Town liability issue defused at Selectmen’s meeting

Jon Steiner, Acting Trust Manager, NHMA Property Liability Trust, met with Selectmen and a group of interested residents on June 16 to review the extent of liability coverage provided by the town’s insurance. The NHMA Property Liability Trust is a nonprofit insurance pool for New Hampshire’s local governments, established in 1986 in response to the abandonment of municipalities by the commercial insurance industry. Towns and cities pay contributions that are pooled to pay claims. As a non-profit, the Trust returns to the member towns unused monies as dividends, which have averaged 20% to 30% of contributions.

Steiner described the coverage provided by the Trust as very broad, covering any employee, official, or volunteer so long as they are functioning within their authorized work. Selectman Conway questioned the coverage for volunteers, commenting that activities had not occurred in the past due to the liability issue. Steiner responded that the state legislature authorized coverage of town groups, so long as they were responsible to the town. For example, the town-sanctioned Parks and Recreation Commission is covered, but the privately run Bradford-Newbury Youth Sports is not.

Debby Johnson questioned the swim program, sponsored by the Bradford Women’s Club. Steiner emphasized that the Trust’s coverage is for town liability, not accident coverage. In the swim program example, he recommended that it be brought under the management of the town’s Parks and Recreation Commission to qualify for coverage. Another question involved skate board parks. Steiner said towns are covered for skate board parks, and recommended that any town considering building such a park work with the Trust so the specifications are correct.

By popular acclaim, Parker McCartney will be parade’s Grand Marshal by Mary Mitchell

Parker McCartney has been selected to serve as the 1997 Grand Marshall for Bradford’s Independence Day parade. He is being honored for his many years of committed volunteerism to the community.

Parker was born in Wellesley, Massachusetts, graduating from Wellesley High School in 1943. He entered the Wellesley Fire Department in 1951, the same year he married his wife, Barbara. He stayed with the Fire Department until his retirement in 1982, by which time he had reached the rank of lieutenant. He had also served as treasurer of the Fireman’s Relief Association for twenty years and treasurer of the Firefighters’ union for eight years.

Parker’s career of volunteerism began at the age of 12, when he joined the Boy Scouts. Later, he became an assistant leader, and eventually was scoutmaster of all the troops in Wellesley. In addition, he was the adviser for Troop 525, the Emergency Services Explorer Post, sponsored by the Red Cross and the American Legion. For his work with the Boy Scouts, McCartney received the Silver Beaver Award from the Norumbega Council, and the Vigil Award, the highest honor of the scout honor camping society.

Parker has been registered with the Boy Scouts for more than sixty years and continues now as a committee member for the Bradford Scout Troop.

Parker had visited his wife’s family’s summer property in Bradford since the early 1950’s, and he was involved with the Bradford Fire

Milfoil treatment a qualified success

The eleven-acre cove at the north end of Lake Massasecum was treated with the herbicide “Diquat” on June 11 as a first step in controlling the exotic weed Milfoil, that was found in the area last summer. Warning notices were posted around the perimeter of the treated area at the time of treatment. A follow-up survey of the cove on June 27 by divers from NH Department of Environmental Services found that the milfoil was substantially cut back by the treatment. There are a few green shoots that must be monitored over the summer to determine if any regrowth occurs.

Power boats are strongly advised to stay out of the area marked off by buoys and signs, so that milfoil fragments will not be transported to other parts of the lake. The Lake Massasecum Association will continue its efforts to educate boaters to the problems of spreading milfoil in this lake and other lakes.

For further information or for help identifying any suspect weed found in the lake, contact Marcia Keller, 938-2877.
Yesteryear on the Farm activities at Muster Field Farm

On Sunday, July 13, 11:00 am - 5:00 pm, Yesteryear on the Farm will be celebrated at Muster Field Farm in N. Sutton. Fyfe and Drum, the whir of spinning wheels, the clunk of horseshoes, the bump of the loom, and buzz of bees will all be part of Yesteryear.

Muster Field Farm is more than 200 years old and is one of only a dozen Bicentennial Farms in New Hampshire. Our history is a proud one, beginning with our c.1784 Matthew Harvey Homestead. The Homestead will be open for tours and a first-time showing of our second-floor ballroom. Vintage quilts and other textiles will be exhibited in the Ezekiel Little Barn, c.1831. Frame quilting and the Barn Loom will be in motion.

Country fancies and handcrafted items will grace Muster’s Mercantile. The Sutton Church Sheds, c.1910, will house a bounty of foods from this century, as well as earlier times.

Children’s Stories from the Harvey Homestead, by Bertha Currier Porter, will be read in the Ryder Corner Schoolhouse, c.1810. The Hedgeriders will play old-time music in the Hardy-Pillsbury Barn, c.1870. The Fifth New Hampshire Volunteer Infantry will demonstrate a Militia Bivouac.

Hoops will roll, stilts will walk, and quills will write. Spend some time in another century at Muster Field Farm Museum. Experience history. --Jeanne W. Bradley

The Dog House Is Coming. The Dog House Is Coming

The Bradford Rescue Squad is gearing up for its summer fund-raisers. On July 5th, come eat for the fun of it at our ice cream booth on the Midway at Brown Shattuck Field. While you're there, pick up a pledge sheet for the August Walk-a-Thon and Bike-a-Thon. Everyone is welcome to participate.

Then on August 9 and 10, you can walk for the health of it... and eat for the fun of it at the famous Pat Rooney Dog House. The best burgers and hot dogs will be served with Estelle Rooney’s special barbeque sauce. Watch for signs from the fire house to Webb’s field on Pleasant View Road.

--Suzanne Vitalie

Fitness Trail to be repaired

The Bradford Conservation Commission is making plans to upgrade exercise stations located on the fitness trail. The fitness trail, which follows the old railroad bed, runs from the end of Church Street to Gillingham Drive and has a convenient "in town" location. The Women’s Christian Guild has graciously offered to help with the cost of repairs and restoration of these stations. Also, work on drainage in the wet areas along the trail will soon be undertaken.

The BCC is presently studying the feasibility of making a trail system through the town and is working on how best to improve the existing Class VI road which runs adjacent to Lowe State Forest and connects Dunfield Road to Rowe Mountain Road.

The BCC is hopeful of soon producing a map to show the trails that presently exist in Bradford. --Amy Blitzer

News from the Town Clerk and Tax Collector’s office

TOWN CLERK

Births:
March 27, Annie Cherie Britton born to Brent and Juanita in Concord.

Deaths:
April 7, Doris Havey in Concord.
May 9, Edith Grace Norton in New London.
June 23, Brenda N. Sisson in Bradford.

TAX COLLECTOR

All tax bills have been sent out and are due on July 11, 1997.

TOWN CLERK/TAX COLLECTOR

The office will be closed on Friday, July 4, for the holiday.

OFFICE HOURS: Monday, 2:00-7:00; Tuesday, 8:00-5:00; Friday, 8:00-noon.
Phone: 938-2288, 938-2094.

Sue Pehrson, Town Clerk and Tax Collector

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Bradford Historical Society notes

It was hot enough for everyone to jump into the Delaware; but in full winter uniform of the Commander of the Continental Army, there he was. George Washington arrived at the Meetinghouse in Bradford Center and reminisced about his life and times and set the record straight on many of the legends about him. Children of all ages learned a lot. Thanks to "George" Moore and program chair Glen Mayo for another fine Historical Society program.

Look for more Americana on July 25th (that's a Friday, not the usual Wednesday), the date set for the Hopkinton Town Band Concert and Strawberry Fest on the Common at Bradford Center. Come early and have a picnic on the lawn. Bring your own lawn chair and bug spray. Historical Society members are freezing their strawberries and will pick blueberries and raspberries to make an evening "for the berries." Please call Bernie or Deb Lamach, Chairs, to let them know how much you have. The concert is underwritten once again by the G. Warren Smith Fund. This is a whole town affair, so come one, come all.

Was your house (or any part of it) built before 1800? If so, please phone Nancy Hibbard at 938-2301. We are nearing the end of the first stage of our research on 18th century Bradford houses and want to be sure to include all. In the fall, we will begin documenting houses built between 1800 and 1850. Thanks to all who have helped with this project.

Bradford Area Cooperative News

by Donna Brown

The following information is intended to update members and friends of the Bradford Area Cooperative as to changes to the Steering Committee and upcoming events. Members of the Steering Committee are inviting members, or those interested in becoming members, to get more involved in helping to shape the future of the Cooperative.

"Produce Plus" and the Cooperative

On May 1, 1997, Produce Plus, a privately owned farmer's market, opened at the location of the former IGA. Produce Plus closed in June of 1997. Many members of the community mistakenly thought that Produce Plus was synonymous with the Bradford Area Cooperative. Unfortunately, many thought that when Produce Plus failed, that meant the end of the Bradford Area Cooperative. This is obviously not true. Produce Plus did serve the purpose of grandfathering the current use of the IGA building as a grocery for another year. As a member, one thing that you can do is talk to community members who are confused about the status of the Bradford Area Cooperative. If you have any questions or would still like to become a member, please feel free to call me at 938-2514 or write us at P.O. Box 477, Bradford.

Members meeting

The Steering Committee has decided to call for a meeting of the membership in August. The meeting will serve several purposes. One is to inform the membership about changes and decisions that have been made by the Steering Committee. A meeting will also allow the membership the opportunity to give input to the Steering Committee as to the future of the Bradford Area Cooperative. We are also planning on electing a Board of Directors and adopting bylaws. Watch for more information as to the date and time of the meeting.

Changes to the Steering Committee

Nancy Scribner has resigned as president of the Bradford Area Cooperative. Members of the Steering Committee want to thank Nancy for all of the hard work and effort she put into the vision of making the Cooperative happen.

July 4th on Lake Massasecum

The Lake Massasecum Improvement Association has scheduled its Fourth Annual Boat Parade and the lighting of flares for Friday, July 4th. Any type of boat that meets safe boating regulations is encouraged to gather in front of the Snows' cottage at the end of Sunset Beach at 4:00 pm. Decorations are encouraged, but not required. After a tour of the lake, cold drinks and snacks will be available back at the starting point.

2:00 pm on the 4th is the time set (note change from Newsletter) for lighting flares on Lake Massasecum. Flares can be purchased for $2.00 each from Candy Bradley, Tom Marshall, Joan Dorn, Al Mosely, or at the Lake Massasecum Casino through the courtesy of Bob Laurendeau. The many flares around the lake are a beautiful sight. Just remember, for the health of the lake, remove the residual sulphur in the morning.

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To the editor:

A wonderful thing happened to me recently that I would like to share with your readers. And, together, we can share this wonderful benefit with others.

Two years ago I went to a New London Lions Club screening, and the vision test revealed that I had borderline vision for receiving my New Hampshire driver’s license. Knowing that there is a history of glaucoma in my family, I wanted to see an ophthalmologist. But the big cost discouraged me from seeking help.

When I went to the screening this year, I did even more poorly on the vision test. The Lions Club gave me hope—they provide glasses for those who need them, like me! A representative from the New London Lions Club set up an appointment with an ophthalmologist in Manchester and then sent me to Lens Crafters in Concord for the glasses I needed. The Lions Club paid Lens Crafters $50; I didn’t have to pay anything.

I asked Lens Crafters if they broke even financially, and I found out that they contribute a lot towards the glasses that people need. In fact, they collect used glasses to help others all over the world.

And, this is an opportunity for all of us to help share this wonderful benefit with others: If all those who have used glasses are willing to bring them to Reaching Hands Thrift Shop on 901 River Road, we can benefit these people by donating their glasses.

I am so thankful that I can see so clearly again! The road signs really do say something! The flowers really do have petals! The dandelion fluffs really are fluffy! …

Virginia Brooks

To the editor:

You may notice that there is no Blue News article; this is because I have resigned my position as Administrative Secretary to the Bradford Police Department, effective June 3, 1997. This decision came after much soul-searching on my part and several discussions with the Selectmen. Many people have asked about my decision, and I feel that an explanation is in order.

I have always been paid well below the wages paid to the other part-time secretaries employed by the town. When my duties were just typing and filing, I accepted this fact. In 1996, I was given a raise from $5.36 to $7.00 per hour, and that was an attempt to begin to bring my wages in line with the other secretaries and in compensation for my increased duties. Since there was such a large discrepancy between my wages and theirs, I was told that it would be done in two steps, one in 1996 and one in 1997. This year, however, I was given the 3% raise allotted to all town employees, and no attempt was made to bring my salary into the $9.25-10.00 range of the other secretaries. I was informed by the Board of Selectmen that the money was better spent elsewhere.

Many statements came from the Selectmen which are untrue. It was stated publicly that I was the only employee in town to receive a raise in 1996—untrue. The Budget Committee was informed that I was already making $8.50 per hour—untrue. It was also stated publicly that I was allowed to work 20 hours per week—untrue. An arbitrary figure was granted in the Police Department’s budget for my salary this year, and, when confronted, the Selectmen merely blamed each other for the inconsistencies.

In April, when the Chief gave his plans for immediate retirement, I again met with the Board. I informed them that my duties had greatly increased over the years and I could not do even more work on 15 hours/week and would not do it for $7.21/hour. I was told that they wanted to finally make things right and they would be back in touch with me. After one month and several phone calls, during one of which I was told that a retroactive increase would be sought, I was finally informed that I would be paid $8.00/hour starting immediately, not retroactively, and could work no more than 20 hours/week. When I questioned the Selectmen regarding this, I was told “We can hire someone off the street for that and save the town money.” I was also told that they included the two benefits I receive from the town that added another $1.50 to my wage, so I was actually getting $9.50/hour and “that’s a pretty good wage.” I agree that is a good wage; however, no other town employee has his or her hourly wage based on what benefits cost the town.

No one from the Selectmen’s office ever came to see what I do, as recommended by the recent Management Study. When I attempted to explain my duties to the Board, I was told that they were aware of them. It should also be known that the Management Study, which the Selectmen paid for, commended my work and recommended that my hours be increased and my pay brought into line. But, at least up until the time I resigned, no recommendation which the study made involving the Selectmen had been implemented and any which the Department tried to implement could not get Selectmen approval.

I became tired of being lied to and could tolerate the situation no longer. I have since concentrated my efforts on my work as a Medical Technologist for New London Hospital, as well as my work as an Assistant Deputy Medical Examiner for the State.

I would like to thank all the men and women of the Bradford Police Department for their caring and support, and the occasional shoulder to cry on. They have stood by me through this whole situation and have given me the support I needed to make this decision. For that I will be eternally grateful. I cannot begin to express the feelings that I have in working with such a fine group and I wish them all the best and thank them for all they have done for me. I would also like to thank all of those who have wished me well and complimented my work through these last 4 1/2 years.

Kathleen A. Grindle

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LETTERS, continued from preceding page

To the editor:

It hardly seems possible that it was nearly seven years ago when the Past Presidents of the Bradford Women's Club met for lunch and decided to donate the money in our Memorial Fund to the Town for street signs.

Seven years, however, is a long time in the life of a road sign-innovable and defenseless, exposed to all kinds of New England weather, road salt, chemicals and exhaust fumes. And so some of our original gift to the Town are beginning to show their age (aren't we all!). Unfortunately, these are the signs along the main roads, and that's a sad first impression for visitors.

The Town has promised to see that the signs are repainted; we know that they will. It is a busy season for the Highway Department now, but sometime soon they will get to it.

So don't call us. Don't call the Town. Bear with us. Something will be done. Honestly.

Bradford Women's Club.

To the editor:

On the event of our July 4th Independence Day, I would like to greet my constituents for the holiday and challenge them to observe and celebrate our most cherished of political holidays. Far too often, we have re-identified our holidays to be three-day weekends that are devoted to leisure pursuits. The most recent Memorial Day (on a Friday) was moved to Monday for some obscure reason so as to create a three-day weekend earlier by one week. Its normal placement on the traditional 30th would still have been a three-day weekend.

This blurring of holidays diminishes the purpose of the special day, thus reducing our patriotic awareness.

Independence Day was bought with the blood and sacrifice of long-ago patriots and protected by the endeavors and sacrifice of thousands since. Of senior age now are the World War II veterans. How many of our current generation can identify with the all-out effort required by thousands of citizens during that great war, which was fought to protect our freedoms and independence?

As Bradford and surrounding communities help us celebrate an outstanding Independence Day, please stop to remember the effort and sacrifice that allows us this privilege.

Our enjoyment would not be possible under other forms of government or dictatorship. We will all watch with interest as Hong Kong changes to different government.

See you on Main Street.

Bernie Lamach

$is it possible for an editor to write a "letter to the editor"? Normally such a missive would be an editorial, however, I wish to describe a situation that affects me in my other role within the community, serving as Chair of the Bradford Area Cooperative. So let's make it ... To the community:

I have resigned as Chair of the Bradford Area Cooperative Steering Committee. This was done to avoid the appearance of a conflict of interest. Some may be puzzled by this turn of events, knowing that the owner of the former IGA building, the Bradford Group Limited Liability Company (LLC), was established at the instigation of the BAC Steering Committee. We were fully aware of the possibility of a conflict of interest, based on the fact that the LLC investors (which included Tom Scribner) could possibly profit from lease arrangements with the BAC (which Nancy Scribner chaired). However, because the "benefactors" in the LLC were motivated to invest in order to support the BAC effort to establish a community-owned grocery, they understood that not only would they probably not profit from their investment, they could lose their money if the BAC failed. There was never any intent to maximize LLC profits ... that would only doom the chances of the BAC to succeed.

It is important to understand that conflict of interest was not yet an issue because negotiations had not begun with the LLC to establish a lease agreement. The Steering Committee was still struggling to establish a preliminary budget to include in its business plan. When that group determined what lease payment it could afford, the time would have arrived to negotiate with the LLC. It would have been a simple matter to establish negotiating committees for both organizations that did not include either Tom or myself.

Here are the facts of what took place during June: A member of the BAC Finance Committee raised the issue of conflict of interest at a Steering Committee meeting. When the matter was not resolved that night to her satisfaction, she discussed her concerns with individuals outside the business meeting. A Steering Committee member improperly suggested that this individual confer with the Co-op's attorney. The attorney discussed the matter solely with this individual, making no attempt to ascertain the accuracy of the information. He then wrote a strongly worded confidential memo, addressed to the Steering Committee, but sent to this individual, stating that "In my opinion the Scribners should, in the best interests of the Co-op, resign immediately from all officer and director positions with the Co-op." The individual made a number of copies and, without informing the Chair, passed them out at the June 11 meeting.

My resignation is based on the fact that the attorney's opinion was an official document and that copies were made and circulated. From that point on, if I or the Steering Committee took any action other than that recommended by the attorney, the decision could be challenged.

I am devastated by this turn of events. I loved working on this project and believed that we could have a community grocery that reflected our needs. But now my presence would be a detriment to the organization. I want to do all I can to work toward a successful conclusion. At this time, the best way to do that is to resign. I wish the Steering Committee success as it goes forward and hope the community will provide all the support the Committee needs.

Nancy Scribner
Friends of Brown Memorial Library solicits community support

Looking for ways to help our community? How about getting involved in the Friends of Brown Memorial Library? In recent years, we Friends have:
- donated to the BML building fund
- sponsored children's activities
- conducted literary discussion groups
- facilitated adult literacy training, and
- arranged special purchases and programs of public interest.

You can help by either working on one of these projects, by adding your new ideas, or simply by making a tax deductible contribution to our non-profit organization.

This month we will be sending membership renewals, hoping to enlist more involvement. If you would like your name added to our mailing list, please contact John Forgiel at 938-5384. If you would like to make a donation (payable to Friends of Brown Memorial Library), it can be mailed to P.O. Box 437, Bradford, NH 03221. Any questions can be directed to Laurie Bucher at 938-5372.

Let's celebrate our library, a precious resource in our community, with free access to books and information for all!!

Church News
from Lynne E. Hubley

Walk-a-Thon. Thanks to everyone in the community who supported our walk-a-thon on June 7. Thanks to you, we earned more than $300. The proceeds will be divided evenly between the Bradford Community Food Pantry and flood victims in the midwest.

Building Committee. All of our Boards take a much-deserved break during the month of July. However, the Building Committee will oversee several projects during the summer: new roof on the parsonage and part of the vestry, new braces on the parking lot side of the church, fixing the columns in the front of the church, and starting a new project—the foundation behind the Fiske House. The Adult Diversion Program group will be here this summer to paint the church and finish painting the Fiske House.

Church Fair. There's no better place in the world to be than Bradford for the Fourth of July celebration, which is being held this year on Saturday, July 5. The American Baptist Women's Ministry organizes our fair and you can look forward to the following: White Elephant, Dolls & Crafts, Bakeery, Cookie Monster table; Children's Table; Toys; Plants; Gramps' Woodcraft; Grandmas' Antiques; Books; Jewelry (used and handmade); Quilt Raffle (the raffle will be drawn at 3:00); Youth Group sundaes chocolate, butterscotch, and fresh strawberries; Goat Cheese; Jellies; Maple Syrup, and much more. The fair is open from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. Luncheon will be served from 11:30 am to 2:00 pm. Snack bar will be open until 3:00 pm. Rain date for the fair is Sunday, July 6 at 11:00 am.

Vacation Bible School. Week of July 14-18 (9:00-11:30 am) for children ages 4 and up. The theme this year is "Adventure Fair: God's Kids in Action." Have you ever been to the County Fair? This is an open invitation to all children of our community to join us for an Adventure Fair. Each day the children will enjoy an opportunity to make new friends, crafts, Bible study, snacks, and some wonderful activities relating to the "Fair" theme. If you would like more information, please call the church office, 938-5313.

To town with Trash...
Back home with Cash!

In response to your requests, we are pleased to announce that banking hours in Bradford are being expanded for your convenience. Effective June 2, 1997 we will be open Wednesday mornings 9:00 am to 12:00 noon.

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Bradford Art Show scheduled for August 9 and 10

The 4th Bradford Artists & Artisans Exhibition, "The Bradford Art Show," will be held at the Bradford Elementary School on Saturday, August 9 and Sunday, August 10, 10:00 am to 4:00 pm.

A mailing is being prepared to invite all local artists to participate in this non-juried show. Registration deadline is July 15 (postmark).

If you are interested in exhibiting and do not receive a letter by July 5, please call Amy Blitzer (938-5952) or Marj Messer (938-9355). This year's show (sponsored by the Bradford Women's Club) will feature new work by more than forty Bradford area artists and artisans.

Concerts feature Lettvin & Friends

The Union Congregational Society announces its summer concert series, "Ted Lettvin & Friends," to be held on Friday, August 1 at 7:30 pm. Produced by Bradford summer residents, Joan and Ted Lettvin (members of the Rutgers University Music Department in the Mason Gross School of the Arts), the concerts showcase performances by accomplished graduate students from Mason Gross. Proceeds will benefit the Center Meetinghouse Restoration Project.

The concerts have become a yearly gift from the Lettvins to the Town. Ted and Joan cajole graduate students to spend a weekend in the country and perform for a small honorarium in exchange for gracious room and board donated by area residents.

Friday night's concert will feature pianists Theodore Lettvin and Canadian artist Carol Wong. Ms. Wong (currently in the Doctor of Musical Arts program in piano performance at Mason Gross) is a winner of many national awards and scholarships. Mr. Lettvin has appeared as an orchestral soloist with the New York and Vienna Philharmonics, Boston, Chicago, and Tokyo Symphonies, and numerous summer festivals, including Tanglewood, Saratoga, and Salzburg.

Saturday's concert will feature Quattro Viva, playing the music of Haydn, Shostakovich, and Beethoven. Joan Lettvin said, "The Quattro Viva are accomplished musicians. You couldn't find any better in New York." Dawnwen Jiany made her solo debut with the Beijing Central Radio Philharmonic at age 13. Since her arrival in the United States in 1987, she has studied with Mennihar Preslir, Jamie Laredo and Arnold Steinhardt of the Guarneri Quartet. Hanfang Zhang, a student at the Beijing Central Conservatory of Music, enrolled at Oberlin College, where she was concertmaster and soloist, and assistant concertmaster for the New York String Orchestra concerts at Carnegie Hall and the Kennedy Center. Dorothy Sobiesk, a native of Warsaw, Poland, graduated from the Frederik Chopin Music Academy with distinction in 1992. She is now a doctoral candidate with Michael Tree of the Guarneri Quartet at Rutgers and is on the faculty of the Pennsylvania Academy of Music. Elizabeth Thompson has degrees from Oberlin Conservatory and Rutgers University, where she studied with Bernard Greenhouse, Zara Nelsova, and the Guarneri Quartet. She is on the faculty of the Conservatory Department at Westminster Choir College.

Tickets are $6.50 in advance, available at Dodge's Store and from members of the Bradford Historical Society and Union Congregational Society. At the door, tickets will be $7.50. For more information, call 938-2979 or 938-2435.

Country dance set for the casino

There's life in the old Casino yet. Moon Mountain Arts will hold a "Good Old Fashioned Country Dance" on Saturday, August 16 at the Lake Massasecum Casino from 8:00 pm to midnight. Sponsored by the Bradford Women's Club, featured artists are New England Traditional Dance Master Dudley and Jacqueline Laufman (known as Two Fiddlers). Bradford's own Old Timey Band will join in the fun. Polishing up their instruments for this gala event will be Bob Messer (sax), Wilfred French (drums), Lu Heath (violin), and Walter Heath (accordion).

Dudley and Jacqueline Laufman, fiddlers and callers, play jigs, reels, and hornpipes. Both Dudley and Jacqueline are self-taught, having learned their music, stories, and dances through the oral tradition. They play, call and clog their feet at the same time. "There is no one more knowledgeable about New England dance music or more fun to listen to," wrote folklorist Linda Morley.

The dance is geared for all ages and abilities. Tickets are $6.00 and will be available at Dodge's or from committee member Marcia Strout at 938-2716.
Legislative Report
by Representative
Barbara French

As the 1997 legislative session closes, I want to update you on the legislation I sponsored and have told you about in my past two columns. Nearest and dearest to my heart is the bill that establishes an osteoporosis prevention and education program. I am very excited to report that on June 17, Governor Shaheen signed the bill into law. This program will greatly improve the quality of life for thousands of Granite Staters and, as a by-product, will save the state hundreds of thousands of dollars. In 1995 alone, New Hampshire spent more than one million dollars in osteoporosis-related hospital costs -- and this doesn't include rehabilitation or medication costs.

Also on the medical front, a bill establishing a committee to study the issue of meeting the dental needs of low income persons and families has been signed into law. The Department of Health and Human Services will develop a plan based on this newly formed committee's report.

Unfortunately, a bill that would have subsidized health care for the uninsured didn't fare as well. After winding its way through most of the legislative process, the bill was killed by the chairmen of the House Finance and Commerce Committees. I found this particularly disturbing both on moral and fiscal levels. Morally, I do not like the idea of leaving people without health coverage. Fiscal, this is poor policy as well. These uninsured folks are going to wind up in emergency rooms with acute conditions that could have been prevented, or worse, could have been treated much earlier and at a much lower cost. The expense of these visits, which we all pay, far outweigh the minimal cost of subsidizing health coverage. There are many legislators, myself included, who will do everything we can to pass this bill in the next session.

The bill studying the control of milfoil in NH lakes and other bodies of water was re-referred, meaning lawmakers will review the issue over the summer and we will act on it early in the 1998 session.

The last bills acted on were the state's budget and the Governor's kindergarten plan. I voted in favor of both of these bills. The vote on Governor's kindergarten plan was an easy one for me -- the children of New Hampshire deserve kindergarten and this bill will go a long way in helping them get it. The budget was not such an easy vote; however, after reviewing it, I felt the positives that it delivers -- kindergarten, unprecedented aid to cities and towns (including more than $25,000 in aid to Bradford), a pay raise for state employees, increased funding for road and bridge repair, etc. -- far outweighed the negatives. Having said that though, I want to assure everyone that I will fight in the next session to right some of the "wrongs," including cuts to the University System, cuts to the Community Technical Colleges, and cuts to Health and Human Services.

Bradford Women's Club Update
The annual luncheon was held on May 20 at the Thistle and Shamrock Inn, following the annual meeting. The new Executive Board for 1997-1998 are: President, Doris Tremblay; First V.P., Caroline Verity; Second V.P., Lynn Betz; Recording Secretary, Martha vonkeldich; Corresponding Secretary, Jane Johnsen; Treasurer, Nancy Hibbard; Finance Chair, Beth Rodd.

BWC scholarships were awarded to Seth Lipincott, $1000, and Jessica Lucas, $500.

The Spring Bake Sale, held on May 24, was a success. Thanks to all who brought in baked goods. Following the bake sale, tickets were drawn for the Spring raffle. Winners are: TV/VCR, Sophie Burke; $25 gift certificate from Merrimack Farm Store, Kathie Messer; $25 gift certificate from Blake's Nursery, Dwayne Edwards; dinner at Appleseed Restaurant, Jon Steiner.

BWC swim program is being held at French's Park June 30 - July 14. 1997 marks the swim program's fifth year. A celebration is planned. Watch for posters.

Come visit us July 5th at our booth in Brown Shattuck Park--we will be selling Meatball and Sausage Subs as part of the 4th of July celebration.

It's that time of year again!! Workshops will soon be starting for the Christmas Fair. If you have any projects or ideas, please call Doris Tremblay at 938-5260.

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In the Woods, by Chris Lincoln

Old-growth, virgin, primeval, or ancient forests: regardless of what they are called, just the names evoke a range of emotions and inevitably lead to debate. So many myths and misinformation about old-growth forests have worked their way into our cultural psyche that it is difficult to discern fact from fiction. With the on-going battles to preserve ancient forests in the northwestern United States, there have been a number of scientific books published on the subject in the past few years. These have focused not only on western forests, but eastern old-growth forests as well. Yes, even New Hampshire can boast of old-growth forests, approximately 3,000 acres in twelve different locations, in patches ranging from 2 to more than 400 acres.

What exactly is an old-growth forest? Some define it as a forest that has been managed by nature, and only insignificantly influenced by man’s activities. This implies that the trees in an old-growth forest do not necessarily have to be “old.” Nature manages forests by windstorms, fires, and plagues of insects. Any of these forces can seriously affect a forest and set it back to seedlings and saplings. However, if the land was never cleared for agriculture and never logged, the site could be considered an old-growth forest.

Likewise, a forest with very large and relatively old trees is not necessarily an old-growth forest. Many people envision a virgin forest as towering pine trees with a few other species, and very little brush and understory vegetation. This vision is a myth; no doubt there are forests today that fit this description, but they are not old-growth forests. Our own Bradford Pines are a good example. The dozen or so very large pine trees on the bank of the Warner River are certainly old, but judging from the location and surrounding forest, this whole area was cleared during colonial times. The Bradford Pines are located on a productive site, well suited for pine, which allowed them to grow very rapidly and attain impressive size in a relatively short time.

In contrast to the mythical concept of old-growth forests, actual features are quite different. The typical old-growth forest (which has not been recently affected by hurricanes or fire) is composed of ecological climax tree species. Climax species are, by definition, those species which will ultimately develop on a site if natural processes of succession are allowed to take place. Typical climax species in the northeast include sugar maple, beech, hemlock, and spruce. Other species will be present as well, but, depending on the soils and location, one or more climax species will be the most common tree. White pine is never a dominant species in an old-growth forest. It requires abundant sunlight to grow and more typically seeds in after a disturbance, such as fire, or as a result of agricultural abandonment.

Old-growth forests typically contain trees of all ages, from seedlings to fully mature trees. Like humans, trees have a biological limit to their life spans. Life expectancy varies by the species. Paper birch is relatively short-lived, rarely attaining more than eighty years. Sugar maple and beech are moderately long-lived, capable of growing to 300-400 years. Hemlock is quite long-lived, sometimes growing more than 600 years. Eventually a tree will die and fall over. This will create an opening in the forest, and young trees will seed in. Over the millennia, in the absence of natural catastrophes, an old-growth forest will develop into a stand of trees of all ages and size classes. There may be thick underbrush in some sections and very open in other areas. Old-growth forests are not static; they are dynamic and constantly changing.

Another key to identifying old-growth forests is the presence of downed logs and standing dead trees in various stages of decay. This perpetual cycle of trees falling and decomposing can also be seen on the forest floor as undulating patterns of “pits and mounds” — those lumps and depressions formed by trees falling over long ago. Soils in old-growth areas typically have thick layers of humus, and there are generally many lichens, mosses, and fungi. These characteristics are perhaps more important to the definition of old-growth than its actual history. It is the biology and ecology of an old-growth forest that makes it so important. Old-growth forests maintain biological diversity and serve as a reservoir of genetic stock. Some flora and fauna are dependent on conditions found only in old-growth. These forests are sources of scientific data and serve as a baseline for studying such things as climate change or the effects of forest management. Finally, old-growth forests are places of inspiration, becoming more important in our ever-developing world.

Clearly, there is not much old-growth left in New Hampshire. The largest areas are in remote sections of the White Mountain National Forest. There are a few smaller sites in this region of the state: a Deerfield black gum swamp and a Society for the Protection of NH Forests property in Stoddard. While there are very few sizable areas left, there are potentially numerous small patches, of less than an acre or so, scattered throughout the state. Even to this day, there are forest patches growing on extremely steep, rugged hillsides and other remote, inaccessible places that have managed to escape hurricanes, fires, and chainsaws. These patches may not serve all of the same functions as larger areas of old-growth, but they are still important and need to be protected from disturbance.

The recent advent of helicopter logging in this region comes at a cost. With this technology, we are now able to harvest valuable timber from places too remote and difficult to reach with conventional logging equipment. Many of these areas are old-growth patches, existing undisturbed throughout time. We may not even realize what we are losing. Old-growth is an emotional issue, but this much I do know: it’s worth keeping as much of it around as possible, at least until we understand what we are losing. They’re not making it any more!

Chris Lincoln is a consulting forester with New England Forestry Consultants, Inc. and lives and works in Bradford.
**BRADFORD'S INDEPENDENCE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:30-10:00</td>
<td>Masonic Breakfast, St. Peter's Lodge</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:30-10:00</td>
<td>Coffee &amp; Doughnuts at Baptist Church</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:30-10:00</td>
<td>5K Road Race registration, Town Hall</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Registration fee: $8.00 prior to July 5; $10.00 race day. T-shirts to first 150 entrants. Prizes and trophies to winners. For information, call 938-5485.</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00-1:00</td>
<td>Blood Drive at Marketplace, sponsored by BBA</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00-3:00</td>
<td>Church Fair (Rain date July 6, 11:00 am)</td>
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<td>White Elephants, Dolls &amp; Crafts, Bakery, Cookies, Children's Table, Tools, Plants, Gramps' Woodcraft, Grandmas' Antiques, Books, Jewelry, Quilt Chances, Youth Group Sundaes, Goat Cheese, Jellies, Maple Syrup, and Much More! (For info, call 938-2716 or 938-2650)</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00-4:00</td>
<td>Crafters &amp; Vendors, East Main Street</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00</td>
<td>Start of 5K Road Race</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00</td>
<td>Cow Flop Bingo begins at Marshall property (2 &quot;events&quot; planned)</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00-2:00</td>
<td>&quot;Two's Company,&quot; live music, corner Route 103 &amp; E. Main St.</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00-2:00</td>
<td>Wagon rides with matched Percherons between Marshall parking area and Main St.</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00-4:00</td>
<td>Quilt Exhibit, Thistle and Shamrock Inn</td>
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*Traffic on East Main Street will be limited to east-bound only on July 5 between 6:00 am and 5:00 pm. This will allow safe passage for the 5K Race and also for the safety of pedestrian traffic throughout the day.*

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Main Street
DAY CELEBRATION

Public parking will be available on the Marshall property on East Main Street all day for $2.00, to benefit the Bradford-Newbury Kindergarten. Between 10:00 am and 2:00 pm, a matched pair of black Percheron horses will pull a wagon to provide a shuttle service to the Main Street area. Bring a flashlight if you plan to park for the fireworks.

11:00 UNH "Red Wagon Caravan" Kids Show Church grounds
      Free, sponsored by E. Warren Smith Fund
11:30-2:00 Luncheon (snack bar open until 3:00) Church grounds
12:00-3:00 "Two Fiddles" on the Library Lawn Dudley and Jacqueline Laufman
1:00-3:00 "Balloon Zoo" Stage Show for kids near Lake Sunapee Bank
2:00 Line Dancing demonstration near Marketplace
4:00 Independence Day Parade for info, call 938-5268 Theme: Animals, Animals, Animals
          Firemen & Firefighting Equipment,
          Floats, Shriners’ Drum Corps, Live animals, Kearsarge Community Band,
          Youth Groups, Rescue Squad and
          Much More!
4:00 Midway Opens at Brown Shattuck Field Games, Booths, etc.; Jello Pie Throwing--
Parks & Recreation; Sausage & Pepper Subs--Bradford Women’s Club
5:30 Firemen’s Chicken BBQ plus Raffle & Prizes
5:30 - Dusk Musical Entertainment
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BRADFORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE
A Point of View
by Luanne Mayo

We have just come back from a family reunion on Padre Island in Texas. All six girls (women, daughters) were there, plus spouses, plus children, plus a cousin and her family. Some of these people have not seen each other since high school, and most of them hadn’t ever met cousin Pam, or her family. Ours was a blended family marriage, except it didn’t blend. They weren’t fond of each other twenty years ago, to put it mildly, so this was a real act of faith on our part. Amazing as it seems, they have all grown up and they enjoyed each other. The grandchildren acted as if they had known each other from birth; it was instant bonding. Everyone seemed to have a splendid time. His girls liked my girls and vice versa. There was only a small amount of eye rolling and finger-pointing... and that was to be expected from a bunch of very strong, independent women. They are all very human. And you wouldn’t believe how they were able to cooperate in order to get things done! It was a blast.

I am pleased to report that the larger world is still out there. The airports are wall to wall with people in BIG shoes (no wonder people kill for sneakers); they are like walking Christmas packages. Planes are still having to fly around thunderstorms, making you miss your connections. Dallas still boasts women with big hair, except now it isn’t the bubble look; it’s long and about two feet wide and makes you ponder whether it ever gets combed!

On our return to Bradford, we found that B.C. Cai had been chewed by some large monster and Oliver hasn’t stopped talking about how rotten we were to have left them. ... We had hoped that, with our fresh perspective, our town would appear a bit more grown up and that things in Bradford would not be what we remembered; but, alas, everything seems to be the same. ... A luncheon partner informed me that he felt the town was getting more polarized all the time. I repeated this in a telephone conversation, and the rejoinder was “How could that be, the same people are on all of the committees?” We came to the conclusion that everyone who is active in Bradford has a closet full of hats and that they change them to suit each occasion. Just think how difficult it would be to know which persona you were talking to if they didn’t have their appropriate hat on for that conversation? And when they are wearing two hats ........

If you are down at the Toddlers Beach, at French’s Park, you might consider pulling some of the water lilies and bamboo, roots and all, before that little cove gets choked. A sun hat is recommended for that occasion.
The Bear, by Kelly Vaas, as told to her Dad, Peter

It was the morning my sister, Katelyn, and all the other 5th graders were waking up at Camp Hillsboro, during their environmental camp school field trip. Being in the 3rd grade, I couldn’t go. It was June 6th and we had been in Bradford since May 14th, living in the 200-year-old house my Dad’s Grandmother had bought in 1926; it is up a dirt road behind Lake Massacreum. When we moved in, my Dad had put a bird feeder about 15 yards from my bedroom window. He had filled it about 2 days before. Dad came into my room to wake me for school at 7:30, jumped on my bed and put the shade up. We looked out the window and noticed only the bottom half of the bird feeder was still standing. We looked into the woods and up a small incline was a BIG BLACK BEAR. It was not the small cuddly type that was laying next to me, but a BIG one. We looked at him and called my Mom to come see it. She said, “I’m not getting out of bed to have you guys say you fooled me.” We said, “Really Mom, there is a bear in the back yard.” Mom got up and came out on the deck and we watched as the bear came sauntering back down the incline, plopped itself down by the birseed and started to eat the seed with its front paws. We watched for a few minutes and then Dad moved the curtain and the bear got startled. He ran to the top of the incline, stopped, looked back, thought about coming back to eat more, and then just sauntered off into the woods.

As the day went on, we discovered the bear had knocked over and eaten birseed at our neighbors, Barbara and Parker McCartney’s. We have also heard that Nicky Calvert, my sister’s friend and on our softball team, has enticed the bear to visit her front yard so her Dad, Rob, who works for the NH Fish and Game Commission, could see it up close.

There is a pile of rocks in the woods my Dad has taken us to that he has always called “The Bear Caves,” but in the 70 years his family has been visiting Bradford, nobody had ever really thought there were bears there...now we know differently.

This all happened on a Friday morning. Saturday, being a day the dump is open, my Dad brought the top half of the bird feeder to the trash pile, as we do not want to encourage the Bear to return.

Katelyn had a great time at Camp Hillsboro, but Dad, Mom and I experienced a sight we will never forget.

At Work ... At Home
by Audrey V. Sylvester

Traditional early American weaving patterns are professional handweaver Linda High’s specialty. She and her husband, Steven, will transform former living spaces in their 1787 Rowe Mountain home into a workspace studio/showroom for Linda’s weaving business. She said, “The house is a wonderful match for what we do.” Steven, a woodworker in his spare time, builds traditional furniture.

During the next few weeks, the couple will retrieve the weaving library, cotton, linen and wool yarns, the “mega-loom” (a 16-harness flyshuttle AVL), and three other “favorites” from storage. A sparkling collection of towels, table runners, and sofa throws (woven in patterns with names like Summer & Winter, Barley Corn, Goose Eye Twill, Shaker M’s & O’s, and Snowball Overshot) was woven at a furious pace last winter in anticipation of their move from Ware, Massachusetts, to New Hampshire.

With her first show beginning in two weeks, Linda appears calm in spite of the chaos. First Things First ... the mega-loom was installed in the living room. Next Things ... kitchen renovations, studio construction, and out-building rehab for Steven’s workshop. At least Steven’s schedule has settled into a routine—commuting to Bow where he works as an auto technician for Grappone Honda.

Steven urged Linda to buy her first loom, even before she knew how to weave. When they found an ad for a used loom, she balked. Steven pushed the decision. “Why don’t we get that loom? I’ll get the truck and some blankets.” So they bought it. To this day, she “blames” him for getting her involved. “But,” she said, “he’s more than made up for it. He assembling the looms, helps me warp them, and takes vacation time to do craft shows with me.”

The first loom came warped (the lengthwise threads, which are the foundation of the weave). Linda recalled, “It sat in the living room like a new Christmas present. I didn’t know any of the rules. I used sewing thread, rags, yarn—whatever I could find.” She followed directions in a learning-to-weave book and wove a textile that was the most creative she has ever attempted.

After that first heady freedom, Linda got serious. She earned a Certificate of Excellence from the Handweavers’ Guild of America (HGA). After an intensive two and a half years of full-time weaving, Linda had mastered hundreds of patterns, techniques, fabric specifications, design and color. She intended to earn the next certificate: in-depth research of one topic. After a year’s research on “The Use of Color with Lace Weaves,” she sent her proposal to the HGA judges. Judge One said, “This is wonderful, but your focus is too broad.” Judge Two said, “This is wonderful, but your focus is too narrow.” Judge Three said, “Why would you ever think of using color in lace weaves? Lace should only be done in white.” Linda withdrew from the program and made her own peace. “It was time for me to get professional and get on with it.”

Linda sells textiles at high-end juried craft shows. She learned marketing by depending on her own intuition and assessing the craft show marketplace. The first show she entered was a disaster experiment—a “rent-a-table” fund-raiser. I ran a “Pity Sale.” “I learned the hard way...a show where craftsmen make jewelry from bottle caps and glue guns was the wrong market. Linda explained that such a mistake would be too costly in today’s market, where booth fees can cost hundreds of dollars. Although she has earned national recognition (her weaving was selected for the magazine, Early American Homes), she hopes her weaving will be used every day, not stuffed away as a precious relic in a linen drawer.

Another “warp” in the High plan will be wound after the First Things First list. Members of the American Livestock Breeding Conservancy, they plan to restore pastures on their 100-acre homestead to raise rare-breed livestock—Dominic chickens, Gloucester Old Spot pigs, Cotswold and Old Shetland sheep. Linda praised these hardy breeds for their ability to thrive on pastures, stay out in cold weather, and fend for themselves. As I hear such grand plans, I recall an old weaver’s joke, “You have to be warped to weave.” The Highs have put on an enormously long warp. They are ready to weave.

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Report on Kearsarge Regional School District
by Mike Hague, Bradford School Board Rep

Kindergarten
A committee of Board members and other interested people has been studying the possibilities for a district kindergarten for the last several months. Now that the climate has become more favorable, I will regularly update on the committee’s progress.

Site-based management
In a move away from top-down management to address teacher morale and to be more responsive to the community, your school district is moving in the direction of giving more power to each school to make its own decisions, with the aid of parent advisory councils. We will be employing a management consultant to help us design a more decentralized system and institutionalize parent involvement in an advisory role both to each school and to the district as a whole. The process is just beginning, so I will keep you informed as we go along; please contact me if you have any ideas or opinions either way.

Bus behavior 2
In response to the need to better handle bus behavior problems, an updated policy, drawn up by middle school administration, drivers, monitors, and our transportation coordinator, was approved by your school board. Basically, students will be warned informally, then once formally, with parent contact, and then suffer the logical consequences of being suspended from the bus and/or school, depending on the severity or duration of the behavior. Bus safety will be the important factor in bus discipline and the goal is to make students accountable for their behavior. This tends to reinforce appropriate behavior. We as parents also need to hold our kids accountable if they misbehave on the bus and not just blindly defend them or minimize the importance of appropriate social behavior. One of the difficulties lies in the long bus rides for some of these energetic middle schoolers and we are looking at this now. If you have any pertinent information that could help, please contact me.

So, next school year there will be a tighter bus discipline policy, better communication between the school and drivers, more driver training, and more parent and student information. The committee that developed the policy will meet periodically to judge how effectively the process works. I am on the committee, so contact me if you see any problems.

Adult education
As the direct result of a lead teacher project by Andrea Albert, we had 85+ people take adult education courses offered by the district this spring. (A lead or master teacher project is a paid educational extra project approved, then undertaken, by an exceptional teacher to better education within the district.) In the fall a survey, donated by the Honeywell Corporation, was mailed to residents to determine course offerings. Courses that eventually ran, beginning in March, were: Introduction to the Internet, Introduction to Spanish, Introduction to Computers, and Claris Works 4.0. All who participated were enthusiastic about the courses and want to take more in the fall. The adult education program made enough money to hire a part-time coordinator so we can continue and expand this community education program. More information to follow.

High school graduation
Here are the statistics of the class of 1997. Of the total 103 students who graduated, 42 (41%) are going to a four-year college, 3 (3%) will attend a three-year college, 17 (16%) will go to a two-year college, and 3 (3%) will go to a one-year college. 23 (22%) will go directly to work, 5 (5%) are joining the Armed Services, and 10 (10%) will do “other.” Ten students from Bradford are going to college. But the most important statistic is the individual accomplishment of each student and his/her passage to the next stage of life. Best of luck to all.

Are you listening, Bill Gates?
Cluster 7-2 at the middle school, using teachers, community volunteers, and skills from their subject areas, formed a company. The Cay Sargia Calendar Company, to produce the school academic calendar for next year. They divided the work and met as committees, including text editors, graphic editors, layout design, office managers, and science, math, social studies, and language arts committees, and produced a document by the deadline. It was printed by R.C. Brayshaw Co. and will be used for the 1997-1998 school year. Their code of ethics included using recycled paper and donating profits to charity.

Odds and ends
Next year we will be trying to survey middle and high school students to collect information about their risk-taking behaviors (drugs, sex, tobacco, etc.), which we will use to plan prevention strategies. This is part of our district goal to improve student behavioral standards. Next year, look for a possible sea kayaking trip by project C.L.I.M.B. at the high school. Our Special Education program and services received an excellent grade on its site review process with the State Department of Education and was certified for the next five years.
Library Lantern
by Maggi Ainslie

Thanks to Brewster Caswell, the loose railing has been welded. He has made seven trustees, three staff, and all library users very happy!

The Trustees’ Annual Book and Bake Sale will be held at the library on Saturday, July 12, 9:00-1:00. We can always use children’s books if you can part with them. All baked items may be brought to the library the morning of the sale.

Our summer reading program and “Wednesdays at One” (pm) begin July 9th with a Cat in the Hat 40th Birthday Party. We will have a visit from the Cat, a cake and activities. Scheduled events include: July 16-Janet Bauer; July 23-Kathy Lowe presents “Music for Kids of all ages”; July 30-Cindy Davenport; August 6-Al Grindle; August 13-Party for all club members.

The Christa McAuliffe Planetarium pass has been jointly renewed by the Friends of BML and the Trustees. Come in for a copy of the summer schedule.

The Thrift Shop is off to a great start. ALL items are donated. ALL time is volunteered. ALL projects go to the Building Fund to reduce the cost of the library project. NO tax dollars have been used to date.

Second Annual Quilt Exhibit

For a second year in a row, Bradford residents have opened their cedar chests and closets to give you a unique opportunity to view a wonderful selection of quilts ... from fresh off the quilting frame to true antique heirlooms.

The exhibit will be held on July 5 from 10:00-4:00 at the Thistle and Shamrock Inn. For information, call 938-5553.

Bradford Economic Opportunities Committee notes by Committee Member Audrey Sylvester

The Bradford Economic Opportunities Committee (BEOC) recognizes a renewed spirit of cooperation among several town committees and groups that are tackling the challenges of making Bradford a better place to live, work, and visit. As the town lurches toward the year 2000, people are beginning to recognize the need for comprehensive and coordinated planning in order to maximize the town’s potential of considerable human, natural, and economic resources.

As BEOC Chair Don Johnsen said, “We need more people to think about how they can help—people who are really concerned about the future direction of their town, people who are willing to help key groups (e.g., the Planning Board) as they wrestle with the issues facing us all. It is too easy to complain that this and that isn’t getting done. What we have to keep in mind is that ALL of these people are volunteers and they need more help and support!”

One recent example of a renewed spirit of cooperation in civic activities, initiated with the help of the BEOC and the Bradford Economic Development Corporation, is the project of connecting one of Bradford’s Class VI roads to State trails. Another is the cooperative spirit shown in planning the 4th of July “extravaganza.” A third marathon effort is the Planning Board’s Master Plan Update Committee work. This group has been hard at work for almost two years. It is not generally known how much effort goes into the Master Plan. These volunteers, sponsored by the Planning Board, have been meeting weekly. Don said, “We have been truly impressed at the level of this volunteer effort. Bradford’s townspersons have a strong spirit, which we hope will carry us through the tough period ahead where the BEOC grapples with numerous priority issues in Bradford.”

These issues (which the BEOC refers to as “projects” to note action is to be taken) were identified in various surveys and townwide meetings: Rural Development Council’s (RDC) visits, and the Master Plan Update (early Fall completion).

A preliminary list of twenty-three projects has already been identified by the BEOC. Leading the list are the four heavily “red dotted” priorities which resulted from the RDC visit in May: 1) Water/sewer study, plan and action; 2) Bradford Action Program to be developed, including a plan for capital improvements; 3) Strategy for attracting winter and summer visitors; and 4) Improved communication and coordination of organizational and civic activities.

Throughout the coming months, the BEOC will assess, evaluate, and prioritize LIST 23. This number is subject to change with Master Plan Update Committee recommendations. The BEOC will actively research, assess and access sources for project funding.

The BEOC intends to meet with groups in the community to review projects and gain input for the committee’s recommended “Bradford Action Program.” Johnsen summarized the committee’s focus, “The BEOC has been chartered by the Selectmen to look at all of the projects which the townspeople have stated are important to them as a group. This transcends any self-interests of committee members. We have to sort out what is urgently needed now from those things which are ‘nice to have’ and might be deferred. We also need to identify what is achievable and best for the town as a whole. This effort will, of necessity, involve every concerned member of the community. We are, and must remain, dedicated to helping Bradford grow into a better place for our children’s future.”

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Bradford: Views and privacy go with this perfectly sited 2-3 bedroom, 1 bath home on 7.4 acres. Oversized 1-car garage and small barn. All for . . . . . . . . . . . $97,000.

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The Bank Ladies

For your convenience, and by popular demand, the Lake Sunapee Bank in Bradford is now open Wednesday mornings. Hours of service are: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday, 9:00-noon; Monday 9:00-4:00; and Friday, 9:00-5:00.

Your three cheerful tellers look forward to meeting you and serving you with charm and accuracy. They are:

Nancy Demarais, who was born and raised in Claremont. She joined the banking business in 1986 and LSB in 1994. She has been in the Bradford office since 1995. Nancy is married, with a son and daughter.

Cindy Wood comes from the Peterborough area. She worked at Wayno’s Supermarket in Antrim as Assistant Manager/Computer Coordinator for 12 years. She has a daughter with whom she walks and bikes and enjoys being with.

Karen Russell worked at Mary Hitchcock Memorial Hospital until the end of last year. She has two children and lives in Bradford. She plans to take banking courses, since the nursing field and banking are a bit different.

Asked what their personal plans or goals were, Cindy says her daughter insists there is Disneyland in their future. Nancy wants to go on a cruise and soak up the sun. Karen wants to have the renovations on their house completed.

The Bank Ladies also have the coffee pot on in the morning. Coffee and a smile. What more could one want of a bank? Except maybe a faster account and a balanced checkbook. --Milly Kittredge

BOOK REVIEW
by Pauline Dishmon

IN MY PLACE
By Charlayne Hunter-Gault
Farrar Straus Giroux 1992

Like me, those who view the PBS Lehrer News program will miss one of its proficient reporters...Charlayne Hunter-Gault, who recently announced her departure from the news show to join her husband, a banker stationed in Africa.

In her autobiography, Charlayne recalls January 9, 1961, when she walked onto the campus at the University of Georgia to register for classes. Oddly, during this period, University officials had been fighting for more than two years to keep her out because she was considered “not socially, intellectually or morally desirable.” She was Black and no such student had ever been admitted in the school’s 176-year history.

Another student, Hamilton Holmes, received the same negativity. It took two and one-half years for the pair to battle through the system, including courts, before entering the University of Georgia. Even after admission, they experienced tough sledding, as they were greeted by mobs of white students who hurled epithets, burned crosses, and staged riots. During a trial, Charlayne was known as “The Hunter Girl.”

Charlayne was born in Due West, SC. Her mother, Althea, was a teacher without a college degree, though she had graduated from Hyde Park, a prestigious high school in Chicago. Her father, Charles, son of a preacher, spent most of his adult life as an Army chaplain. She was named for him.

Her story revolves around friends and family and includes the year the family lived in Alaska, a site where her father was stationed. Upon their return to Atlanta, Charlayne attended Turner High School and served as editor of the school paper and yearbook and was voted Homecoming Queen.

She recalls with pride her unexpected meeting with Martin Luther King, who grabbed her hand and talked about the importance of education.

Regarding this book, author Pat Conroy said, “It was the Black kids like Charlayne Hunter who taught Southern Whites like me what it meant to be fully and magnificently American.”
Selectmen's meetings in June

June 2. In response to an earlier request by the Selectmen, Amy Blitzer and Brooks McCandlish, representatives of the Conservation Commission, presented the Board with a proposed ordinance for control over Class VI roads during mud season. Selectmen responded that they will have the road agent and town attorney review the ordinance.

Blitzer and McCandlish then asked the Selectmen to consider allowing the Conservation Commission to acquire one of the two Penhalloch lots owned by the town. Either of the lots would serve as a right-of-way to East Washington Road, providing a link in the town trail system near the town forest. Selectman Pickman commented that, by action of the Board, the lot could simply be turned over to the Conservation Commission without waiting for a tax sale.

Dan Pugliese appeared to express his opinion concerning the paving material being used to resurface West Road. He commented that the town was "penny wise and pound foolish" to use the soft "farmer's mix," which would soon be dug up by logging trucks.

Building Inspector Chip Meaney met to update the Selectmen concerning several building code issues. He reported that the flood plain issue concerning Tom Marshall's property has been resolved and there is no threat of losing FEMA coverage. Meaney had received a letter from FEMA concerning Cliff Powers' house, stating that it was in compliance providing Powers followed one of two options, either filling the basement or elevating the heating system. Concerning NKC's placement of a trailer on their site, Meaney gave NKC a building permit because there had been a trailer on the site previously. The Planning Board had raised the issue and will be sent a copy of the permit. Finally, Meaney had received a letter of clarification from the attorney for Joe Wilcox, owner of Autocraft. The size of his sign is the problem; its being lit is not a violation, just a nuisance.

Meaney commented that the Planning Board needs to take some action. He went on to express his opinion that there was no logical approach for applicants of building permits to determine which Boards they need to appear before. He said there appears to be a communications breakdown between the Planning Board and everyone else. Pickman agreed that there appears to be no communications among all the town groups involved with the process.

Selectmen accepted a letter of resignation from Kathy Grindle, Police Department Secretary, effective June 3, and thanked her for her service.

Selectmen denied the request by Larry McDonald for an extension on his junkyard permit, saying that sixty days was a sufficient period for cleanup and the policy should be enforced consistently.

Lance Rickenberg questioned Selectmen concerning the unavailability of minutes for town boards. He commented that the law requires that minutes of public meetings be available within 144 hours of the meeting. He also questioned the unavailability of audiotapes of earlier Selectmen's meetings. Administrative Assistant Cheryl Behr responded that, to her knowledge, the tapes do not exist.

June 16. Gary Wall, representing the Bradford Business Association, discussed the library trustees' resistance to the BBA request to use the area in front of the library for Cow Flop Bingo during the Independence Day Celebration. [Following the meeting, it was agreed that the Cow Flop Bingo would be held instead on the Marshall property.]

Dick Keller, Library Trustee, and Ev Kittredge, Library Building Committee, presented Selectmen with a plot plan proposing the new library be built on the front parcel of the Marshall property and requested the Selectmen to consider the idea. They commented that this proposal would "free up" the Centra School building for other town uses or for sale. Selectmen responded that they were receptive to the idea, but that the needs of all town departments must be looked at.

Bob Blank, representing the Union Congregational Society, requested clarification concerning Selectmen's decision to prohibit serving alcohol on town property. Blank asked whether serving wine at the Center during the Lettvin concerts was possible and raised the issue of using the Center Meetinghouse for weddings, after which alcohol might be served. Selectmen responded that they cannot approve serving alcohol on town property because of the liability issue.

Selectmen voted unanimously to give the Conservation Commission the back lot at Penhalloch. Amy Blitzer thanked the Board and said the Commission would try to get a trail map produced this summer.

Selectmen discussed the success of a mutual aid pact set up with Newbury to enhance police coverage until a new Police Chief is hired. Robert Varley, officer in charge, initiated the program, which involves the Town of Bradford employing some Newbury police officers part-time, using Newbury police vehicles. The pact allows Bradford part-time officers to do the same in Newbury.
MARSHAL, continued from page 1

Department on weekends and whenever he was here since 1960. Parker and Barbara moved to Bradford year-round in 1985.

Since moving to Bradford, Parker has taught EMT courses at New London Hospital (1989-1993); he has been the First Aid Director for Camp Paradise in 1995 and 1996 and he is looking forward to Camp Paradise again this year.

Parker has made the physical arrangements with the Fire Department for the Fourth of July for many years; he is currently the Training Director for the Bradford Rescue Squad; the Emergency Management Director for the Town of Bradford; and is also the Lieutenant on the Bradford Fire Department.

Parker’s wife, Barbara, is busy with volunteer work with Brown Memorial Library. They have three children. Janet Bauer and Alan McCartney live in Bradford with their families and Debi McCartney lives in Houston.

The number of friends and peers who voted for Parker was remarkable. Some votes came on scrap paper, some on letterhead, with, notes, and some professionally typed. Here are some quotes from some of these nominations:

Parker is always willing to do the tough jobs behind the scenes where there often is little recognition. He is one of the most good-hearted people I have had the privilege of knowing. He truly exemplifies the community spirit that makes Bradford the special place that it is. Mary Beth Fenton

He is a very special guy and an asset to our small town. Alma and Bill Clinton

Parker is committed to the good of all of us and does so with cheerful, ready and competent completeness. Tom and Jan Riley

As a member of the Bradford Rescue Squad with Parker, I have seen his unassuming dedication and commitment firsthand. He would do honor to the role and the spirit of Grand Marshal. James M. Powell

In honor of his service to the children of the towns of Bradford and Newbury in the area of Fire Prevention Instruction, it is without question that I recommend that he represent the town as Grand Marshal of the Fourth of July Parade. Judith H. Blood

I can remember one time when the Bradford Youth Group was doing a car wash at the Fire House, and Mr. McCartney helped us set up all of our washing materials, and stayed the day with us to help wash cars. I have known who Mr. McCartney is for as long as I can remember, and through it all, I have never heard a person speak ill of him. I feel that he is a great role model for our town, and would make a great representative of our town. Timothy Fenton

When talking to Parker about the honor of being Grand Marshal, he said that he had only one problem. When asked what that was, Parker said, “I don’t know what to wear.” I asked him to explain what he meant.

He said that if he were a Firefighter, the Rescue Squad might get upset; however, if he were a Rescue Squad shirt, the Firefighters might get upset. Understanding his problem, I told him that I thought he should wear a plain white shirt and put big red letters on it that said: “I LOVE BRADFORD.” After all, he certainly has shown us that he does!

The Kidz Corner
by Maggie Dayton

Well, I don’t know about you, but I am really glad summer is finally here (no offense, teachers.)

Now, I know I didn’t include crafts in my survey, but here’s a fun thing to do if you get bored this summer. If you go to the sea shore this summer, collect pretty shells and ask an adult to drill holes in them. Cut a piece of fish-wire into 5 equal pieces. Tie the shells on the wires (space them 1”).

Take a dead stick and drill 7 holes in it. Leave the end holes empty and tie the wires into the middle holes. Cut a piece of fish-wire longer than the five you have already cut. Tie the wires through the end holes. Hang it somewhere where the wind will blow. You have made a “Sea Mobile.” See you next month!

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April Robbins graduates from Keene State College

On May 17, 1997, April Lynn Robbins, daughter of Michael P. Robbins Sr. of Peabody, Mass., and Kathleen M. Whitcher, of Bradford, graduated from Keene State College. She received a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Management.

April's grandparents are Mrs. Nathan H. Morrison of Bristol, NH., and Mr. & Mrs. Paul L. Robbins of Wakefield, Mass. Her great-grandmother is Mrs. John Glynn of Wakefield, Mass. and her step-parents are Mr. Horace T. Whitcher of Bradford and Mrs. Christine Robbins of Peabody, Mass. April lives in Bradford and works at Universal Packaging in Bow.

Peter Fenton graduates from Johnson & Wales University

Peter Matthew Fenton, son of Peter and Mary Beth Fenton, has graduated cum laude from Johnson & Wales University in Providence, RI. He received an Associates degree in culinary arts. Peter will be continuing his studies in business at New Hampshire college in the fall.

Remember the Gala 200th anniversary of the town? It seems only yesterday, rather than ten years ago in 1987. The Bicentennial Committee coordinated a great Memorial Day parade, a winter Carnival, dinner dance at Mt. Sunapee with torchlight skiing, the huge Summer Fair, the making of the Town Quilt, the Bicentennial Park at the corner of Main Street and Route 103, a Colonial camp-out, midways, programs, sales and enough doings to keep everyone involved.

Maybe it was one of the few times since World War II so many townspeople were somehow involved in some part of a town celebration, whether they wanted to be or not. The flags and buntings around town were impressive, and we had more high-ranking politicians in one place at one time than we see even at election time. And we got to keep Bicentennial Park and the Town Quilt. Photos are from the John W. Moore collection, BHS.
**July Calendar**

**Tuesday, July 1**
- ZBA, Town Hall, 7:00
- Bradford Fish & Game Club, Lake Todd Clubhouse, 7:00
- Library Trustees, Library, 7:15

**Friday, July 4**
- Lake Massacreum Boat Parade, 4:00
- Flares will be lit on Massacreum at 9:00 pm

**Saturday, July 5**
- INDEPENDENCE DAY FESTIVITIES
  - Historical Society Building: call 938-5386 or 938-5380 for open schedule.

**Monday, July 7**
- Cemetery Commission, 9:00 am call 938-5386 for location.
- NO Selectmen’s meeting, summer schedule

**Tuesday, July 8**
- Planning Board, Town Hall, 7:30

**Wednesday, July 9**
- Revolving Loan Committee, Town Hall, 7:00

**Saturday, July 12**
- Library Book and Bake Sale, 9:00-1:00
- Historical Society Building: call 938-5386 or 938-5380 for open schedule.

**Sunday, July 13**
- Yesteryear on the Farm, Muster Field Farm, N. Sutton, 11:00 am - 5:00 pm

**Monday, July 14**
- Selectmen’s meeting, Town Hall, 7:00

**Tuesday, July 15**
- Conservation Commission, Town Hall, 7:30

**Wednesday, July 16**
- Road Committee, Town Hall, 7:00

**Saturday, July 19**
- Historical Society Building probably open 1:30-3:00 or by appointment, 938-5386.

**Monday, July 21**
- NO Selectmen’s meeting, summer schedule

**Tuesday, July 22**
- Planning Board, Town Hall, 7:30

**Friday, July 25**
- Historical Society Strawberry Fest, Bradford Center, 6:30 pm

**Saturday, July 26**
- Historical Society Building probably open 1:30-3:00 or by appointment, 938-5386.

**Monday, July 28**
- Selectmen’s meeting, Town Hall, 7:00

To list events for the month of July, call Lu Signorino, 938-2608.

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**Classified Ads**

**SPACE AVAILABLE** in the Bradford-Newbury Kindergarten & Preschool program for 1997-98. For information, call Denise Fairbank at 938-2973.

**FOR SALE.** 1988 Nissan Sentra. Original owners; runs well, needs body work, $500 938-2054.

**WANTED.** Wood twin bed frame. 938-2482.

**LOOKING FOR** sturdy clothes racks, commercial or storage type, to contribute or lend to Brown Memorial Library Thrift Shop. Call Marty Bunis at 938-5051.

**LOST.** On June 8, silver bangle bracelet etched with Indian symbols, vicinity of Baptist Church or former IGA. 938-2057.

**FOR SALE.** Unscreened loam. Can deliver. 938-2823.

**FOR SALE.** Sears Cold Spot 2-door refrigerator, $50. Speed Queen washer & dryer, works, needs minor adjustment, both for $50; 2 custom-made twin beds, both for $100. Bookcase, 23"x38", $25. Pine bookcase with adjustable shelves, 22"x30", $75. Metal bookcase, $10. 938-2339.

**FOR SALE.** Beautiful pine hutch, 72"x38", $225. Boston rocker, maple, $75. 2 cane side chairs, one needs repair, $30. 938-2434.

**FREE YOGA CLASS!** Kripalu Yoga teacher welcomes beginners through advanced students. Come learn fun new ways to deeply relax, rejuvenate, and strengthen your body. Try first class free of obligation. Ongoing classes are held every Wednesday, 10:00-11:15 am, at the Bradford Town Hall. $32 for 4 weeks. Call Jim at 224-2183 or just show up!

**YARD SALE.** Saturday, July 12, by neighbors selling a bit of everything. Route 114, Lake Massacreum, near Books by the Lake.

**FOR SALE.** Sears washing machine, like new, $150. Sears older dryer, $50. 3.5 H.P. Sears push lawn mower, $50. Eureka rug vacuum, $35. Antique oak table with 4 oak spindle chairs, $700. 938-2018.

**SEEKING VENDORS** for S. Newbury Union Church Summer Fair on August 9. Call Jim Tinker at 783-4276.

**WOOD CHIPS WANTED.** Will haul. Please call 938-5148.

**WANTED.** Person to work at the Lake Massacreum Boat Ramp weekends throughout the summer. Tasks: inform boaters about the milfoil menace, help to inspect boats as they enter and leave the lake, and assist with identification of suspect plants. Paid position. Contact Candy Bradley, 938-2550, for further information.

To place a FREE classified ad, please call Beth Rodd at 938-2682.