

Main Street

Alton's Bicentennial 1796-1996

Volume XII Number 4

April, 1996

Alton, New Hampshire

TRAGEDY HITS ALTON AS BERGERON POND DAM BURSTS



PATH OF DESTRUCTION

In the aftermath of the dam burst, Larry Sinclair's tractor-trailer is mired in the mud in front of the Thoroughgood homestead on what was Route 140. The photo is looking towards the Merrymeeting River.

RENE PELLETIER RETIRES AS GIRLS BASKETBALL COACH

After 15 years as coach of the varsity girls basketball team at Alton Central School, Rene Pelletier announced his retirement at the recent winter sports awards banquet.

His outstanding record since 1980 is 236 wins and 62 losses and Pelletier's teams have made it to the Class S championship game in 1980, 1981, 1983 and 1992.

Athletic Director Scott Hutchins honored Pelletier by announcing the first Rene Pelletier Award to be presented each year to a player that has displayed commitment, determination and desire, all the attributes that Pelletier has, according to Hutchins. The first recipient was Kelly Lord who completed her senior year as a tri-captain, and 1,000-point scorer. Lord also was named the Most Valuable Player.

Pelletier hopes to continue coaching in the area, but for a boys team. "I just felt it was time to switch to coaching the other gender for a while."

Hutchins lauded Pelletier during the ceremony. "The stats don't lie. That's great coaching. There's no doubt about it. He is a super man. We are definitely going to miss him at Alton High School." Those attending agreed by giving Pelletier a standing ovation.

Veteran junior varsity coach and varsity assistant Elaine MacDonald also announced her retirement.

A major disaster hit Alton on the evening of March 13 when 92 million gallons of water burst through the Bergeron Pond Dam and rushed down the hill towards Route 140 and the Merrymeeting River.

A 1,200-foot section of the highway was washed away, homes were damaged, and one resident, Lynda Sinclair of Elliot Road, lost her life in the torrent of water.

Robert and Virginia Bergeron, owners of the dam, called 911 to report that the dam was leaking just before 7p.m., but by then the 44-acre pond was already unleashing its fury on the hillside. Trees, boulders, ice chunks, parts of homes, outdoor equipment and vehicles were thrown by the force of the water toward the Merrymeeting River.

Sinclair was fleeing her home in a pick-up truck behind her husband, Larry, who was driving his tractor-trailer. The tractor-trailer ended up in the huge gully that was Route 140 before the water washed it away. Lynda Sinclair's vehicle was hit by the seven-foot high wall of water and her body was not found until the following Tuesday when NH Fish and Game divers recovered it from the Merrymeeting River.

Larry Sinclair was rescued from the cab of his truck by John Young who risked his life to throw a rope to him and pull him to safety.

Lula and George Thoroughgood rode out the river of water that tore through their homestead after a futile attempt to escape. Neither was injured but the home has been condemned by town officials. Many others were damaged by water, ice and mud.

Members of the Fire, Police, Highway, and Water Departments, state agencies, the American Red Cross, and countless volunteers were on hand throughout the following week, all working effectively under the coordination of Fire Chief Russ Jones.

Route 140 was reopened Monday after state crews filled the destroyed roadway with 4,300 yards of gravel and a heavy equipment contingent from the NH National Guard was expected on Saturday, March 23, to further restore the area.

Alton Building Inspector Richard Canuel called upon area contractors, plumbers, electricians and others to volunteer their services in restoring the damaged homes. Many have responded. The estimate of total damage is about \$5.5 million.

A fund has been established for victims of the disaster at First NH Bank in Alton. Also, a Sinclair Family Relief Fund has been started by Larry Sinclair's employer, Advanced Recycling in Concord. Various organizations are sponsoring fund raising events including the Alton-New Durham Lions Club which voted to donate the proceeds of its Penny Sale on Saturday, April 6, to aid the victims and a benefit dance at Gunstock on Saturday, April 20.

ALTON TOWN MEETING APPROVES APPROPRIATIONS TOTALING \$3,281,552

By Bob Calvert

It took four hours, 38 minutes and 10 seconds from gavel to gavel to complete the town business in the deliberative session of the Alton Town Meeting on March 13. The turnout was greater than a year ago, the number of articles was fewer, and it took some 27 minutes longer. A new record-setting total of \$3,281,552 (combined total of the "sweep" article and all articles carrying dollar signs) was voted. Amendments were flying through the air at a near-record level, the metal chairs were getting oh! so hard, and the usual early periodic exodus took place throughout the second half of the meeting. And the dam-bursting tragedy on Route 140 caused a gloom to settle over many of the participants.

Three capital improvement articles all passed. One, amended to include identification of the vehicle being replaced and current mileage, included \$19,200 for a new police cruiser; \$20,000 for repairs to the Solid Waste Center loader; \$7,500 for improvements to the Alton Bay Community Center; and \$10,000 for improvements to the west side bath house. Another article approved \$7,850 (amended down from \$8,000) for a new Highway Department sweeper. The third one approved \$25,000 for a new water treatment plant, but amended the article to have the costs borne by the water users rather than the Clough-Morrell Trust.

Three capital reserve fund articles were approved. \$50,000 was approved to be added to the Gilman Library Addition Capital Reserve Fund. \$20,000 was approved for the Fire Department Capital Reserve Fund and \$50,000 was approved for the Highway Department Heavy Equipment Capital Reserve Fund. An article to establish a new reserve fund for Leave Benefits with a \$10,000 initial appropriation was defeated.

Six special current project articles all passed. They include: \$6,000 for paving the Pearson Road Community Center parking lot; \$10,000 for improvements to the Central Fire Station; \$5,900



A REMINDER OF THE PAST

Former selectman Bob Calvert presented a brief history of the town's early days at the opening of Town Meeting in recognition of the Bicentennial year.

to both remove an underground fuel tank and create a Police Department Impound Yard; \$8,000 to update the town's Master Plan; \$45,000 for improvements to dirt (gravel) roads; and \$510,000 (Amended downward from \$700,000 and offset in part by a \$97,766 block grant) for reconstruction of town highways per the long-range highway plan.

Elected town officers' salaries were established at \$25,000 for the Town Clerk; \$22,000 for the Tax Collector; and \$32,600 for the Highway Agent (a \$1,000 increase in each case).

"Outside" agencies articles, required by petition, all passed with the following allocations: Community Health and Hospice - \$3,000; VNA-Hospice of Southern Carroll County and Vicinity - \$12,727; Community Action Program - \$5,050; and New Beginnings (domestic violence and sexual assault crisis services) - \$630.


Two other special articles both failed to pass. One would have changed the Parks and Recreation Commission to Recreation Commission only; and the other would have replaced the election of Budget Committee members with appointment by the Moderator.

IN MEMORY OF RODGER B. MATTHEWEMAN

Alton has lost another of its dedicated volunteer community servants in the person of Rodger B. Matthewman who came to this community in retirement in 1982 after summering here since 1945. This 42-year veteran of Simon Saw and Steel Co. In Fitchburg, Mass., had been closely associated with the Alton Zoning Board of Adjustment for several years, serving as its chairman a portion of that time. Compassionate, but very objective, exhaustive in his research, he served with distinction in one of the most challenging of town committee roles.

Alton Bay PAVILION Marketplace
Upscale Marketplace
offering Quality Merchandise
SPACE FOR LEASE

-1996 Season-
Memorial Day to Columbus Day
Retail Marketing Karts Available
Flexible Retail Spaces Available
120 S.F. to 1000 S.F. or more
CALL 875-7307



Brenda MacKay
(603) 875-5329

My Little Sewing Room

Custom Sewing and Alterations Crafts and More
"You sow your oats...while I sew your clothes"

Williams Building
Route 11, Alton Bay

FREE HEARING TESTS

Computer Analysis and Expert Repairs - All Makes
Second Opinions

Walk-In Hours
Other Times
By Appointment

1-800-
538-4064

CARNEY DRUG • 10AM-1PM Wed
32 North Main St, Rochester, NH 332-2132

HALL'S PHARMACY • 10AM-1PM Mon
Opposite Post Office, Wolfeboro, NH 569-2374

WILLIAMS BUILDING • 10AM-1PM Tues
Route 11, Alton Bay, NH 875-6059

Robert I. Williams - Registered Hearing Aid Disp.
HIGHEST QUALITY - BEST PRICES - FAST SERVICE
Full Refund on all New Aids if not satisfied.
Ask to see the New Tiny STARKEY Tympanette®

FREE HOME VISITS

SCHOOL DISTRICT MEETING DENIES BUDGET COMMITTEE CUT

133 residents gathered in the Alton School Gym last month for the annual School District Meeting and turned down an effort by the Budget Committee to cut the overall budget by \$133,307. The cut primarily represented staff positions necessitated by rising enrollments, according to school board members.

About half of the almost two-hour meeting was spent discussing the article before a total of \$4,428,435 was appropriated for "the support of schools, for the salaries of school district officers, employees and agents, and for the payment of statutory obligations of the District."

In other business, voters approved \$24,000 for energy-efficient lighting, \$5,000 for plumbing repairs, and \$25,000 for computer upgrading. \$136,061 was appropriated for the support of the School Lunch Program to be offset by revenue from sale of food, state and federal sources.

An article to return \$115,000 to the general fund was passed. The money has been held by the District pending the outcome of various labor appeals to the NH Supreme Court.

The meeting concluded with comments from School Board Member Loring Carr on the decision to form a committee to evaluate school facilities and develop a proposal to meet the district's space needs. He introduced architect Frank Marinace who has been hired to work with the committee in the preparation of a report to be presented at the next School District Meeting in 1997.

SOCIAL STUDIES TEACHER PRESENTS SEMINAR

Michael P. Folan, social studies teacher at Alton Central School, recently presented a seminar at the 27th Northeast Regional Social Studies Conference in Hartford, Connecticut.

Folan's presentation was titled "Another Kind of Voice: Artifacts in the Classroom".

This was the second time Folan has been selected to give a presentation at this conference. He previously discussed the use of anthropology as a holistic approach to teaching in the social studies classroom.

PENNY SALE PROCEEDS SLATED FOR VICTIMS OF ALTON DISASTER

The 40th Annual Penny Sale and Jamboree will be held at the Alton Central School on Saturday, April 6, and the members of the Alton-New Durham lions Club have voted to donate the proceeds to the victims of last month's Bergeron Pond Dam disaster.

New this year is the bike raffle featuring a Gary Fischer Mountain Bike. The second prize is a Bicentennial Afghan. Tickets are \$1 each and may be purchased from club members or at the Penny Sale.

One or more of the hundreds of prizes and gifts donated by businesses and individuals in the Alton and New Durham area can be won by purchasing 100 tickets for a dollar.

Special raffles will be conducted for the most outstanding donations in addition to the spectacular door prize awarded to the person with the winning ticket stub from their packet of penny sale tickets.

The Town Jail, a favorite activity for everyone, will be open again this year with special officers deputized to place in jail anyone whose arrest is purchased by a friend or relative.

A penny toss and candy wheel are among the activities that precede the calling of numbers as the prize giveaway gets underway and refreshments are available all evening.

Doors to the Gym open at 6p.m. and prizes will be awarded starting at 8p.m.

L.L. BRASWELL

BUILDING & REMODELING CONTRACTOR

Homes, Barns, Additions, Decks,
Garages, Kitchen and Bathroom



FREE ESTIMATES
Senior Citizens Discount



875-5315

Expert
Collision Repair
and
Auto Painting

Master Card
& Visa
Accepted



24 Hour Towing
569-4400

On the corner in So. Wolfeboro • Route 28

"Keeping You Rolling Since 1839"

OPEN
Monday
thru
Friday 8-5
Saturday 8-12

EASTER

By Lori Durkee

Easter is the time of year
When bunnies and children are filled with cheer.
Bunnies are scooting and scurrying around
Hiding Easter eggs all over the ground.

Children are bubbling all over with glee
They know there are eggs behind every tree.
They search high and low, up, down, and around
Until each painted egg the children have found.

The bunnies watch from their holes in the ground
Waiting to see if every egg will be found.
When the baskets are filled the bunnies come out
They join the children as they all sing and shout.

The bunnies and children sit upon the ground
Counting egg after egg each child has found.
Some found six, others found seven
One cute little girl collected eleven.
As the funtastic day drew to an end
Each child and bunny became a good friend.
They said to each other as they went on their way,
"Please let us do this next Easter Day!"



THIRD GRADERS WIN REGIONAL ODYSSEY OF THE MIND COMPETITION

Seven students representing grade three at Alton Central School took top honors at the Regional Odyssey of the Mind (OM) competition at Kingswood Regional High School. They are Kristen Dexter, Kelly Eagles, Anne Farrell, Erin Hannafin, Travis Hopper, Stephanie Tanguay, and Michael Tidd. The team was coached by Barbara and Scott Tanguay and Kevin Hopper.

Odyssey of the Mind is a nationwide program that began over 20 years ago in New Jersey. Its purpose is to encourage creative problem solving among school age children. Each year, five competitive problems and one non-competitive primary problem are sent to OM members. Children form teams of seven students who work with adult coaches. They select a problem and work on its solution for several months. All ideas, costumes, props, etc., must be the work of the team.

Alton's third-graders will now compete at the state level in Merrimack.

Other teams from Alton were Grade 4 - Kelsey Yelle, Matt Sydow, Meredith Roy, Dan Quinn, Carl Dickson, Dylan Laurion, and David Currid coached by Sandy Currid and Sue Quinn; Grade 5 - Nick Hallin, Kristin Murray, Jonathan Dexter, Terese Hopper, Bill Beaupre, Patty Currid, and Hilary Ballentine coached by Joan Murray and Joyce Hopper; Grade 6 - Ben Jensen, Leeanne Kenerson, Morgan Fuller, Lindsay Sleeper, Taylor Gunn, Matt Currid, and Joanne Kimionakis coached by Carol Fuller and Linda Roy; and Grade 9 - Andrea Guttormsen, Dave Jensen, Andy Fuller, Mandy Lambert, Tim Croes, Joe Irving, and Greg Salvatore coached by Mike Fuller and Christy Holway.

The one redeeming feature of being wrong is the joy it brings to others.

WATER IS OUR MOST IMPORTANT RESOURCE - USE IT WISELY

PUMP SYSTEMS INSTALLED
Est. 1970

John Streeter

ARTESIAN WELLS • CABLE TOOL DRILLING
FULLY INSURED • FREE ESTIMATES

PO BOX 551, SCHOOL ST.
ALTON, NH 03809
(603) 875-2490

NH LIC. #277
ME LIC. #231, MA LIC. #163
NH MAST ELECT LIC #5738



ALTON VILLAGE 5 & 10
at the Traffic Circle
Alton, NH 03809
875-5510



MUSTARD SEED ART & CRAFT SUPPLIES
Main Street, Alton, NH 03809
875-CRFT (2738)

*Thank you for a GREAT first year
at our new location!*

*We look forward to serving
you for a long time!
We wish you & yours a
Blessed, Happy Easter
& Spring Season.*

Farmington Child Care Center

"Serving families from the Seacoast to the Lakes Region"

Open 6 am to 6 pm Full and part-time Openings
Ages 6 weeks - 12 years Security Entrance

Located on Route 153, 1/2 mile off Route 11

(603) 755-2883

**STAN CZECH IS NEW SELECTMAN;
SHIBLEY CONTINUES ON SCHOOL BOARD**

973 ballots were cast as 32% of the registered voters went to the polls to elect Stanley E. Czech as the new selectman for three years. He replaces Russ Jones who chose not to seek reelection. School Board Chairman Arnold "Pete" Shibley ran unopposed for the three-year post on the Board. He received 595 votes.

Czech got 321 votes beating Richard Quindley with 276, Harold M. Bothwick, Jr. with 131, Pamela B. Canuel with 123, and Alan J. Baumann, Jr. with 29.

Charles B. Adams, Jr. was elected Water Commissioner for three years over incumbent George M. Jones 421 to 412. There were three candidates for the three-year post on the Planning Board. Incumbent James C. Washburn (495 votes) and James P. Varney (423) beat Richard J. Lane (356). For the one-year Planning Board post, William A. Ryan topped Earl James Bagley 385 to 339

No candidates filed for the three three-year positions and the one one-year position on the Budget Committee. Write-in candidates Deborah Burton (191), Peter Pijoan (159) and Paul Anderson (18) won the three-year seats and Deborah Burton won the one-year post with 20 votes. She chose the three-year position, leaving a vacancy to be filled by the Budget Committee.

All other positions were filled by candidates running unopposed:

Trustee of the Trust Funds for three years, Shirley Copeland (805); Library Trustee for three years, Shirley Copeland (799); Cemetery Trustee for three years, Florence C. Shaw (769); Fire Ward for three years, Russell Sample, Jr., (784); Supervisor of the Checklist for six years, Cynthia A. Duffek (800); Moderator for two years, John F. Duffek (812); School District Moderator, Terri A. Noyes (743); School District Clerk, Cynthia A. Duffek (793); and School District Treasurer, Shirley E. Young (784).

Two questions submitted by petition to adopt the provisions of RSA 40:13 to allow ballot voting on all issues before the town and school district were defeated. Each required a 3/5 vote. The town question failed by 17 votes and the school district question failed by seven votes.

The six amendments recommended by the Planning Board received approval, while the two not recommended by the Board, including the question about recycling yard waste, compost, septage, and organic materials, were defeated.

You can tell who are the well-informed people. They interrupt a lot.



In the Spirit of Community

Farmington
NATIONAL BANK

Farmington 755-2255	Alton 875-6111	Wolfeboro 569-8995	Melvin Village 544-2104
------------------------	-------------------	-----------------------	----------------------------

Banknorth Group, Inc.
A Network of Financial Resources

Member FDIC

**DOWN UNDER DOWN EAST
TRADING CO., INC.**

NOW OPEN AT OUR NEW LOCATION

2 SO. MAIN ST. • WOLFEBORO, NH

AUSTRALIAN CLOTHING & ACCESSORIES & MORE
Featuring *R.M. Williams PTY LTD*
Genuine Australian Clothing & Accessories
FREE-HEAD Horse Collars • Retail & Wholesale

SPRING '96 HOURS
FRIDAY & SATURDAY 10 AM - 6 PM
SUNDAY & HOLIDAYS 10 AM - 4 PM
MONDAY THRU THURSDAY
BY APPOINTMENT TEL. 508-365-9889

Barbara's Little Beauty Shop




Family Hair Care
Senior Citizen Discounts
OPEN TUES. - FRI.

N. Barnstead Rd. 776-3920
Ctr. Barnstead, NH Barbara Elliott

250 CARS & TRUCKS TO CHOOSE FROM

\$199⁰⁰/mo

NO Money down!



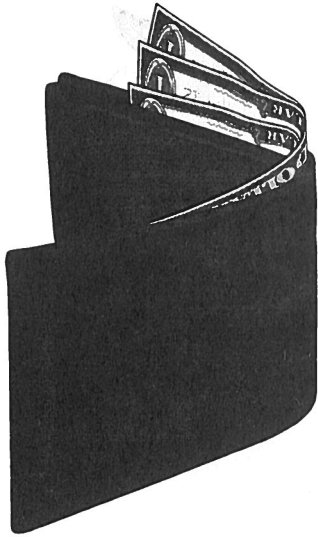
World Class Service
MILLER
Route 28 • Wolfeboro, NH

CHRYSLER
Plymouth
Dodge

DODGE

1996
Dodge Neon
well equipped!

603-569-1068 • 1-800-287-1068



REMEMBER
 APRIL 15 TH
 IS TAX DAY

**IRS RULINGS HAVE MAJOR IMPACT
 ON THREE AREA RESIDENTS**

The fate of three of New Hampshire's own recently reached our ears. Not wanting any other Alton residents to fall into similar circumstances, they willingly told their stories to one of our contributing writers, Judy Fry. Beware, this could happen to you.

Ernie Farmer, of near-by Wakefield, is an associate professor of physics at UNH. He earns \$26,000 a year, and has no other outside income. Last year he paid \$19,637 in Federal Income Tax. Why so much? Two years ago the IRS completed a Potential Earnings Appraisal of all taxpayers in New Hampshire. After a careful study of Professor Farmer's case, a district assessor decided that he could easily earn \$60,000 a year in private industry — and then keyed his tax liability to that number. Although Farmer likes teaching, and meant to make it a lifetime career, he is about to take a job in the pesticide development division of Eradicate Chemical, Inc.

Jolene Marshall of Belmont is a social worker in Rochester. She earns \$28,000 a year. Last year the IRS set her income tax at \$52,000. Marshall happens to be a strikingly beautiful young woman, and the district assessor determined that if she became a fashion model her earnings could be in the \$150,000 range. This was no snap judgement, but a careful decision based on extensive research. Furthermore, as the law requires in cases where the taxpayer files an appeal, his decision was subject to confirmation by outside experts. The definition of an expert is someone from out of town. Three New York modeling agencies confirmed his estimate in notarized affidavits. Marshall has not yet moved to New York. Stubborn as well as beautiful, she is still doing social work in Rochester. To pay her taxes, she has borrowed money from her family. In addition, she works most evenings as a cocktail waitress — and she is a very good one. Tips included, she is earning about \$25,000 a year in a popular neighborhood lounge, all of which she applies to her quarterly tax payments.

Ridler Van Leach of Alton is a second-year law student at Franklin Pierce Law School in Concord. He ranks third in his class of 300. Under a tax stabilization agreement he worked out with the IRS when he was 18 and a freshman at New Hampshire College, he pays only \$1,000 a year in income tax. The agreement will lapse in two years, however, and the IRS has already told Van Leach that he can expect his tax liability to jump instantly to \$11,000. A district assessor, having examined Ridler's law school record and personality index, detected a very attractive capability for personal claims work. Ridler, of course, is under no obligation to enter that field. It's just that he will be taxed as if he were in that field of employment. Ridler's original hope was to start his career as a law clerk, preferably for a probate judge. Now he plans to immediately join a firm specializing in malpractice suits.

To make matters worse, the IRS decreed that these taxpayers could not wait until April 15 to pay their share. Their taxes are due April 1 and you know what day that is!

*Income Tax
 Preparation*

Professional • Confidential • Experienced
 Evening and Weekend Appointments Available
 Individual and Business Returns

John F. Duffek

Alton Office Services
 Williams Building • Route 11 • Alton Bay • 875-7300

"BUILDING YOUR IDEAS"

J. MOULTON CONSTRUCTION

875-3748

**QUALITY REMODELING
 AND
 FINISH WORK**

NEW DURHAM

ALTON

FARMINGTON

**JOE GOODROW'S
 RUBBISH REMOVAL**

859-3388
 47 JENKINS ROAD
 NEW DURHAM, NH 03855



**THIRD BICENTENNIAL MEDALLION
FEATURES RAILROAD STATION**

The Bicentennial Committee is pleased to announce the arrival of the third pewter medallion cast by Hampshire Pewter. This oval shaped medallion is a likeness of the second railroad station located in Alton Bay. It will sell for \$15 and may be purchased at the Farmington National Bank and from committee members Virginia Dore, 875-3451, and Muriel Stinson, 875-5211.

There is an ample supply of Town Hall and Bandstand medallions as well as sweatshirts and new peel and stick logo decals that may be purchased from Dore and Stinson and at the Alton Village 5 & 10. Funds raised from the sale of these items help support activities planned for the Bicentennial year.

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.

**CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
SCHEDULES GENERAL MEETING**

The Alton/Alton Bay Chamber of Commerce has announced a general meeting for all business owners in the area for Monday, April 15, at 7p.m. at J. H. Downing's office located between Jeff's Diner and the Pavilion in Alton Bay.



TUXEDOS
Rentals & Sales

Weddings or Proms
OVER 95 STYLES

"I Do..."

Alton Traffic Circle
next to McDonald's
(603) 875-4848

DONATIONS OF QUILT SUPPLIES NEEDED

Eighth grade Home Economics students at Alton Central School will be making ABC quilts in April. These quilts are donated to at-risk babies across the country through a non-profit organization started by Ellen Ahlgren of Northwood, NH, in 1988. Last year 150,000 quilts were donated to babies.

Material (100% cotton or a 50/50 blend), thread, batting, needles, or any other quilting supplies will be happily accepted by Linda Gaulin, Home Economics teacher, and may be dropped off at the School Office.

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 875-7300, fax 875-3162, or send your mailing address to P. O. Box 210, Alton Bay NH 03810.

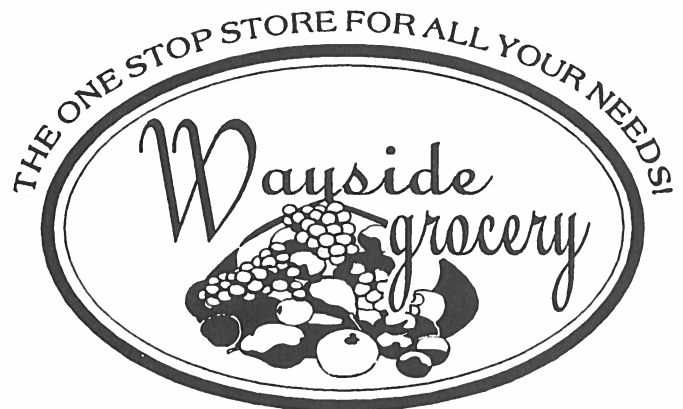
**Brook & Bridle
Summer Homes**
On Lake Winnepesaukee
Roberts Cove Road
ALTON, NEW HAMPSHIRE



FULLY FURNISHED
RENTAL HOMES

BONNIE DUNBAR
BOX 270 - MAILBOAT
WOLFEBORO, N.H. 03894

(603) 569-2707



AT THE ALTON TRAFFIC CIRCLE

(603) 875-2861

Live Bait
Now Available



Fishing
Tackle

CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S CLUB

On Wednesday, April 17, from 11:30a.m. to 1:30p.m., the Lakes Region Christian Women's Club will host a luncheon at the Alton Bay Christian Conference Center.

Sherri Barsanti, owner of I Do, will present stylish fashions from her bridal and tuxedo boutique in Alton. The guest speaker is Elsie Ancil from Lewiston, Maine, who will describe how the need to be in control had controlled her. Her husband, Laurier Ancil, will entertain in song.

The cost is \$6 and complimentary child care is provided. Reservations or cancellations are requested. Call Muriel at 875-5211.

MAIN STREET SALUTE TO.....

.....all the volunteers and members of Alton's emergency services for their response to the dam disaster. In particular, Main Street recognizes the outstanding efforts of Fire Chief Russ Jones whose coordination of the response has been applauded by all those involvedthe winners of the town and school elections for their willingness to serve and contribute to their community.....Rene Pelletier on his retirement after 15 years as coach of the varsity girls basketball team.



ALTON OUTDOORS

By Jack Miller

OPEN WATER FISHING MEANS SALMON

April is one of the months that outdoor enthusiasts really look forward to. April 1 is the start of the open water fishing season — "salmon season" is how most local anglers refer to it. April is THE month to be on the water for catching salmon. The water temperature is cold enough in the shallows that the smelt are on their spawning runs and the salmon are there feeding on them. Most any lure or fly that resembles bait fish can catch a salmon, although most anglers have their own personal favorites.

Trolling, the technique of dragging a lure behind a boat, is the most widely preferred method. Running the lure at the right speed and depth is the next requirement for hooking a salmon. Once hooked, there is a fight to get the fish to the net. This is basically hanging onto the rod and line while the fish tries to get unhooked! With landlocked salmon, this is the exciting part as they can leap 3 to 4 feet out of the water, make long, high speed runs stripping line off the reel, or make straight down deep dives.

Along with salmon to catch, there is the occasional lake trout or rainbow trout. As the weather warms, the small mouth bass move into the shallows and schools of white and yellow perch move into the larger lake's bays. April is the month to have a line in the water.

If you are looking for some exercise after a long winter's hibernation, rowing a canoe, kayak, or light boat while trolling can satisfy the exercise and fishing needs at the same time. An oar-powered boat is silent, non-polluting and there is no registration fee. You are more in tune with nature while rowing, hearing fish rises, the songs of birds or wing beats of the passing loons, merganzers, mallards or turkey vultures. Sitting low in the water allows an angler to watch the fish as it fights hook and line 10-15 feet down in the clear spring waters of our local lakes.

This is also the month to scout for the smallest of New Hampshire's big game species, the wild turkey. As spring turkey hunting season opens May 3, now is the time to find your turkey hunting spot. Roosting, feeding and breeding areas are sought along with possible stand sites. While on a recent scouting walk in Alton with my wife, we found a place where we could stand and our boots were touching fresh (made that day) tracks of white tailed deer, moose and turkey.

Alton offers a lot for the outdoors person. Enjoy!

Friendship is like a bank account. You can't continue to draw on it without making deposits.

For Fast Neighborhood Service Call
S.F. ELECTRIC
Tel. 776-6172

- New Construction
- Mobile/Modular Homes
- Service Upgrades
- Older Homes
- Additions
- Small Jobs

Stockbridge Corner Road
Alton, New Hampshire 03809

NH Master Lic #7701 ME Master Lic. #MS60010902
Low Rates Free Estimates Safety Inspections

Senior Citizens Discounts

Simply the Best



Bob Buchanan
Charles Lapointe
David Countway
Tess Smith

Bob Landry
John Tibbs
Bob Williams
Laurence Hallin

BUCHANAN ASSOCIATES, INC.
Main Street, Alton, N.H. 03809

Call: 875-3128 Fax: 875-6378

Now Showing
"New Location"
ALTON VIDEO

Across the Street from the Town Hall
COME SEE OUR NEW LOOK

- MORE MOVIES - MORE SPACE -

New Hours SUN. - THURS. 12:00 Noon - 6:30 pm
FRIDAY - SAT NIGHT TILL 8:00 pm
CLOSED TUESDAYS

Main Street, Alton, NH 875-2233

SCUBA INSTRUCTION
Equipment Sales & Service
Worldwide Travel Packages

Classes starting soon in
Wolfeboro, Gilford, Ossipee,
Dover and Sanford, ME

DIVE WINNIPESAUKEE
Your Sporting Goods Headquarters!

- SALVAGE
- MOORINGS
- COMMERCIAL
- ICE DIVE & RECOVERY

P.O. BOX 2198, MAIN STREET
WOLFEBORO, NH 03894
(603) 569-8080 - 776-7931

MAIN STREET INFORMATION CENTER

Schedules

CHURCHES:

- Baha'i Fireside - Thursday, 7:30p.m., Holway Residence, Old New Durham Road
 Bay Church - Sunday, 11a.m. and 6p.m., Wednesday Prayer Meeting, 7p.m., 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. Roussaki, 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., Msgr. Leo F. Hines, Pastor
 Wolfboro 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 - Closed

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
 COUNTRY DRIFTERS DANCE CLUB - Wednesday, 7p.m., Alton Bay Community Center
 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 Thursday, March - December, Route 28S
 PARENT TEACHER COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION
 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 875-7300 OR FAX 875-3162
 TO UP-DATE THE ABOVE LISTINGS

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.

March Events

- Mon. 1 - APRIL FOOLS DAY
 Wed. 3 - PASSOVER BEGINS
 Fri. 5 - GOOD FRIDAY
 Sat. 6 - EASTER EGG HUNT, Route 140 Recreation Area, 10a.m.
 PENNY SALE, Alton Central School, 6p.m.
 Sun. 7 - EASTER
 DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS
 Wed. 10 - SOFTBALL at Moultonboro, 4p.m.
 BASEBALL at Moultonboro, 4p.m.
 Sat. 13 - SOFTBALL vs. Linwood, 10:30a.m. & 1p.m.
 BASEBALL vs. Linwood, 10:30a.m. & 1p.m.
 Mon. 15 - SOFTBALL vs. Laconia Christian, 4p.m.
 BASEBALL vs. Laconia Christian, 4p.m.
 GENERAL MEETING, Chamber of Commerce, J. H. Downing's Office, 7p.m.
 Tue. 16 - SLIDE LECTURE, Historical Society, Gilman Library, 7:30p.m.
 Wed. 17 - LUNCHEON, Lakes Region Christian Women's Club, Alton Bay Christian Conference Center, 11:30a.m.
 SOFTBALL vs. Derryfield, 4p.m.
 BASEBALL vs. Derryfield, 4p.m.
 HOMESCHOOLERS MEETING, Nichols Residence, 6:30p.m.
 Fri. 19 - SOFTBALL vs. Moultonboro, 4p.m.
 BASEBALL vs. Moultonboro, 4p.m.
 Sat. 20 - RABIES CLINIC, Central Fire Station, 12:30 to 2p.m.
 Sun. 21 - DOLL SHOW AND SALE, Happy Hobby Doll Club, Alton Central School, 9:30a.m. to 3p.m.
 Mon. 22 - VACATION CAMP BEGINS, Alton Bay Community Center, 9a.m. to 4p.m.
 Wed. 24 - BREAST CANCER SCREENING CLINIC, Alton Central School, 9a.m. to 3:30p.m.
 Fri. 26 - SOFTBALL at Derryfield, 4p.m.
 BASEBALL at Derryfield, 4p.m.
 Sun. 28 - OPEN HOUSE, Knights of Columbus, Parish Hall, 9a.m.

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

3.6 hp Elgin, \$150, 12x16 Shed with Gabled Roof, \$800 Delivered, 875-8857

Player Piano, Needs Repair, Valued at \$400, Best Offer, 875-7243

Traveling Large Dog Kennel, \$45, Wing Chair, \$25, Queen Sleep Sofa, \$100, Oak Chest of Drawers, \$100, Old Pine Dresser, \$60, Pie Safe, \$65, Dark Wood Bureau, \$60, Kopy Kake Machine, with Airbrush, \$400 or BO, 569-6587

Dark Green Couch with Lounge on Either End, \$500 or BO, 875-2577

FREE

Franklin Stove, You Pick Up, 875-8857

PERSONAL

Phil and Chris Wittman would like to personally thank friends, neighbors and the Town of Alton for their help and support during the recent dam tragedy. A special thanks to Sharon and Randy House, the Glidden family, Mr. Gagne, Donna and Ernie Vlk, Becky and Kevin Porter, and the other kind people who all helped during the night of the dam break.

Thanks for your confidence in me by electing me to the Budget Committee. I will try my best to meet your expectations. Peter J. Pijoan

I would like to thank everyone for all the cards and prayers said for my sister Rita Elliott who passed away February 29. Laura A. Smith

I would like to express my thanks for everyone who voted for me in the town elections. Your support was greatly appreciated. Richy Lane

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS OPEN HOUSE

The Knights of Columbus will hold an Open House at 8a.m. on Sunday, April 28, at the St. Joan of Arc parish hall for all prospective members.

BICENTENNIAL FOCUS

By Judy Fry

BIRTH OF THE TAVERN Part I

The "Birth of the Tavern" is taken from one of the Bicentennial mini-histories. The role of the tavern during our early frontier history will be explored in Part I. The role of the tavern keeper will be described in Part II, followed by Taverns in New Durham Gore/Alton in Part III.

Throughout the 17th century and into the mid-18th century the many needs of early frontier travelers were met by a unique specialized institution called a tavern. It provided hospitality, food and spirits to the neighbors as well as shelter for the traveler and his animal(s). It provided a meeting place for politicians and social organizations. Occasionally it was substituted for the meeting house, the school, the court room, the store or the hospital. Its yard doubled as a military training field, sports arena, stock yard and fairgrounds. The tavern was also a place where comfort, relaxation and gossip were the order of the day. It was a home away from home, a place where people gathered for celebration or for play. It offered fellowship enhanced by as favorite drink, the pipe, and the often out-of-date newspaper. The tavern was truly a public house; its door was open to all.

The tavern's hospitality to strangers was considered its most important role. While transportation was restricted to "man and/or beast", a house offering shelter for both was a necessary accommodation every three or four miles along each major highway.

Due to its central function in the local community and society, the tavern was subject to close government supervision from the days of earliest settlement. It was watched and regulated at both the local and provincial levels.

The people of Londonderry petitioned the New Hampshire Assembly in 1758, asking inn holders be placed "under such Regulations, in Respect to Travelers, Town-Men, Sabbath Days, and every night, as in your Great Wisdom you thinkmost Conducive, to Encourage Virtue and Discourage Vice."¹ In response to such concerns, the Assembly gradually instituted general laws for licensing, regulating, inspecting and taxing taverns and "tippling houses."

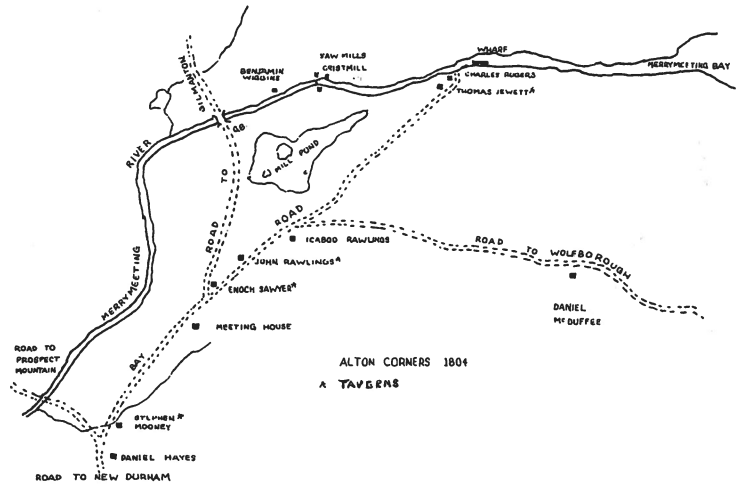
Legislation regulating taverns in 1782 reflected a very complex law. Despite numerous modifications through the years, the basic provisions for regulating taverns remained firm from the 17th century. All tavern keepers were required to obtain a license

The first step in seeking a tavern license was a petition, often to the Governor, or Lieutenant Governor, and Council explaining the need for a tavern and the applicant's qualifications as a tavern keeper.

The next step was approval by the selectmen, both for the initial license and necessary annual renewal. Competition for licenses could be intense since provincial law set a maximum number to be granted to any town, but most New Hampshire towns were permitted no more than three.² Yet communities located along major highways legitimately had a greater need for taverns and might have as many as 11 at the same time. New Hampshire seafarers depended upon coastal and harbor taverns as early as 1682.

To keep a tavern, the tavern keeper, male or female, had to prove himself or herself to the proper authorities as "a fit person". The license holder had to guarantee his adherence to the law by posting a bond of faithful performance to his duties.

The laws were concerned with the quality of domestic beer. The law also stressed that no license holder should fail to keep an



adequate stock of alcoholic drink, considered sustenance and stimulant. In 1721, the legislature required that "all licensed houses within this Province shall constantly be provided with beer or cyder for the refreshment of travelers, under the penalty of paying ten shilling for every defect so often as they shall be found two days without it...."³

The law also governed other essential aspects of the tavern. Tavern keepers were required at all times to "be furnished with suitable Provisions and Lodging, for the Refreshment and Entertainment of Strangers and Travelers, Pasturing, Stable-room, Hay and Provider for Horses; on pain of being deprived of their License."⁴

There was a law in 1679 imposing a heavy punishment for drunkenness, "first offence, five shillings, second offence, ten shillings, or if he shouldn't or couldn't pay the fine, two hours in the stocks, and continuing on to a fifth offence, five pounds or publicly whipped."⁵

In 1791 a statute prohibited customers from accumulating large tavern bills. Tavern keepers were closely regulated in the hours their bars could serve spirits. The law also required the use of standardized measurers. This statute also regulated tavern operations on the Sabbath.

Although most New Hampshire people traveled within a limited radius, many nevertheless ventured away from home for pleasure. While such travel was limited before the early 19th century, and even then was probably undertaken more to visit relatives and friends, some New Hampshire people made frequent use of the road and the tavern. Rural centers needed taverns as well as large communities. Taverns would soon be appearing in Alton, then called New Durham Gore.

The tavern filled many roles. It was a natural place for the exchange of information, for informal and formal meetings and for business contacts with the wider world. Inn keepers and coachmen emphasized the role of the tavern in providing news. Many taverns doubled as a place for posting official public notices, warrants for town meetings, newly passed legislation, ballots for forthcoming elections, notices of road rerouting, auction advertisements, or notices of lost animals or articles.

The tavern also provided rooms suitable for private meetings, and many offered large halls which could accommodate sizable numbers of townspeople. These large halls often served as Masonic lodges in New Hampshire. St. John's of Portsmouth held its earliest recorded meeting in 1736.⁶

Fire societies met in taverns in Dover, Keene, Amherst,

Concord and elsewhere in the early 1800s. John Stavers, tavern owner, routinely billed the town of Portsmouth for the entertainment of the "Engine Men" at the Pitt Tavern between 1784 and 1790.⁷

The trustees of Dartmouth College and President Eleazer Wheelock began their first meeting at Wyman's tavern in Keene, thus beginning the operation of the school. The New Hampshire Medical Society, founded in 1791, met regularly in Exeter, Portsmouth and Concord taverns.⁸ The New Hampshire Historical Society held formative meetings in 1823 in Exeter and Portsmouth taverns.⁹

The State of New Hampshire began to charter corporations in the late 1700s and many of these businesses continued the tradition of meeting in taverns. Shrewd tavern keepers were quick to see the profit in entertaining such groups. Among them were the proprietors of most of the NH turnpike roads and private toll bridges of the early 1800s.

By the mid-18th century dancing was one of the most popular social pleasures of the New Englander. During the 1760s taverns on the coast began to include "long rooms" for dances, balls, theater and other gatherings. Lectures on curious subjects always advertised as enlightening and educational were a favorite diversion from the 18th century on.

The New Hampshire tavern was often the scene of another sort of drama. One of the greatest occasions for celebration in early New England was the ordination of a new minister. Ordinations brought friends, well-wishers and other clergymen from great distances. This provided a community holiday and celebration usually ending in enthusiastic merrymaking in which the tavern played a prominent role.

The completion of a new meeting house offered equal opportunity for celebration. The common method of raising church building funds was through the sale of enclosed box style pews. Upon completion of the sale, purchasers would retire to the nearest tavern for warmth and spirits.

The tavern was also the most common site for many auctions, providing large rooms or yards for the sale, as well as food for buyers and their animals. Among the commodities most often advertised at such sales were land, buildings, animals, vehicles, vessels, prizes brought here by privateers in wartime, and entire households.

Holidays and local festivals brought business to the tavern. The tavern's prominent role in local festivities made it the natural location for the town fair. Through the 18th century and into the 19th, the tavern assumed a multitude of roles in New Hampshire

society. Its original purpose of serving food and providing shelter to the traveler always remained its main function. However, over the years, the tavern became a much larger place in the daily lives of early New Hampshire settlers. It became an institution with few restrictions, expanding its role to serve the changing needs of those who entered its always open door. The tavern was truly a "public house".

1. New Hampshire, (Provincial and State Papers), 40 vol. (Concord: State of New Hampshire, 1867-1943, 12:444-45, hereafter cited as NHPP).
2. NHPP, 3:620
3. NHPP, 3:818
4. New Hampshire Laws, January 6, 1715/16, Chapter 2
5. New Hampshire Laws, March 16, 1679, Criminal Laws, Article 22
6. Gerard D. Foss, Three Centuries of Free Masonry in New Hampshire (Concord, N.H.: Grand Lodge of New Hampshire 1792)
7. Portsmouth Town Records (microfilm, New Hampshire State Library)
8. Records of the New Hampshire Medical Society (Concord, N.H.: By the Society, 1911)
9. New Hampshire Historical Society, Minutes, 1:4 and 21

A dime isn't entirely worthless; it makes a fairly good screwdriver when you need it.

Alton Bay PAVILION Marketplace

-1996 Season-

Weekends: Memorial to Columbus

Daily: July and August

HELP WANTED

Part-time and Full-time

Call for Appointment to Apply

875-7307

Jonathan and Nancy Downing

Alton Bay PAVILION Marketplace

NOW HIRING



NAPA AUTO PARTS - FARMINGTON

WE CARRY A FULL LINE
OF AUTO PARTS & ACCESSORIES
INCLUDING...



- Parts for Imports
- Parts for Trucks
- Paint & Supplies
- Brand Names You Rely On



ASK ABOUT NAPA'S NATIONAL WARRANTY PROGRAM

NAPA AUTO PARTS

Route 11 - Farmington

755-2264 • 800-734-2269

Mon-Fri 6 am to 5:30 pm

Sat 6 am to 5 pm • Sun 9 am - 1 pm

Alton Bay Market

875-8888

Offering

- Full Line Grocery Store
- Fresh Meats Deli Subs & Salads
- Coffee & Donuts Videos
- Pet Food Blue Seal Fishing Supplies
- Fresh Bait Available



BLUE SEAL FEEDS & needs

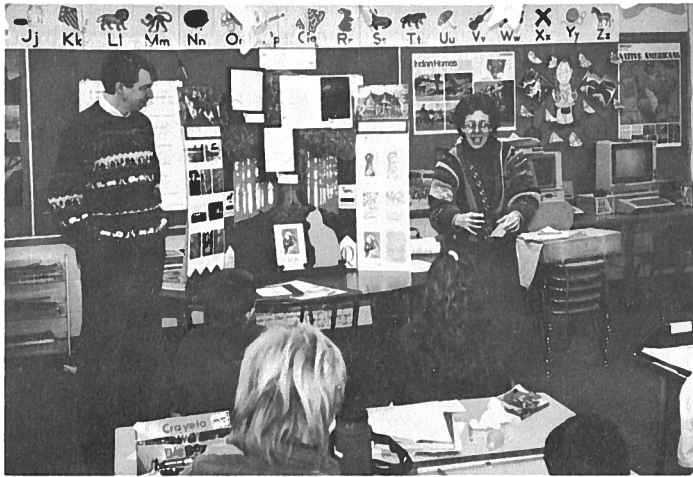
MARK OF QUALITY SINCE 1988

Eukanuba

**Iams
Pro Plan
Dog Food**

OPEN DAILY

Monday - Thursday 7:00 AM - 9:00 PM
Friday & Saturday 7:00 AM - 10:00 PM
Sunday 7:00 AM - 9:00 PM



**ALTON AUTHORS HIGHLIGHT
SPRING LITERACY CELEBRATION**

Jeannie and Peter Ferber, Alton author and artist, visited a third grade classroom as part of the Spring Literacy Celebration at Alton Central School. The Ferbers wrote and illustrated The Tails of Quince and Flute in Sember Wood, a magical English tale written especially for children from 8 to 108. Other activities included a Drop Everything And Read activity, read aloud visits to elementary classrooms, a Name That Book competition, and a Favorite Book mural.

**THE BAY CHURCH PLANS EXPANSION
OF HOLIDAY MEAL PROGRAM**

Last December when the Alton Police Association was no longer able to continue the Christmas Dinner Program for Alton's elderly, shut-ins and others in need, the members of the Bay Church came forward to continue the program. Now they want to expand this community service to include Easter Sunday.

The Church will provide a noon meal for anyone requesting it either at their home or with others in the Dining Hall of the Alton Bay Christian Conference Center. Transportation will be provided if needed and there is no cost to participate.

People in the community who would like an Easter dinner or would volunteer to help prepare, serve, provide transportation or deliver meals may contact Charlie DeCoff at 776-4503.

**HISTORICAL SOCIETY TO PRESENT
TRAVELERS MARY AND CAL BATCHELDER**

The Alton Historical Society will hold its first meeting of 1996 on Tuesday, April 16, at 7:30p.m. in the Gilman Library.

Mary and Calvin Batchelder, those inveterate world travelers and hikers, will present a slide narration of their trip to New Zealand in 1995. Hostesses are Judy Fry and Nina Liedtke.

SUMMER EVENTS SCHEDULE

Any organization or individual planning a public event in Alton during the summer months is invited to submit information about the event to P. O. Box 550, Alton, 03809, by Monday, April 15. Include the event name, date, time, location, sponsoring organization and your name and phone number.

RABIES CLINIC APRIL 20

A Rabies Clinic will be held at the Central Fire Station on Saturday, April 20, from 12:30 to 2p.m. The cost is \$20. Renewal of dog licenses are due by Tuesday, April 30. There is a \$25 fine for all unlicensed dogs after May 31.

Cooperation is doing with a smile what you are forced to do.



**SCOTT
WILLIAMS
EXCAVATING**

- LOAM, SAND,
GRAVEL & BARK MULCH
- GENERAL SITE WORK
- SEPTIC SYSTEMS

(603) 875-6059

**BOB DOYLE'S
AUTO REPAIR**

- Brakes • Tires • Exhaust •
Computer Balancing
ROTORS & DRUMS TURNED
NH OFFICIAL INSPECTION STATION
Autos and Motorcycles



8AM - 4:30PM Mon-Fri 8AM - 12 NOON SAT

12 Depot Road, New Durham 859-3131 Across from the Post Office



1996 Chevrolet Lumina

\$15,995⁰⁰

well equipped!



V6 Engine
6 Passenger Comfort
Dual Air Bags
Well Equipped!
Lease for only \$259/mo*



603-569-1068 • 1-800-287-1068

*1000 cash trade

TOWN HALL NOTES

By Scott Dunn, Town Administrator

RESPONSE TO CRISIS PRAISED

Now that Town Elections and Town Meeting have come and gone, it's time to implement the decisions that have been made by the voters. The town has appropriated a budget this year of \$3,281,552. Needless to say, this is a huge sum of money and there is a lot to do. Our mission now is to provide the quality of services that have been requested and/or promised, while spending wisely and prudently on behalf of all taxpayers. I would also like to welcome aboard all the newly elected officials.

Sadly, we have all come to realize the need for emergency planning and the fact that we are not immune from local disasters. The breach of Meadow Pond Dam on the evening of Town Meeting has served as a wake-up call throughout the nation. At this time our deepest sympathies are extended to the Sinclair family and the other residents who have been displaced by the water damage. Our hope and goal is to assist one and all in an attempt to return lives to normal (as much as may be possible given the dire circumstances). Towards that end, we are here to coordinate efforts of the many people and organizations with whatever help we can.

We have now begun to analyze the response of emergency officials so that we can be even better prepared should another disaster befall us. I cannot even begin to sufficiently express the admiration I have for all who responded to this crisis. The efforts of our Fire Department, Police Department, Highway Department and Water Department were truly commendable and professional in every sense of the word. The State of New Hampshire and many of its agencies have responded at every level in a manner beyond all expectations. And the number of volunteers who contributed to the emergency management efforts is almost overwhelming. To all of youthank you for demonstrating what the Alton community is all about - caring.

Next month I will focus on the priorities of the Board of Selectmen during our bicentennial year as well as provide an update on the status of the revaluation and some of the other projects that will be undertaken during 1996.

In the meantime, the folks at Town Hall will do everything possible to assist in the recovery of our residents. All of us have been shattered in some way as a result of this tragedy, and yet we recognize the importance of rebuilding to make things better.

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, or fax to 875-3162 by the 15th of each month for the following month's issue.

Main Street reserves the right to limit or edit all material. For additional information call 875-7300.

Alton Funeral Home

School Street
Alton, N.H. 03809
(603) 875-3311

10 YEARS AGO.....

.....the Happy Hobby Doll Club celebrated its first anniversary by planning for the first Doll Show and Sale.....Heather Andrade and Danielle Fogg, Alton's first entries in the Solo and Ensemble Festival were awarded "A" ratings.....the Merrymeeting River Dam was rebuilt.....Marion MacDonald was elected president of the Lioness Club.....David McKenney was elected president of the Alton-New Durham Lions Club.

5 YEARS AGO.....

.....Business After Hours was hosted by the Village Video.....Ice Out occurred on April 8 and Pamela Falzone won dinner for two at Sandy Point Restaurant in Main Street's annual contest.....the 6th grade team of David Sleeper, Alec O'Meara, John Irving, Kyle Hall, Leah Kalfas, Tom Bernard, and Josh Hoopes won the regional Odyssey of the Mind competition.....Rene Pelletier was named Girls Class S Varsity Coach of the Year.

RINES ROAD PIT REOPENS APRIL 6

The Rines Road Pit will reopen April 6 Saturdays from 8a.m. to 3p.m. and Sundays noon to 3p.m.

*Sherman H. Brown Plumbing*

WATER SYSTEMS • HEATING SYSTEMS
BACKFLOW DEVICES

NH MASTERS LIC. #360
ME MASTER LIC. #02595
NHPI #555 WSPCC #0004
BACKFLOW DEVICE
TESTER #3820

*Call us for your
Plumbing needs!!*

24 HOUR SERVICE

P.O. Box 404
Alton, NH 03809

Phone:
(603) 875-7337

Senior Citizen Discount

Spring Cleaning Sale

All in stock computer books - 50% off

New internal 28.8 modem - \$149

Used 386 systems from - \$299

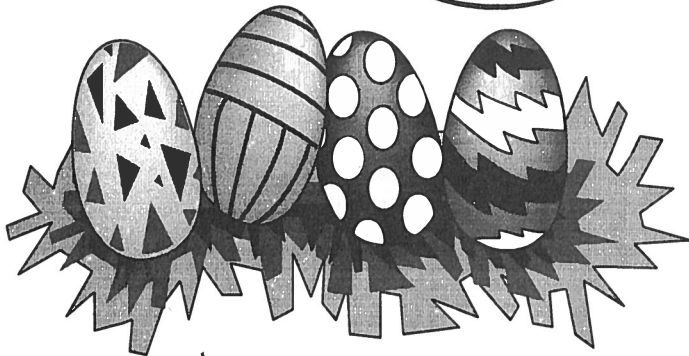
IN STOCK SOFTWARE UP TO 75% OFF

Pentium system - \$1250
w/ 8mb, 540 mb HDD 14"
color monitor, 104kb

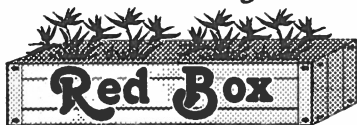
Robert Boyce & Company
Main Street - Alton - 875-6066

<http://www.win.net/~boyco> rboyce@worldpath.net

Easter



~Introducing~



**Uniquely Decorated Red Cedar Planting Boxes
for Windows, Porches & Gardens**

Also,
**Cedar & Pressure Treated Decks and Stairs
Interior Finish Carpentry**

For Information Call:

Todd McKinney Alton, N.H. 776-6032

HOME
AUTO
BUSINESS
LIFE
HEALTH

**Pittsfield
INSURANCE AGENCY**

AN ALL LINES
AGENCY

FINANCIAL
SERVICES

"GOOD OLD FASHIONED SERVICE"

Call for special contractors package.

435-7262
Leavitt Road, Pittsfield N.H. 03263



Abenaki Family Physicians, PA

proudly announces the opening of our new office in

Alton Bay

Robert J. Mathes, MD, William G. Griever, Jr., MD,
Claire Martin, ARNP

welcome AnnMarie Zimmermann, MD
specializing in

Family Medicine including Obstetrics

Riversbend Professional Building
P.O. Box 148, Route 11
Alton Bay, NH 03810
(603) 875-4480

Medical Arts Building
Huggins Hospital
P.O. Box 839
Wolfeboro Falls, NH 03896
(603) 569-4480

LETTER OF THANKS FROM FIRE CHIEF AND AUXILIARY

The following letter was received from Russell Jones, chief of the Alton Fire Department and the members of the Fireflies Auxiliary.

The ladies of the Fireflies Auxiliary and I would like to thank all the wonderful people and businesses in the Town of Alton as well as the people and businesses from towns around us that have helped us out in our time of need.

The donated food has been a great help to all. The volunteers are great. They are there to help when you need them.

We can't remember everyone who has donated food or money to us. It just kept coming in and coming in all the time. You all just kept bringing it in and dropping it off. After the second day we lost track of who was bringing what. We know that there was a lot of you.

Thank you very much - all you wonderful people! Our town has really pulled together when we had to. May God bless us all and thank you.

BICENTENNIAL DISPLAY FEATURES CORKSCREW FACTORY MEMORABILIA

The Alton Historical Society has acquired a collection of memorabilia pertaining to the Alton Corkscrew Factory which was owned by William Rockwell Clough. These items represent a portion of Alton's rich history.

This memorabilia will be on display in the Town Hall beginning Monday, April 8, and will include a handout providing a thumbnail sketch of the corkscrew factory. The Town Hall is open from 8:30a.m. to 4:30p.m.

ALTON HOME SCHOOLERS PLAN MEETING APRIL 17

There will be a meeting for Alton home schoolers on Wednesday, April 17, at 6:30p.m. at the Nichols residence on Riverside Drive. All home schoolers are invited including parents thinking about home schooling their children next year.

This meeting will give parents an opportunity to plan group activities such as science fairs, field trips, history and writing workshops, and art productions.

Call Wanda Nichols at 875-3402 for more information.

DOWNING REAL ESTATE

Lake Winnepesaukee
Alton Bay, NH 03810



EQUAL HOUSING
OPPORTUNITY



MLS

1-603
875-2232

Call us to see this and many other Listings in the Lakes Region



ALTON BAY

This three bedroom year round
New Englander home in the heart
of the Bay will let you enjoy
Lakes Region activities now.

\$96,500

Economized Printing

QUALITY WORK AT AN AFFORDABLE PRICE.



Interior/Exterior
Residential/Commercial
Fully Insured
Free Estimates
Snow Plowing Services

RON CHARLES
PO Box 926
Alton NH 03809
603.875.5664

**MUNICIPAL SPOTLIGHT ON
LYNN BROOKS
ASSISTANT TO THE TOWN CLERK**

By Muriel Walker

A relatively new and welcome face at the Town Hall belongs to Lynn Brooks, assistant to the Town Clerk.

Lynn moved to Alton in late May of last year from Auburn, Massachusetts. She was born in Baltimore, Maryland but grew up and went through school in Massachusetts, graduating from high school in Gloucester. Lynn's former husband was in the Air Force and the family traveled extensively before settling in Auburn, where they lived for 15 years. They spent many summers in Wolfeboro where Lynn's grandmother's family had property for about 100 years. In fact, the property was one of the original 11 land grants given by then Governor Wentworth.

When contemplating a move to a smaller community as a better place to raise her daughter, Lynn gravitated to the Lakes Region, where she had spent so many enjoyable summers. The family chose to settle in Alton. "We waited until May to move," chuckles Lynn, "to avoid the black flies."

Lynn's son, Scott, is 21 and a senior at Roger Williams University in Bristol, Rhode Island. He is studying business, concentrating in marketing and finance and he is president of a business fraternity there. "Scott is one of the founding members who established the chapter of the fraternity," explained Lynn. He has played intra-mural soccer for about 15 years, held part-time jobs while in school and was captain of his high school track team.

Katie is Lynn's daughter. She is 10 years old and is in the fifth grade at Alton Central School. She is active in two ski programs and loves to read. Katie says that she really likes being in a smaller school.

The family lives on the Lake and enjoys water sports. Lynn's hobby for about 20 years has been quilting. She loves quilting and helped establish a fabric and quilting business in Auburn. She worked in this business for about five years. Although Lynn chose to remain at home when her children were young, she utilized her bookkeeping and office skills in a home-based service business. Lynn presently gives quilting lessons in Alton at the Mustard Seed Art and Craft Shop.

Lynn says, "I feel very fortunate to have this job in Town Hall, especially since I haven't lived here that long. Everyone has welcomed me with open arms." Lynn's favorite part of her job is meeting with the public. She adds, "I am in awe of the amount of information our Town Clerk Gwen Jones knows. She so readily shares it with others and she receives a lot of well-deserved respect." It is good to have Lynn with us to help continue this office's tradition of excellent service to our town.

Marriages can be made in heaven, but we humans are responsible for the maintenance work.



*Announce the happy news
with fashionable Bircherft
Wedding Invitations
Choose from our selection
of beautiful styles.*

Alton Printing Company
Church Street
Alton, NH

875-2197

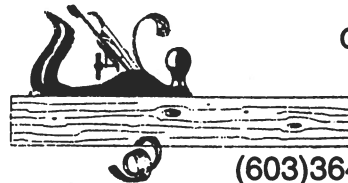
Now Accepting
Visa
Mastercard

**L.L. BRASWELL
EXCAVATION CONSTRUCTION**

Land Clearing • Drainage Work
Septic System
Foundation • Complete Sitework
Equipment Rental

875-5315

JP BUILDERS



CUSTOM HOMES
&
REMODELING

(603)364-9404
after 6 PM

Custom Decks
Finish Work
Additions

Fully Insured
Quality Guarantee
References Available

Jim Parandes P.O. Box 449, Alton Bay, NH 03810

FOR RENT

**ONE BEDROOM APARTMENT
\$475.00 per Month**

Includes Heat, Elec. & Water

FOR RENT

**HEATED STORAGE GARAGE
1000 S.F.. Two Overhead Doors
\$250.00 per Month**

CALL 875-7307 TODAY

OUR ELECTED OFFICIALS

U.S. SENATE

Robert C. Smith, 332 Dirksen Senate Office Building, Washington DC 20510, 800-922-2230.

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

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Bill Zeliff, 224 Cannon House Office Building, Washington DC 20515, 800-649-7290.

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).

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

Linda Ann Smith, 293-9637.

Alice Ziegra, 875-2151.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Reuben Wentworth, 875-3388

Arnold Shibley, 875-2849

Stanley Czech, 875-3815

PHOTOS FOR LIBRARY CALENDAR

The Friends of the Gilman Library are seeking photos for the 1997 Calendar. They should be dropped off at the Library by Monday, April 15, with your name and phone number attached.


DENISE MERRITT, MD
JAMES CUBEDDU, PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT

Laconia Clinic -Alton Office
 8 Main Street
 Alton, NH 03809
 Appointments 875-6151

OB/GYN services and
 Prescription services Available

Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Tuesday Evenings to 8:00 p.m.

On Site X-ray and Laboratory Services



McGrath
Food Center

Main Street, Alton, NH 875-6104

For that small town friendly service.

- * Fresh meat & deli with instore butcher
- * Fresh fruits & vegetables
- * Courtesy & Friendly people



NEW
WINTER
HOURS

OPEN:
 Mon - Sat 8-7
 Sunday 8-6

CONCORD CORNER

By Alice Ziegra, State Representative

NEARLY 650 BILLS CONSIDERED

March was the busy month during which the House finished passing, studying or killing its quota of nearly 650 bills. Passed bills went to the Senate on March 20. We received Senate bills for hearing on that date - "Crossover".

KILLED

- * A bill bonding cosmetology and barbering licenses.
- * A bill which would have mandated automatic COLAs annually to AFDC recipients. It was felt this should not be automatic.
- * A bill to allow electronic games of chance at racetracks.
- * A bill that would have denied tobacco advertisements on billboards. It would have denied free speech and thus be against federal laws.
- * A bill to raise the minimum wage.
- * A bill which mandated reduction of salt on road to 10% of the mix. DOT already has a reduction schedule and is continuing to follow it.

PASSED

- * A bill providing licensing for foresters to include a person who has eight years immediate experience who passes the exam. This change will be reexamined in the year 2000.
- * A bill strengthening enforcement of illegal night hunting to include those who possess some sizes of shotgun shells indicating presumption of guilt.
- * A bill allowing the state to apply for Goals 2000 which is federal education money which would aid local school districts.
- * A bill expanding the registration of convicted offenders of children; pornography, kidnaping, criminal restraint and false imprisonment.
- * A bill preventing downshifting of welfare costs to cities and towns.

TO BE STUDIED


- * A bill regulating physical therapists.
- * A bill allowing optometrists to treat glaucoma and dispense anti-fungal and anti-virus drugs.
- * A bill of confidentiality of information at child protection proceedings.
- * A bill to regulate construction, placement and removal of swim floats. This bill as written now would register and regulate rafts.

I will be at the Alton Town Hall on Monday, April 1 from 3 to 4p.m. Meanwhile you may call me at 875-2151.

HELP WANTED ON APRIL 25

Anyone interested in participating in Main Street is encouraged to call Editor John Duffek at 875-7300.

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 Thursday, April 25, at 6:30p.m. Join us!



FERNS ENERGY

P.O. BOX 446
 ALTON, NH 03809
 Tel: 875-3500 800-521-3835

NEW AT THE GILMAN LIBRARY

FICTION

- Battle's End by Caroline Alexander
- Primary Colors by Anonymous
- The Cat Who Said Cheese by Lillian Braun
- The Cadillac Cowboy by Michael Collins
- Shades of Grace by Barbara Delinsky
- The Day After Tomorrow by Alan Folsom
- Closed Circle by Robert Goddard
- Guilty as Sin by Tami Hoag
- The Last Sanctuary by Craig Holden
- Pillar of Fire by Robert Irvine
- Intensity by Dean Koontz
- The Tao Bear Mambo by Joe Landsdale
- Crown Witness by Gillian Linscott
- The Middle Heart by Betty Bao Lord
- Painted Truth by Lise McClendon
- Paradise by Judith McNaught
- Pollen by Jeff Noon
- Death Goes On Retreat by Carol Anne O'Marie
- Blood Brother by Michael Palmer
- Mount Dragon by Preston and Child
- None the Worse for a Hanging by Jonathan Ross
- Black Lightening by John Saul
- Tek Money by William Shatner
- Goodbye, Nanny Gray by Susannah Stacey
- The Late Lady by Susannah Stacey
- Body of Opinion by Susannah Stacey

NONFICTION

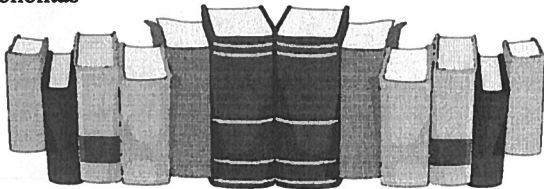
- David Brinkley: A Memoir by David Brinkley
- 100 Questions Every Working American Must Ask by Carolann Brown
- In Julia's Kitchen with Master Chefs by Julia Child
- Lincoln by David Herbert Donald
- Child's Play: 6-12 by Leslie Hamilton
- Learned Optimism by Martin Seligman
- A Simple Path by Mother Theresa
- It's Not A Tumor by Robert Wiedemeyer, M.D.

CASSETTES

- The Real Story by Oprah Winfrey
- Moo by Jane Smiley
- Hollywood Anecdotes

VIDEO

- Bach's Fight For Freedom
- The Big Six (Swallows and Amazons Forever)
- Bizet's Dream
- Coot Club (Swallows and Amazons Forever)
- The Indian in the Cupboard
- Fantasia
- Pocohontas



FOR THE FUN OF IT

By Kellie McGrath, Recreation Director

APRIL VACATION CAMP

A Vacation Camp for students in grades 1-5 will be held during school vacation week, April 22-26, at the Alton Bay Community Center from 9a.m. to 4p.m. with supervised drop-off from 8 to 9a.m.

The cost is \$35 per person and includes cooperative games, arts and crafts, movies, a bowling trip, and more. Registration at the Parks and Recreation Department ends April 16.

EASTER EGGCITEMENT

The Annual Easter Egg Hunt for children seven and under is Saturday, April 6, at the Route 140 recreation area beginning at 10a.m., rain or shine.

Activities include hunting for eggs filled with surprises, hunting for a golden egg, the bunny hop, and hokey pokey. Bring a decorated basket, bag or bucket and enter the Best Decorated Container contest. First place prize is an Easter basket filled with surprises.

COMMUNITY COOKBOOK

The Parks and Recreation Department is sponsoring a community cookbook to raise money for community projects and events. The cookbook will contain favorite recipes in the following categories: appetizers, breads and rolls, soups and salads, jams and jellies, vegetables, main dishes, and desserts.

Anyone interested in contributing is asked to drop off or mail recipes on an index card to the Department at Town Hall. Please include your name.

QUILT RAFFLE WINNER

Rebecca Pellowe was the winner of the Quilt Raffle donated by Debbie Burton. The raffle raised approximately \$200 for the Departments special projects and events.

For more information on any of these items, call 875-0109.

D & S

**Foreign & Domestic
Auto Repair**

776-3646

Doug Smith, Prop.
ASE Certified

230-A Stockbridge Corner Rd.
Alton, New Hampshire 03809

**Spring Clean Up & Garden Supplies
are in**

Seed 10 for \$1⁰⁰



ALTON HOME & GARDEN CENTER

Where The Customer Comes First
Rte 11, Alton, (603) 875-3900
Mon. - Thurs., Sat. 7:30 - 6:00 PM
Friday 7:30 AM - 7:00 PM
Sun. 8:30 AM - 3:00 PM

*Looking for a Real Estate Company
to sell your home?*

**WE HAVE WHAT
IT TAKES TO SELL
YOUR HOME QUICKLY,
EASILY AND AT THE
BEST POSSIBLE PRICE**

SOLD
Ryan & Toman
Realtors
603-875-2525

**Call us..and
GET TOP DOLLAR
FOR YOUR HOME**

We make it happen for you!

MAIN STREET

ALTON, N.H.



SPRINGTIME FUN PLANNED FOR DOLL SHOW AND SALE

Tired of snow? Sick of mud? Dreading the blackflies? Looking for some springtime fun?

Then mark your calendar for Sunday, April 21. This is the new date for the Lakes Region's most anticipated doll event — the Happy Hobby Doll Club's annual Doll Show and Sale.

The show will still be held at the Alton Central School from 9:30a.m. to 3p.m. Lunch will be available on premises. There will be over 50 dealers with all sorts of dolls and accessories to brighten up a spring day. Special guest, Barbara Giguere, of the Maine Society of Doll and Bear Artists, was recently featured in Contemporary Doll Magazine and will have a display of her artist-made dolls.

This year, being Alton's Bicentennial, the annual wardrobe contest has a bicentennial theme. Be sure to stop by and vote for your favorite!

The Bicentennial Raffle doll, Sarah Elizabeth Hannah, better known as "Betsy", and her Club-made period wardrobe will be on display and tickets will be available. The drawing is August 16.

All in all, a great day is in store for all. Sure beats spring cleaning!

Friendship is like a bank account. You can't continue to draw on it without making deposits.

SUNRISE SERVICES AMONG EASTER WORSHIP PLANS

The Bay Church and the Community Church have joined together to offer a sunrise service on Easter Sunday. The service will begin at 6a.m. at the Alton Bay Christian Conference Center Chapel. The speaker will be Dr. Peter Roussaki of the Community Church whose sermon is "Eternal Life". Breakfast will follow the service at the Lombard Center.

The First Free Will Baptist Church in New Durham also will be holding a sunrise service on Easter Sunday at the Ridge Church at 6a.m. with refreshments following at the Village Church.

Other Easter worship activities at local churches include Morning Worship, "Changed by the Resurrection" at 10:45a.m. at the Bay Church; Easter Sunday Services at the Community Church at 11a.m.; Easter Sunday Worship at the First Free Will Baptist Church at 11a.m.; and Easter Sunday Worship at 10:30a.m. at the Wolfeboro Bible Fellowship.

St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church will offer a Holy Thursday Mass on April 4 at 7p.m.; a Good Friday Mass on April 5 at 7p.m.; an Easter Saturday Vigil on April 6 at 7p.m. and Easter Sunday Masses at 8 and 11a.m.

The wealth of experience is one possession that has not yet been taxed. But just wait.

Dress Making By Doreen

Specializing In:
Prom & Wedding Gowns

Alterations & Drapes
536 Union Road
Laconia, NH 03246 Phone: 527-1449



The CRAFT COTTAGE

Hand Crafted Items ♥ Gifts

OPEN FRIDAY THRU MONDAY
9 AM TO 5 PM
THURSDAY TILL 8 PM

Crafter space still available.
Rte 11 (Next to the Pavilion) Alton Bay

Lisa Paolo

Wedding Confections

Wedding Cakes Created To Reflect Your Personal Design

Hayes Road RFD 1 Box 64-D
Alton, New Hampshire 03809
(603) 569-6587



ROTOTILLING

The Troy built way
Garden Fence

875-2572



Main Street

Printed on Recycled Paper

Bulk Rate
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No.2
Alton Bay, NH

**CAR-RT SORT
POSTAL CUSTOMER**