



# Main Street

Volume XII Number 12

December, 1996

Alton, New Hampshire



## LIONS CLUB RECOGNIZES DOWNINGS

Wes Nicholson (right), president of the Alton/New Durham Lions Club, presents a Certificate of Appreciation to Nancy and Jonathan Downing for their support of the Club's Pancake Breakfast. The Downings donated the use of the Alton Bay Pavilion for the event.

## MRS. SANTA FUND SPONSORED BY ALTON FIREFLIES

The time of year is approaching when our thoughts turn to families and friends and the joy of giving. You can help put the spirit of the season in the lives of your neighbors who have little hope of Santa finding their chimney.

Many community service organizations, led by the Fireflies, the women's auxiliary of the Alton Fire Department, have come together to provide the less fortunate children of Alton a Christmas bright with promise. For the past several years the Mrs. Santa Fund has provided gifts for newborn to age 17 and some of our senior citizens. This year the list is even longer and the generosity of the community is needed by Mrs. Santa's elves.

New and good used clothing and toys may be dropped off at Citizens Bank on Main Street and at Town Hall until December 13. Donations are always welcome and the money will be used to purchase warm coats and boots.

If you are in need of assistance in providing the necessities for your children, or you know of a family that would benefit from this program, please contact Mrs. Santa's elves, Judy Fisichelli at 776-6172 or Darryl Czech at 875-3815 before December 9. Donations can be mailed to Mrs. Santa Fund, P.O. Box 1207, Alton, 03809.

This year make your donation the gift you give yourself.

## BLOOD PRESSURE CLINIC

The VNA-Hospice of Southern Carroll County and Vicinity will hold a blood pressure clinic at the Pearson Road Community Center from 10:30a.m. to noon on Thursday, December 5.

## STATE TEST RESULTS RELEASED FOR 3rd, 6th, AND 10th GRADERS

New Hampshire students in Grades 3, 6 and 10 participated in the NH Educational Improvement and Assessment Program last May to measure their academic progress. Students were placed in one of four categories depending on their test results - Advanced, Proficient, Basic and Novice.

Forty-nine Alton third graders participated. 14% scored in the Advanced category in English Language Arts compared to 4% statewide, 37% were Proficient compared to 25% statewide, 33% were Basic compared to 45%, and 8% were Novice compared to 21% statewide. 8% of the Alton students were not included.

In Mathematics, third graders scored 27% Advanced compared to 10%, 35% Proficient compared to 23%, 29% Basic compared to 46%, 4% Basic compared to 18%. 6% were not included.

Fifty sixth graders and 36 tenth graders participated in four tests - English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies.

No sixth graders scored in the Advanced category in English Language Arts compared to 1% statewide. 10% were proficient compared to 15%, 34% were Basic compared to 38%, 54% were Novice compared to 42%. 2% were not included.

In Mathematics, none scored in Advanced compared to 1% statewide. 10% were Proficient compared to 11%, 30% were Basic compared to 27%, and 58% were Novice compared to 59%. 2% were not included.

In Science, none were Advanced compared to less than 1% statewide. 10% were Proficient compared to 9%, 22% were Basic compared to 20%, and 68% were Novice compared to 69%.

In Social Studies, 6% were Advanced compared to 4%, 6% were Proficient compared to 8%, 40% were Basic compared to 32%, and 48% were Novice compared to 53%.

36 tenth grade students were tested. In English Language Arts, no one scored Advanced or Proficient compared to 2% and 8% respectively statewide. 69% were Basic compared to 58%, and 25% were Novice compared to 26%. 6% were not included.

In Mathematics, 3% scored Advanced compared to 6%, 14% were Proficient compared to 17%, 36% were Basic compared to 27%, and 39% were Novice compared to 45%. 8% were not included.

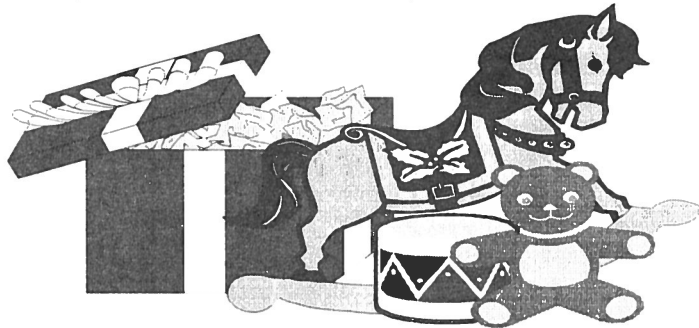
In Science, no one scored Advanced compared to 2% statewide. 11% were proficient compared to 19%, 31% were basic compared to 23%, and 50% were Novice locally and statewide. 8% were not included.

In Social Studies, no one scored Advanced compared to 1%, 3% were Proficient compared to 12%, 19% were Basic compared to 21%, and 64% were Novice compared to 60%. 14% were not included.



### GOOD CITIZENS

Alton Central School Principal George J. Rogers (rear) is shown with students in Kindergarten through grade 3 who received certificates and special pencils for achieving good citizen status for the first quarter.



### FIVE SCOUTS ATTAIN SECOND CLASS AND 27 MERIT BADGES AWARDED

Troop 53, Boy Scouts of America of Alton, recently awarded the Second Class rank to five boys: Matt Currid, Josh Dearnley, Ben Jensen, Mike Murray and Ryan Yelle. A total of 27 merit badges were also awarded to David Benedetto, Matt Currid, Josh Dearnley, Shawn Ford, Greg Gatton, Ben Jensen, Mike Murray, Dan Moulton and Ryan Yelle. These awards represent a lot of hard work, both in troop activities and in individual effort. We were also pleased to welcome Norman Gilbert as our newest Scout.

The boys would like to thank all those who helped to make the Annual Fall Scouting for Food Drive a success. Several large boxes of non-perishable food items were delivered to the National Guard Armory in Rochester on November 9.

On Saturday and Sunday, November 23 and 24, the troop went to Camp Bell, Hidden Valley Scout Reservation, for a fall camp out. An orienteering course was set up to help sharpen compass-reading skills and a variety of activities, such as meal planning and campfire cooking, helped individual scouts to pass requirements needed for completing the Second and First Class ranks. The troop has been learning and practicing important skills appropriate for camping out in colder weather.

Troop 53 has been fortunate to have several adults in the community who were willing to volunteer their time and talents to sign on as merit badge counselors. Any adult who has expertise in special subject areas is encouraged to contact Scoutmaster Michael Currid (875-5375) or Assistant Scoutmaster Stanley Moulton (875-5651) or attend any of the weekly meetings on Wednesday evenings at the Central Fire Station at 6p.m. to find out how to participate. Both men and women are eligible. Being a counselor means being available to assist any scout who might want to earn a merit badge in a specialized area in which the counselor is qualified to evaluate the work. It is not necessary to register as a leader to become a counselor. There are over 100 different subjects represented in the Merit Badge Program in the arts, sciences, nature, technology, sports, business, agriculture, professions (such as law, journalism, health, dentistry), collecting (stamps, coins) and many more. Your time spent as a role model to a youngster who wants to learn your skills will be well rewarded.

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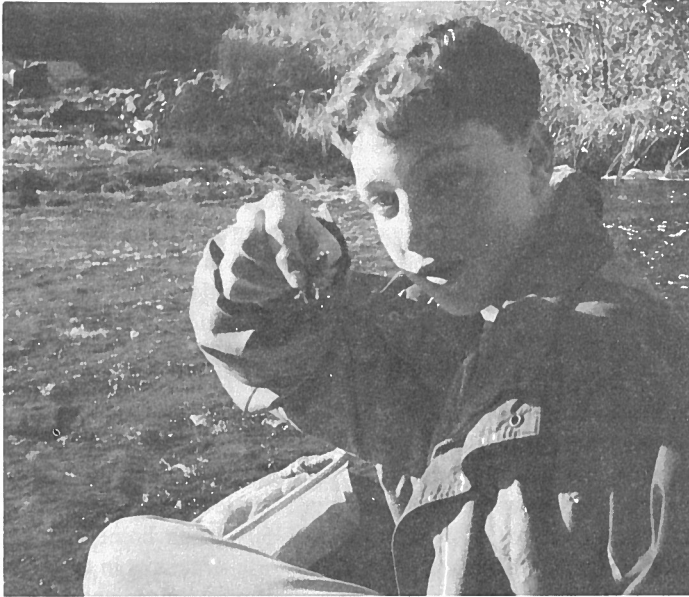
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**LOOK WHAT I FOUND!**

Eighth grader Chris Alting proudly displays one of the "creatures" discovered during the data collection expedition to the Merrymeeting River in Alton.

**ALTON STUDENTS COLLECT DATA ABOUT THE MERRYMEETING RIVER**

"Get that on video!" shouted eighth grader Sara Dore as she spotted a Great Blue Heron hunting for fish in the Merrymeeting River. Dore, together with Katie Boles and David Osborn, filmed, interviewed, and photographed their fellow Alton Central School classmates as they collected data from the Merrymeeting River. Under the direction of science teacher Brian Davidson, students conducted a variety of tests to measure the water quality of the river in Alton. Testing included measuring dissolved oxygen, ph level, turbidity, rate of flow, alkalinity, and temperature. Students also investigated both vertebrate and invertebrate organisms both in the river and along the shoreline.

Downriver students were involved in an archaeological survey, plant collection and identification, guided imagery, and the creation of a mural-sized picture. This colorful drawing serves as a record of student observations and is hung in the science lab. Many hours were spent by students Joe Hillsgrove, James Laurin, and Shawn Hillsgrove to supervise completion of this art project.

Back in the classroom, students analyzed and drew conclusions about the Merrymeeting River water quality. This data will be sent to a computer network at the University of Lowell to be shared with other schools and organizations that participate in the Merrimack Watershed Program. On November 21, five eighth grade students attended a student congress at the University of Lowell to share their data and participate in learning activities about watersheds.

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**SCHOOL ALTERNATIVE PROGRAM HAS TOOL WISH LIST**

The Alternative Program at the Alton Central School is creating a small workshop area to utilize with its students. This need has grown due to the nature of the program and scheduling conflicts with the current technology lab in the school. A basic "toolbox" is needed to allow students to create equipment, conduct experiments and learn the proper use of hand tools.

Items needed include 2 - 16oz. claw hammers, 2 crosscut hand saws, 3 coping saws, 3 packs of coping saw blades, 3 flat head screwdrivers, various sizes, 3 Phillips head screwdrivers, various sizes, 2 hand drills, non-motorized, 1 set of drill bits 1/8-1/2 inch, 1 set of wood chisels 1/4-1 1/2 inch, 2 - 6 inch "C" clamps, 6 - 4 inch "C" clamps, 1 brace, 1 adjustable bit for brace, 1 set box/open end wrenches, 1 set socket wrenches, 2 vice grips, 6 assorted files and rasps, flat and round, 2 block planes, 2 jack planes, 1 pair safety glasses, 2 combination squares, 2 - 12 foot tape measures, 1 - 25 foot tape measure, 1 - 8 inch crescent wrench, 1 set drill bits 1/8 - 1/2, 2 electric hand drills, 3/8th inch, 2 saber saws, 2 "palm" sanders, 2 hot glue guns.

Donations will be welcome at the School by calling 875-7500.

**POLICE DEPARTMENT TO HOST COMMUNITY/POLICE FORUM**

Chief Kevin D. Iwans of the Alton Police Department invites the members of the Alton community to come to a Community/Police Forum on Thursday, December 12, at the Alton Town Hall at 7p.m.

This is a great opportunity for the Alton community to sit down with the police department to provide feedback about what the department is doing, what you would like to see it do and any suggestions or comments to help it to continue to maintain and improve its service.

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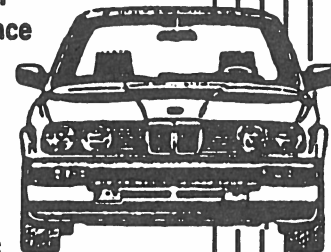


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### BICENTENNIAL FOCUS

By Judy Fry,  
Bicentennial Committee Secretary

### THE BAHAI AND CATHOLIC CONGREGATIONS IN ALTON

During the Bicentennial Breakfast on June 16 representatives of the Community Church of Alton, the Advent Christian Church and the Alton Bay Campmeeting Association presented brief histories of their congregations. The following two articles provide information on two more faiths in our community.

This issue marks the end of the Bicentennial Focus column. I wish to thank each author for providing the articles of historic interest for our enjoyment these past months. To the staff of Main Street, a special thank you for all your assistance in promoting and supporting our town's 200th birthday celebration.

#### THE BAHAI FAITH

By Gwendolyn Jones

The Baha'i Faith is an independent world religion originating in Persia in 1844 with membership of over 4.5 million people living in virtually every country. The writings that guide the life of the Baha'i community include numerous works by Baha'u'llah, the Prophet-Founder of the Baha'i Faith and the interpretations by His son, Abdul-Baha and Baha'u'llah's great grandson, Shoghi Effendi. Baha'i literature can be read today in over 800 languages and dialects.

The central principles of the Baha'i Faith are the oneness of God, the oneness of religion, and the oneness of humankind. Baha'u'llah taught that divine Revelation is a continuous and progressive process and that the missions of the messengers of God represent successive stages in the spiritual evolution of human society. Baha'is believe that humanity is one family created by

God. The Baha'i community promotes the unity of humankind and the establishment of peace in the world. The teachings of the Baha'i Faith provide solutions to problems that long have been barriers to the achievement of unity and peace.

There is no clergy in the Baha'i Faith. Local meetings are planned by the local Baha'i communities and include devotions services, study classes, discussion, social events and the observation of holy days. The international governing body, the Universal House of Justice, is located on Mt. Carmel in Haifa, Israel. The Baha'i International Community has accredited consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council and with the United Nations Children's Fund.

The Baha'i Faith was brought to Alton by Nella Gustafson. Nella was born in Manchester, NH. She married a native of Alton, Edward Gustafson, and while they were living in Portsmouth where he worked at the shipyard, she was introduced to the Baha'i Faith and became one of the first five Baha'is in New Hampshire. Nella and Ed moved to Alton in the early 1950s. Their home in West Alton is one of the oldest and most historic structures in town. In the early 1800s it was a country store, post office, stage coach stop and gathering place with a wonderful large room upstairs. That room became known as Baha'i Hall. Nella opened her home to everyone interested in learning more about the Baha'i Faith with weekly firesides. In the 1960s at least seven families living in West Alton became Baha'is and others came during the 60s, 70s, and 80s from Bristol, Gilmanton, Meredith, Laconia, Concord, Moultonboro, Manchester and Exeter. Baha'is came from around the world to teach and deepen with us. In summers we sponsored the children to go to the Green Acre Baha'i School in Eliot, Maine.

Since Nella's death in 1989, the Alton center has moved to the home of Florence Holway on the Old New Durham Road.

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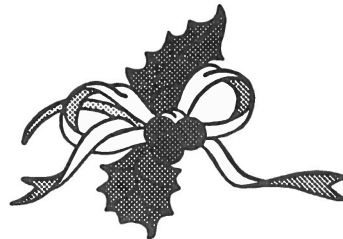
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**THE CATHOLIC CHURCH CONGREGATION**

By George W. Stone, Jr.

The Parish of St. Joan of Arc in Alton is one of the 120 parishes in the Manchester Diocese which, overall, ministers to 318,000 Catholics (out of a total New Hampshire inhabitants of 1,111,000), requiring 217 priests to serve some 81 towns in the state. Instructive for details of the remarkable organization of the affairs of the Diocese is the New Hampshire Catholic Directory of 209 pages. The Bishop of the Diocese presides over four organized Secretariats for Pastoral Services, Temporalities, Christian Formation, and Community Services. The Community Services covers an outreach of remarkable breadth from instruction, to food banks, to counseling (in half a dozen areas) to social justice, hospitals, nursing homes, and the acculturation of immigrants, refugees, and migrants.

Parishes grow and are identified as such by increasing numbers of communicants, having begun as Missions. Many New Hampshire Parishes are responsible for a number of Missions within their jurisdictions. Alton, begun as a Farmington Mission, became a Parish in 1961. It now has within it the Barnstead Mission. This Mission enables residents to attend Mass without traveling long distances.

The Alton church was erected to accommodate some 360 families year-round in the Town. For the past ten years (1985-1995) its pastor has been Monsignor Leo F. Hines, who came to the Alton Parish from that of St. Elizabeth Seton in Bedford, NH. He followed Father Lucian Bissonnette (1963), Father Gerald Dunn (1964), Father Armand Turgeon (1964-1978), and Father Raymond Laferriere (1979-1984). The Monsignor is aided by a Parish Council, which meets regularly upon call. The nine members are elected to the Council by their peers. His major assistant in the parish tasks and ministry is Father Julian Gerosa. Ushers, Lectors, and Eucharist Ministrants help in the Masses. Fruits from the offerings go to support the needs of the Parish, with special monthly ones contributing to the needs of other missions.

The CCD (Confraternity of Christian Doctrine) children receive their Christian education weekly in catechumen classes in the Parish Hall, located underneath the Rectory, with an older group meeting in the Parish Center House, adjoining the Rectory.

The church is, of course, host to The Knights of Columbus Organization, and the Catholic Ladies' Guild, each of which meets on a monthly basis.

An engaging story about the founding of the Church "on a dream and a prayer" is related by Barton Griffin in his History of Alton (1965) to the effect that two Irish maiden ladies from New York, Fannie Rogers and Katie Tibbetts, a seamstress and a practical nurse, started a rooming and boarding house "The Fairview" in town in the 1940s. They told a prelate in Washington of their desire for a church, who replied that such would be very costly. "I shall pray and pray and never stop praying until I see a church in my town." said one of them. Her campaign for funds flowered until sufficient were gained to purchase the lot on Main Street and erect a small building. The mahogany Altar Rail was given by singer Al Jolsen (whose wife Ruby Keeler was Catholic), and a second wave of fund-raising was begun by Reverend Arthur J. Dufour of the Parish in Farmington so that the edifice might be completed. So years after the ladies' death the dream of a church was fulfilled.

Perhaps it is also a tribute to the institutional might of the Catholic organization of some 1900 years of world-wide operation that the group in Alton has grown from a Farmington "mission" in the 1950s (with meetings in the homes of parishioners) to a working Parish ministering to so many in the 1990s. As with the congregations of the other churches in town its attendance rolls swell during the summer season, and the contributions thereby mount.



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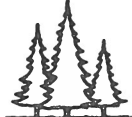
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## MINDING ALTON'S BUSINESS

By Julie Slayton Frank, Executive Director

Alton-Alton Bay Chamber of Commerce

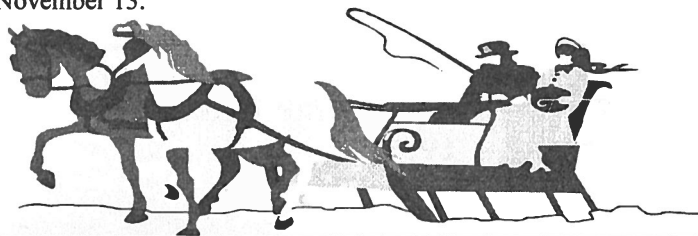
### A TOURISM PROMOTER'S DREAM

My first look at Alton Bay was a tourism promoter's dream - a crystal clear October morning during peak foliage. The scene literally took my breath away. As I stood on the porch of the community building looking out over the lake I was mesmerized by the lake, the colors and the mountains in the distance. I may have been a newcomer to NH, but I had lived in Maine for years and nothing could compare to the coast in the fall, right? As much as I hate to admit being wrong, I was. The view from that porch was one of the most beautiful I had ever seen. Now I find myself in the position of being that promoter. The Board of Directors of the Alton/Alton Bay Chamber of Commerce recently hired me as their part time Executive Director. We currently have 76 members and our goal is to have 100 members by December 31 of this year.

The Board of Directors has decided to broaden the membership base by inviting New Durham businesses to join the Chamber. We are in the early stages of planning a reception for members and potential members after the first of the year. Also in the works is a Business Fair for March where area businesses can showcase their products and services.

We are beginning to put together the 1997 Summer Events Calendar and would appreciate any listings for events being planned. Please leave a message on the Chamber's answering machine (875-5777) or drop us a note (Post Office Box 550, Alton) or an E-mail at [AltAltBayC@aol.com](mailto:AltAltBayC@aol.com).

Welcome to our newest members - Castleberry Fairs & Festivals, The Alton Harvest Grille, Alton Bay Market and the New Durham Market. A special thanks to the Alton Harvest Grille for hosting a wonderful reception on Wednesday morning, November 13.



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### THE SECOND TIME AROUND, ALTON STYLE

by Bob Longabaugh

Sammy Cahn wrote the words in 1960: *Love is lovelier the second time around, just as wonderful with both feet on the ground.*

In Alton, New Hampshire, we see him - nine years her senior - calling her his "child bride," and her, at 69, blinking her eyes and faking senility, replying "what did you say your name was, sir?" Yet, they really do have both feet on the ground. These are no ordinary people, Bob Calvert and Alice Ziegra, because even without their children announcing their engagement to be married, each would still be newsworthy.

She, since coming to Alton in 1962, has from 1988 been one of Alton's elected representatives to the New Hampshire House; he, since 1983, has been one of Alton's, and yes, New Hampshire's, outstanding citizens.

Although the story begins long before Alton started to take notice of these two extraordinary people, the "second time around" began when each found themselves without partners. Alice's husband died in 1985. Bob's wife died in early 1995. Both only momentarily lost their stride and before Alton noticed, they were just as active as ever - but independently.

As singletons they found their separate paths coming together again and again, most commonly in an activity dedicated to advancing the common good of Alton. After all, she had been a visiting nurse in the area for 16 years, on the school board, and a library trustee; she continues as supervisor of the checklist and a long-time member of the State House of Representatives who holds regular office hours in Town Hall! He came to Alton with an impressive background of executive service with the Boy Scouts of America only to go on to duty on the Alton Planning Board, Board of Selectmen, President of the Visiting Nurse Association of Southern Carroll County and Vicinity (that's Alton), and a winner of the Citizen of the Year Award for Belknap County.

No wonder then that these two people kept finding themselves at the same meeting for the same reason: to make Alton an even better place to live. From witnessing this common cause and dedication they each developed a great respect for the other. Living by themselves, yet finding themselves together more and more at community activities, most recently the many meetings of the Gilman Library Fund Raising Committee, the mutual respect grew.

*A Second Time Around* fell into place.

Thus, in early October, 1996, New Hampshire newspapers proclaimed that "the two sons of Alice S. Ziegra of Alton and the two sons and daughter of Robert L. Calvert, also of Alton, announce the engagement of their respective parents."

The wedding will be a family affair, in the Spring after Alice finishes her responsibilities to the 1997 session of the New Hampshire House of Representatives.

**FOR THE FUN OF IT**

By Kellie McGrath, Recreation Director

**GHOST BUSTING SLEEP OVER**

The Alton Parks and Recreation Department sponsored its first sleep over at the Town Hall on November 1, with over 40 students from grades 5-8.

The Department had a lot of activities scheduled for the haunting evening including: a tour of Town Hall, movies, scavenger hunts, dancing, Family Feud and ghost stories. Most everyone was asleep by 5a.m. and there were no reported sightings of the ghost of Town Hall.

The Department would like to thank the Ghost Busting chaperones: Helen Sullivan, Russ Troendle, Marcy Lowthian and Rob Lowthian.

**HOLIDAY CRAFTS FOR KIDS**

Holiday Crafts for Kids for ages 6-12 is planned for Saturday, December 7, at the Town Hall from 9 to 11a.m. Register by December 4, and late registrations will not be accepted. Participants will enjoy making hand-made crafts for holiday giving, including a fabric wreath, small trinket box, fabric candy cane, or wooden key holder/plaque. Please indicate the craft choice on the registration form. Cost is \$2 per project. For more information contact the Parks and Recreation Department at 875-0109.

**HOLIDAY CAROLING**

Join community members in singing your favorite Holiday songs on Sunday, December 15, from 6 to 7p.m. The caroling route will start at the Town Hall and continue to the Gilman Home and Housing for the Elderly. Everyone is invited to participate.

**PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING**

The next Parks and Recreation Commission meeting will be held on Monday, December 2, at 6:30p.m. at the Town Hall. The public is encouraged to attend.



**Merrymeeting River**

*Gather 'round the campfire as you watch the sun fade the sky from deep hues of blue to orange to deep red, as the calm of night settles the day.*

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**MUNICIPAL SPOTLIGHT ON  
STEPHANIE BLACKSTOCK  
ALTON POLICE DEPARTMENT**

By Muriel Walker

The Alton Police Department has welcomed a new employee to its staff. Recently Pat Pellowe retired, after working 20 years for the Department, and was replaced by Sue Roberts. The dispatcher position vacated by Roberts has been filled by new staff member, Stephanie Blackstock.

Stephanie was born in Lawrence, Massachusetts, and moved with her family to Alton in 1967. She has one brother, Bob, who lives in Alton and works for the Post Office in Portsmouth. Stephanie also has three sisters: Carol, who lives in Alton and works for Water Industries; Suzanne, who lives in Franklin and works for Heritage Home Health Care in Meredith; and Bebe, who is a hairdresser and lives in Wolfeboro.

Stephanie's mother, Carol Pearson, lives in Barnstead and her father, Frederick Earle Blackstock, resides in Concord.

Stephanie has an eight-month-old daughter, Aurelia, whom she describes as "just wonderful."

She attended the Alton School from fifth grade through high school, graduating in 1975. After high school, she attended Hesser College and the Maine College of Art.

Stephanie is an artist, who works mainly in oils and pastels. Her works are displayed in galleries in Portland, Northeast Harbor,



and Camden, Maine. In addition to her paintings, she designs and makes women's clothing and men's ties for the New Hampshire League of Craftsmen.

Stephanie worked in graphic arts in Maine and was employed for many years framing pictures at The Art Place. She began working at the Police Department in October and highly praises the staff. "They are all wonderful to work with. Chief Iwans is very supportive. Sue Roberts has been training me. She is so patient and helpful! I'm learning more every day and everyone is helping me," says Stephanie.

As far as hobbies, when time permits, Stephanie said, "I love to paint, of course, and I like to sew, as well. I also like to hike and when the weather was warmer I took Aurelia with me in a back carrier."

I asked Stephanie what she liked best about her new job and she replied, "I really like the staff. They are all so supportive, and the chief is great! I appreciate all their help."

We welcome Stephanie and wish her well in her new position.

**NO SCHOOL TODAY?**

You wake up and find it snowed during the night and the roads are iced over! Will there be school today? How do you find out? Call the school? Your teacher? Your bus driver? NO! NO! NO!

You tune your radio to WASR(1420AM), WLNH(98.3FM), WOKQ(97.5FM), WZNN(930AM) or WMUR-TV (Channel 9) for official school closing announcements.

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## SENIOR CITIZENS CORNER

By Nancy Mooney

### We seniors are all aglow And full of holiday cheer- We'll laugh beneath the mistletoe And toast a brand new year!

December will be a fun-filled month for us, for sure. We urge every member to attend our last meeting of the year, Wednesday, December 11 at 2p.m. After official business, we will have a Yankee Swap Christmas party. Each member should bring a gift (\$3-5 price range) and place it under the tree. Register with Evelyn Nardo who will give you a number for the swap. Special refreshments will be served. All members are also invited to a Christmas dinner now being planned for early evening in late December. If you have not already signed up, call Edith Scott at the senior center, 875-7102 to see if reservations are still open. The Alton Seniors will sponsor their final public dinner of the year at the Community Center on Pearson Road, Saturday, December 28, at 5p.m. Ham and beans will be served, a welcome change for those who have had too much turkey over the holidays!

At our November meeting, the two new by-laws to the constitution were formally approved. Dues will now be \$5 beginning in 1997, and the Association will not meet in the winter months of January, February, and March. The Steering Committee will meet in early December to begin planning activities and fundraisers for the new year. The Constitution Committee will meet as well, in an effort to streamline and clarify the present constitution. The Seniors also welcomed two new members to their first meeting, Tina Feinman, who recently moved here from Massachusetts, and Barbara Cruickshank, who has been in the area for a while and recently retired. Barbara is very interested in the new PTSA (parent-teacher-student association). She is vice president and spoke to us briefly, encouraging us to become members, as inter-generational relationships are very important, especially to the youngsters in a community.

A reminder, now that the snow season is here, that in bad weather, the CAP meals program might be closed. You can find out by tuning in to one of these radio stations: WASR 1420AM., WOKQ 97.5 FM, WZN 930AM, or Manchester TV Channel 9.

In our November column, we acknowledged the town administration for the paving of the community center parking lot. We need also to wholeheartedly thank the town selectmen as well as the taxpayers for making this big improvement possible. We need to remind all of you, too, that the center is not just for seniors. It is a community center (as is the one at the Bay) and many activities and meetings take place there that have nothing to do with the seniors. But, the seniors are always very grateful for having these facilities, and we urge more of you seniors "out there" to join us at noon for a CAP meal and to become members of our Association. We will be planning more activities besides cards and bingo. Join us and bring your suggestions.

In last month's column, Art Saulnier continued his saga with thanks to many of the people who donated items to the seniors. More thanks are forthcoming in this, his final installment of the saga of the Red Barn on the Hill:

Books, silverware, and dishes were donated from the estate of Stanley Olender. Fifteen new folding chairs came from the Card Party club. Tony Mariano presented us with a flag pole. The Favros gave us a fan, and the Scotts, a new counter top. Liz Roberts donated a coffee maker. Checks came in from East Alton Store, Walter Brent, the Old Homestead, the Blue Jay, the Farnhams,

Dr. Merritt, and Mr. and Mrs. R. Collins. Gertrude Griffen and Chris Russell give loving care to the two flower gardens in front of the center. If we have overlooked anyone, let us know. So many people helped us in the three years before we opened in June, 1991.

Our thanks go out to the town for the three town meetings that helped us get the \$55,000 needed. We are happy that we were able to help Stanley Olender fulfill his dream for the Seniors to have a place to go to in their retirement years. The Community Center on Pearson Road is now assessed at over-\$100,000, and there is no mortgage! Our thanks go to the selectmen, Mr. Jones, Mr. Calvert, and Mrs. Merrill, for giving the Seniors the opportunity to see what they could do with the old barn on the hill. It is usable as it is, but there are still some things the Committee has in mind that we would like to do. We would like vinyl on the outside of the building, and we would like to do some work on the ground out back to make a horse shoe playing area and a shuffle board court.

The Building Fund is still alive at the Farmington Bank. If anyone wishes to make a donation at any time, it would be greatly appreciated. We need more people to participate with the Seniors at the center to bring in their ideas to help make it a better place. Again, many, many thanks to all! Members of the Alton Senior Building Fund Committee are Warren Nott, advisor; Evelyn Nardo, chairwoman; and Arthur Saulnier, treasurer

Finally, this is my last column of the year. I thank all my faithful readers and the many who have given me moral support with their compliments. It has been a great pleasure to keep others informed about the Alton Senior Citizens Association. Happy Holidays, everyone, and see you in 1997!

### DENISE MERRITT, MD JAMES CUBEDDU, PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT

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## FREE HOME VISITS

## MAIN STREET INFORMATION CENTER

**Schedules****CHURCHES:**

- Baha'i Fireside - Thursday, 7:30p.m., Holway Residence, Old New Durham Road  
 Bay Church - Sunday School (all ages), 9:30a.m., Worship, 11a.m., Evening Study, 6p.m., Wednesday Prayer Meeting, 6:30p.m., Rand Hill Road, Pastor Roy Ames  
 Community Church - Congregational Meeting House, October-April, 11a.m., Baptist Meeting House, May and September, 11a.m., June-August, 10a.m., Dr. Peter E. Roussakis, Pastor  
 First Free Will Baptist Church - Sunday School, 9:45a.m., Church, 11a.m., Evening Service, 6p.m., Wednesday Prayer Meeting, 7p.m., Depot St., New Durham, James Nason, Pastor  
 St. Joan of Arc - Saturday, 5p.m., Sunday, 8 & 11a.m. & 7p.m., Monday thru Saturday except Wednesday, 8:30a.m., Confessions Saturday, 4p.m. or by appointment, Fr. Richard Wegman, Pastor  
 Wolfeboro Bible Fellowship, Sunday School, 9:30a.m., Worship Service, 10:30a.m. (Summer 10a.m.), Evening Service, 6p.m., Prayer Meeting, Wednesday, 7p.m., Route 28, Lee Button, Pastor

**GILMAN LIBRARY:**

Monday & Wednesday 2 to 8p.m., Friday 9a.m. to 5p.m., Saturday 9a.m. to Noon

**SENIOR MEAL SITE:**

Monday - Friday, 10a.m. to 2p.m., Pearson Road Community Center

**SOLID WASTE CENTER**

Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday - 8a.m. to 3p.m.  
 Sunday - Noon to 3p.m.; Closed Tuesday & Thursday  
 Rines Road Pit - Saturday, 8a.m. to 3p.m.; Sunday, Noon to 3p.m.

**TOWN HALL:**

Selectmen's Office, Tax Collector, Town Administrator, Town Clerk, and Welfare Officer - 8:30a.m. to 4:30p.m.  
 Town Planner - Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 8:30a.m. to 3:30p.m., Wednesday 1 to 3:30p.m., Meetings by Appointment,  
 Closed Noon to 1p.m.  
 Building Inspector - Call 875-5095 for Office Hours and Appointments

**ORGANIZATIONS:**

- ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS - Tuesday, 8p.m., Alton Bay Community Center  
 AMERICAN LEGION - 2nd Monday, 7p.m., Legion Hall  
 AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY - 2nd Monday 7p.m., Legion Hall  
 AMERICAN LEGION JUNIOR MEMBERS - 3rd Monday, 6p.m., Legion Hall  
 BOY SCOUTS TROOP 53 - Wednesdays, 6p.m., Central Fire Station  
 CUB SCOUT PACK 53 - Last Tuesday, 6:30p.m., Legion Hall  
 EASTERN STAR - 2nd Tuesday  
 GARDEN CLUB - 4th Tuesday  
 FLYING CLUB - 2nd Wednesday  
 HAPPY HOBBY DOLL CLUB - 4th Friday, 7p.m., Alton Bay Community Center  
 HISTORICAL SOCIETY - 3rd Tuesday, April - October  
 KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS - 1st Wednesday, 7:30p.m., St. Joan of Arc Church Hall  
 LIONS CLUB - 1st & 3rd Thursday, 6:30p.m., Mama Rina's Restaurant  
 MASONIC LODGE - 2nd Tuesday  
 PTSA - 3rd Tuesday, School Library  
 ST. JOAN OF ARC LADIES GUILD - Last Thursday, 7:30p.m., Church Hall  
 SENIOR CITIZENS - 2nd Wednesday, 2p.m., Pearson Road Community Center  
 VFW - 3rd Monday 7:30p.m., Pearson Road Community Center

CALL 569-4441, FAX 569-9807  
 OR E-mail [jduffek@worldpath.net](mailto:jduffek@worldpath.net)  
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**Remove & Save!**

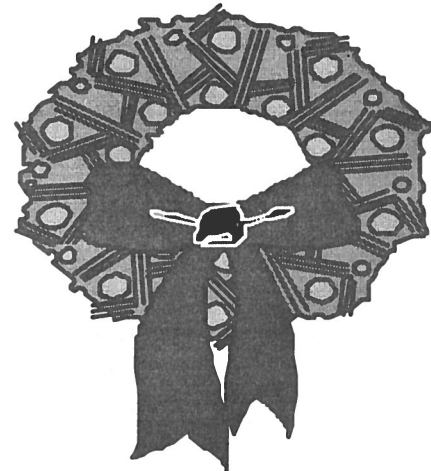
**Boards and Committees**

- ADDRESS COMMITTEE - Meets on Call. Chairman Russ Jones, 875-7510  
 AD HOC COMMITTEE - Meets on Call.  
 BICENTENNIAL COMMITTEE - Chairman Nancy Merrill, 875-2626.  
 BOARD OF SELECTMEN - 1st, 3rd & 5th Wednesday, 7 - 9:30p.m., Chairman Reuben Wentworth. Call 875-2161 for Appointment.  
 BUDGET COMMITTEE - 3rd Thursday, 7p.m. Chairman Gregory Fuller, 875-5546  
 CABLE TV ADVISORY COMMITTEE - Meets on Call. 875-2161.  
 CEMETERY TRUSTEES - 1st & 3rd Monday, 1p.m., Chairman Florence Shaw, 875-2220.  
 CONSERVATION COMMISSION - 2nd & 4th Wednesday, 7p.m. Chairman Lisa Erickson Harris.  
 FIRE WARDS - Meet on Call. Chief Russell Jones, 875-7510.  
 GILMAN MUSEUM TRUSTEES - Meet on Call. Chairman Ellamarie Carr, 776-4833.  
 LAND CONSERVATION INVESTMENT PROGRAM - Meets on Call, Chairman Juliet Peverley, 875-7232.  
 LEVY PARK TRUSTEES - Meet on Call. Chairman Jonathan Downing, 875-7243.  
 OLD HOME WEEK COMMITTEE - Meets on Call. 875-0109  
 PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION - 1st Thursday, 6:30p.m., Chairman Debbie Burton, 875-0109  
 PLANNING BOARD - 1st Monday, 7p.m., Chairman James Washburn. Call 875-5095 for Appointment.  
 SCHOOL BOARD - 2nd & 4th Monday, 6p.m., Chairman Arnold P. Shibley, 875-2849.  
 SUPERVISORS OF THE CHECKLIST - Meet on Call. Chairman Alice Ziegra, 875-2151.  
 TRUSTEES OF THE GILMAN LIBRARY - 3rd Monday, 3:30p.m. Chairman Ellamarie Carr, 776-4833.  
 TRUSTEES OF TRUST FUNDS - Meet on Call. Chairman Joseph R. Houle, 875-7321.  
 WATER COMMISSION - 2nd & 4th Thursday, 8a.m. Chairman John Streeter, 875-2490. Office, 875-4200.  
 ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT - 2nd Thursday, 7p.m. Chairman Donn Brock, 875-4343.  
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 OR E-mail [jduffek@worldpath.net](mailto:jduffek@worldpath.net)  
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**ARE YOU ON OUR MAILING LIST?**

Main Street is distributed free to all residents of Alton. Each postal patron with the Zip Code 03809 or 03810 should receive a copy automatically.

If your mailing address has a different Zip Code than either of those and you are an Alton resident, you may receive Main Street each month by calling 569-4441 or faxing 569-9807 or send your mailing address to P. O. Box 210, Alton Bay NH 03810.



## MAIN STREET INFORMATION CENTER

## December Events

- Tue. 3 - FINANCIAL AID NIGHT, Alton School, 7p.m.  
 Wed. 4 - STORY HOUR: 3-5 Year Olds, Gilman Library, 10a.m.  
 Thu. 5 - BLOOD PRESSURE CLINIC, Pearson Road Community Center, 10:30a.m. to Noon  
 HOLIDAY CONCERT, Alton School, 7p.m.  
 Sat. 7 - HOLIDAY CRAFTS FOR KIDS, Town Hall, 9-11a.m.  
 ALTON CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY, American Legion Hall, 1 to 3p.m.  
 Mon. 9 - GIRLS BASKETBALL at Derryfield, 5:30p.m.  
 BOYS BASKETBALL at Derryfield, 7p.m.  
 Wed. 11 - STORY HOUR: 3-5 Year Olds, Gilman Library, 10a.m.  
 GIRLS BASKETBALL vs. Sunapee, 7p.m.  
 Thu. 12 - COMMUNITY/POLICE FORUM, Town Hall, 7p.m.  
 Fri. 13 - GIRLS BASKETBALL at Linwood, 6:30p.m.  
 K-3 CONCERT, Alton School, 6:30p.m.  
 BOYS BASKETBALL at Linwood, 8p.m.  
 Sat. 14 - CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR, Alton School, 9a.m.-3p.m.  
 Sun. 15 - HOLIDAY CAROLING, Town Hall, 6p.m.  
 Tue. 17 - GIRLS BASKETBALL vs. Moultonboro, 6:30p.m.  
 BOYS BASKETBALL vs. Moultonboro, 8p.m.  
 Wed. 18 - STORY HOUR: 3-5 Year Olds, Gilman Library, 10a.m.  
 Sat. 21 - PTSA BENEFIT BREAKFAST, Harvest Grille, 7-11a.m.  
 Wed. 25 - CHRISTMAS DAY  
 Sat. 28 - HAM & BEAN SUPPER, Pearson Road Community Center, 5p.m.  
 Tue. 31 - NEW YEAR'S EVE

## 10 YEARS AGO.....

.....Sean Sullivan was named NH Scout of the Year.....the Girls Cross Country Team was the State Champion.....Terry Clifford was appointed Town Administrator.....the Lions Club sponsored the Christmas Decorating Contest.....Dr. Warren Harris was appointed interim pastor of the Alton Bay Advent Christian Church.

## 5 YEARS AGO.....

.....Hurricane "Bob" damaged the roof of the Congregational Meeting House necessitating the removal of the steeple.....the salmon run on the Merrymeeting River yielded an 11-pound, 31 incher.....Tess Mantegani, secretary of the Alton/Alton Bay Chamber of Commerce was named one of the 50 incorporators of the newly-formed Belknap County Economic Development Council..... the Alton School Board was seeking volunteers to serve on a Superintendent Search Screening Committee.....Elizabeth Locke and Elizabeth MacKay were installed as the co-presidents of the Alton Garden Club.....the Alton Central School was selected as a recipient of the Blue Ribbon School Achievement Award for the 1990-1991 school year.....Robert L. Calvert was elected president of the Visiting Nurse Association of Wolfeboro and Vicinity, Inc.

### JESSE BAKEMAN TO LEAD ALTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Alton Historical Society held its annual meeting and potluck supper on October 15 at the Congregational Church. The slate of officers for 1996-1997 - President Jessie Bakeman, Vice President George W. Stone, Jr., Treasurer Elizabeth Locke, and Secretary Nancy Mooney - was unanimously approved. The Board of Directors includes Warren Bodwell, Phyllis Draper, and Dorothy Folsom.

A permanent, combined meeting place and museum was discussed at the meeting. A committee is investigating the possibility of the old railroad building near the police station. Its location would be ideal and would further enhance the center of town as the cultural area, as the Gilman Museum and the Gilman Library are proximate.

Also, the executive board is busy planning the 1997 program, which will begin in April.

## Classified Ads

Alton residents may place classified ads in Main Street each month. Ads are limited to non-commercial, private individuals who have items for sale, items wanted, free items, personals, or help wanted notices. The rate is \$1 for each ad. Main Street reserves the right to refuse any ad. Ads must be mailed with payment to P. O. Box 210, Alton Bay, 03810, by the 15th of the preceding month.

## FOR SALE

Little Tykes Party Kitchen with Food and Accessories, \$35, Good Condition, 875-2136

Kenmore Microwave Oven, \$75, Boston Rocker, \$20, Both Excellent Condition, 875-3813

Electric Stove, Almond Color, \$150, Electric 40 gal. Hot Water Tank (2 Years Old), \$100, Both for \$200, 875-7302

Air Conditioner, 9000BTU, Excellent Condition, \$150, Heavy Duty Chain Saw, Needs Bar, \$90, New Computer Center with Hutch, \$65, 875-5803

Toro Power Shovel, Model 38310, \$50, Four XT-120 Radials, Remington M & S P255/70 R15 Standard Load with Rims and Hubs, \$200, 293-7105

Tread Mill, Very Good Condition, Electric, Speed Control, \$250, 875-5561

Two Vermont Casting Defiant Encore Wood Stoves, Sand Enamel with Shelves, Like New, Asking \$1400 Each, New \$2039, Large Fisher Stove, Double Door with Screen, \$300/BO, 875-7595.

## WANTED

Person or service to clean house in Alton Bay every other Thursday or Friday year round, Must have references and own transportation. 875-2253 Leave name, number and time you can be reached

Older Model Pop-Up Camper, Will Trade Hewlett Packard Full Page Color Scanner or 1987 One Owner Mercury Sable, 776-2488

Boat Dock Rental in Alton Bay for 1997 Summer Season, 875-5444

## PERSONAL

To the Trustees of the Gilman Library, Librarian Pat Merrill, and Friends of the Gilman Library and all the dear friends who attended the "Tea" given for me, I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks for their company, their cards and gifts. Being a part of the Gilman Library has brought me into the heart of this community. Mary Batchelder

Thanks to all who voted for me in last month's election. I look forward to serving as one of your Representatives to the New Hampshire House of Representatives. Rob Boyce

## OUR ELECTED OFFICIALS

## U.S. SENATE

Robert C. Smith, 332 Dirksen Senate Office Building, Washington DC 20510, 202-224-2841.

Judd Gregg, 393 Russell Senate Office Building, Washington DC 20510, 202-224-3324.

## U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

John E. Sununu

## NH EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Ray Burton, 271-3632(w), 747-3662(h).

## NH SENATE

Leo Fraser, 225-3664(w), 435-6626(h).

## NH HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Gordon Bartlett, 524-1220(w), 524-6536(h).

Robert Boyce, 875-6066(w), 875-7371(h), rboyce@worldpath.net

Paul Golden, 269-4071(w), 269-5511(h).

Alice Ziegler, 875-2151.

## BOARD OF SELECTMEN

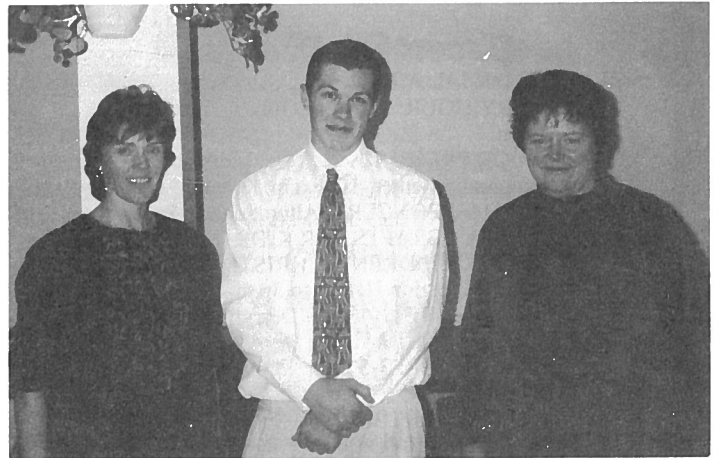
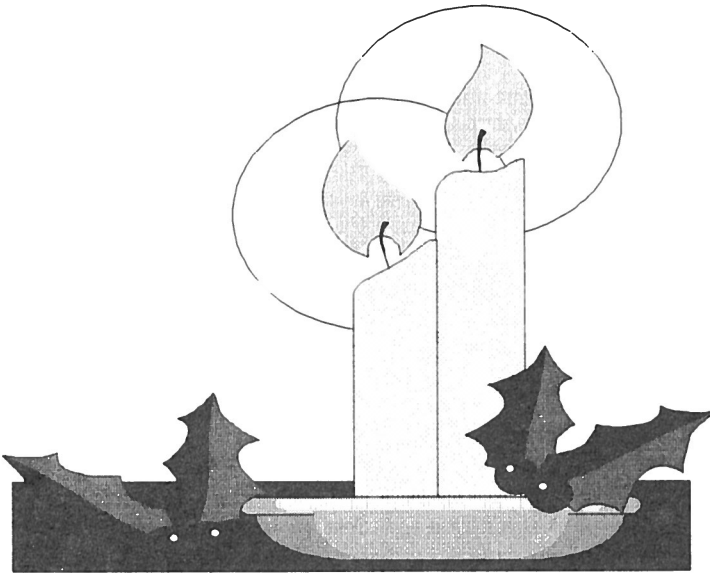
Reuben Wentworth, 875-3388

Arnold Shibley, 875-2849

Stanley Czech, 875-3815

## ART DEPARTMENT SEEKING ITEMS

The Alton Central School Art Department is again in the need of the following items: newspapers, magazines to cut up and old shower curtains. We are also in need of ten old wooden chairs (dump quality, nothing of value). The chairs will be needed for next semester, but we will take them anytime. Thanks in advance, from the bottom of our 'arts.!



**FENTON NAMED DAR GOOD CITIZEN**

Matthew Fenton (center), a senior at Alton Central High School, was selected for his qualities of dependability, service, leadership, and patriotism in his home, school, and community by the high school faculty and his classmates as the 1996-97 DAR Good Citizen. Fenton was honored at the November 8 meeting of the Winnepesaukee DAR Chapter. His mother, Susan Bascom, (left) and Marilyn St. Cyr, (right) Guidance Director at Alton Central School, were also in attendance at the luncheon. Betty Finethy is the DAR committee chairman for Alton. Fenton, who plans to attend a four-year college next year, will now compete on the state level for the honor of being chosen as this year's New Hampshire DAR Good Citizen.

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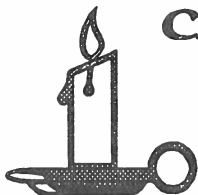


- \*Charbroiled Entrees
- \*Tender Fried Whole Clams
- \*Our Own Desserts
- \*Daily Specials

- \*Baked/Broiled Seafoods
- \*Hearty Sandwiches
- \*Our Own Soups/Chowders
- \*Fresh Vegetables



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CHILDREN'S MENU - CHECK IT OUT!**



**HOURS:**

Sun. 7am-4pm, Closed Mondays  
Tues. & Wed. 11am - 7pm  
Thurs. 11am - 8pm, Fri. & Sat. 7am - 8pm



**SUPER SUNDAY BREAKFAST 7am - 2 pm**

PLEASE RESERVE NOW FOR YOUR GROUP HOLIDAY PARTIES  
SPECIALTY CAKES (BIRTHDAY, ETC...) 24 HOURS NOTICE, PLEASE

**Early Bird Specials 4 - 6 p.m. - \$4.95** \*Take Out Available  
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PLEASE JOIN US - KAREN AND RICHARD HAYMAN

**FIRESIDE CHATS**

By Stan Czech

**DEPARTMENT RESPONDING TO ALL ACCIDENT CALLS**

As you can see by the October calls, motor vehicle accidents seem to be up. The Fire Department is now responding to all accidents to make sure we get an early start if there are personal injuries. Roads are now icy in the mornings, so drive safely.

**WOODSTOVE INFORMATION**

Anyone contemplating the installation of a woodstove is urged to contact Fire Department Lieutenant Jack Woodland, 875-2691, for a free consultation on guidelines and safety measures. Lt. Woodland also is available to inspect existing installations.

**OCTOBER FIRE CALLS**

Below is listed the fire calls for October 1996. I thought you might like to know the kinds of things to which we respond.

Oct. 4	18:39	Motor Vehicle Accident	Traffic Circle
7	8:34	Motor Vehicle Accident	Traffic Circle
	21:04	Carbon Monoxide Alarm	Roberts Cove Road
13	6:59	Motor Vehicle Accident	Route 28 South
18	13:08	Mutual Aid	Gilmanton Iron Works
19	2:50	Mutual Aid	Wolfeboro
	13:41	Brush/Forest Fire	Camp Alton
20	19:51	Accidental Alarm	Alton Mountain Road
	20:36	Vehicle Fire	Bowman Road
21	7:28	Power Lines	Sanctuary Lane
	14:13	Miscellaneous	Route 11A
	14:32	Motor Vehicle Accident	Route 28 North
	18:21	Motor Vehicle Accident	Route 11
23	17:39	Fuel Spill	Dudley Road
25	12:13	Motor Vehicle Accident	Route 28 North
26	9:43	Accidental Alarm	Pipers Point Road
	18:01	Accidental Alarm	Town Hall
29	16:59	Brush/Forest Fire	Route 11D
30	14:17	Motor Vehicle Accident	Route 11
31	8:56	Mutual Aid	New Durham

**MAIN STREET AVAILABLE BY SUBSCRIPTION**

Main Street is mailed to all Alton residents free of charge by third-class mail.

Because of its third-class status, Main Street can not be forwarded to those away from home for a period of time. However, anyone who wants to receive this publication year-round with first-class delivery may do so by subscribing to Main Street for \$7.50 per year. This will insure receiving twelve issues mailed to your address.

Subscription requests should be sent to Main Street, Post Office Box 210, Alton Bay, NH 03810. Include your name, mailing address and a \$7.50 check payable to Voice of Alton.



**FERNS ENERGY**

P.O. BOX 446

ALTON, NH 03809

Tel: 875-3500

800-521-3835



**MARY BATCHELDER HONORED**

Mary Batchelder (right) was honored recently for her many years of service to the Gilman Library. She is shown with Librarian Pat Merrill during the reception.

**THE CHECKOUT DESK**

By Pat Merrill, Librarian

**HOLLY BROWN NAMED LIBRARIAN AS PAT MERRILL BECOMES ASSISTANT**

With the retirement of Mary Batchelder, several changes have been made in the Library. Pat Merrill has chosen to "step-down", and take Mary's place as the assistant librarian. The Trustees are pleased to announce that after careful consideration of applicants for librarian, they have chosen Holly Brown of Alton for that position. She will assume her responsibilities December 2. Please stop by and welcome Holly to the Gilman Library.

There are numerous "old" calendars in the Library. Our Library becomes more and more crowded, and we would like to get rid of them. Please come and see if you would like to have any of them - as a gift, of course!

The Library has been sent quite an extensive display by the Child Abuse Prevention Foundation of New Hampshire, including a video, and pamphlets concerning Emotional Abuse and Neglect of Children, the Sexual Abuse of Children, Sexual Victimization of Children, and Adults abused as Children. These are here for your information and are free to any who wish them.

And, last but not least!! - as we approach the Christmas Season, the Library has many books for children and adults - stories about Christmas, and also craft and cooking books. We are ready for the Christmas Season!

**MERRY CHRISTMAS and HAPPY NEW YEARS**

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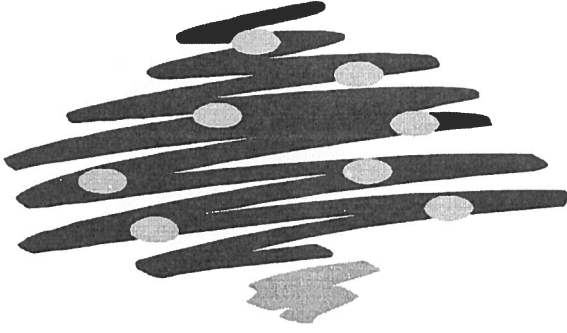
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## SUBMIT YOUR NEWS AND PHOTOS

Information may be submitted in writing to Main Street about special events sponsored by Alton organizations, club meetings, and news of interest to the general public. Color or black and white photos of your organization's events are also welcome

Send any material to P. O. Box 210, Alton Bay, 03810, fax to 569-9807 or E-mail to [jduffek@worldpath.net](mailto:jduffek@worldpath.net) by the 15th of each month for the following month's issue. Material may also be left in the Main Street mail box at the Farmington National Bank.

Main Street reserves the right to limit or edit all material. For additional information call 569-4441.

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## TOWN HALL NOTES

By Scott Dunn, Town Administrator

### 1996 TAX RATE IS SET AT \$13.94

The 1996 tax rate has been set at \$13.94 per thousand dollars of property value. The breakdown is \$4.15 for town government, \$8.08 for school government and \$1.71 for the county government. These values are based on the recently completed revaluation and represent an entirely new tax base. By comparison, the 1995 town tax rate of \$3.17 was based on a net budget of \$1,946,719 and a tax base of \$614,491,834. The total tax rate for 1995 was \$11.25. At that time, the tax base equalization ratio was 145% for a total equalized valuation of \$423,984,142. The 1996 equalization ratio is 100% and the new total valuation of taxable property in the Town is \$490,853,051. This represents a valuation increase of \$66,868,909 (16%).

The increase can be attributed to new construction, some property value increases and the discovery of property which had previously not been taxed. Also, the town tax rate is based on a net budget of \$2,034,083. When you add the school tax amount of \$3,966,677 and a county tax bill of \$841,732, the total amount to be collected this year is \$6,842,492.

Tax bills are now in the mail and this would not have been possible were it not for the dedication and superhuman effort of Diantha Moulton, who with the aid of a computer, managed to translate the new assessment figures into the tax billing program Extra credit also goes out to Anne Kroeger and Paulette Wentworth for getting these bills to you. They are now anxiously waiting to process payments.

### LANDFILL CONTAMINATION

The State Department of Environmental Services has recently notified the Town of its concern about high levels of contaminants which have been found at one of the 12 landfill water monitoring sites. Specifically, the chemical compounds of acetone, butanone, toluene and xylene have been found at levels which exceed drinking water standards. Apparently, these chemicals are indicative of a paint thinner type of substance. The good news is that other monitoring locations appear to indicate no contaminants have traveled offsite to reach any other wells.

Rest assured the Town is very concerned about this problem and we are committed to doing whatever is necessary to ensure no private water supply sources in the area are affected, and we are working with the State to discover why this problem exists and what should be done about it. Some of the possible reasons include: the monitoring well may have been improperly installed and the readings may not be accurate indications of groundwater conditions; or someone may have illegally dumped hazardous waste somewhere at this facility.

Presently, our first course of action will be to install two new wells to make sure we have accurate groundwater samples and the contamination is not traveling off-site. Then, if sampling continues to indicate contamination, the Town will have two options: (1) intercept the contaminated water and treat it to remove all contamination; or (2) find the source of contamination and remove it. Obviously we are going to have to hire technical experts and spend money to find the most economical solution. Stay tuned as I will do my best to keep the public Informed about this situation.

### BAY CHURCH OFFERS DIVORCE COUNSELING

Beginning, Wednesday, December 4, at 7p.m. and continuing on successive Wednesdays, there will be a 13-week series called "DivorceCare" at the Bay Church on Rand Hill Road. Reverend David Nolan, director of counseling, will offer the program.

Pre-registration by calling 875-6765 is suggested.



**HOLIDAY SHOPPING MADE EASY**

The two pewter medallions, designed by Hampshire Pewter, may be purchased at the Farmington National Bank, the First NH Bank and the Alton Village 5 & 10.

There are also a few colorful sweatshirts with the Bicentennial logo and decals available for purchase at the Village 5 & 10.

These collector items will make great gifts for those special people on your holiday shopping list.

After the first of the year these items will be available at the Village 5 & 10. The medallions and decals may be purchased at Town Hall while supplies last.

**SUPPORT MAIN STREET ADVERTISERS**

The publication of Main Street is made possible by the Alton businesses who advertise each month. Support these businesses and mention that you saw their ad in Main Street.

Many individual residents have expressed their appreciation for Main Street and have indicated an interest in supporting this activity financially.

We welcome individual support and accept donations sent to Main Street, P. O. Box 210, Alton Bay NH 03810.



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**MT. MAJOR SNOWMOBILE CLUB  
PLANS WINTER ACTIVITIES**

As the leaves fall, and the air becomes cooler, our thoughts turn to the coming winter season. With thoughts of snow and riding, the Mt. Major Snowmobile Club (MMSC) has been busy improving and adding trails that are described in maps available at local stores.

Virginia Bergeron, of the MMSC ran an 8-hour Safety Certification Class with representatives from the Merrimac Valley Trail Riders Association, the NH Fish and Game Department, and The Alton Volunteer Ambulance Corps. The class was conducted for 12-16 year old youths and 26 participated.

MMSC is planning a Familiarization Ride-In on December 28 and a Poker Run on January 11. Plan to bring the family for a day of fun with prizes, food, and raffles. In February during the Winter Carnival, a Radar Run will be held.

If you are interested in joining the Mt. Major Snowmobile Club, would like to come to a meeting, or would like more information on upcoming events, please call President Dick Langille at 875-6994.

**COMMUNITY CHURCH CHRISTMAS EVENTS**

The Community Church of Alton will be hosting several Christmas season events. On Sunday, December 15, the Sunday School will present a pageant at 5p.m. immediately followed by an all-church Pot Luck Supper which will include caroling.

Sunday, December 22, will be Christmas Sunday. A festive worship service will begin at 11a.m. On Christmas Eve, the Church will present its traditional family Candlelight Service beginning at 8p.m. All are welcome.

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## CHRISTMAS DINNERS AVAILABLE FOR SHUT-INS AND NEEDY

The annual Christmas dinner for shut-ins and the needy will be distributed this year on Sunday, December 22, by the Bay Church. It will be complete with all the fixin's, hot and ready to eat or can be frozen to eat later on Christmas. The dinners will be hand delivered to each person desiring one early Sunday afternoon.

To obtain a dinner simply call 875-6161 by December 17. Be prepared to give directions to your home.

The Christmas dinner program is the same one initiated some years ago by the Police Association and taken over last year by the Bay Church. Contributions to the Christmas Dinner Fund are welcome, by check to the Bay Church Christmas Dinner Fund, Post Office Box 295, Alton Bay, 03810.



## ALTON OUTDOORS

By Jack Miller

### USHERING OUT THE OLD YEAR

December 31 ushers out the old year, just as the month of December ushers out the hunting and fishing seasons of the year. December 8 is the end of the firearms deer hunting season and December 15 is the end of the archery deer and turkey hunting seasons.

If you still have the urge to be in the woods hunting this month, the season for gray squirrel, pheasant, and ruffed grouse are open until December 31. Also snowshoe hare, cottontail rabbit, fox and racoon may be hunted this month and beyond. Crow are legal until December 16, and one may hunt fishers from December 1 - 31. Last year we had snow on the ground this month so you may want to dust off the snowshoes to venture out into the woods.

The ice fishing season is just around the corner and may even start this month with enough cold weather. One should get the gear out and set it up to make sure everything still works correctly. The fishing line manufacturers now have more monofilament lines made for the cold temperatures found while ice fishing. There are also lines for various colored waters and visibilities.

There are still enough things to do to keep the outdoors person busy this month. See you out there.

### FINANCIAL AID INFORMATION

Alton High School students, especially seniors, and their parents are invited to a Financial Aid Information Night at the School Library on Tuesday, December 3, at 7p.m. Maris Caron of the Financial Aid Office at the University of New Hampshire will be the guest speaker.



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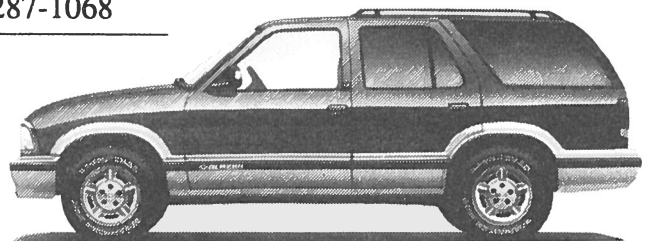
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Brown, Larry	Father and Son	
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Clark, Mary Higgins	My Girl Sunday	
Coyle, Harold	Until the End	
Daley, Robert	Nowhere to Run	
Davidson, Diana Mott	The Main Corpse	
Follett, Ken	The Third Twin	
Francis, Dick	To the Hilt	
Garwood, Julie	Prince Charming	
Greeley, Andrew	Irish Lace	
Gruenfeld, Lee	The Halls of Justice	
Harris, Charlaine	Dead Over Heels	
King, Stephen	Desperation	
Langton, Jane	The Shortest Day	
Langton, Jane	Dead as a Dodo	
LeCarre, John	The Tailor of Panama	
McCullough, Colleen	A Creed for the Third Millennium	
Mitchard, Jacqueline	The Deep End of the Ocean	
Oke, Janette	Nana's Gift	
Patterson, James	Jack & Jill	
Patterson, James & DeJong, Peter	Miracle on the 17th Green	
Perry, Anne	Weighed in the Balance	
Simpson, Mona	A Regular Guy	
Turov, Scott	The Laws of our Father	

Ammons, A.R.	<b>NONFICTION</b>	Brink Road
Garber, Marjorie	Dog Love	
Gordeeva, Ekaterina	My Sergei: A Love Story	
Hewitt, Hugh	Searching For God in America	
Rowan, Carl	The Coming Race War in America	
Smith, Sally	Reflected Glory: The Life of Pamela Churchill Harriman	
Wicker, Tom	One of Us	

Base, Graeme	<b>CHILDREN</b>	The Discovery of Dragons
Gregory, Nan	How Smudge Came	
Helprin, Mark & Chris	A City in Winter	
Von Allsburg	I Was Born About 10,000 Years Ago	
Kellogg, Steven	Outcast of Redwall	
Jacques, Brian	The Bobbin Girl	
McCully, Emily	Nature Cross-sections	
Orr, Richard		

Forsythe, Frederick

**CASSETTES**  
Icon

**A NOTE FROM THE PRINCIPAL**  
By George J. Rogers, Alton Central School  
**HOLIDAY CONCERTS**

Season's Greetings from the Alton Central School!  
This month there are two holiday concerts at the school. The concert for grades 4-12 is December 5 at 7p.m. The K-3 concert is on December 13 at 6:30p.m.  
Christmas vacation begins at 2:47 on Friday, December 20. The students will return to school on Thursday, January 2.  
The basketball and ski season has begun. Schedules are available in the Main Office at school.

joy  
to the  
world



**SCHOOL HOLIDAY CONCERT IS THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5**

The Alton Central School Music Department is pleased to announce that the annual band and choral holiday concert will be on Thursday, December 5, at 7p.m. in the Gym. The concert is free and all are welcome. The snow date is December 12.

The concert will feature performances by the elementary chorus and beginner band, the middle school chorus and intermediate band, the concert choir, the concert band, and the jazz band.

The choruses will entertain the audience with holiday numbers including "The Spirit of Christmas", "Most Wonderful Time of the Year", and "Sleigh Ride." The band performances will include "Jolly Old Saint Nicholas", "Jingle Bell Rock", and selections from "The Grinch that Stole Christmas." The Jazz Band will perform several selections including "American Patrol."

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## PTSA HOLDS FIRST REGULAR MEETING

By Janet Sleeper

The first regular meeting of the Alton PTSA was held Tuesday, November 19, in the High School Library and every seat was filled. Led by President Joyce Hopper and Secretary Linda Roy the group reviewed and voted to accept the association's bylaws as proposed by the Executive Committee.

Recently, a delegation of nine PTSA members attended the New Hampshire PTA's 100th Anniversary Convention in Hampton where Alton was recognized as an up and coming organization that may soon have the largest membership in the state.

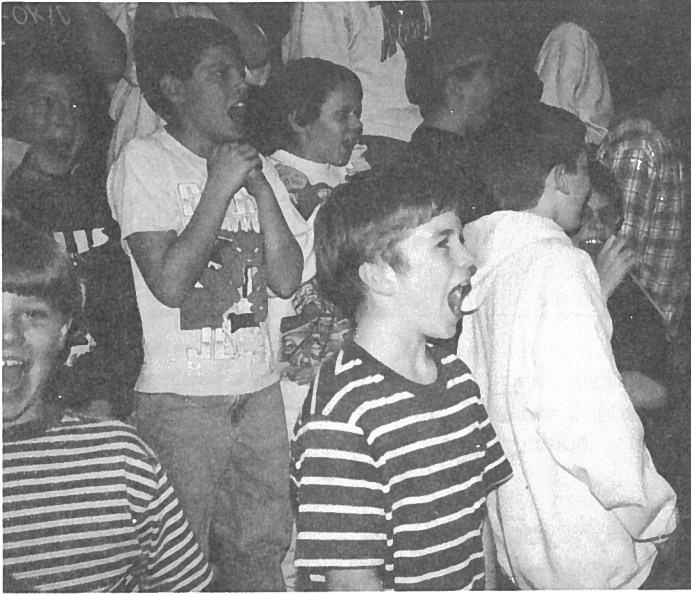
Even though fund raising is not to be the main focus of the PTSA there is a need to create an initial operating budget. With that in mind a blitz of events is planned for December. The Harvest Grille Restaurant will host a Holiday Breakfast to benefit the PTSA from 7 to 11 a.m. on Saturday, December 21, and the Evergreen Ridge Christmas Tree Farm in New Durham will donate \$3 to the PTSA for every tree purchased by Alton Residents who present a special form available at the School and from PTSA officers.

Plans for the PTSA Christmas Craft Fair are progressing nicely. The Fair will feature the Christmas Cafe, pictures with Santa, the Children's Gift Shoppe, children's books from a local author, raffles, and a wide array of quality hand-crafted items from area artisans. To reserve a table at the fair call Joyce at 776-5733 or Kathy Alden at 875-2645 soon while space is still available.

During the open discussion portion of the meeting students and parents expressed concern with school bus safety, operating procedures, long routes and crowding. A special committee was formed to gather more information on this subject.

Other topics discussed pertained to the cafeteria, teacher aides, large pupil to teacher ratios, and space needs in the school building.

Upcoming dates include Saturday, December 7, 5 to 8 p.m. Jungle in the Gym; Saturday, December 14, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Christmas Craft Fair; Tuesday, December 17, 7 p.m., PTSA meeting; and Saturday, December 21, 7 to 11 a.m., Holiday Benefit Breakfast at the Harvest Grill Restaurant.



### MIDDLE SCHOOL SMOKE SCREAM

Middle School students at Alton Central School participated in a Smoke Scream as part of a Great American Smoke-Out program that featured students signing pledges promising not to smoke. The assembly was sponsored by the PTSA.

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*We wish you & yours a blessed,  
peaceful holiday season, and we thank you for  
your support through the year.*

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**CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S CLUB  
PLANS TREE TRIMMIN' LUNCHEON**

The Lakes Region Christian Women's Club will be holding a Tree Trimmin' Luncheon on Wednesday, December 11, from 11:30a.m. to 1:30p.m. at the Alton Bay Conference Center.

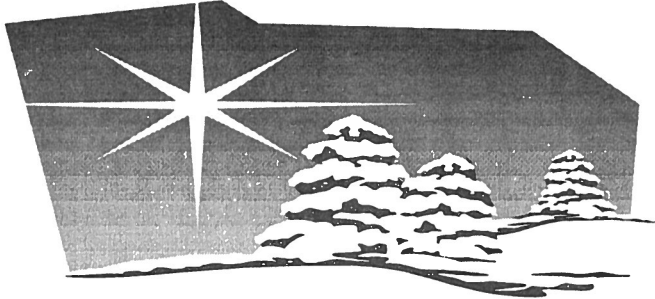
Special guests will be Robert Steele, of Hampshire Pewter, Mary Dziepak, well known singer and musician from Laconia, and Kay Richards from Orono, Maine, who teaches "Special Children" will be the speaker.

Christian Women's Club is an inter-denominational group with no formal membership. Reservations for the luncheon and the available complimentary nursery are necessary, and may be made by contacting Muriel Stinson by December 9th.

**ALL NIGHT PARKING BAN  
IN EFFECT THROUGH APRIL 1**

According to a town ordinance, motor vehicles or trailers are not permitted to be parked or stopped on any highway in Alton between 10p.m. and 6a.m. from November 15 through April 1 or at any other time during snow storms when snow removal maintenance is being performed.

The fine is \$10 and vehicles in violation of this ordinance may be towed away at the owner's expense.



**BUDGET COMMITTEE HEARINGS**

The Budget Committee has announced the following appointments to review town budget requests:

- Dec. 2 Budget Committee, Legal, Municipal Water, General Government
- 5 Tax Collector, Town Clerk, Elections & Registrations
- 9 Cemetery, Highway Department
- 12 Pest Control, Police Department
- 16 Insurance, Benefits, Administrative Services
- 19 Welfare, Patriotic Purposes, Street Lighting, Land Use and Property Records Department

All hearings begin at 7p.m. in the Town Hall.

**CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY**

The Annual Alton Children's Christmas Party is Saturday, December 7, from 1 to 3p.m. at the American Legion Hall. The party is sponsored by the American Legion Auxiliary, American Legion Post 72, the Knights of Columbus, the Police Association, and the Sons of American Legion.

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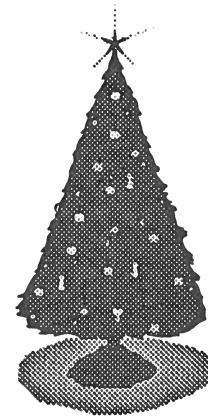
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### Main Street

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by first class mail at \$7.50 for 12 issues

### POLICE SPONSOR YOUTH BASKETBALL NIGHT

By Steven T. Holly, Community Liaison Officer  
What would you call a bunch of cops and local youths getting together to play basketball? I call it Wednesday night! For a little over a month now the Alton and New Durham Police Departments have been sponsoring Wednesday night basketball at the New Durham Elementary School from 7 - 9p.m.

This program has been a great opportunity for anyone in the community over the age of 16, male or female, to come to the school and play basketball, get to know your local police officers, and have fun! The attendance has steadily grown from 11 on the first night to 16 last week and I expect it to continue to grow! I am very pleased with the enthusiasm of the people who have been attending and hope to see more new faces. So mark it on your calendar and I'll see you there!

### HELP WANTED ON DECEMBER 27

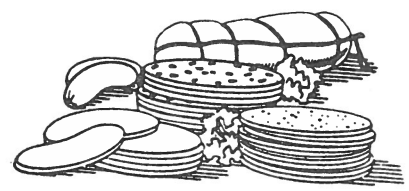
Anyone interested in participating in Main Street is encouraged to call Editor John Duffek in Alton at 569-4441.  
No talent will be turned away! We need reporters for general and feature stories; salespersons to call on prospective advertisers; and collators and staplers to help put it all together at the Pearson Road Community Center on Friday, December 27, at 6:30p.m. Join us!

## McGrath Food Center

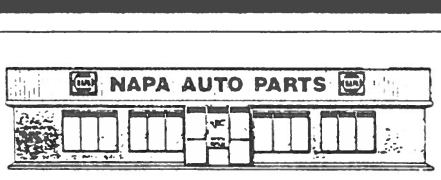
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