London for many area physicians. She volunteered at The Fells and enjoyed nature and photography. Donna was very good with handwork and liked crafts of all types. Members of her surviving family include two sons, Adrian Battis of Concord and Brandon and his wife, Allison Battis, of Warwick, RI; a stepdaughter, Sunshyne Tuttle of Lebanon; a stepson and his wife, Jesse and Ashley Battis of Newbury, VT; and seven grandchildren. Memorial donations may be made to the Donna Swanson Memorial Fund, c/o Lake Sunapee Bank, P.O. Box 326, Bradford, 03221.

Girl Scout News & Events

Junior Girl Scout Troop #12579 has been off and running this year. The troop is made up of eleven, fourth and fifth grade girls from Bradford and Newbury.

In October the troop participated in "Engineering Your Tomorrow" at Camp Chenoa. As part of this program, the scouts conducted numerous experiments and worked with engineers. In November, Liz Tentarelli presented a "Lost but Found" Workshop teaching the troop safety precautions for hiking and what to do if they become lost. The troop even made personal safety kits to take hiking. A special thank you to Old Road Antiques in Bradford whose generous donation paid for the materials required for this program. The troop also worked with Hal Liberty making toys for needy children. The troop is looking forward to working with the Bradford-Newbury-Sutton Women's Club to create Magic Pillowcases.

Thank you to everyone who supported our Fall Product Sale. Look for us after January 1st for the annual cookie sale. In the mean time check out www.youtube.com/watch?v=3Wy31SsNPv4 to view a short video, "What a Cookie Can Do" by the Girl Scouts of the USA.
## DECEMBER CALENDAR

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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| **Wed. Dec. 1st** | 3:30-5:30 PM – Kids Yoga  
6:00 – 8:00 PM – Girl Scouts                                                                   |
| **Thurs. Dec. 2nd** | 12 Noon Senior Dining                                                                                   |
| **Fri. Dec. 3rd** | 8:45AM-Mt. View Sr. Ctr. Fitness  
11:30 AM - 1st Friday Brunch - College of Saint Mary Magdalen choir  
Please call for reservations.  
7:00 PM – Book-to-Movie *The Third Man*, BML                                           |
| **Sat. Dec. 4th** | 9:00AM–noon – Writing Workshop  
4:00 PM – A Visit with Santa, Carols and Tree-lighting, BML                                         |
| **Mon. Dec. 6th** | 8:45AM-Mt. View Sr. Ctr. Fitness  
10:00 AM - Ceramics Class  
1-4 PM - Bridge Group  
3:30 -5:30 PM–Watercolor Class                                                   |
10:00 AM - Stitches from the Heart  
12 Noon - Senior Dining - LS-VNA physical therapist – prevention of tripping and fall hazards  
6:00 PM - Yoga Class                                                             |
| **Wed. Dec. 8th** | 3:30-5:30 PM – Kids Yoga  
6:00 – 8:00 PM - BBA potluck & meeting Candlelite Inn.  
Call 938-5571                                                                      |
| **Thurs. Dec. 9th** | 12 Noon - Senior Dining                                                                                   |
| **Fri. Dec. 10th** | 8:45AM-Mt. View Sr. Ctr. Fitness  
12 noon - Café Bienvenue                                                                |
| **Sat. Dec. 11th** | 8:30-11:00 AM – Breakfast with Santa  
10:00 AM – Bradford Barter                                                            |
| **Sun. Dec. 12th** | 1:00-4:00 PM–Girl Scouts #10178                                                                            |
| **Mon. Dec. 13th** | 8:45AM-Mt. View Sr. Ctr. Fitness  
10:00 AM - Ceramics Class  
1-4 PM - Bridge Group  
3:30 -5:30 PM–Watercolor Class                                                   |
| **Tues. Dec. 14th** | 10:00 AM - Stitches from the Heart  
12:00 Noon - Senior Dining - Medicare expert Anita Oelfke  
5:00 PM - Bradford Area Community Center Committee meeting  
6:00 PM - Yoga Class                                                             |
| **Wed. Dec. 15th** | 3:30-5:30 PM – Kids Yoga  
7:00 PM – International Movie *(Brazil)*, BML                                               |
| **Thurs. Dec. 16th** | 12 Noon - Holiday Dinner Re-ception for Meals on Wheels clients -Kearsarge H. S. Women’s Choir  
All invited! Reservations please!!!  
1:00-3:00 PM - Foot Care Clinic LS-VNA Call 526-4077 for appt.                          |
| **Fri. Dec. 17th** | 8:45AM-Mt. View Sr. Ctr. Fitness  
9:30–11:30 AM Foot Care Clinic by LS-VNA at North Ridge Apartments Call for appt. at 526-4077  
10:00 AM - Friday at the Movies: *It’s a Wonderful Life*  
[Note early start time for movie!!!!!!]  
12 noonish - Café Bienvenue a few minutes late due to movie Followed by round table on Medicare with insurance industry experts  
7:00 PM – International Movie *(Brazil)*, BML                                         |
| **Sat. Dec. 18th** | 9:00 AM – Writing Group  
10:00 AM - 2:00 PM – Harvest Celebration                                                             |
| **Mon. Dec. 20th** | 8:45AM-Mt. View Sr. Ctr. Fitness  
10:00 AM - Ceramics Class  
1:00 PM - Bridge Group  
5:30 – 7:00 PM - 4 H  
                                              |
| **Wed. Dec. 21st** | 10:00 AM - Stitches from the Heart  
12 Noon - Senior Dining  
                                              |
| **Thurs. Dec. 22nd** | 9:00 AM – noon – Fuel Assistance call 456-2207 for appt.  
10:30 AM –12 Noon Blood Pressure Clinic - Warner Senior Room LS-VNA  
3:30-5:30 PM – Kids Yoga                                                             |
| **Thurs. Dec. 23rd** | 12 Noon - Senior Dining  
                                              |
| **Fri. Dec. 24th** | 5:00 PM - Annual Christmas Eve pageant at Bradford Center Meetinghouse                                    |
| **Mon. Dec. 27th** | 8:45 AM - Mt. View Sr. Ctr. Fitness  
10:00 AM - Ceramics Class  
1:00 PM - Bridge Group  
3:30 -5:30 PM – Watercolor Class                                                  |
| **Tues. Dec. 28th** | 10:00 AM - Stitches from the Heart  
12 Noon - Senior Dining  
6:00 PM - Yoga Class  
                                              |
| **Thurs. Dec. 30th** | 12 Noon - Senior Dining  
                                              |
| **Fri. Dec. 31st New Year’s Eve Day** | Mt. View Senior Center Closed  
No Meals on Wheels delivered today                                                      |

All events take place at the Bradford Area Community Center (938-6228) or the Mountain View Senior Center (938-2104) unless otherwise noted. Please call to confirm dates and times in case there has been a change to the submitted information.

### Abbreviation Key

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BBC</td>
<td>Bradford Baptist Church</td>
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<tr>
<td>BML</td>
<td>Brown Memorial Library</td>
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<td>FGC</td>
<td>Fish &amp; Game Clubhouse</td>
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Bradford Bridge December 2010
Bradford-Newbury-Sutton Women’s Club

Saturday, December 4 - Visit with Santa, Christmas Tree Lighting and Caroling will be held at 4:00 p.m. at Brown Memorial Library, W. Main St., Bradford, NH. All children, young and old, are invited to attend. There will be a guest appearance by Cover Girl, a miniature horse from the “Back in the Saddle Equine Therapy Center.” Carols will be led by Michelle Gosnell’s vocal students. This community event is sponsored by the Bradford-Newbury-Sutton Women’s Club and Brown Memorial Library. Call 938-5286, for more information.

Thursday, December 9 - Holiday Social, sponsored by the Bradford-Newbury-Sutton Women’s Club, will be held from 4-6 p.m. at the Bradford Area Community Center. All are invited to attend. Please bring your favorite hors d’oeuvre to share. Any questions? Call Susan Bedard at 763-9596.

Donations of 100% Cotton Material Needed. The Bradford-Newbury-Sutton Women’s Club is making handmade cheerful pillowcases for people in our communities who are in need of some tender loving care. The pillowcases can provide comfort for a cancer patient, hope for an ill child, encouragement for a battered woman, beauty for a nursing home resident, or solace for our soldiers who are away from home. You can help by donating 100% cotton material that will be used to make the pillowcases. Contact Susan Wick at 938-5956.

Bradford Area Community Center

Halloween night at the BACC, sponsored by Bradford’s Parks and Recreation Department, was a deliciously spooky affair for everyone. Upstairs was converted to a graveyard diner with foods like Boolash and Corn chowder. There was even a graveyard inspired cake and cupcakes nicely decorated by Marissa Pickman. Margaret Raymond, Joni Pickman and their devilish crew served over 150 costumed people. Thank you volunteers and cooks for the terror if-ic foods! Downstairs in the dungeons of the BACC, some pretty scary things were happening. A room decorated as the Bradford Hospital of Horror with volunteers like Laura, Ben, Max, Gabe, and Mason were working hard to scare the trick-or-treaters who dared to step inside. Many laughs, screams and shouts indicated that the volunteers did a great job!

The Bradford Area Community Center partnered with Lake Sunapee Visiting Nurses Association and The Mountain View Senior Center to host The Best of Old and New Wisdom in Healthcare on October 21, 2010. Representatives and sponsors from Lake Sunapee Visiting Nurses, Warner Physical Therapy, Warner Shamanic Healing, Kearsarge Coalition, Concord Community Acupuncture, Kearsarge Fitness, Bradford EMT Squad, Hospice, Warner Kung Fu Club, Warner Pharmacy, Peg Leighton Reiki &Massage, New London Hospital, and Stonyfield Farm yogurt were on hand to answer questions, donate products and raffle items and demonstrate techniques. Over 150 people from 8 towns attended the popular event.

The Bradford Farmer’s Market will hold a Christmas Harvest Celebration on Saturday December 18th from 10 to 2 pm at the Bradford Area Community Center at 134 E Main St in Bradford. Support your local growers and crafters by purchasing locally. Homemade gifts and foods such as sweaters, hats, mittens and homespun yarn, squash, potatoes, garlic powder, garlic, coffee, meats, poultry, jams, jellies, pastries, soaps, baskets and more… Vendor space is still available. Call 938-6228 for details.

Bradford Business Association

The BBA’s annual Holiday Party and next meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 8th from 6:00 to 8:00 PM at the Candlelite Inn. Postcards will be sent to members, but any businesses interested in attending or joining are more than welcome. It is a pot luck dinner, so please call Marilyn Gordon for details at 938-5571.

Remember to support your local businesses this holiday season!

Ongoing Events

Bradford Barter-2nd Saturday at 10AM at BACC/call 938-2777 for info
Children’s Storytime-Wednesdays at 10:30AM at BML
Cemetery Commission-2nd Thursday at 6PM/Call 938-5539 for info
Conservation Commission-3rd Tuesday at 7PM, Town Hall or BML
Fish and Game Club-1st Monday 7PM at Fish and Game Club
First Friday Bunch-11:30AM at MVSC, reservations appreciated/call 938-2104 for info
Historical Society-open most Saturdays 1:30-3 PM or call 938-5386
Library Trustees-1st Wednesday at 6:00PM @ BML
Planning Board -2nd and 4th Tuesday at 7PM, Town Hall
Rural Heritage Connection-2nd Monday, 7PM, BACC
Selectmen’s Meeting-1st and 3rd Tuesday, 5:30PM, Town Hall
Zoning Board-1st Tuesday, 7:30PM, Town Hall
Bradford Parks & Recreation

Thank you to everyone who came to the “Spooky Diner” and “Spooky Room” on Halloween. A great time was had by all. There was good food being eaten in the Spooky Diner while screams were coming from the Spooky Room below! Thank you to all of our helpers.

As you may have heard by now, there are big changes in store for Parks and Rec. As of January we will be functioning without a director.

According to the Parks & Rec Mission Statement, “The BDPR will consist of five (5) voting members and any number of non-voting members as the committee or Board of Selectmen may decide. The BDPR or The Board of Selectmen may decide at any time to create sub-committee(s). All sub-committee recommendations must have a full vote approval of the BDPR.”

Our regular membership has dwindled over the past couple of years and we are down to 3 “formal” members and other volunteers.

We desperately need to increase our membership in order to keep going. Are you looking for a way for you and your family to become involved in the community? Why not check out Bradford Parks and Rec? We are a fun group of people trying to come up with activities to get families and friends of all ages interacting with each other. We want to show our young people that our community is what we make it and we should take pride in being part of the foundation. We are always looking for ways to get people involved and we are always looking for fresh ideas.

First Baptist Church News

by Lynne Hubley

Ham & Bean Supper: Saturday, December 4 at 5:00 p.m. following the tree lighting ceremony at the library. The cost is $8 for adults and $4 for children 12 and under.

Focus Factor (a/k/a Youth Group) Youth in grades 6-12 will meet at the church on the following Sundays: December 5, (games, bring your favorite board game) 12 (Bring a friend, get a prize for bringing or even inviting a friend) and 19 (Ice Cream Sundae Party) from 4:00 - 5:30 p.m.

Men’s Fellowship: Wednesday, December 8 at 6:30 p.m. at the home of Fred Hubley. The evening includes devotions, pool and refreshments.

Christmas Baskets: Christmas baskets will be handed out on Saturday, December 18 from 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. from the Food Pantry.

Christmas Eve: Candle-light Christmas Eve Service on Friday, December 24 at 7:00 p.m.

These are hard economic times and everyone is busy with their own lives but if we all chip in the load is lighter for everyone. None of us can do everything but we can all do a little.

Our regularly scheduled events include: French’s Park Clean Up in the spring, the 4th of July Beef Roast and Street Dance which is held the evening before the Independence Day Celebration, and Halloween at the BACC. We also sponsor the Bradford Batonettes and, along with the Bradford Women’s Club, offer swimming lessons for the youth of Bradford. Most of these events can be enjoyed by all ages and are either free or affordable.

Volunteers are needed for all of these events. Won’t you please join us? For more information call or email Margaret Raymond 938-5392 or margaretraymond@yahoo.com.
BUBBA HERE: Alright!!! The Christmas Decs are up (Yup...it is early but so what...they look great!) The ski season is cranking up (optimistic?? You bet!!)...the college kids are home for a month (seems to me for what we’re paying they could stay at school a little longer)…and the Holiday Season has begun! Great time of year to get out…do a little shopping….visit with family….and invite a friend to LUNCH! We’re open everyday from 11:30am ‘til 9:00pm!

December’s Line up:
12/2….Mexican Night!..Great variety of tastes to “graze” on…
12/9…The Shrimp Buffet
12/10…KARAOKE w/ SheriLynn
12/16…Italian Night….all the right stuff!
12/23…The Shrimp Buffet
12/24 and 12/25….closed for Christmas Holiday
12/31…New Year’s Eve…Great a la Carte Specials….
KARAOKE w/ SheriLynn

MENU SUGGESTION
Sauteed Scallops or Chicken in a Maple Cream sauce in a Baked Acorn Squash half!
Soups, chowders, stews and chili in our Home baked Bread Boules
Sautéed Lump Crab Cakes!

Bubba’s Catering is available for all occasions!
603-763-3290  976, Rt 103, Newbury, NH  bubbahmplt@tds.net
bubbasbarandgrille.com

Sidewalk Update
Town Administrator Cheryl Behr has announced that a scheduling meeting will be held on December 2 at the NH Department of Transportation (DOT). This is the final step to review criteria and answer any questions before the town issues a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) to select an engineering firm to do the planning and design for the sidewalks on East Main Street.

Other Area Events
South Newbury

December 4, 9-11AM
South Newbury Union Church Pancake Breakfast With Santa at the Friendship House.

Warner

December 11, 10 AM - 4 PM
Warner’s 4th Annual Holiday Shopping Tour- Sponsored by the Warner Retailers’ Group SHOP LOCAL Strengthen the economy; Strength in the community.

December 11
United Church of Warner Main Street.
10 AM -3 PM. - Nativity Display
12 noon – 2 PM - Christmas Luncheon.
2 PM - Live Nativity Outdoors

December 11, 10AM -5 PM
Mt. Kearsarge Indian Museum Annual Winter Celebration
18 Highlawn Road, Warner, NH

Christmas Tree Fundraiser at the BACC

The Friends of The Bradford Area Community Center will be selling Christmas trees at the Community Center on the weekends of December 11th and December 18th. Fresh cut Fraser Fir trees, known for their longevity and needle retention qualities, will be featured. Please buy your tree at this new event as profits will go to programs and equipment for the center.

The Friends of the Bradford Area Community Center is an independent non-profit 501(c)(3) organization created specifically to raise and disburse funds for programs and equipment for the Bradford Area Community Center.

Henniker Veterinary Hospital, PA
Small Animal & Equine Practice
Alyssa J. Brust D.V.M.
Robert A. Brust D.V.M.
Jill R. Patronagio D.V.M.
Freya Moscowitz, V.M.D.
Amy C. Jones D.V.M.

24 Hour Emergency Service
House Calls Available
Henniker,
New Hampshire
603–428–3441
Bradford Historical Society

Bradford Center School (pictured here with previously attached privy and porch) was built in 1793 for thirty pounds, or roughly $150.00, payable in corn or grain. It was the first of twelve schools that were scattered about our town and it remained open until 1937. You can visit this thoughtfully restored building today in the geographic center of Bradford.

The education of our children was thought by our forefathers to be one of their chief duties. Students ranged in age from four to twenty years of age and classes numbered from five to thirty, depending on the season. School terms revolved around the agricultural calendar and teachers boarded with local families. They were paid between four and fourteen dollars a week. Corporal punishment was common practice and the 1897 town report stated "We expect teachers to bring our children up to a higher standard of behavior at school than we can possibly do at home."

Ink was made from vinegar, nut-galls and iron and was dipped with turkey feather quills. Major Samuel Davis in his remarks at the Centennial Celebration in 1887 said "...in language of thankfulness and love, we owe our preparation for work to the schools of Bradford."

Bradford Conservation Commission

The annual Bradford Bog Boardwalk repair day was September 25th. Once again a troupe of five from the NFI School on Route 103 was there to cheerfully assist us in hauling new lumber in and old lumber out. We replaced a total of 40 planks and repaired the viewing platform as well. Ed McLeod, Brooks McCandlish, Nathaniel Bruss, Ann Eldridge, and Rick Helprin also lent their hands and tools. Now if only we could keep the moose from using the boardwalk…

The Bradford Bog encompasses 178 acres of quaking bog and rare Atlantic cedar swampland in the southwest corner of town on the East Washington Road. The conservation easement that now protects this habitat also protects the associated Bradford Springs Hotel Site – the location of a large early hotel that prided itself on the restorative powers of its sulfur spring. At one time several farms, a store, a school, and a tannery were located in this area.

“Bald Eagles: Tracking their Recovery in the Granite State” was presented for an enthusiastic audience of nearly 50 people on November 12 at the Bradford Area Community Center. Chris Martin, biologist with the Audubon Society of NH, had an entertaining program of amazing photographs detailing the revitalization of eagles in NH. Due to the affects of pesticides and other contaminants, there were no breeding pairs in NH for many decades – 1950 to the 1980s. This magnificent bird is now off of the endangered species list thanks to recovery efforts and the banning of some chemicals in the USA.
Public Hearing Scheduled for Proposed Zoning Amendments

The Planning Board will hold a Public Hearing at 7 PM on Tuesday December 14 on five proposed amendments to the Zoning Ordinance.

1. **A Workforce Housing section:** in response to a new state mandate (RSA 674:58-61) to provide reasonable and realistic opportunities for the development of housing to allow families to live in the town where they work. The proposed ordinance would allow the Planning Board to approve one or more incentives (smaller lot sizes thus a density bonus), reduced setbacks and/or reduced road frontage) **only** if the applicant demonstrates that the current regulations would make the cost of a project cost prohibitive for families who meet the guidelines, currently a price of approximately $215,000. A family of four earning less than $74,000 would qualify. An assurance of continued affordability would be required for any approved project.

To meet the state requirement, workforce housing would be allowed in all zoning districts except conservation. Property owners are not “forced” to do anything and lose no rights. All underlying zoning regulations and environmental protections remain in place. A local Workforce Housing ordinance is necessary for Bradford to retain control over where and how such development occurs. Without this ordinance, a case could be made that our town has illegal exclusionary zoning under the new state law and a builder could ask a judge for remedy, taking town guidance out of the picture.

2. **Revise the definition of buildable acre to read:** Buildable Land - For the purposes of calculating the minimum lot size each lot shall contain a minimum of 1 contiguous acre of land, exclusive of wetlands, steep slopes, and floodplains. In all zoning districts, strike the word “buildable” from each statement “per 2 (or 5) buildable acres.” Add “each lot shall have a minimum of one (1) acre of buildable land.”

3. **Add a definition:** Enlarge means to increase in any dimension – length, width, height, overall floor area or occupied floor area.

4. **Exempt specific lots** from the requirements of RSA 674:41 II-a, which requires frontage on a class V road. The lots are Map 19, lots 39-47, Map 20, Lots 1-14, and Map 23, Lot 29. These are lots served only by the East Shore Footpath or located on the three islands in Lake Massasecum. These lots will be governed by the Bradford Zoning Ordinance and the NH Shoreland Protection Act. Prior to issuance of any building permit for these lots, an acknowledgement of the limits of municipal liability shall be recorded in the county registry of deeds.

5. **Amend the Wireless Communication Ordinance** to exempt towers less than 35 feet from the ordinance, to expand the protective radius for regulated towers from 50 to 150 feet and permit them by special exception in all districts of the town.

*Full text of the proposed amendments will be posted at the Town Hall, Post Office, and Brown Memorial Library. The purpose of the Public Hearing is to give residents an opportunity to understand the proposed amendments and to offer any suggestions for additions or changes. Following the hearing, the Planning Board will decide the exact wording of the amendments to be offered. Voting on the amendments is by ballot at the first session of Town Meeting, March 8, 2011.*

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**Emerald Salad**
*From The Pleasant View Inn*

1 pkg. lime jello

¾ cup hot water

¾ cup shredded cucumber

2 Tbsp. grated onion

1 cup cottage cheese

1 cup mayonnaise

Dissolve jello & let cool. Add cucumber, onion, cottage cheese and mayo. Pour into mold. (Could be mixed in blender.) Colorful salad for the season. . . . Harriet Douglass
Congratulations to Bradford Gymnast

Lydia Pinard recently earned a second place ribbon for her beam routine and a fourth place ribbon for all around (cumulative score for all four girls' gymnastics events: beam, floor, vault and uneven bars) at the Turkey Tumble Invitational Meet held at Granite State Gymnastics Center.

Letters to the Editor

To The Editor:

We thank all of our friends and neighbors who supported us during our run for the House this year. Your door-to-door efforts, presence at the transfer stations and post offices, telephone calls, house parties and encouragement - all were wonderful. And thank you for sharing your stories, for being gracious when we knocked on your doors, for telling us about your struggles and successes and inviting us into your homes when the weather was cold and rainy.

We congratulate our opponents who won the District 5 House seats and hope that they will enjoy the same level of pride in serving the residents of Bradford and Henniker as we did. We remain grateful for your confidence in us over the past several years.

Rep. Beth Rodd
Rep. Barbara French

The Bradford Bridge welcomes letters to the editor. Word limit is 250 and all letters are subject to editing for style, grammar and taste. Anonymous letters will not be printed. Please include name and daytime telephone number. Space limitations do not allow for back & forth letters from the same writers. Send letters to Contact.us@bradfordbridge.com or P.O. Box 463, Bradford, N.H. 03221

Belanger Roofing
Painting
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Serving Bradford for 17 Years
Call John, 938-2858
EPA Lead Certified

VNA Home Care Matters
“Self Care During the Holidays“

During the busy holiday season, self care takes on a whole new meaning. Tips for surviving the holidays:
Try to get enough sleep
Delegate projects and errands when possible
Try to allow yourself 30 minutes or more each day of self care (massage, walks, naps, yoga, meditation, dancing, reading, movies, music)
Eat breakfast daily
Pack along snacks
Pay attention to when your body is hungry and comfortably full, and respond accordingly. You may find that you need smaller portions.
Put less focus on the food and enjoy the conversation and activities at parties
Watch the amount of alcoholic drinks as they can inhibit your ability to feel your body's hunger and fullness signals and you may end up over eating
Enjoy the more exotic treats and leave the ordinary ones for another day
Set up walking dates instead of lunch dates with friends
Save some room for dessert, or consider eating it first if that's what you really want
Send “Happy New Year” cards in the middle of January instead of holiday cards
Consider low calorie and low fat options of certain foods and drinks
Don’t go ravenous to parties; have a snack or small meal before you arrive
Watch the extras: whipped cream, dressing, butter, dips

All of us at Lake Sunapee Region VNA and Hospice wish you a happy and healthy holiday season, and remember to take CARE!
Library Lantern

by Meg Fearnley

Santa Claus! Here, at the library! Come to the library on Saturday, December 4 at 4pm to hear holiday stories and visit with Santa. We will then meet outside to light the Christmas tree and sing carols with Michelle Gosnell’s vocal students and meet our other special guest, Cover Girl. Cover Girl is a miniature horse from the Back in the Saddle Equine Therapy Center. This program is sponsored by the Bradford-Newbury-Sutton Women’s Club.

Library movie nights continue with a Book to Movie comparison of The Third Man by Graham Greene on Friday, December 3 at 7pm. Next month we will read books by Temple Grandin and watch the film biography of her life with autism. December’s international movie (Friday, December 17 at 7pm) is Moro no Brasil, a musical documentary that explores Brazilian music from the roots of samba to its present-day excursions into rap and funk. In January we will watch a movie from Vietnam.

The Library Book Group is taking a break in December and will meet again on Wednesday, January 5 to discuss A Patchwork Planet by Anne Tyler. Copies of the book are available at the library. The library will be open all regular hours this holiday season except December 25 and January 1.

Some of the books added to your library in November:

For adults:
- World and Town by Gish Jen
- Hell’s Corner by David Baldacci
- Saving CeeCee Honeycutt by Beth Hoffman
- The Wolves of Andover by Kathleen Kent
- The Passages of H.M.: a novel of Herman Melville by Jay Parini
- Louisa May Alcott by Susan Cheever
- Unbroken by Laura Hillenbrand

For children and young adults:
- You by Charles Benoit
- The Eternal Ones by Kirsten Miller
- Dash & Lily’s Book of Dares by Rachel Cohn and David Levithan
- The Ring of Solomon by Jonathan Stroud
- What Happened on Fox Street by Tricia Springstubb
- A Sick Day for Amos McGee by Philip C. Stead
- Bink & Gollie by Kate DiCamillo and Alison McGhee
- Snook Alone by Marilyn Nelson
- Heart of a Samurai by Margi Preus

DID YOU KNOW?
- We have Computer Color Matching
- We Cut Keys
- We Cut Glass
- We’ll Handle Your Special Orders
- We have a Full Inventory of Rough Lumber
- We fill Propane Tanks
- We have Landscaping & Gardening Materials
The Town clock in the steeple of the First Baptist Church is once again chiming the hour and display the correct time on all four sides as it has done since it was first installed in 1915. Thanks go to Brian Wilcox and George Cilley for arranging for the repairs to be completed.
Winter Curb Appeal

Happy Holidays! Before I venture into this month's topic, I do want to comment on the recent revaluation. From the many property reviews I have conducted, the drop on average of between 8-10% seems fair and reflective of today's market values. Very few residents made appointments to discuss their new assessment, indicating an acceptance of our current reality. I believe the only area where assessments increased was direct waterfront on Lake Massasecum, though I have not seen any recent sales that support the change.

Trying to make your house stand out in winter when everything looks monotone can be a challenge. While the selling process is easier in the warm weather, houses do sell all year long and here are cold weather tips:

Add splashes of green and purple. Even in early winter, plants from the cabbage family can add vibrant color. Make the front door a focal point with a nice wreath adorned with a colorful seasonal ribbon. Place large colorful planters filled with evergreens beside the front door, too.

Give it seasonal sparkle. Take an unused birdbath or fountain and make a seasonal display with twigs, red berries and ornamental balls. Or fill frost resistant urns with twigs and winter greenery. You can even roll the twigs in glitter from the craft store.

Make the garden statuesque. Frost resistant Roman or Greek outdoor sculptures add elegance to a winter garden and can show buyers that there is indeed garden space to look forward to seeing in the spring.

Light it up. As many buyers still need to look at properties late in the afternoon or after work, use clear flood spotlights to focus on any architectural features and keep exterior lights at maximum wattage. It can even make a nice glow off the snow, inviting buyers inside. Make sure interior lighting is sufficient as well.

Create a photo display of sunnier days. Many times sellers will have a photo gallery of garden shots or use a digital frame to show the house in different seasons so buyers can get a sense of how the property will look all year long.

Don’t forget to clear a path. Make sure your driveway is plowed and all walkways, decks and patios are shoveled and safe.

Recent Sales in Bradford

312 Rowe Mtn. Road, 2003 modular Ranch on 5.19 acres for $165,000
44 Maple View Drive, 2006 colonial on 2.65 acres for $260,000
85 Cheney Hill Road, 2003 modular Cape on 2.98 acres for $215,000
38 Water Street, 1775 renovated colonial on 1.90 acres for $247,000

There are 47 active and 3 pending residential listings ranging from $65,000 to $2.8 Million, 26 active and 0 pending land listings ranging from $29,900 to $500,000, 3 active and 0 pending commercial listings ranging from $339,900 to $499,000 and 1 active and 0 pending multi-family listings priced at $239,000 in Bradford.
Composting

I was having lunch at a friend’s house. I lifted the lid on the trash can to throw in the wrapper from a candy bar we had for dessert. The strong odor of onions wafted up. “Hoowee! I said, do you put food scraps in the trash?” “Yes”, she said, “I really should compost, but I don’t have one of those composting barrels yet.” “You’re right, you should” I said, “especially since we have just been talking about your garden”. I felt my full versed composting rag coming on.

When you create your own compost you are participating in the full circle of your garden. You don’t need a barrel nearly as much as you just need to get a habit. When your kids go off to kindergarten, they have a cubby to put their boots, books, mittens. They learn to get into a routine and they know where to find their belongings. Or flossing, it’s a routine. Not only do you clean your teeth you somehow feel more virtuous as well. Acquiring a composting habit is nearly as easy as that. If you give a value to your teeth, and a value to your belongings, you’ll want to value that nutrient rich waste that will be fantastic in your garden and a healthy boost to your plantings. Now all you need is a cubby, inside and out. When you are chopping celery, peeling potatoes, (I never peel potatoes) slipping the skins off beets, trying to hold on to a slippery kiwi, weeping over opening onions, know that those broccoli butts are next year’s sturdy young shoots. Off go the melon rinds, the banana peels, the eggshells into a covered bucket. You can get very fancy with these containers and catalogs offer many interpretations, but any manner of a covered bucket will do.

Now the outside pile. Not too far from your kitchen, you don’t want a long commute in the winter snow. Best if it’s in the sun to help heat up the breakdown. Station a sacrificial shovel or fork to live there to heave an organic layer on top of what you add. Time is magic here. Within months your pile will be the source of black gold for your plants. It really is the ultimate participation in the “reduce, reuse, recycle” mantra. Lose weight in what you throw away, saving your town money, provide your kids with an organic chemistry lesson from table to the soil, encourage them to understand the cycle of living things. Ta Da! And don’t forget to floss. . . . Bindy