



Main Street

"The Voice of Alton"

Volume XIV Number 2

Alton, New Hampshire - February, 1998

Complimentary

THE ICE STORM OF THE CENTURY?

by Bob Longabaugh

The final results are not yet in whether it was really the ice storm of the century, but the life-long residents of Alton all agree that they do not remember one as severe, or as long. Freezing rain started in Alton on Wednesday morning, January 7, and did not let up until Friday evening.

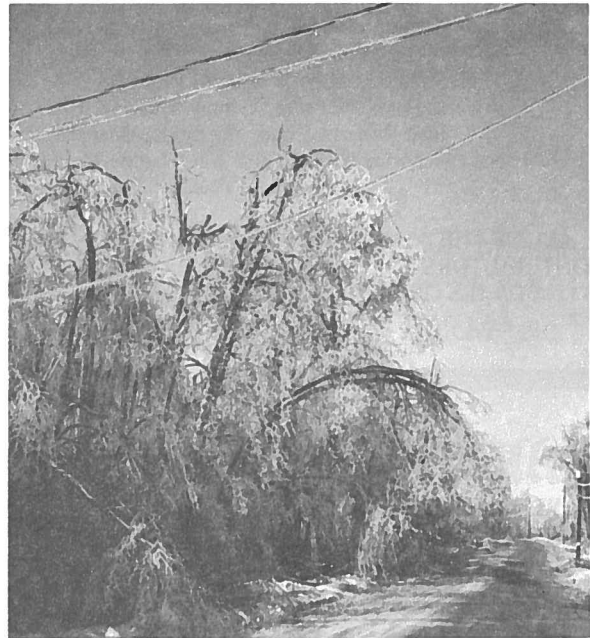
When the sun finally broke through Saturday morning, the 10th, it reflected on a crystal landscape, but oh, the damage it had done. A rain gauge on Alton Mountain Road (after the ice was melted) showed an inch and a quarter of precipitation over the three days, and the accumulation of ice on a flat and level surface was 9/16 of an inch. Highway Agent Ken Roberts reported that Alton Mountain Road and Muchado Hill Road were the two areas in Alton hit the hardest.

Power outages began Wednesday night, and by Thursday morning a major portion of Alton was without power. A State of Emergency was declared in Alton at 11 a.m. on Friday and remained in effect until 6 p.m. Tuesday, January 13. The New Hampshire Electric Cooperative estimated that on Sunday there were still 1500 residents without power as line crews (some from as far away as Delaware, Maryland and Pennsylvania) finally were able to do more than stay even with crashing tree limbs and ice laden cables.

Fire Chief Russell Jones, serving in his dual capacity as Emergency Management Director, reported to the Board of Selectmen on Monday morning, January 12, that there were 22 roads without power at that time, but it looked favorable that the number might be reduced to eight or ten by nightfall. Volunteer firefighters were making house-to-house checks to find out who might need assistance. Portable generators were hooked up to get boilers up to a level for a shot of heat to chilly residences, and in a few cases food was brought in to those unable to leave their homes. The Central Fire Station was opened as a 24-hour emergency shelter, and while many took advantage of it for hot showers or water supplies, no one had spent the night.

As Alton has seen in previous times of distress, volunteers and neighbors responded magnificently to help each other and their community. Scott Werner of Fountain Springs made a 8100 gallon tanker full of spring water available, without charge, for those in need of water. Arthur Douglas volunteered and served as Highway Department dispatcher for more than 32 hours. Sharon Howard baked an endless supply of cookies for the Fire Station crews and "drop-ins." The Alton Fireflies threw in their assistance in many ways and the Gilman Home opened their doors to older persons in need of emergency housing. These were just a few of many, many people responding to the needs of the times.

The Town is still adding up the storm impact on the municipal budget. Repairs and clean up — including staff time by Town employees, contracted services, sand, salt, and



equipment expenses — will be in the vicinity of \$617,000, as estimated a week after the storm. The paperwork is being prepared for submission to the Federal Emergency Management Administration in the event federal disaster assistance becomes available. As so often is the case, unfortunately this will not help defray the extra expenses incurred by private homeowners in dealing with the storm and its aftermath.

Alton now has a new one for the books. Future ice storms for many years to come will always be compared to THE BIG ONE of January '98.

HOW LONG WAS YOUR POWER OUT?

Main Street has a new contest, in addition to "Ice Out" (see page 9). Unfortunately for the "winner," there is no prize, other than having your name chronicled in the history of Alton.

To enter the contest, answer the question: In the ice storm of '98, how long was your home or business in Alton without power?

Answers of "6 days" are commonplace. If you can top that, please submit a postcard with the date/time out and date/time power was restored, plus your location and name and phone number to Post Office Box 210, Alton Bay 03810. Postage free you can leave a card or note in the Main Street drop box at the Alton office of the Farmington Bank on Main Street.

The longest period received by February 16 will be heralded in the March issue of Main Street.



Main Street

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by

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Subscription orders should be sent to Main Street, Post Office Box 210, Alton Bay, NH 03810. Include your name, mailing address (including ZIP) and a check payable to Voice of Alton, Inc.

THE GIRLS SCOUTS ARE HERE! CAN THE COOKIES BE FAR BEHIND?

Two newly formed Girl Scout troops are here in Alton. They became active just this January.

Brownie Troop 329 has 14 participants with Stacy Vigue as the leader. She can be reached at 875-4838. They meet on Mondays in the Alton School cafeteria from 5:30 - 7 p.m.

Junior Troop 630 has six young ladies. Lisa Goodwin is their leader and her phone number is 875-6202. They meet on Wednesdays from 5:30 - 7 p.m. in the Alton School cafeteria.

For your information, Brownies are in grades 1 - 3 and Juniors are grades 4 - 6. Also, you might wish to know that there is a Cadet troop in Barnstead. You can call Flora Kerr at 435-7642 for details.

Now, about those cookies...

Cookie sales will occur in March. The Alton troop sales will take place on March 14 at various locations, and they might even show up at earlier functions. The Barnstead Brownie troop will be selling at McGrath's on March 7. Mark your calendar now and also read the EVENTS section in the March issue.

BCCD TO HOLD TWO EVENTS IN ALTON

The Belknap County Conservation District (BCCD) will be offering a workshop on February 7 (snow date February 14) at 11:10 a.m. until 12:10 p.m. entitled "Naturalizing Outdoor Areas for Aesthetics and Wildlife." The goal of the workshop is to help people with landscaping ideas that will enhance the overall appearance of their property, benefit water quality and wildlife, and offer tips on tree trimming to promote growth. The format of the workshop will include a slide show presentation followed by a discussion with Dave Eastman and a video on protecting your shoreline with vegetation. The registration fee is \$3 for individuals/\$5 for families.

In addition, there will be bluebird house assembly programs with Dave Eastman offered both at 9:30 - 11 a.m. and 12:30 - 2 p.m. This is an activity that adults, or supervised children, can enjoy. Participants should bring their own hammer. These attractive and durable weathered barn board birdhouses are properly sized for bluebirds, designed to be safe and easy to clean, and can be secured against predators. The cost of the birdhouse kit is \$12 and can only be purchased in connection with this workshop. Pre-registration by February 4 is a must!

Both events will be held at the Alton Bay Community Center on Route 11 in Alton Bay. For information, or to pre-register, call BCCD at 528-8713.

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Main Street's Inside Front Page



ANOTHER WINTER CARNIVAL IS HERE!

Alton's reputation as a place for winter fun and games will be continued on the 15th of this month with the conducting of its renown Winter Carnival on the ice of Alton Bay. The Town's Parks and Recreation Department, under Director Kellie McGrath, pulls all the stops each year at the Alton Bay Bandstand on Lake Winnepesaukee. Events begin at 1 p.m. and the Great Alton Bay Bed Race is scheduled for 3 p.m.

The event is free and open to the public. It's a case of the more the merrier. Refreshments and Winter Carnival T-shirts will be available for purchase. Prizes will be awarded for special events marked with a star (*) in the schedule below.

Events and Times

- 1 p.m. - *Scavenger Hunt, *Snow Sculpture Contest,
*Poker Run
- 1:30 p.m. - *Snow Shoe Obstacle Course
- 2 p.m. - Tug-of-War
- 2:30 p.m. - *Limbo
- 2:45 p.m. - Parade of Beds
- 3 p.m. - *Great Alton Bay Bed Race

For the bed race a five person team of four pushers (without cleats) and one rider pulls or slides the bed to the finish line. Beds can be made with skis or skates and any size bed is eligible.

Get out of the house for a fun day full of games and activities and join friends and family at the Alton Bay Winter Carnival. In fact, this is an event you do not have to get out of bed to attend. Get INTO bed for the great Bed Race!

SCHOOL BOARD SELECTS SITE FOR NEW HIGH SCHOOL

After months of searching and reviewing a dozen parcels of land, the Alton School Board has entered into a purchase and sales agreement with Robert Paige to purchase a 60-acre parcel of land on Old New Durham Road as the potential site of the district's new high school. Details of the \$8.4 million dollar bond proposal, which includes the land purchase, were discussed at a Bond Hearing held on January 20. As Main Street goes to press further discussion is scheduled to take place at the School District's First Deliberative Session on January 31. The outcome will be covered in Main Street's March issue.

COMMUNITY INPUT SOUGHT FOR DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION GRANT

by Richard M. Pike
Superintendent of Schools

During the next several weeks, I will be working on a grant proposal to be submitted to the United States Department of Education on behalf of the Alton School District and its students. I would like to ask for your input in targeting some specific activities that need to be included in the grant application.

The 21st Century Community Learning Centers Program (authorized under Title X of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act) was established by Congress to award grants to rural public schools to develop projects that benefit the educational, health, social services, cultural and recreational needs of a community.

What Is Needed

The Secretary of Education has established an ABSOLUTE PRIORITY to fund ONLY those applications that include activities that offer significant expanded learning opportunities for children and youth in the community and that contribute to reduced drug use and violence.

In addition, the application includes the following statutory activities; at least four are required in the grant. Would you please number 1 through 4 (1 being your first choice) those activities that you believe would be of most benefit to the entire educational community:

- Literacy education programs.
- Senior citizen programs.
- Children's day care services.
- Integrated education, health, social service, recreational, or cultural programs.
- Summer and weekend school programs in conjunction with recreation programs.
- Nutrition and health programs.
- Expanded library service hours to serve community needs.
- Telecommunications and technology education programs for individuals of all ages.
- Parenting skills education programs.
- Support and training for child day care providers.
- Employment counseling, training and placement.
- Services for individuals who leave school before graduating from high school, regardless of the age of such individuals.
- Services for individuals with disabilities.

Please respond by February 13 to Richard M. Pike, Superintendent, SAU #72, P.O. Box 120, Alton, NH 03809

VOLUNTEERS WANTED!

The Alton School Board is seeking members of the public who would be interested in serving on the School Board's Grading Committee which was established at the December 8 school board meeting. For more information, please call School Principal Tom Parker at 875-7500.

A MOTHER'S STORY

by Ursula Minich-Boutwell

So far, we have been lucky. We are lucky that our son, Mitchell, did not contract polio from his polio vaccine. We are lucky that he did not have a fatal reaction from his chicken pox vaccine. We are lucky because we were going about our lives not knowing that our year-old son has a serious immunodeficiency disease.

It's quite simple: He has no B cells. He is missing the bacterial half of his immune system. At the present time he receives other people's immune systems via IV every 21 days. This is what keeps him alive. For this, we will forever be grateful.

The Diagnosis

Our son was seen by doctors for toenail funguses and colds and rashes that were unusual for a youngster. They were the most concerned with his chronic sinus infections. It got to the point that they were afraid all of the mucus in his sinus cavities had deteriorated the bones in his face. Then we had a talk with my grandfather.

My grandfather told us that my uncle, who died of spinal meningitis forty years ago, had some rare immune system disorder. We immediately took our son in for bloodwork, and on May 29, 1996, we had our answer. Our son wasn't going to grow up and develop a mature immune system because he was given only half of one at birth.

Our Reaction

First there was guilt. Agammaglobulinemia is passed on from mother to son. We had been working so hard to keep him healthy and I was the one who had made him so susceptible. Then there was animosity. Why hadn't the doctors noticed our son has no tonsils? Most Agammaglobulinemia boys are born without tonsils. You would have thought that this diagnosis would have been simple given all the doctors that had looked in our son's mouth.

Our son is now three. He knows he receives his medication so that he doesn't get sick, and he accepts it like a trooper. He has stopped crying when he gets hooked up to his IV. He says that he likes to be brave so that his mom won't be sad anymore. He's so intuitive, he amazes us.

Currently in the United States there is a shortage of our son's medication. Not enough people are donating blood. It takes *one thousand* pints of blood to make the medication for one of our son's infusions.

What You Can Do

We wish you could meet our son. All who know him donate blood with a vengeance. We have had people ask us what type of blood our son has so they can give him some of theirs. Generosity and concern are what make this condition bearable.

One day we woke up and instead of searching for all of the wrong, we were able to see all of the right. We are blessed with a wonderful nurse. We are blessed because friends and family use words around us like "condition," instead of "disease." We are blessed with the outpouring of our community to organize blood drives with our son in mind. In a word, we are blessed with Mitchell.

ALL NIGHT PARKING BAN REMAINS 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 10 p.m. and 6 a.m. from November 15 through April 1, or at any other time during storms when snow removal or other winter road maintenance is being performed.

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

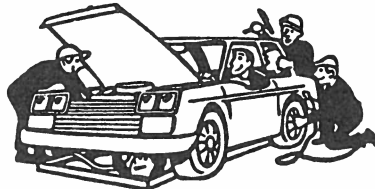
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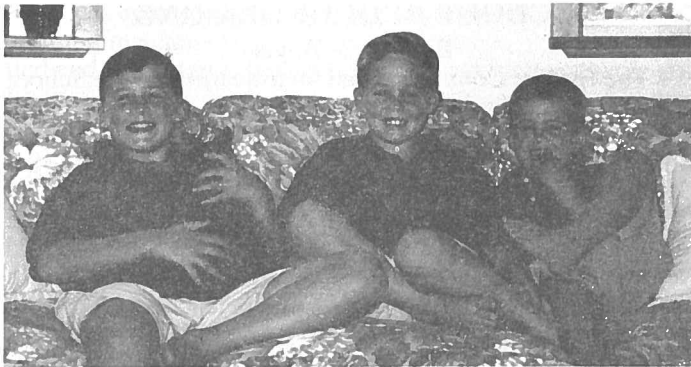


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FEBRUARY 16TH BLOOD DRIVE DEDICATED TO CHRISTOPHER AND TYLER FINETHY

By Ann Norman-Burke

A Red Cross Blood Drive will be held on Monday, February 16, at the Alton Central School from 3 - 7 p.m. The Blood Drive, sponsored by the Farmington National Bank and the Alton PTSA, is dedicated to Christopher and Tyler Finethy, brothers of Ryan Finethy and sons of Lisa and Bill Finethy of Alton Bay. The three boys are shown in the photo above starting with Chris on the left, then Ryan and Tyler.

This is the second time a blood drive has been dedicated to the boys. In February of 1996 over 100 donors came to donate blood in their names. Chris and Tyler have primary immune deficiency. Every three weeks the boys receive an infusion of blood that is rich in the gamma globulin that their bodies need to fight off sicknesses. Unfortunately shortages of the gamma globulin infusions they need have been reported. The Finethys decided to dedicate this blood drive to their kids in an effort to make people aware of the shortage and the need for healthy people to donate blood. Although the blood donated at the dedicated drive will not go directly to the Finethy boys, it will help to replenish supplies and ensure that the blood supply remains at a safe level for them and others who are in need.

Three Good Reasons

Although primary immune deficiency is rare, another child in Alton, Mitchell Boutwell, also has this disease. (See the accompanying story from his mother, Ursula Minich-Boutwell.) Mitchell will also benefit indirectly if there is a good turn-out for the blood drive.

Help the Red Cross help Alton's own and others who need blood by donating on February 16. Eligible donors must be 17 years of age and weigh at least 110 pounds. For more information call the Red Cross Center at 1-800-262-2660, Lisa Finethy at 875-7653, or Ann Norman-Burke at 875-5492. Baby-sitting will be available at the school.



CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S CLUB LUNCHEON

"Let's Take a Cruise" will be the theme of a luncheon to be held on February 11 at 11:30 a.m. at the Conference Center on Rt. 11 in Alton Bay. Scott MacKay of Kingswood Traveling will be the Special Feature, Georgia Basko from East Lebanon, Maine, will be the Special Speaker, and she will also present the music for the luncheon guests.

To make reservations for the luncheon and the available complimentary nursery, please call Helen Harris in Alton at 875-6346 or Thelma Osborne in Laconia at 524-6505 by Wednesday, February 4.

The Christian Women's Club is an interdenominational group with no formal membership.

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PTSA PONDERINGS

by Bob Loprete

Hope everyone survived the "ice-in" without too much damage to life and limb. It was inspiring to witness the spirit of community that prevailed as neighbor helped neighbor and those who "had" (hot food, electricity, heat, water, and showers) shared with those who "had not." Special appreciation goes to all the crews who worked non-stop during the emergency — state, local, and out-of-state. We know how to pull together when we have to! Organizations can experience the same "moods" that individuals do. There can be a collective sigh of relief just making it through a crisis (in addition to the holiday season). Before you know it, you are looking at Town Meeting and PTSA elections coming up, and the year, although a "new" one, is also winding down, with so much still to do. Start now to plan your "next year's" commitment. I particularly want to encourage new people to join us as volunteers in the PTSA. You will meet and work with great people, great kids, and perform a genuine service to your community.

Our *Reflections* program elicited over 87 entries! Special thanks to Mrs. Enos, Mr. Downey, and Mrs. Leclerc, for incorporating the program in their class work. Although the weather delayed the judging, we expect to present the works soon. Congratulations to all the participants. We have some wonderfully talented young people in Alton. Our appreciation also to Curry Realtors, Farmington National Bank, Union Telephone Company, Shelby's Interiors for Living, and Mrs. Henry B. Stevens for their prize donations. Barbara Cruickshank worked very hard to get this program started. As she says, "We learned a lot. Just see how great next year's program will be!"

SCHOOL BUDGET HEARING

By Laurie Boyce

The Budget Committee had their hearing on the School Board proposed budget on snowy January 15, but there were nevertheless 45 to 50 people in attendance. The School Board's proposed budget was \$5,574,263. The Budget Committee's budget was \$5,448,774.

The main concern of the community was the increase in the health insurance costs. Debra Burton, the School Board Representative to the Budget Committee, said that health insurance is part of the contract with the teachers union, but that the School Board is trying to come up with a solution that is acceptable to everyone concerned. W. Richard Doerre, a new resident of Alton, asked several questions. This helped to show that people are interested in what is happening in town.

The new High School Bond Proposal that was given out to all that attended the meeting (if you do not have one yet, they are available at the SAU Office) was brought up. Peter Pijoan, the Budget Committee Chairman, asked that everyone take it home, read it, and come to the hearing on the Bond Issue Proposal prepared to participate. That meeting took place on January 20.

BOND BUDGET HEARING

by Bob Longabaugh

For the second time in five days a budget hearing was convened in the Alton Central School. This time, on January 20, approximately 80 people overflowed the seats in the school's music room to hear details and ask questions on the \$8.4 million bond issue proposed by the School Board to fund a new high school. Board Chairman Loring Carr led the presentations and answers on matters pertaining to the proposed site, while Board Member and Chairperson of the Building Committee Debbie Burton handled most of the details dealing with the building.

Questions ranged from the width of the corridors (10 feet) to "What do you do if the bond issue doesn't pass?" (half jokingly: "Put modulars on the front lawn"). Depending on the outcome of the School District deliberative session and the ballot vote to be held on March 10, the bottom line could either be (1) spend \$216,700 in 1998 as the first payment on a 15-year bond which would cover *both* land and building, or (2) lay out \$385,000 to just purchase the property now and face up to what to do about a building at a later time.

The School Board will be holding a public forum on Saturday, March 7, in order to foster full discussion and understanding of the Articles as they will appear on the ballot.

ALSO ON THE HONOR ROLL

James Grant earned a place on the fourth grade Honor Roll at Alton Central School for the first quarter. His name was inadvertently left off the original press release from the School.



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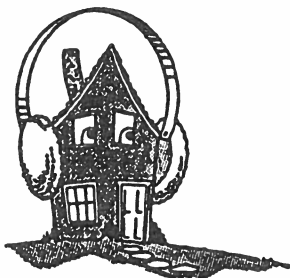
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A NOTE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

by Thomas D. Parker
Alton Central School

ALTON CENTRAL SCHOOL SPACE NEEDS

For the past several months, this column has focused on school issues and has, hopefully, provided parents with practical information concerning your children and our school. This month's item is going to be informational in a different sense. This column is devoted to explaining the need for a new high school in Alton and to seek your support in passing the bond issue to build that facility.

The current Alton Central School was constructed in several phases, starting in 1955 and continuing until 1987. Much like an old New England home, as the family grew, rooms were added on to accommodate the new members. As the school population grew, residents of Alton provided for the space and programs needed to insure that our students received an education second to none in the State.

Student Performance

The results of a good school facility are evident in student performance. Our students' achievement on standardized tests compares favorably to other schools both locally and nationally. On the most recent grade three State assessment, our students performed at a level not experienced by any other school in New Hampshire. Our college entrance test scores are higher than the state and national average. Alton Central School is doing an outstanding job!

What To Do About Space

Unfortunately, our space has run out and our student population continues to expand. Facility study committees over the past several years have recommended solutions for the crowded conditions and, again, a building committee has come forth with a recommendation. The committee composed of Debbie Burton, Ruth Messier, Jim and Fran Washburn, John Lord, Doris Barnes, David St. Cyr, Kitty Croes, Cindy Duffek, Shelby Husak, Pete Shibley, Bill Finethy and I, working in conjunction with Kyle Barker, have examined options to address the space needs of Alton students.

Public forums were held to obtain input from community members concerning solutions to the space needs. The feedback received was quite clear — residents were in favor of the construction of a new high school with sufficient capacity and land to meet student needs for the next twenty years. The Building Committee has been working for the past several months to assemble a plan for a new high school. This proposal is available here at the school. Please feel free to stop by and pick up a packet.

Learn About The Issue

The voters of Alton are again confronted with an issue that is of great significance for all residents of the town. I urge you to attend the upcoming public forum on Saturday, March 7, to discuss the school bond issue and ask any questions that you may have. I also urge you to support the proposed school bond issue at the March 10 election.

SCHOOL CLOSED TODAY?

After a night of stormy weather there is only one way to find out if the kids have to be bundled up and put out the door to go to school. The *official* school closing announcements for Alton Central School are broadcast over radio stations WASR (1420AM), WLNH (98.3FM), WOKQ (97.5FM), WZNN (930AM) and shown on WMUR-TV (Channel 9).

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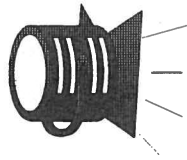
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**DAVID ("PETE") ROCKWOOD
MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR**

Pete was born in Connecticut and lived in Killingly until age four. He moved with his family to Haverhill, NH and attended elementary and high school there. In 1957 Pete joined the Army National Guard. His father and brother were in the Guard and they were all in the same unit. Pete spent six months training in Fort Dix, NJ. He received his G.E.D. certificate while in the Army.

In 1964 Pete joined the Air Force and spent the next eight years on active duty. He spent a year in Thailand during the Vietnam conflict. Pete left active duty in the Air Force in August of 1973 and remained in the Air Force reserves until 1990. At that time Pete had completed thirty years in the military and retired with an E8 rating.

Pete worked for Polaroid Corporation in Waltham from 1973 until early retirement in 1988 as a Trades Supervisor. He received a degree from Mt. Wachusets and the Community College of the Air Force in 1984.

After retirement from Polaroid Pete and his family moved to New Hampshire and his work experience included GTE Sylvania in Manchester and UNH. He became Alton's Maintenance Supervisor in October, 1997. With 25 years of managerial and technical experience, plus attendance at management programs, both in the Air Force and at Polaroid, Peter will contribute much to his position. As Pete explained, "I've been in building and maintenance for many years, so my experience fits right in with this position."

Pete's parents still live in Haverhill and he has one brother, Dale. Pete met his wife, Pat, in Haverhill where she spent most summers at her grandmother's farm. They were married in 1961 and have three children. Son David is an electronics consultant, son Jamie is a marine mechanic, and Catherine and husband, Manuel, became parents to daughter, Kazmiera, last October.

Besides Pete's busy work schedule, he volunteers as a Gilman Museum Committee member, Auxiliary Marine Patrol member, and Address Committee member. His leisure interests include fishing, boating, and traveling.

In his position, Pete works with the Selectmen, Town Administrator, and all the Town departments. His biggest asset he says is his crew. He says, "Our goal is to work with all the departments to help out and make it flow." He added, "We have a good rapport with all the departments and that makes our job a lot easier. I have such a good crew and find working here a real pleasure!"

Thank you, Pete, and welcome!

BELKNAP COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT TREE AND SHRUB SALE

Landowners and groups, despite the cold, it's time to start thinking about spring planting for conservation, wildlife, fruit and Christmas trees. Also, Earth Day, Arbor Day, and Soil and Water Stewardship Week are all coming up in April. Young bareroot trees, shrubs, and other plants are being offered through the Belknap County Conservation District's (BCCD) 1998 "Tree, Shrub and More" Program. Orders need to be received by March 6. Plants are available in various quantities. A free workshop will be scheduled in the spring to discuss and demonstrate proper planting and care of the plants.

If you would like more information on the varieties and items offered or would like to be added to BCCD's mailing list, please contact the Belknap County Conservation District soon at 719 N. Main St., Room 203, Laconia, NH 03246-2772. The telephone is 528-8713. Orders must be received by March 6, so do not put off calling. This fund raiser helps to support the Conservation District's programs and is open to any one, county resident or not.

ICE-OUT CONTEST STILL OPEN UNTIL FEBRUARY 28

Main Street's annual contest to see who can come the closest to predicting the date and time of "ice-out" (as determined by the official ice-watchers around the Big Lake) is still receiving entries until February 28.

"Ice-out" is defined as that moment when the M/S Mt. Washington can reach each of its ports unobstructed by ice. A group of local residents who are considered experts in the art of ice-watching, supplemented by observations from aircraft, pinpoints the exact date and time when the last large section of ice disappears from Lake Winnepesaukee.

In 1997 "ice out" took place on April 24. The earliest date was March 28 in 1921, and the latest was May 12 in 1888, the first year there was an organized contest. Records have been kept since 1887.

The prize is dinner for two at the William Tell Restaurant in West Alton, hosted by Mr. & Mrs. Peter Bossert.

Entries must be postmarked no later than February 28 and participation is limited to Alton residents and subscribers to Main Street. In the event of a tie, the earlier postmark will determine the winner.

ICE-OUT ENTRY FORM

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: (____) _____

I predict "ice-out" will occur on:

_____ (date) at _____ (time) (a.m. or p.m.).

Mail this completed entry form to P.O. Box 210, Alton Bay, 03810 by February 28, 1998.

FLY IN FOR BREAKFAST

The Alton Bay Flying Club will be having a fly in (or drive or walk to) breakfast on Saturday, February 21 at the Alton Bay Community Center from 8 to 11 a.m. Anyone with an interest in non-commercial aviation is welcome. You do not have to own or operate a plane to join the club, which is a chapter of the Experimental Aircraft Association of America. Additional information can be obtained from Bill Grahn at 859-7900.

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CONCORD CORNER
by Alice Ziegler Calvert
State Representative

MY PERSONAL AGENDA

As the second year of our term starts, we seem to have more and bigger problems than ever. The plethora of ideas and solutions for the education quandary will be studied, weighed and dissected for a long time before we hopefully have a fair resolution. Ditto for the prison.

My personal agenda includes further work toward health insurance coverage for adults who are uninsured or underinsured. Three years ago the legislature passed the Healthy Kids Act which offered health insurance for school children not covered by any other insurance. Last year we were unsuccessful in extending such coverage to adults. Health and Human Services personnel are trying to work out, along with the legislature, some solution to adult coverage.

The looming crisis of homelessness must be addressed to meet immediate (emergency) needs and long-term solutions, i.e., job training and adequate affordable housing. We have to pass a bill which will (1) coordinate all aspects and efforts to aid homeless people, (2) accept outside funds for aiding homelessness, and (3) educate the public as to who are homeless, why it is happening, and what is needed to help solve the problems.

Hearings and sessions started on January 8. About 200 bills studied over the summer have been passed or killed, and we're busy with hearings on about 800 new house bills. I will be at Alton Town Hall on February 2 from 3 - 4 p.m. if you would like to meet with me personally. Meanwhile, I can be reached at 875-2151.

TOWN HALL NOTES
by Scott Dunn
Town Administrator



TOWN MEETING DECISIONS

The ice storm cometh and the ice storm goeth, but the financial impact will linger for a long time. Putting things in perspective, my family went without power for six days and yet the kids were thrilled because school was canceled and baths were not a high priority.

Looking ahead to Town Meeting (Wednesday, March 11, 7 p.m. at the School Gym), here is a list of some of the things voters will be asked to decide: hiring two new police officers and accept a federal "C.O.P.S." grant; purchase a police boat and 4x4; purchase a highway pick-up truck with plow and a grader; continue the bay revitalization project; build one new tennis court and one new basketball court, while repairing the existing facilities; purchase library computers; purchase a mini-tractor to remove snow from sidewalks and mow lawns; repair the Gilman Museum using trust funds; and renovate the Town Hall using trust funds.

In addition, money will be requested for capital reserve funds to: start a fund for a community center; start a fund for a new fire station; start a fund for Fire Department radios; reconstruct town roads and bridges; and start a fund to expand the highway garage.

Although the Selectmen are still fine tuning their recommended budget, the overall bottom line currently reflects an increase of slightly less than 6 percent. This would mean a tax rate increase of about 20 cents per thousand dollars of assessed valuation.

On a happier note, I am looking for older folks (ages 35 and up) who want to play pick-up basketball games one night a week. Please call me at the Town Hall if interested.



Main Street's Information Center

OF SPECIAL NOTE

CANDIDATES NIGHT SET FOR MARCH 3

Main Street will once again be sponsoring a program which offers the candidates for School Board and Town offices an opportunity to appear in an open forum. There they will be asked to present their positions on why they are the best persons for the elected job they seek. To provide that extra assurance that the voters are making the wise decision, the candidates will be asked to field questions from the audience. This will be a second chance for the candidates to convince you — the voter — on who deserves your vote.

Put Tuesday, March 3, on your calendar to attend Candidates Night in Town Hall at 7 p.m.

ALTON! YOU DID IT AGAIN!

By Bob Calvert

In last month's issue of Main Street there was a challenge from the Wolfeboro-based non-profit agency (CAREGIVERS) for Alton volunteers to help fellow Altonians in such ways as driving people to grocery stores and back, helping them get to doctors' appointments, etc. More recently, Wolfeboro residents were coming over to Alton to help those needing such services and unable to do so for themselves.

The Results

We proudly tell you that Alton volunteerism has once again risen to the occasion! Shirley Bentley, of that all-volunteer group (just like Main Street) tells us that the response was unusually great. She can't remember when there has been such an instant response. And Jane Quimby, also a leader in CAREGIVERS, tells us that the response was from all ages, including many younger adults who asked if their children would be allowed to accompany them as they lent a helping hand (they can).

A reminder to those who called in to volunteer: Please return the form you were asked to complete so that CAREGIVERS can put you on their list of Alton helpers to call.

It's Not Too Late

If there are still others who have been considering volunteering for this very worthwhile service, please do not postpone it any longer. Call 569-3714. It makes sense that the greater the number of caregivers from Alton, the smaller will be the workload on those who have already volunteered.

Thanks to the wonderful people of Alton for this outpouring of concern. It also tells us that you read Main Street carefully and promptly. And we appreciate that too, for it confirms that our own all-volunteer effort is truly the "Voice of Alton." It's just great to be a Granite Stater — especially in Alton!

MIDDLE SCHOOL FRUIT SALE

The Alton Middle School students, grades 6, 7 and 8, will be selling boxes of Florida grapefruit and oranges for \$11 from February 9 through 20. Delivery is expected during the first week in March.

Money raised from this sale will be used for Middle School activities.

Fruit can be ordered by calling the school at 875-7500 or by contacting any Middle School student.

FEBRUARY EVENTS

- | | | |
|------|----|---|
| Sun. | 1 | INDOOR SOCCER, Alton School, 2:30 - 5:30 p.m. |
| Tue. | 3 | GIRLS BASKETBALL vs. Linwood, 6 p.m.
PUBLIC HEARING, See Public Notice, this page.
BOYS BASKETBALL vs. Linwood, 7:30 p.m. |
| Wed. | 4 | BINGO, American Legion, 7 p.m. |
| Fri. | 6 | GIRLS BASKETBALL vs. Concord Christian, 6:30 p.m.
BOYS BASKETBALL v. Concord Christian, 8 p.m. |
| Sat. | 7 | BELKNAP COUNTY CONSERVATION
DISTRICT, 2 workshops. See story for details
and registration requirements. |
| Sun. | 8 | INDOOR SOCCER, Alton School, 2:30 - 5:30 p.m. |
| Wed. | 11 | BINGO, American Legion, 7 p.m. |
| Fri. | 13 | GIRLS BASKETBALL vs. Nute, 6:30 p.m.
BOYS BASKETBALL vs. Nute, 8 p.m.
ALTON BAY CHRISTIAN CONFERENCE
CENTER WINTER CARNIVAL begins.
Call 875-6161 for details. |
| Sat. | 14 | HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY to everyone
SWEETHEART BREAKFAST, American Legion
8 a.m. - see Legion story.
ALTON BAY ICE FLY IN, annual event of the
Aviation Association of New Hampshire. |
| Sun. | 15 | ALTON WINTER CARNIVAL, on the ice at Alton Bay,
beginning 1 p.m. See story for all details. |
| Mon. | 16 | PRESIDENT'S DAY
BLOOD DRIVE, Alton Central School, 3 - 7 p.m. See
two separate stories for this. |
| Tue. | 17 | BOYS BASKETBALL at Sunapee, 7 p.m. |
| Wed. | 18 | BINGO, American Legion, 7 p.m. |
| Fri. | 20 | PUBLIC HEARINGS (3), See Public Notice, this page.
BOYS BASKETBALL at Calvary Christian, 7 p.m. |
| Sat. | 21 | ALTON BAY FLYING CLUB BREAKFAST,
Alton Bay Community Center, 8 - 11 a.m. |
| Sun. | 22 | INDOOR SOCCER, Alton School, 2:30 - 5:30 p.m. |
| Wed. | 25 | BINGO, American Legion, 7 p.m. |

PUBLIC NOTICE

TOWN OF ALTON — PUBLIC HEARINGS

BUDGET COMMITTEE - 1998 TOWN BUDGET, RSA
32:5

February 3, 1998, at 7:00 p.m.

ADOPTING THE OFFICIAL BALLOT FORM
OF TOWN MEETING, RSA 40:13

February 20, 1998, at 9:00 a.m.

CONDITIONAL LAYOUT FOR EXISTING
PRIVATE RIGHTS-OF-WAY, RSA 231:28

February 20, 1998, at 9:15 a.m.

AUTHORIZING BOND IN EXCESS OF \$100,000, RSA
33:8-a

February 20, 1998, at 10:00 a.m.

LAYOUT OF BACHELOR DRIVE AND HERMIT
ROAD AS CLASS V HIGHWAYS, RSA 231:8

March 2, 1998, at 9:00 a.m.

All Public Hearings will be held at the Town Hall and anyone present may submit testimony or evidence.

THE ALTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN

NOTE: In February the Selectmen have a schedule change; you meet Monday, February 2, and Friday, February 20, 8:30 a.m.



Main Street's Information Center

SCHEDULES

CHURCHES:

- Baha'i Fireside** — Thu., 7:30 p.m., Holway Residence, Old New Durham Road
- Bay Church** — Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.; Church: Feb. 1 and 8, 11 a.m.; Feb. 15, (Winter Carnival) 9:30 a.m.; and beginning Feb. 22 new permanent time, 10:45 a.m.; Evening Service, 6 p.m.; Wednesday Prayer Meeting, 7 p.m. Sunday morning service held at the Moore Chapel, Alton Bay Christian Conference Center, all others at The Bay Church on Rand Hill Road. Rev. Robert H. Hett, Pastor
- Community Church** — Congregational Meeting House, Oct. - Apr. 11 a.m.; Baptist Meeting House, May and Sep., 11 a.m., June - Aug., 10 a.m., Dr. Peter E. Roussakis, Pastor
- First Free Will Baptist Church** — Sunday School, 9:45 a.m., Church, 11 a.m., Evening Service, 6 p.m., Wed. Prayer Meeting, 7 p.m., Depot St., New Durham, Pastor James Nasón
- St. Joan of Arc** — Sat., 5 p.m., Sun., 8 and 11 a.m., Mon. - Sat., except Wed., 8 a.m.; Confessions, Sat., 4 p.m. or by appointment, Fr. Richard Wegman, Pastor
- Wolfeboro Bible Fellowship** — Sunday School, 9:30 a.m., Worship Service, 10:30 a.m., (Summer 10 a.m.), Evening Service, 6 p.m., Prayer Meeting, Wed., 7 p.m., Route 28, Pastor Scott Button

GILMAN LIBRARY:

Mon. and Wed., Noon to 8 p.m., Fri. 9 a.m. - 5 p.m., Sat., 9 a.m. - Noon

SENIOR MEAL SITE:

Mon. - Fri., 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., Pearson Rd. Community Center

SOLID WASTE CENTER:

Mon., Wed., Fri., Sat., 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Sun., Noon, 3 p.m. Closed Tue. and Thu.
Rines Road Pit - Reopens in April

TOWN HALL:

Selectmen's Office, Tax Collector, Town Administrator, Town Clerk, and Welfare Officer, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Building Inspector — 875-5095 for hours and appts.
Parks and Recreation — 875-0109 for info and appts.
Planning Director — 875-5095 for hours and appts.

ORGANIZATIONS:

- Alcoholics Anonymous** — Tue., 8 p.m., Alton Bay Community Center
- American Legion** — 2nd Mon., 7 p.m., Legion Hall
- American Legion Auxiliary** — 2nd Mon., 7 p.m., Legion Hall
- American Legion Jr. Members** — 3rd Mon., 6 p.m., Legion Hall
- Boy Scout Troop 53** — Wed., 6 p.m., Central Fire Station
- Brownie Scout Troop 329**, Mon., 5:30 p.m., Alton Sch. Caf.
- Chamber of Commerce Bd.** — 1st & 3rd Wed., 8 a.m., 875-5777
- Cub Scout Pack 53** — Last Tue., 6:30 p.m., Legion Hall
- Eastern Star** — 2nd Tue., when meeting, 875-5211
- Flying Club** — 2nd Wed., 6:30 p.m., 859-7900
- Garden Club** — 4th Tue., meetings resume in April
- Girl Scout Junior Troop 630**, Wed., 5:30 p.m., Alton Sch. Caf.
- Happy Hobby Doll Club** — 4th Fri., 7 p.m., Alton Bay Community Center
- Historical Society** — 3rd Tue., Apr. - Oct.
- Knights of Columbus** — 1st Wed., 7:30 p.m., St. Joan of Arc Church Hall
- Lions Club** — 1st and 3rd Thu., 7 p.m., Pearson Road Community Center
- Masonic Lodge** — 2nd Thu., when meeting, 875-7448
- PTSA** — 3rd Tue., Alton Central School Library, 7 p.m.
- St. Joan of Arc Ladies Guild** — Last Thu., 7:30 p.m., Church Hall
- Senior Citizens** — 2nd Wed., 1 p.m., Pearson Road Community Center
- VFW** — 3rd Mon., 7:30 p.m., Pearson Road Community Center

CALL 875-5067 TO UPDATE THE ABOVE LISTINGS

BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

- ADDRESS COMMITTEE** — Meets on call. Chairman Russell Jones, 875-7510.
- BOARD OF SELECTMEN** — 1st & 3rd Mondays, 8:30 a.m., Chairman Arnold P. Shibley, call 875-2161 for appointment. See Public Notice for February schedule.
- BUDGET COMMITTEE** — 1st Thursday, 7 p.m., Chairman Peter Pijoan, 875-8894.
- CABLE TV ADVISORY COMMITTEE** — Meets on call, 875-2161.
- CEMETERY TRUSTEES** — 1st & 3rd Monday, 1 p.m., Chairman Florence Shaw, 875-2220.
- CONSERVATION COMMISSION** — 1st & 3rd Thursday, 7 p.m., Chairman Lisa Erickson Harris, 364-6388.
- FIRE WARDS** — Meet on call. Chief Russell Jones, 875-7510.
- GILMAN MUSEUM COMMITTEE** — Meets 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.
- PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION** — 4th Tuesday, 6:30 p.m., Chairman Jay Sydow, 875-6792.
- PLANNING BOARD** — 4th Monday, 7 p.m., Chairman James Washburn, call 875-5095 for appointment.
- SCHOOL BOARD** — 2nd & 4th Monday, 6 p.m., Chairman R. Loring Carr, 776-6003.
- SUPERVISORS OF THE CHECKLIST** — Meet on call. Chairman Alice Ziegler Calvert, 875-2151.
- TRUSTEES OF THE GILMAN LIBRARY** — 3rd Monday, 3:30 p.m., Chairman Ellamarie Carr, 776-4833.
- TRUSTEES OF TRUST FUNDS** — Meet on call. Chairman Joseph R. Houle, 875-7321.
- WATER COMMISSION** — 2nd & 4th Thursday, 8 a.m., Chairman Sherman Brown, 875-7337. Office, 875-4200.
- ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT** — 2nd Thursday, 7 p.m., Chairman Donn Brock, 875-4343.
- *DENOTES A CHANGE OF INFORMATION
CALL 875-5067 TO UPDATE THE ABOVE LISTINGS

OUR ELECTED OFFICIALS

U.S. SENATE

- Robert C. Smith**, 307 Dirksen Senate Office Building, Washington DC 20510-2903; Phone (202) 224-2841, Fax (202) 224-1353; e-mail: opinion@smith.senate.gov
- Judd Gregg**, 393 Russell Senate Office Building, Washington DC 20510-2904; Phones (202) 224-3324, (603) 225-7115, Fax (202) 224-4952; e-mail: mailbox@gregg.senate.gov

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

- John E. Sununu**, 1229 Longworth House Office Building, Washington DC 20515; Phones (202) 225-5456, (603) 641-9536, Fax (202) 225-5822; e-mail: Rep.Sununu@mail.house.gov

NH EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

- Ray Burton**, 271-3632 (Concord), 747-3662 (Woodsville)

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); e-mail: rboyce@worldpath.net
- Alice Ziegler Calvert**, 875-2151
- Paul Golden**, 269-4071 (w), 269-5511 (h)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

- Stanley Czech**, 875-3815
- William Ryan**, 875-2112
- Arnold ("Pete") Shibley**, Chairman, 875-2849



Main Street's Sports Page

OPENING DAY FOR INDOOR SOCCER

By Peter Clifford

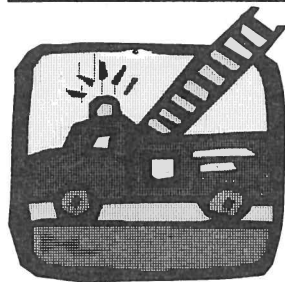
Hundreds of Lakes Region soccer fans from Alton, Conway, Moultonboro, Wakefield, and Wolfeboro attended the opening day of Indoor Soccer games, Sunday January 18 — a week late because of the worst northern New England ice storm in memory. Four separate indoor facilities were used at Alton, Moultonboro, Wakefield, and Wolfeboro to host the league teams that are divided into three age groups: Under 11 years of age ("U11"), Under 12 ("U12"), and under 14 ("U14").

Two games took place at the Alton Central School gym. The first was coach Brian Hikel's Alton U14 team vs Moultonboro U14. This game was a very intensive defensive battle with neither side willing to give in. Timmy Waterman of Alton scored the only goal necessary to win this match. Assisting on the goal was Jane Varney. Terrific goal tending was shared by David Bailey and David Blanchard for the shutout.

The second game saw Moultonboro U12 Boys beat Coach Matt Locke's Alton U12 Boys team, 3-1. The Alton team out shot their opponent and dominated the match but could not find the back of the net. A few defensive mistakes cost them the game. Kyle McAuliffe scored the lone goal for Alton.

Alton's U11 team coached by Peter Clifford and James Grant won their first match away at the Paul School in Wakefield, 5-3. Alton's Jimmy Grant scored three first half goals to take the game away from the Wakefield U11 team. Assisting on his goals were Owen Laurion, Chris Ryan, and Derek Rondeau. In the 2nd half Alton's David Clifford switched from goalie to forward position to score two more goals for Alton. Assisting on both goals was Patrick Quinn. Wakefield scored three late 2nd half goals to keep Alton on its toes.

Alton 2 U14 team, coached by Laurie Griggs, lost their first match to Wakefield. The boys and girls on her team gave it their best effort. The Wakefield team caught some breaks and out shot Alton. The Alton team never gave up and continued to press Wakefield hard to the end of the game, but to no avail.



FIRESIDE CHATS by Stan Czech Alton Fire Department

FUND-RAISING PROJECTS

Fire Chief Russ Jones was asked about the Alton Fire Department asking for money to support some charity. One person who was called sent a check to the Chief. Chief Jones wants everyone to know that the Alton Fire Department does not solicit money by phone for any reason. We have projects like the chicken barbecue and auction to raise money for the department, and we support the Fireflies' Mrs. Santa project. We do not call people to ask for money!

If someone does call, make sure you find out who is calling and why they are asking for a donation from you; do not send a check to the Alton Fire Department because that is not the way we do business.

ALTON'S U14 SOCCER TEAM BRINGS HOME THE CONNOR CUP

Despite the ice storm and power outages teams from around northern NH and as far south as Concord made their way to the Indoor Soccer Tournament at Plymouth State College (P.S.C.) on Saturday January 10.

Alton's U14 team, coached by Peter Clifford assisted by Chris Desjardins and Bob Grindle, finished in 4th place after the qualifying games ended.

The Inter-Lakes team from Meredith and Ashland were the favorites and both beat Alton in the morning session. In the afternoon, Alton's coaches decided to change goalies and play a very defensive game. Giving their opponents little opportunity, David Bailey and David Blanchard shut the door for Alton in goal. In the first playoff game Alton beat Holderness 2-0 with David Bailey accomplishing the shut out. In the semi-final game against Inter-Lakes, Alton went to the taller David Blanchard in goal and David Bailey switched to sweeper.

Alton frustrated Inter-Lakes by keeping the ball wide and down the wings, killing time. The coaches knew the players were tired inasmuch as this was their fifth game of the day, and had no substitutes in this 8-players-per-team competition. Alton was short four team members due to the weather, and at the end of 20 minutes they had to go into a 5-minute overtime.

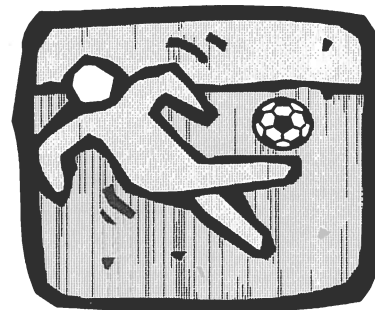
At the end of overtime the score was still 0-0 thereby necessitating penalty kicks to decide the winner. Each team gets five attempts, and David Blanchard made some great saves to keep Alton in the competition. For Alton Matt Grindle and Andy Case (from Rochester and on the Alton team for this tournament) scored two goals to put Alton into the finals against Ashland.

With only a five-minute break the final game of the long day started at 6:30 p.m. Fighting exhaustion and having no substitutes Alton switched to a four-man defense, holding Ashland at bay. Ashland began to take more chances, pushing more players up court. With one minute to play Ashland went to six players up court and Alton's David Bailey and Robert Clifford seized the opportunity. Clifford passed to Seth Desjardins who went by one defender and centered the ball to Matt Grindle who then scored with only 21 seconds remaining in the game.

The other players who rounded out Alton's team were Reed Holway and Jane Varney.

Alton's coaches had been telling their kids that they could win, and the players came through with the Connor Cup! With the youngest, smallest, and fewest players, Alton was the surprise of the day to the other teams and fans.

In the end the underdog Alton won the cup, Ashland second, Inter-Lakes third, and the Olympic Development Program team fourth.



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**WINTER CARNIVAL AT
 THE BAY CONFERENCE CENTER**

by Dave Snell

The Alton Bay Christian Conference Center will hold its annual Winter Carnival on February 13-16. Members and friends will come from all around to take a break from their regular activities and to catch up with old friends and meet new ones. They will have the opportunity to enjoy various outdoor activities, sit by a warm fire and relax, play their favorite table games, share their talents, and sing praises to the Lord as they worship together.

The weekend will begin Friday evening with a Fellowship Time in the Lombard Center. Activities on Saturday could include skating, broom ball, sledding, and snow sculpturing. Saturday evening is Serendipity time. We will begin our song service Sunday morning at 9:30 followed by our 10 a.m. worship service. The afternoon promises more activities including the Town of Alton's Winter Carnival events in which many of us will participate.

All are welcome to join in Christian fun and family fellowship. For more information please call the Conference Center office at 875-6161. Participants during this event may purchase meals in the Dining Hall. We ask that an adult accompany younger children. There is no smoking or alcoholic beverages allowed on the grounds.

BAY CHURCH TIME CHANGES

The Bay Church services on Sundays in February will be as follows: February 1 and 8 at 11 a.m.; February 15 at 9:30 a.m. with a song service, followed by the 10 a.m. worship service; and February 22 at 10:45 a.m., a permanent change from the usual 11 a.m.

NEW AT THE GILMAN LIBRARY

FICTION

Baldacci, David
 Dunne, Dominick
 Hiasen, Carl
 Ludlum, Robert
 Ogilvie, Elizabeth
 Oke, Janette
 Oke, Janette
 Rice, Anne
 Vonnegut, Kurt

The Winner
 Another City, Not My Own
 Lucky You
 The Matarese Countdown
 A Day Before Winter
 Loves Unfolding Dream
 Love Takes Wing
 Violin
 Time Quake

NONFICTION

Ambrose, Stephen
 Duncan, Dayton &
 Burns, Ken
 Gormley, Ken
 Hersh, Seymour
 Pinker, Steven
 Sebba, Anne

Citizen Soldiers
 Lewis & Clark: The Journey
 of the Corps of Discovery
 Archibald Cox: Conscience of a Nation
 The Dark Side of Camelot
 How the Mind Works
 Mother Teresa

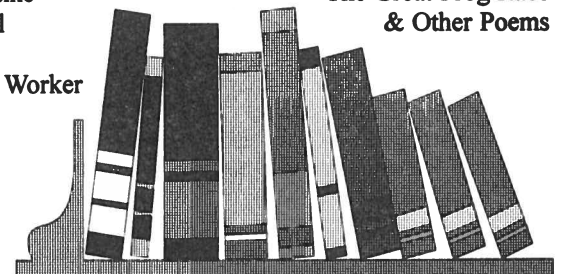
CHILDREN

Berkley, Breathed
 George Kristine
 O'Connell

Red Ranger Came Calling
 The Great Frog Race
 & Other Poems

VIDEO

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"ALTON IN PERFECT HARMONY"
(Part 2, continued from January's issue)

by Ginny Stevenson

With the help of the SPEBSQSA's anniversary booklet, *The First 30 Years*, edited by Jim Hayden, here is the story of how a "summer gathering of friends" grew into a 49-year-old tradition with its continuation in Alton this June.

The year was 1949. Eight men from The Norwich Chapter of the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America (SPEBSQSA) gathered at the camp of Bill Marsden on Alton Bay. The chords began to ring and the Jamboree was born! Fred Allyn, Ray Quinley, Larry Pouch, Harry Sturdevant (the original Four-Tune Hunters), Herman Rosine, Dick Oat, Don Hull, Phil Perkins and Bill Marsden went out in Bill's boat. First anchoring off Leon Young's camp at Minge Cove, the nine proceeded to serenade Young and his guests. On the way back they stopped at Harold Finethy's wharf and their voices traveled over the water at dusk.

Our story will continue with the second year in the next issue.

The Town of Alton will be experiencing a weekend of fun, singing, and exciting new events during the 49th Annual Barbershop Jamboree. We ask that you reserve June 12, 13, & 14 and join us in the festivities.

**1997 IN REVIEW AT THE
ALTON AMERICAN LEGION**

by Patti McMullen

Winter passed with the help of many great functions: pancake breakfasts, dances on Valentine's Day and St. Patrick's Day for the Veterans Home in Tilton, and cribbage tournaments.

Spring brought the excitement of planting flowers around the monuments, a parade for the veterans on Memorial Day, newly elected officers with many new ideas and plans, and the start of building improvements at the Legion Hall.

Summer was busy with cookouts and get-togethers, scholarships awarded to Alton High School students and new paint and carpeting for the Legion Hall.

Fall brought crisp air and the annual Leaf Peeper Breakfast, ghosts and ghoulies at the annual Halloween party, turkey raffles for Thanksgiving and new second floor windows. The annual membership drive began — if you have not renewed yet, do so NOW.

It is now winter again. There were 165 children at the annual Christmas Party, Christmas baskets were sent to people in need, and scholarship monies were made available to those qualifying.

We are happy to announce a substantial donation to the Ruth Shorrock Farrell Memorial Scholarship Fund by her husband Kenneth Farrell. Students can further their education with the assistance of such generous donations.

Upcoming events

There will be a Sweetheart Breakfast on February 14, Valentine's Day, with a complete pancake menu and a FREE flower for the ladies. The price is \$3 for adults and \$2 for children and the hours are 8 a.m. - 12 noon. The public is invited to attend.

On March 14 the Ladies Auxiliary will hold a St. Patty's Day party — a Corned Beef and Cabbage dinner, followed by a dance. The cost is \$7 per person; members and guests are welcome.

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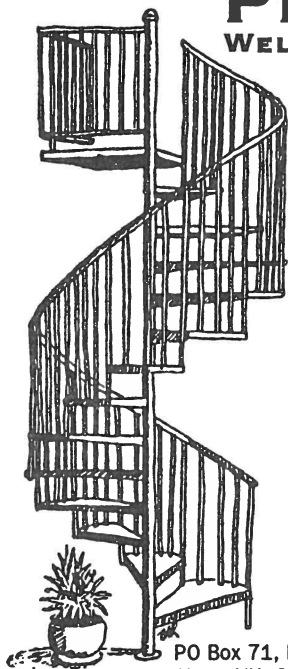
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**FEBRUARY - SHORT ON DAYS,
LONG ON FUN**

February is a middle month for the outdoors person, the middle of the winter sports season, that is. Many tend to hibernate indoors at this time, but there are several things to keep one busy this time of year.

Indoor activities for the outdoors person include tying fishing flies, reloading ammunition, and cleaning, repairing, and oiling fishing reels, to name a few.

Other indoor activities are the various hunting, fishing, and gun shows and expositions that take place around the state and the New England area. These gatherings allow one to see the new gear and try the new techniques. One can often save money at these shows because of the competition. My favorite technique is to see the whole show first, then go back to the vendors that have what I am interested in. As the show nears its close, dealers will sometimes bargain or lower their prices. Good luck!

For your information: February 5-8 is the 22nd annual Eastern Fishing and Outdoor Expo, held at Worcester Centrum, Worcester, MA; February 14-16 is the NH Fishing and Outdoor Show held at the National Guard Armory.

The major sport outdoors this month is ice fishing. As always, be sure of the ice thickness and the regulations of the pond or lake you fish. The Great Rotary Fishing Derby is February 7 and 8 and the registration fee is \$20. Derby headquarters are at the docks in Meredith. Contest entry fish are displayed on board all weekend. Go see it.

Winter can be particularly hard on deer, and this winter came on hard in a big way last month. The ice storm brought down lots of browse for the deer. Maple and beech are full of lots of soft buds at this time of year and will provide plenty of food for the deer. The 1997 deer kill was the highest since the 60's, proving our herds are doing well. Nature has its own way of doing things. See you out there.

Alton outdoors is a great place to be, not only for what it offers, but for what the people of Alton offer. I would like to thank everyone who helped out during and after the ice storm. I saw many acts of kindness during the week the power was out. Thanks to all who helped keep the roads passable, cut downed trees, used their own machines and machinery, provided food, showers, shelter, and water to friends and strangers alike who had no electric power and finally to those who kept checking on people to make sure they were alright. Thanks also for your patience in dealing with this adversity.

I'm glad I made Alton my home.

**WHAT'S DOING WITH THE MT. MAJOR
SNOWMOBILE CLUB**

by Judy Geer

Well, we made it through the holidays. Hope yours were happy and healthy and that your New Year is a great one!

We were able to have our Familiarization-Ride-In on December 28, thanks to Mother Nature's cooperation. The central meeting place was Virginia and Bob Bergeron's house. Our thanks to them! Coffee, juice, donuts and muffins were in abundance and anyone interested could purchase maps, memberships, patches, hats, etc. Groups came and went most of the day.

One group of five sleds left Merrymeeting Park around 9:30 a.m. for what they thought would be a quick ride, as the

trails had been groomed the night before. As we all know, anything mechanical has a mind of its own. First, one sled died and there was a wait while another rider went back, got the truck and trailer, picked up the deceased, took it home, and came back to join the rest of the group. Everything seemed to be going fine until another sled decided to overheat every couple of miles. Finally the group arrived at 1:00 p.m. I think this was a good example of Murphy's Law. Boy, did that coffee and donut taste good!

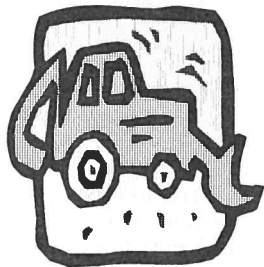
All in all it was a good day. Rumor has it, however, that an Arctic Cat was seen towing a Yamaha!!! Who has that picture???

The Club's Poker Run is still scheduled in Alton Bay on February 15 from 9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. during the Winter Carnival. Prizes will be awarded at 3 p.m. Come and bring the family. There are prizes for younger and older participants. The Radar Run scheduled for that day has been cancelled.

Until THE ice storm work had been continuing well on the trail from Merrymeeting Park to the Alton traffic circle. We still have a long way to go. Any help would be appreciated. Depending on snow fall, work may be held off until a later date. Anyone who would like to help, or if you have information on expanding our trail system, please give Dick Langille a call at 875-6994. We would also like to hear from anyone who is interested in joining the club, purchasing a map, patches, hats, etc.

Some of us from the club are planning to ride from Alton to the "Easter Seal Ride In" in Lincoln the weekend of February 6.

Hope to see you out on the trail sometime.



HIGHWAY HAPPENINGS
by Ken Roberts
Highway Agent

THIS YEAR'S PROJECTS

Winter has arrived in her splendor of snow and ice. As all of us know, we have been getting our share, AND

MORE! We had hoped for an easy time, but of course, Mother Nature has shown us a different story. For now we can only dream of spring and summer, green grass, blue skies and warm weather.

The List

Some of the projects the Highway Crew will be looking forward to this year include:

The completion of Drew Hill Road to Gilmans Corner Road. New ditches, pavement and hydro seeding.

Reconstruction on Halls Hill Road. Trees cut back, new culverts, guardrails, ditches and finally the grinding of the old pavement and putting down of the new.

A new bridge, which has been three years in the planning, will be built on Hollywood Beach Road. Unfortunately there will be some traffic problems while the bridge is under construction. This section of the road will be closed.

Two bridges on Coffin Brook Road are well into the engineering stages. Hopefully late this year or early in 1999, construction will begin.

The Highway Department will also be undertaking some major improvements on three roads in 1998. These include Meaderboro Road, Lockes Corner Road and Muchado Hill Road. Work involves widening, new ditchlines and culverts.

Also, Don't Forget...

A reminder to everyone! Town Meeting is in March. "Come one, come all" and make your vote count on what you want to see happen in Alton.

Thank you!

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**ALTON SEVENTH GRADERS
 CELEBRATE INTERNATIONAL DAY**

Representing Australia, Jill Feger (left) and Becky Spencer were among the many students displaying their geography research projects during the recent Seventh Grade International Day. Students, working individually or in pairs, chose countries and prepared 11 different assignments ranging from current events to music. The displays and samples of international foods were the culmination of the project that was created by Social Studies Teachers Laurie Griggs and Kim Hayes.

Countries and the student-researchers were Argentina – Jenn Carr and Norman Gilbert, Australia – Jill Feger and Becky Spencer, The Bahamas – Adam Ames and Terese Hopper, Brazil – Heath Berthiaume and Stephanie Hillsgrove, Canada – Tom Ryan, Chile – Mike Mansfield and Liz Sheing, China – Mary Caverly and Lindsay Sleeper, Egypt – C.J. Duffy and David Snell, England – Jamie Coigley and Jenni Zirpolo, Ethiopia – Shane Carr, Germany – Megan Audette and Katie Brooks, Greece – Marc Levasseur and Patrick Quinn, Ireland – Joshua Kern and Shaine LaBar, Italy – Justine Houghton, Japan – Kim Russell, Kenya – Sarah Harper and Kristen Levesque, Mexico – Richard DeFlumeri and Richard White, New Zealand – Bill Beaupre, Russia – Matt Cook-Hamer, Scotland – Julie St. Sauveur and Erin Wood, South Africa – Joshua Dearnley, Sweden – Dan Laurin and Tyler Lowthian, Switzerland – Nick Hallin and Keith Waterman, and Vietnam – David Bailey and Dennis Callahan Jr.

**50-DAY ADVENTURE
 AT THE BAY CHURCH**

The Bay Church of Alton Bay is joining congregations across North America on a 50-Day Spiritual Adventure. This event will run from February 22 - April 12. It was created by Mainstay Church Resources in 1980 and has become an annual event. The topic this year ("Untapped Miracles for Tapped-Out Christians...") was developed from input given by pastors and lay people across the country and, as always, is built around eight weekly themes.

Members of all ages can participate. There will be an age-graded workbook, called an Adventure Journal, to complete with weekly assignments that deal with the eight topics. One of the highlights will be the Wednesday evening small groups which will convene following a Family Night Supper in the Lombard Center Dining Hall. The first supper will be on Wednesday, February 25.

Pastor Bob Hett said that he is delighted that The Bay Church can be a part of this global event. "I can't wait to see the impact on our church and other churches around the world as we tap into the wonderful miracles God has available to us. That's what we're all looking forward to during this eight-week series," he continued.

If you would like to be part of the Adventure, visit the Bay Church or call 875-6765 for more information. Materials will be on display beginning Sunday, February 1, in the Moore Chapel during the morning service.

SENIOR CITIZENS CORNER
by Nancy Mooney



Let us spread our LOVE so it will Overflow and reach far down into Vain hearts conditioned by Pavlov Ending hate and ignorant prejudicE

First and foremost, above all else, the senior citizens express their deepest gratitude to all the utility workers who labored tirelessly to restore our power, phones, and cables during January's terrible ice storm. These workers, whether local or from other areas, are our heroes, and we cannot thank them enough!

The attendance at our January meeting surpassed our expectations! Maybe some of you attended because it was a place to go to get warm, but we like to think your interest in your Association is increasing.

We have many activities to look forward to in the coming months. Ginny Myers, trip coordinator, handed out travel brochures listing various trips we could take. Make sure you let her know the type of trip you are interested in so she can start reserving the times. We probably will have at least twelve trips between April and October. Remember that there is a reimbursement to members on trips costing more than \$39.

Mark July 18 and October 3 on your calendars now. The first date will be an all American Ham dinner with potato salad and other delights, including apple pie a la mode. The October dinner will feature our famous corned beef and cabbage plate with a variety of desserts. Both will take place at the Community Center on Pearson Road. Evelyn Nardo and Tony Mariano have volunteered to coordinate these events.

Our new 1/20 club will start in May with sales of tickets. Liz Roberts has agreed to chair this function. The first drawing will take place in July.

Tony Mariano has also volunteered to oversee a flea market that we will hold in July.

We agreed that we should do more to encourage new members to join our group. We know that there are many of you out there, 60 and older, who would really enjoy getting up to the Center once in a while to take part in the activities. Jeanette Barton has volunteered to develop publicity for a membership drive, which will get underway soon. In the meantime, please feel free to call me at 875-3374 or Claire at the center, 875-7102, to get further information about the Alton Senior Citizens Association. Welcome, also, to two members who joined us recently: Carole and Ernie Johnson!

At the February 11 meeting (1 p.m.) we will have a Chinese checkers tournament with prizes going to the winner. Valentine favors will be given out, and there will be special refreshments. We know you will make every effort to attend.

Happy Valentine's Day — and let us at least think for a minute or two about Presidents Washington and Lincoln as we celebrate their contributions on February 16.

FIRST TIME HOME BUYERS SEMINAR FEBRUARY 25



A free community service seminar for the First Time Home Buyer will be presented by CFX Mortgage company and NHHFA on Wednesday, February 25 at 7 p.m. at the CENTURY 21 Gemini Realty Office at the Alton traffic circle. Please call 875-2100 to

reserve a seat. Refreshments and free babysitting will be available.

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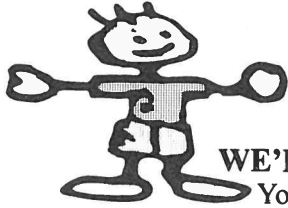
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FOR THE FUN OF IT
by Kellie McGrath
Recreation Director

WE'RE OFF INTO FEBRUARY...

Your Parks and Recreation Department has put together a schedule of worthwhile activities for the month of February. Here they are along with a few major events in the months thereafter.

Body Works with Melanie Tidd, AFAA Certified Instructor

Strength training and muscle toning program open to men and women of all ages. The program is fun and the perfect compliment to your cardiovascular workout. Classes are held at the Alton Bay Community Center Tuesdays 6 - 7 p.m., and Thursdays 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. Program fee is \$3/class or \$20 for a four-week session. New participants are welcome. Drop in anytime.

Country Line Dancing for Adults of All Ages

Participants will learn new dances every week. Great exercise in a fun atmosphere. Classes are held on Tuesdays at the Alton Bay Community Center from 2 - 4 p.m. Program fee is \$3 every six months. Drop in anytime. Dances can be modified for different levels of ability.

Alton Bay Winter Carnival February 15

See separate story on page 3 concerning this major annual event.



Ghost Busting at the Alton Town Hall

For students in Grades 6-8. Spend the night with the ghost of the Alton Town Hall and see for yourself if the ghost stories are true. Friday, February 27 (during school vacation week), Alton Town Hall, 7 p.m. through to 7 a.m. Registration fee is \$10 and includes pizza, ice cream sundaes, movies, popcorn, games and more. Last year was fun, but this year we will have a blast telling ghost stories, playing games and hanging out. Bring a pillow and sleeping bag. Registration is limited. Make sure to register before February 13. This program is organized and supervised by the Parks and Recreation Staff.

Teen Dance for Grades 6-8

The February Teen Dance is Friday, February 20 at the Alton Bay Community Center from 7 - 9:30 p.m. Snacks will be served. \$3 admission. (The next Teen Dance will be March 20).

Movie Day, Ages 7-12

New release movie "Air Bud" rated PG, will be shown on Saturday, February 21, at the Alton Town Hall from 10 a.m. - 12 noon. Popcorn and juice will be served. Great social opportunity for the kids and time for parents to do errands. Supervision is provided. Fee is \$1. Be sure to sign up at the Parks and Recreation Department before February 13.

IN THE FOLLOWING MONTHS

Karate Lessons, Ages 6-14

Kwoon Karate Academy of Self-Defense will be held on Tuesdays, March 3-31 from 3 - 4 p.m. at the Alton School in the cafeteria. Class fee is \$25. The program will teach three levels of control: restraint of self, verbal control, and positive thinking. Students will learn physical skills including agility,

power, strength and self-defense with the understanding of five basic rules: effort, etiquette, sincerity, self-control and character. Great exercise and learning of new skills. Wear clothes that allow for movement. Be sure to sign up for this program by February 24.

Foxwoods Casino Trip

Tuesday, April 7, trip to Ledyard, CT, for adults 21 and over. Leave Town Hall at 6 a.m. and leave Foxwoods at 7 p.m. Experience the excitement of the casino and try your luck on gaming tables, slot machines, Keno, and bingo in the 3200 seat Bingo Hall \$29 per person, includes round trip coach from Alton, tour host on the bus, \$10 food voucher, \$2 Keno and \$3 pull tabs. Packets may be purchased for Bingo on the bus for \$5. Bring your own snacks and food. We will not stop for breakfast. There will be a 10-minute rest stop. The trip is limited to 45 persons, so register early.

Register at the Parks and Recreation Department by March 20. For more information call 875-0109



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by Officer Steven T. Holly
Community Liaison Officer

STOP MEANS REALLY STOP!

People were calling it the worst storm of the century and I'm sure that clean up will be going on for some time into the future. I am happy to say that nobody was seriously hurt in town during the storm and everyone is getting back to normal. As I am writing this, many of the residents are still without electricity and the power crews are out working diligently to restore the power.

Thanks To So Many

I'd like to take a moment and mention all the men and women who have worked so hard in keeping everyone safe, and trying to keep life as close to normal as possible. Power crews from all over the country have come here to help us out, telephone crews, tree crews, fire department, and many other volunteers have been out around the clock. I think we all owe everyone who has worked so hard a big thank-you. I would especially like to thank Ken Roberts and his highway crew for their dedication and personal sacrifices in keeping Alton's roads open. It is times like these when you are reminded of their importance. In working as closely as I do with the Highway Department on a day-to-day basis, it is apparent to me how much these men care about Alton's residents. Without these dedicated men working long, hard hours, our roads would not stay safe and passable.

Now, About Those Stop Signs...

Stop signs have once again become a problem. When you come to a stop sign you must come to a *complete* stop before continuing. There are no exceptions. For instance, the stop sign where Old New Durham road intersects the traffic circle. Even at 2 a.m., when there are very few cars on the road, a complete stop is still required. We have been doing strict enforcement of this recently because it has become such a problem with motorists not obeying this law. The strict enforcement is not to inconvenience you, but to protect you and other motorists. Please be careful to stop at these signs. Not doing so may cost you a ticket, or a life!

Check out our website at www.altonpd.worldpath.net!

Also, stay safe and warm! For questions or comments please contact me at 875-3752 or hollywd@worldpath.net.

CLASSIFIED ADS

Alton residents may place classified ads in any issue of Main Street. As a public service ads are primarily for *noncommercial* private individuals who have items for sale, items or services wanted, free items, personals, or help wanted notices. The rate is \$1 for each noncommercial ad of 35 words or less. Each additional 35 words costs \$1. The rate for commercial ads is \$12.50 per column inch. Main Street reserves the right to refuse any ad, or edit it for length/style. Ads must be submitted with payment to Post Office Box 210, Alton Bay 03810, by the 15th of the month preceding publication. Submissions may also be placed in the Main Street box at the Alton branch of the Farmington Bank. Ads **must** contain a phone number.

FOR SALE

TONNEAU VINYL COVER for 8' pick-up truck, black, with snaps and removable aluminum frame, \$65, or b/o. 875-3060, leave msg. for Mark.

TOSHIBA AUTO AM-FM CASSETTE DECK with 4 speakers. Excellent set with great sound, \$100, or b/o. 875-3060. leave msg. for Mark.

CABOT PAINTS/FINISHES, left over from house construction: 15 gal. ovt solid color acrylic stain sw desert wood, 12 gal. primer white 8011, 5 gal. wood cleaner 8002, \$175 for lot, or b/o. 875-5544

BEDROOM SET, 3 or 4 pieces, bed adjusts to a double or queen size, excellent condition. 875-5600

HOUSE FURNISHINGS: Camelback couch, like new; metal utility cabinets (2); full length mirrors (2) and other mirrors; queen comforter set; pictures; white wicker plant stands (2); palm tree house plants (2); all items very reasonable price. 875-6337, leave msg.

SALES SPACE ON VOTING DAY

Voting for Town and School Officers and the School District Warrant will take place from 7 a.m. - 7 p.m. at the Central Fire Station on Route 140 on Tuesday, March 10.

A limited amount of sales space (baked goods, raffle tickets, calendar sales, etc.) for community organizations will be available on a first-come, first-served basis. Requests for space must be submitted to the Town Clerk to insure a reservation.

TEN YEARS AGO . . .

. . . Pam Andrade was named Alton's new Town Administrator. . .the Alton Lioness Club distributed special identification tags to children in kindergarten through fourth grade in Alton and New Durham. . .students were preparing for "Winter Wonderland," the 53rd Annual Carnival Ball. . .Main Street was sponsoring "Meet the Candidates Night" at the Alton Town Hall . . .a snow sculpture contest was announced by the Chamber of Commerce.

FIVE YEARS AGO . . .

. . .The Alton 2000 Association was established for the purpose of encouraging a positive vision for the future of the community. . .Bonnie Simpson was awarded the title of New Hampshire Home Economics Teacher of the Year. . .Heather Swabowicz and Keri Pelletier, Seniors at Alton Central School, were honored with flowers, commemorative plaques and game balls after each of them had scored 1000 points in her basketball career.

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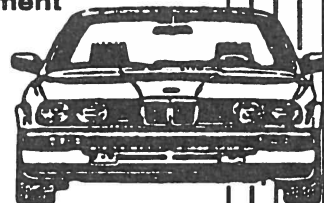


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ABOUT THE ELECTIONS NEXT MONTH

By Gwendolyn Jones, Alton Town Clerk

The Election of Town Officers and the School District Election (two elections) will be held on Tuesday, March 10, at the Alton Central Fire Station on Rt. 140. The Polling hours are 7 a.m. - 7 p.m. Absentee ballots will be available for both elections. Ballots for the Town election will be available at the Office of the Town Clerk. Ballots for the School District election will be available from the School District Clerk, Cynthia Duffek, at the Alton Central School. Town ballots will be available approximately February 13.

An application for absentee ballot must be filled out by each voter. Application forms can be mailed to you by request. We do require original signatures on the application so fax applications cannot be accepted. Ballots must be mailed or hand delivered to the voter and returned to the Town Clerk's office by 5 p.m. on Monday, March 9, the day before the election.

The Supervisors of the Checklist will be meeting on Saturday, February 28, from 10 a.m. - 12 noon to add new voters. This will be the last session before Town Meeting. You may, however, register to vote in person at the polls on election day.

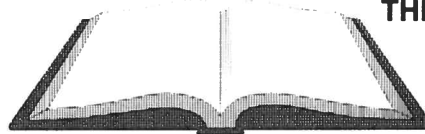
ELECTION DAY VOLUNTEERS SOUGHT FOR MARCH 10

Town Moderator John Duffek is seeking volunteers to staff the polls for the Town and School Elections and the School District Warrant on March 10. Individuals will be needed to check in voters, provide voter assistance and booth supervision, and count ballots at the close of the polls.

Any registered voter interested in helping should call Duffek at 369-4441.

THE CHECKOUT DESK

by Holly Brown Librarian



THEY ARE HERE!!!

The new shelves have arrived! We have begun the process of putting the books in their proper places. This is a long involved process which requires a few people working on a small section at a time. It is also necessary that a librarian or someone with library experience be present at all times. Experience in working with the Dewey Decimal System is helpful. Many of you have offered to help us reshelve books. Your thoughtfulness and enthusiasm is greatly appreciated. We have found that, due to various interruptions, it seems to be easier to reshelve books on Tuesday, Thursday, and Sunday when the library is not open for circulation.

Those of you who may still be interested in volunteering to help with this particular project, please give us a call. If these days are not convenient for you, don't despair. We may need your help in the future.

We would like to take this time to thank everyone for their patience and understanding concerning the matter of organizing our collection.

The railings on our wheelchair access ramp are in place and ready to be painted, although they may not be painted until weather conditions are more favorable. As long as there are not "wet paint" signs on the railings, please feel free to use the ramp. In the event that they are not painted until spring, we can be thankful they are made of galvanized steel and should not rust.



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