

Alton's

Main Street

Volume XXI Number 2

Alton, New Hampshire - February, 2005

Complimentary

SANBORN BROTHERS REUNITED IN IRAQ

From an open letter to Main Street

Dear Main Street, My name is SSG Howard T. Sanborn II and I am writing to you from Bagram A.F. in Afghanistan. I would like to let you know that my sons were able to meet while being deployed to Iraq. My son Tony has been in Iraq since last March and is stationed at Tallil A.B. in Nasiriya. His older brother Howie deployed for his second tour in Iraq just before Thanksgiving.

After a short stay in Kuwait my son Howie was headed to the northern part of Iraq in mid-December and his Company stopped in Tallil for fuel. He called Tony to let him know he would be in the area for the day and asked him if it would be possible to meet. Tony was given the time and they were able to spend the day together talking about what brothers talk about. They had not seen each other in nearly a year and they were both thrilled about getting together. It's one thing to have a family reunion back home but when you can have one in the middle of a war zone, it is truly a blessing and it really boosts the morale. I'm here in Afghanistan and upon hearing that my sons were able to get together I was excited for them.

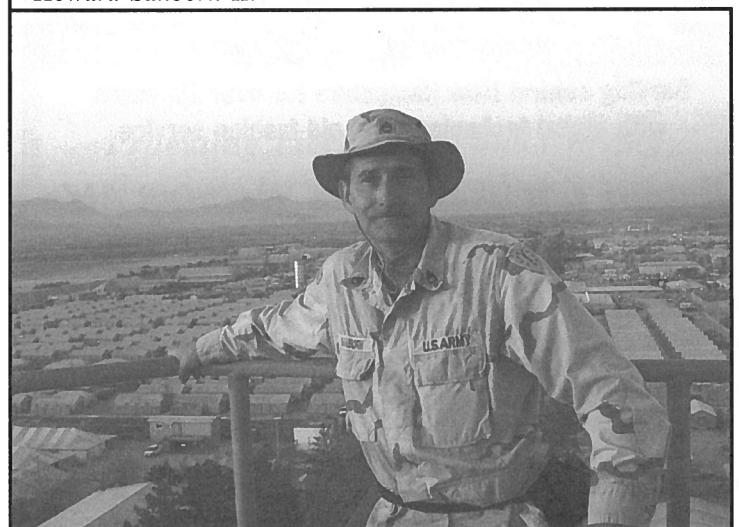
My son Howie is an Airborne Ranger with the 519th MI Bn and will be in Iraq until next January. Tony is in the NHARNG and is with the HHB 197th FAB and is due home the beginning of March. Their older sister, Jaime, was on the USS Harry S Truman which deployed to the gulf in October but has recently returned to the states. I am a member of the NHARNG, with the 210th Engr. Det. and have been in Afghanistan since last March. We should be returning to the states the end of February.

It's been a long year and I am happy that I will soon be home. My experiences here will be memorable ones. I feel we have done and will continue to do the right thing, not only for the United States but for the Afghani people. The large majority of the people here are very thankful for what we have done and for what we continue to do. To those who have supported me, my kids and my wife, Carol, who's been

dealing with the ever day issues back home, I am truly thankful. I would also like to thank the Main Street for sending me a copy of the paper so I could keep up to date on the happenings in Alton.



*Above: Howie and Tony Sanborn enjoy a brief visit in Iraq.
Below: Howard Sanborn II in Afghanistan. Photos courtesy of Howard Sanborn II.*





Main Street

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Alice Calvert, President and Publisher; Dick Cunningham, Vice President; Jean Stone, Treasurer; Barbara Cunningham, Secretary; Jim and Fran Washburn, Yvonne Whalley, Yvonne Lauziere and Judith Pellowe, Directors.

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Editor.....Judith Pellowe
Advertising Manager.....Jean Stone
Subscription Manager.....Purr Whalley
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Advertising: Jean Stone, phone (603) 875-4000 fax: (603) 875-5399

email jeanstone@metrocast.net

Editorial: Alice Calvert 875-2151,

or e-mail Judith Pellowe altonms@yahoo.com

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Main Street Disclaimer

Views expressed in Main Street reflect the opinion of the individual writer and are not necessarily the opinions of the Main Street Board. While we make every effort to publish information that is correct and accurate, we cannot verify all materials submitted.

ALTON COMMUNITY SERVICES NEWS By Dorothee S. Wentworth, Director

A dinner was held at the William Tell Restaurant to honor the many volunteers of the Alton Community Services for the completion of our fifth year. Mrs. Sandra MacDonald and Mrs. Purr Whalley joined our board of directors.

We are entering our sixth year in serving Alton. The continued support of the Town of Alton, the cooperation of the churches, the many faithful volunteers and the generosity of many donors of food and monies we are are most fortunate. The money from the Cogswell Trust outfitted our office with a new Dell computer and furniture. We would like a volunteer to put the computer to better use for us.

We miss Kitty Croes who has moved out of state. Elizabeth Sweeney is sorely missed. Our volunteers who picked up food in Manchester and Concord so willingly are unable to do so because of health problems. You have started a trend others will pick up.

St. Vincent dePaul has donated \$6,000 ACS gave \$5300 for direct care this year, The Community Church \$481, \$4072 was used to purchase food supplies. ACS was able to furnish the turkeys for the American Legion Christmas Baskets that had been donated for that purpose.

Our books have been audited by Barbara Ingoldsby and Dorothy Folsom and found to be in very good order.

We ask that you continue to remember us in your prayers as well as our clients. One client was so downhearted when she first started coming to the pantry. She expressed that the volunteers helped her to bring her self esteem back. Another client is on disability less that \$600 a month. She pays her modest rent and trying to make payments on past medical bills.

What matters more than the type of service we give are the feelings behind the service. 'If we serve for personal gain and not for love of those we serve, it spoils our gift.'

-Anon.

DOG LICENSE REMINDER

Your current dog license will expire on April 30.

License fees are as follows:

Male/Female - \$10.00

Neutered/Spayed - \$7.50

First dog of senior citizen over 65 - \$2.00

PLEASE CALL THE TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE IF YOU NO LONGER HAVE YOUR DOG OR YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS - 875-2101 - THANK YOU!!

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BELKNAP COUNTY CONSERVATION NEWS**Think "Spring Planting"****By Jan Hooper**

Soon, the Annual Tree, Shrub, and More Sale flyer from Belknap County Conservation District will be available. If you would like to be added to the mailing list, please contact the District with either your email or regular mailing address at 527-5880 or belknap@belknapccd.org. It will feature a wide variety of plants with conservation, food or wildlife value. Some of the new plant items for this year are: Buffaloberry, Ninebark, Crowberry, American Mountain Ash, Nannyberry (highly prized for jams and jellies), a Hybrid Poplar, and the dwarf Little King River Birch. Also new is the Blueberry Cookbook and Wondrous Willow Package containing 4 types of willows. We're still finalizing what will be in the wildlife, butterfly, lilac, and turkey packages. The "Wildlife Habitat Area" signs and "Outwitting Deer" book, will be available again. Please contact us soon so we can get the materials to you when they are just off the press for this annual fundraiser.

TOWN AND SCHOOL ELECTIONS**By Lisa Waterman, Town Clerk**

The Town and School Elections (2 separate ballots) will be held on Tuesday, March 8 from 7am to 7pm in the gymnasium at the Prospect Mountain High School on Route 28S (Suncook Valley Rd.). The Town Meeting will be the following night at the Prospect Mountain High School in the auditorium at 7pm.

Absentee ballots for the town election only may be picked up at the Town Clerks office around February 21. You must a registered voter to receive an absentee ballot. The last day to register to vote is February 25 at the Town Clerks office, with the Supervisors of the Checklist on Saturday, February 26th between 11-11:30am or on election day.

A limited amount of tables are available at the election for any non-profit organization to sell products, raffle tickets, etc. Contact the Office of the Town Clerk at 875-2101 if your group is interested.

MOMS IN TOUCH UPDATE**By Phyllis Brooks**

With the start of the New Year, we have a new member. Melissa has opened her home to us, to meet each Tuesday night at 7pm. We will no longer meet at the Gilman Library. Also, Kim Tinkham continues the Day Time meetings at her home every Thursday, at 1pm. During the winter months it would be a good idea to call first to be sure the meeting is not cancelled. Phyllis (875-2866 Evenings) Kim (875-8173 Days).

Just a reminder that we are just a bunch of local moms from all walks of life, joining together in prayer once a week to pray for our children and their school. Hope you can join us. Please feel free to call for directions or more information about our group.

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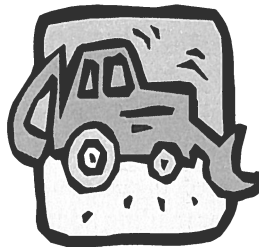
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Welcome to February! Happy Valentine's day, the month of cupid! Here at the highway, we have been going over our routes, continuously scrapping and sanding and plowing the snow.

There is a pile of sand across the roadway from the highway dept. that you are welcome to for your driveways, unfortunately there is a limit of only 2 five gallon buckets per storm, due to budget reasons. Thank you for your understanding.

Another reminder please keep a safe distance from all emergency plow vehicles, 200 feet would be a safe distance. Your safety and the safety of the driver HAS to be a priority. We are trying very hard to keep the roads open and safe for your travel.

Don't forget March 8th (Tues) elections, they will be at the Prospect Mtn. School, and the town meeting is March 9th (Wed), also at the Prospect Mtn. School. Hope to see you all there.

As always we thank you for your calls of concerns and ask you not to hesitate to keep your calls coming, it's you that make Alton a better place to live.

LAKES REGION CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S CLUB

By Karen Poor

"Does your life have speed bumps and detours?" If you answered "Yes", you might want to come to our next luncheon to learn how you can handle this travel route in your life. Our special speaker, Carole Casey of Barrington, will tell us, with humor and grace, how to straighten and smooth our road.

Our luncheon meeting will be held at Maurice's Family Restaurant, Rt. 25, Moultonborough, NH on Wednesday, February 9th, from 11am to 1pm. The entrée, dessert and beverages are \$13.00 inclusive.

Our special feature will be Bonnie Neff, of Alton, whose expertise is in "Home Interiors and Gifts." Think of this as "the home by the side of the road, well traveled, seminar" and join us for an enjoyable meeting.

Reservations can be made by calling Melissa in Alton 776-2224, Faith in Gilford 293-8073 or Mary in Moultonborough 284-6873 by Sun., Feb 6. All reservations must be honored or cancelled by that date. Child care is provided by reservation. Bring a brown bag lunch for your child.

This program is sponsored by "The Lakes Region Christian Women's Club" a non-denomination group with no formal membership or dues required.

IN Main Street

FIFTEEN YEARS AGO . . .

...On January 15, Chris Irvin scored his 1000th point for the ACS basketball team...Sporting activities are planned for parts of the ten days of the Annual Winter Carnival. Peter Coats and Wendy St.Laurent were chosen King and Queen... Sophomore Amelia McKinney won a Golden Key Award in the Boston Globe Scholastic Art competition...The Senior Class is planning a Juried Craft Fair in June to benefit the class trip to New York City...

TEN YEARS AGO . . .

...The Library Building Fund received a gift of \$10,000 in memory of Dr. George Marks and \$15,000 from the Cogswell Benevolent Trust (for the Library offices and work area). The second year of the Fund is going very well...Alton Central School Senior, John Herman, was winner of a Voice Of Democracy essay sponsored by the Willson Hunt Post 6806, VFW in Farmington. Second place went to Senior, Robert Boyce... David Overall was one of 15 chosen to be a member to play with the Northeast Soccer Club. They will play matches in Germany, Holland, Belgium and England in April...

FIVE YEARS AGO . . .

...Over one hundred residents attended a Special Town Meeting called to provide guidance on what course to follow because of the "Donor" town taxes that Alton must pay for education next year. The group voted to withhold \$543,942 and put it in escrow. They also voted to participate in litigation to declare the law(HB 999) unconstitutional... N.H. Department of Transportation removed the house at junction of the Letter S Road and Route 11. It was done to shore up the retaining wall along Route 11... A public meeting was held to discuss the future of Route 11 from Echo Shores to Ellacoya State Park. About forty residents attended. The by-pass has been discussed since the 50's and 60's. The longer the DOT waits, the more costly it will be, thus the greater the delay before it gets accomplished.

ALTON KNITTING CIRCLE CONTINUES, PROJECTS ON DISPLAY By Linda Howard Hess

Alton's Circle of Knitters has been meeting regularly since September. We enjoy getting together to knit, share ideas, learn new skills, and provide help and encouragement when needed. Skill levels vary from beginner to experienced, and anyone is welcome to join us downstairs in the Library from eleven to one on Tuesdays. We have no agenda, no rules, no refreshments and no responsibilities. The only requirement is to enjoy knitting and knitters.

Some of the projects that knitters have been working on will be displayed on the main floor of the library throughout the month of February.

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ICE HOCKEY AT PROSPECT MOUNTAIN HIGH SCHOOL

By Detective Grant Nichols

December 29, 2004 marked the birth of Ice Hockey at Prospect Mountain High School. A total of sixteen students joined Principal Russ Holden, School Resource Officer Grant Nichols and Administrator Jason Hills for a game played at the Laconia Ice Arena.

Though there was no official score keeping, it appears that the team led by Detective Nichols "lit the lamp" against Mr. Holden's team just a few more times that afternoon. Mr. Holden was quoted as saying "My Goaltender, Mr. Hills just wasn't prepared for the likes of the Nick Divito (10+ goals), and Detective Nichols 11 year old son Jonathan (5 goals), they shelled him". Holden went on to say "It was a great event. This club is just one example of the things we are doing at Prospect Mountain to strengthen the relationship between students from the communities of Alton and Barnstead".

Dick Wallace, Chairman of Alton's Children's Youth Activities group generously donated \$120 towards the event that afternoon. The balance of the \$180 fee for ice time was paid by the participants.

By the time this story goes to print, the club will have met in Laconia for its second game. The cost for this

second event was paid for by Leroy Plumbing and Heating of Barnstead. The Leroy family is the quintessential Hockey families who are no strangers to Ice Arenas throughout the state. The Leroy's, along with several other families in Alton and Barnstead are extremely supportive of the idea of Ice Hockey being an official team sport at PMHS sometime in the future.

The short range plans for the club are to register with USA Hockey and start playing competitively this spring. Detective Nichols is in the process of putting together a team for a 3 on 3 league which starts in April at the Rinks in Exeter. He is also conducting research into a High School Recreation League which also starts this spring at the same facility.

There has been a Faculty Vs. Students Hockey game tentatively scheduled for February 23, 2005 from 4pm - 5pm at the Laconia Ice Arena. There will be a bus available to take students and a limited number of residents to the game. A number of local celebrities have expressed an interest in playing and we are working on a plan to have refreshments available. For more information or if you are interested in volunteering, please contact Detective Nichols at PMHS, 875-3800 x3146 or by e-mail det.nichols@comcast.net

Anyone with questions or an interest in supporting the Timber Wolves Hockey Club through donations, volunteer coaching, etc., can also contact Detective Nichols at the contacts listed above.

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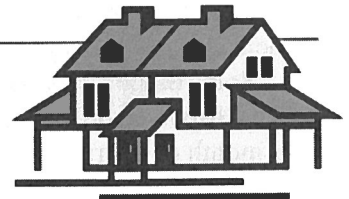
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ALTON OUTDOORS By Jack Miller

The month of February is a middle month—the middle of winter! Cold temperatures, deep snow and thick ice on our lakes and ponds are what the outdoor person can look forward to this month. So...what is one to do? Go ice fishing! The ice SHOULD be safe now, but be careful. Always check the ice thickness as you so out. I remember one year we had a warm spell with lots of rain. Fishermen had to bring their bobhouses off the Big Lake because big holes opened up in the ice. The safety of the ice is up to Mother Nature.

There are some ice fishing derbies this month that can provide some prizes, as well as fish, if you are lucky. February 6th, an ice fishing derby sponsored by Pelletier's Sports Shop in Jaffrey, will be held on Contoocook Lake, from 7:30am-3:00pm. Call 603-532-7180 for more information.

February 5th & 6th offers the largest derby in the state, the Great Rotary Fishing Derby, with the registration station in Meredith. There is big money and prizes in many categories. Go to www.meredithrotary.org for more info.

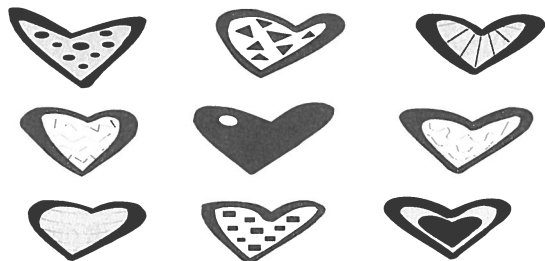
February 20th is Brookline Recreation Commission's 13th annual fishing derby from 6:00am-3:00pm on Lake Potanipo and Melendy Pond. Info is at 603-672-4541.

If you would rather be indoors this month, Feb. 10-13 is the Eastern Fishing and Outdoor Exposition in Worcester, MA. More info can be had at www.sportshows.com. This is a big hunting and fishing show. Plan to spend several hours there.

For the hunter, the snowshoe hare hunting season is open through this month. Get some snow shoes, a shotgun, or a 22 rifle, and take a walk to shake cabin fever. Snowshoes can be found in thick cover or swamp edges. Their white fur makes a tough target on the white snow.

Coyotes are hunt-able all year long and there are quite a few in the local areas. They are very hungry at this time of year, and have already taken down a deer close to my home. They can be called with a predator call—maybe. The very best of hunting techniques will be needed to bag one of these wary animals.

Good luck.



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FOR THE FUN OF IT
By Kellie Troendle, CPRP
Parks and Recreation Director

Alton Winter Festival

The Alton Parks and Recreation Department is sponsoring its annual Winter Festival on Saturday, February 19 from 1-3pm at the Alton Bay Bandstand on Lake Winnepesaukee. We are rocking the bay with music, games and memory making events. Check out the planes, snowmobiles, ice fishing and dont forget to sign up for the special events and get a good spot to watch the Great Alton Bay Bed Race. All ages are welcome. Please dress warm for the weather. Events include: 1pm: D.J. Music and Ice Bowling; 1:30pm: Family Scavenger Hunt; 2pm: Snowshoe Walk; 2:45pm: Parade of Beds and **3pm- The Great Alton Bay Bed Race-** 5 person team (four people push and one person rides) bed to finish line, no cleats permitted, any size bed is ok, themed beds are welcome and encouraged, prizes will be awarded. 11am-3pm- Snowmobile Club Radar Run. The NHAA Fly-In is scheduled for all day. Please observe planes from a safe distance and please note that pedestrians are prohibited from the runway. Come out and play with us!!

Senior Bingo

Co-Sponsored by Profile Bank

Join in the fun as we play novelty Bingo games at the Pearson Road Community Center on Friday, February 18 at 1pm. Prizes will be awarded and refreshments will be served. Come by and meet new people. The program is free to Alton Seniors.

Saturday Social

We are sponsoring a Valentine Party on February 12 at the Alton Bay Community Center for students in grades 2-6 from 10am-12pm, \$5.00. We will decorate heart shaped boxes and cookies and make creative Valentine cards. We will play Twister, bingo and have a scavenger hunt. Please register by February 7.

Pre-School Program

Program is sponsored for children 3-5 years old. Children must be toilet trained. We meet at the Alton Bay Community Center on Mondays from 9-10:30am. The pro-

gram fee is \$3.00 per day. Our programs are designed to provide social interaction and teach cooperation and sharing with an introduction to parental separation. Snacks are included each day. Parents are welcome to stay and participate. Pre-registration is required.

February 7- Color and Shapes Bingo- We will have fun and learn about colors and shapes by playing bingo. We will also play cooperative games.

February 14- Happy Valentines Day Party- Join the party by making Valentines for our special friends and family. We will decorate heart shaped cookies and play games.

February 21- Kite Creations- Lets go fly a kite. We will make a unique kite for our own, take it for a ride outside and play indoor games.

February 28- Fun with Dora- Exploring and learning new things is our task today. We will have a great adventure with Dora by playing games, going on a scavenger hunt and making a craft project.

Mens Basketball

35 years and over

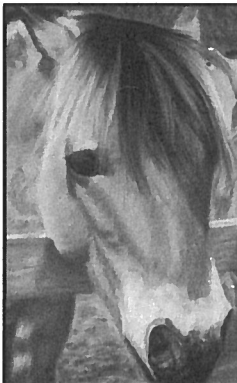
Men over 35 years young who are looking to play basketball are invited to join the three on three pick up games at the Prospect Mountain High School on Sunday evenings from 6pm-8pm. The program is free and players are asked to please use the gym entrance. For more information please contact Mike Akstin at 776-2719 or the Alton Parks and Recreation Department.

Youth Recreation Basketball Program

Over 110 students in kindergarten through sixth grade are playing basketball in the Parks and Recreation Basketball program. Alton is playing teams from New Durham, Gilmanton, and Somersworth. The Parks and Recreation Department would like to acknowledge and thank the coaches for all of their time, patience and hard work. The players are having a great time learning new skills, making life long friends, getting a lot of exercise and most importantly having fun. To find your teams schedule online please visit our website. A sincere thank you also to the Alton Central School and Prospect Mountain High School for sharing their gymnasiums with our department. Because of the players, coaches, parents and the schools accommodations this program was able to be successful. Thank you.

Parks and Recreation Commission

The Parks and Recreation Commission is looking for volunteers who would like to serve on the Commission. The Commission meets one time per month and helps the department plan programs, facilitate special events and plan for the future recreational needs of the community. The next meeting is Tuesday, February 8 at 7:30pm at A.V.A.S. Public Park. Please call for more information or stop by to see what we are up to. Together we are creating community through people, parks and programs.



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DAF

NEWS FROM THE ALTON YOUTH LEAGUE

By Lynda Goossens, Secretary

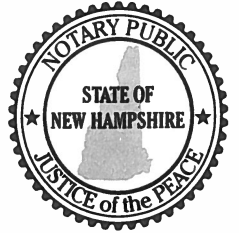
Greetings! We are gearing up for the 2005 season and a lot of decisions are being made. We are still missing a few uniforms. Please contact Kerri Symonds at 859-0045 if you have any. Registration dates will be March 10th from 5-8pm, March 12th from 9am to 12, and March 13th from 9am to 1pm. These will all take place in the basement of the Gilman Library. A complete list of events for the season should be available at registration.

The board has always tried to keep the registration cost to a minimum, but unfortunately several factors have necessitated an increase for this year. These factors include an increase in our charter fees and insurance costs, as well as the need to replace the uniforms that are missing. The new fee schedule is as follows: Tee Ball and Rookies \$40, Minors and Majors \$50. You can lower your fees by volunteering for a few hours. We need people to line and rake the field at each home game, run the snack shack, provide healthy team snacks for games, keep the score book, cook goodies for the town wide bake sale, provide items and work at the town wide yard sale.

The Board realizes that most of the families end up purchasing the raffle tickets themselves so we are considering selling 50/50 tickets and possibly raffling off new baseball equipment on Saturdays. If these initiatives are successful we may be able to eliminate the raffle tickets next year. Additionally, we are hoping to have a Home Run Derby as a new way to do some fundraising. The company is from Wolfeboro and other teams that have participated commented that it was an enjoyable and efficient way to hold a fundraiser. The players get to show off their skills, have fun, raise money for AYL, and earn some decent prizes. If you have any other fund raising ideas please share them with us.

Diamond Star Baseball/Softball hitting and pitching camps are being held in March and April. These are one-day camps that range in price from \$30 to \$40. For more information call Tom Underwood at 536-3139 or check them out on the web at www.diamondstarcamps.com. Another website to check out for information on training camps in the area is www.nhsoftball.baberuthnetwork.com.

The next meeting is Jan. 30th at 6pm in the basement of the Gilman Library. Please come and share your ideas.



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Notary Public
Justice of the Peace

Alton Fire/Rescue Dept.
Secretary/EMT

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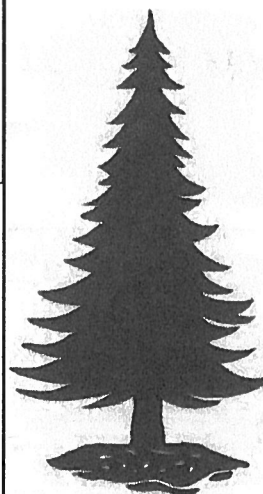
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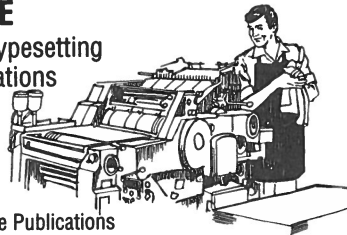
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ALTON CENTRAL SCHOOL READING & FAMILY FUN NIGHT By Dr. Jacqueline R. Verville

The Family Fun and Reading Night, held on January 11th was well attended and parents gave us wonderful feedback about the evening. Most parents thought that the evening was much more than anticipated and very nicely done. Some parents asked for lists of books that they could read with their children or tips on how to raise a good reader. We would like to provide such a workshop for parents in the near future.

The Reading Department's next event will be a Family Fun and Math Night on February 22nd for grades one through four. Baby-sitting will be available as well as refreshments. Please save the date and put it on your calendars. More information will be forthcoming. This will be an evening of educational math games that can be played with your children. Many of these games can be made at home to be played with your children. We hope you will come to support us and help your children make gains in their math skills.

We were not awarded the thousand dollars worth of books for celebrating the National Young Reader's Day at Alton Central School. Four schools in the mid west received the honor. Yes, we are disappointed! They have already scheduled the next National Young Reader's Day for next year, it will be held on November 8th. Please save the date!

Alton Central School will be on vacation on March 2, Dr. Seuss birthday. The nation commemorates this day with all kinds of celebrations. We at ACS hope to observe the birthday with festivities the week of March 14, if anyone in the community would like to join us in planning that week, please join us on February 2 in the Reading Room at 3:15pm.

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Clubs and Services

Newborn/Maternal Home Visits: Community Health & Hospice Young Family Program nurses provide free home visits for pregnant women who are Medicaid-eligible and also offer a free visit by a Registered Nurse to any parent of a newborn in the greater Lakes Region. The program teaches infant care, what to expect in their child's growth and development, and parenting skills. For more information, contact the Young Family Program at Community Health & Hospice at (603) 524-8444.

Shots For Tots, Teens, and In-Betweens: provides immunizations for children to age 19. For dates and location, contact the Young Family Program at Community Health & Hospice at (603) 524-8444.

"Caring Caregivers" Support Group: a support group for caregivers of the memory-impaired and others in long term caregiving situations. The day group generally meets on the first and third Monday of the month from 10:00 to 11:30am. The evening group meets on the first Tuesday of each month from 6:30 to 8pm. Regular meetings are held at Community Health & Hospice, 780 North Main Street, Laconia. Please contact Pat Marceau at CH&H (524-8444, ext. 343) for additional information.

Community Health & Hospice welcomes volunteers and provides training in all programs. For more information on volunteer opportunities please contact Bev Nelson, Volunteer Coordinator, at Community Health & Hospice, 780 N. Main Street, Laconia, NH 03246 or call (603) 524-4339, ext. 348 or (toll-free) (800) 244-8549 in New Hampshire.

Alton Senior Citizens Association Whist Club Mon. & Thurs. 1-3pm, Bingo Tues., Weds., & Fri. 1-2pm. Pearson Road Community Center. All are welcome.

FEBRUARY EVENTS

Wed 2 Budget Committee Public Hearing, 6pm, Town Hall (p.17)

Sat 12 - Sat 19 Book Sale, Gilman Library (p. 18)

Mon 14 Alton's Book Chat, 6:30pm, Gilman Library (p. 18)

Thur 17 Planning Board Citizen Planning Forum, 7pm, Town Hall, (p. 15)

Thur 17 Alton Information Exchange Meeting, 6:30pm, PMHS (p. 22)

Sat 19 Winter Festival, 1-3pm, Alton Bay Bandstand (p. 8)

Mon 23 IceHockey at Laconia Ice Arena (p. 6)

Mon 28 Ice Out Contest Deadline (p. 22)

Bereavement Support Group: Community Health & Hospice offers a Bereavement Support Group at Community Health & Hospice, 780 North Main Street, Laconia. Call Carolyn Stevenson, 524-8444, ext. 321 for more information.

Overeaters Anonymous: Overeaters Anonymous (OA) meets weekly on Thursdays at the Alton Bay Community Center on Route 11 from 5:30-6:30 pm. Also Tues., Cong Church Ossipee, Sat., Huggins Hospital Wolfeboro. Call 434-7578 for more information. All are welcome.

Young Family Program: the Community Health & Hospice is offering a free Ages and Stages Questionnaire (ASQ) to parents of children ages four months through five years. The ASQ is a parent-completed screening system to help identify children who should be referred for a comprehensive assessment for medical, special education, early childhood education, mental health, and social services. For more information or to request a questionnaire, call Carol at 524-4339, ext. 346.

Blood Pressure Clinics: Blood Pressure Clinics are held on the Second Thursday of the month from 10:30-noon, Alton Senior Center, Pearson Road.

American Red Cross Blood Services: Red blood cells have a shelf life of only forty-two days, so new reserves must be added to hospital inventories every day. If you would like information about becoming a regular blood donor, contact the American Red Cross Blood Services - New England Region at 1-800-843-3500, or go to www.newenglandblood.org/nh for a list of blood drives.

ORGANIZATIONS:

Alcoholics Anonymous -- Tue., 8 p.m., Alton Bay Comm. Ctr.
Alton Community Services Prog., Sat., 10 a.m. - 12 noon., 875-2273

Alton Masonic Lodge #75 -- 2nd Thu. except July & Aug., 875-7448

American Legion -- 2nd Mon., 8:30 p.m., Legion Hall, Rte 28
American Legion Auxiliary -- 2nd Mon., 6:30 p.m., Legion Hall
American Legion Jr. Auxiliary -- 1st Wed., 6:30 p.m., Legion Hall
American Legion Family--2nd Monday 7:30pm, Legion Hall
Sons of the American Legion, 2nd Monday, 6:30pm, Legion Hall
Boy Scout Troop 53 -- Mon, 6:30pm, Central Fire Station
Cub Scout Pack 53 -- Last Wed., 7 p.m., Legion Hall
4-H Club, see website <www.alton4H.org>

Flying Club -- 2nd Wed., 6:30 p.m., 859-7900

Friends of the Gilman Library -- 2nd Tue. (in season), Library
Garden Club -- 4th Tue. (in season), Congregational Mtg. House
Happy Hobby Doll Club -- 4th Fri., 7 p.m., 364-7413 for directions

Historical Society -- Watch for announcements of programs, Apr. - Oct.; Nov. - Mar., Museum open by request, 569-2629

Knights of Columbus -- 1st Wed., 7:30 p.m., Pearson Road Community Center

Lions Club -- 1st and 3rd Thu., The American Legion, 6:30 p.m.

Moms In Touch -- Tue., 12:30 p.m., 875-2866

Mt. Major Snowmobile Club -- 2nd Tue., 7 p.m., Sr. Center, 875-3858 or <info@mountmajorsnowmobileclub.com>

OES, Warren-Alpha #10, Wolfeboro -- 3rd Tue, 7:30 p.m., 539-7898

Overeaters Anonymous (OA), Thursdays, 5:30, Alton Bay Community Center. Call 434-7578

PTSA. -- 3rd Wed., Alton Central School HS Library, 7 p.m.

Senior Citizens -- 2nd Wed., 1 p.m., Pearson Road Community Center

VFW -- 3rd Mon., 7:30 p.m., Pearson Road Community Center

CALL 875-2151 TO UPDATE THE ABOVE LISTINGS

Information Center

SCHEDULES

CHURCHES:

- Baha'i Fireside -- not currently meeting
- Bay Church -- 9:30am Sunday School, Church on Rand Hill Rd, 11am Worship Service, ABCCC; Weds. Supper - 6:30pm, Prayer Meeting 7:30pm, Church on Rand Hill Rd. To confirm call 875-5211
- Community Church -- Sun. Service, 9am, Main Street Church Rev. Peter Bolster, Pastor; 875-5561
- First Free Will Baptist Church -- Sun. School, 9:45 am; Church, 11 am; Evening Service, 6 pm; Wed. Prayer Meeting, 7 pm; Depot St., New Durham; Pastor James Nason
- North Barnstead Congregational Church -- Sun. School and Worship Services, 10:30 am, 504 N. Barnstead Rd, Rev. Gray Fitzgerald
- St. Katharine Drexel -- Weekend Masses Sat. 4pm, Sun., 8:30am and 10:30am; weekday Masses, Mon. through Fri., 8am; Rev. George Ham; 569-2548
- Wolfeboro Bible Fellowship -- Sunday School, 9:30am; Worship Service, 10:30 am; Evening Service, 6pm; Wed. Prayer Meeting, 7 pm; Route 28; Pastor Scott Button
- GILMAN LIBRARY: 875-2550
Tue. and Thu., 11 am - 7 pm; Wed. and Fri., 9 am - 5 pm; Sat., 9 am - 1 pm; closed Sun. and Mon.
- GILMAN MUSEUM: Tue-Thu 10-2
- SENIOR MEAL SITE: 875-7102
Mon-Fri., 10am-2pm; Pearson Rd. Community Center
- SOLID WASTE CENTER: 875-5801
Sun., Mon., Fri., and Sat., 7am - 4:45pm.
Closed Tue., Wed., and Thu.
Rines Road Pit -- As of April 19, Sat. and Sun., 8 am - 2:45 pm.
- TOWN HALL: 875-2161
Selectmen's Office, Tax Collector, Town Administrator, Town Clerk, and Welfare Officer, 8:30 am - 4:30 pm.
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.

BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

- BELKNAP COUNTY COUNCIL FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES--Contact Dick Wallace, Alton Appointee, phone 875-8221
- BOARD OF SELECTMEN -- 1st & 3rd Mondays, 6pm. (re-plays on Channel 26 later in the week), Chairman Pat Fuller, call 875-2161 for appointment.
- BUDGET COMMITTEE -- 3rd Thursday (twice a week in "budget season"), 7 pm, Chairman Gregory Fuller, 875-7448.
- CEMETERY TRUSTEES -- Meetings posted at Town Hall and Post Office, Chairman Shirley Lane, 875-5864.
- CONSERVATION COMMISSION -- 2nd & 4th Thurs., 7 pm, Town Hall, Co-Chairs, Earl Bagley and Justine Gengras, 875-5095.
- FIRE WARDS -- 2nd Wednesday, 7 pm, Central Fire Station, Chairman Ken Roberts, 875-6808

- GILMAN MUSEUM COMMITTEE -- Meets 2nd Mon., 5pm at museum, add'l on call, Chairman Kathy Currier, 875-5095.
- LEVEY PARK TRUSTEES -- Meets on call, Chairman Dick Jones, 875-3855.
- PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION -- Meets on call, Chairman William Lionetta, 875-0109.
- PLANNING BOARD -- 2nd Monday, 7 p.m., Chairman Cynthia Balcius, call 875-5095 for appointment.
- SCHOOL BOARD -- 2nd & 4th Mondays, 6 pm, ACS Chairman Wayne Fraser, PMHS Chairman Cydney Johnson, call 875-7890 for appointment.
- SUPERVISORS OF THE CHECKLIST -- Meets on call, Chairman MaryBee Longabaugh, 875-5067.
- TRUSTEES OF THE GILMAN LIBRARY -- 3rd Tuesday, 3pm, Chairman Nancy Jordan, 875-2550.
- TRUSTEES OF TRUST FUNDS -- Meets on call, Chairman Joseph R. Houle, 875-7321.
- WATER COMMISSION -- 4th Wednesday, 9:30am, Water Works Office, Chairman Buddy Peterson, Vice-Chairman John Conboy, Commissioner Mal Simonds. 875-4200.
- ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT -- 1st Thursday, 7pm, Chairman Richard Quindley, 875-5095.

CALL 875-2151 TO UPDATE THE ABOVE LISTINGS OUR ELECTED OFFICIALS

U.S. SENATE

- 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
- John E. Sununu, 111 Russell Senate Office Building Washington DC 20510; Phones: (202) 224-2841, (603) 647-7500, Fax: (202) 228-4131; e-mail: mailbox@sununu.senate.gov

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

- Jeb Bradley, 1218 Longworth House Office Building, Washington DC 20515; Phones: (202) 225-5456, (603) 641-9536, Fax: (202) 225-5822; web site: www.house.gov/Bradley

N.H. EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

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

N.H. SENATE

- Robert Boyce, 875-7371, e-mail: SenatorBoyce@metrocast.net

N.H. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <u>Janet Allen</u> , 269-6313 | <u>James Pilliod</u> , 524-3047 |
| <u>Alida Millham</u> , 524-1278 | <u>David Russell</u> , 364-7449 |
| <u>Laurie Boyce</u> , 875-7371 | <u>John Thomas</u> , 528-5112 |
| <u>Charles Clark</u> , 293-9194 | <u>Mike Whalley</u> , 875-7266 |

BELKNAP COUNTY COMMISSIONER

- Christopher D. Boothby, 527-5400

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <u>Pat Fuller</u> , 875-5546 | <u>Stephan McMahan</u> , 875-6322 |
| <u>James C. Washburn</u> , 364-7413 | |
| <u>Alan Sherwood</u> 293-7041 | <u>Cris Blackstone</u> 875-0275 |

WE'RE GETTING BIGGER, BUT NOT HEALTHIER

by Margaret Franckhauser, Executive Director
Community Health & Hospice

It's scary news. On average, Americans are one inch taller than we were in 1960, but 25 pounds heavier. This fact was released in an October report from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. According to the study, men gain more weight as they get older, while women put on most of those extra pounds while still in their twenties.

You don't have to be a researcher to know this: Americans are more overweight than we have ever been. This is a risk inherent in a rich society where the opportunities to consume calories are great, while the opportunity to burn calories grows smaller. After all, how many of us drive when we could walk, change channels using a remote device rather than get out of the chair, take elevators when we could climb the stairs, or drive around a parking lot looking for the space closest to the door? The answer is that most of us choose the least active path, yet still cut ourselves a generous slice of dessert.

Where is this leading us? ...On a dangerous path towards early heart disease, stroke, joint pain and diabetes. A recent NH study showed that 50% of adult Belknap County residents are overweight, and our children are growing heavy as well. If we continue at this rate, our children will develop debilitating (and life-threatening) diseases at younger ages than any generation before them. They will also become a burden on the health care system, which is already struggling to support its current demands.

Part of the reason for the weight gain is related to our genetics. The human body is exquisitely well adapted to periods of starvation, but poorly adapted to periods of sustained abundance. All those extra pounds that we carry around as fat are really fuel designed to be used in a time when we will not have access to food. The trouble is...we always have access to food, even when we don't need it. While in many parts of the world, the population survives on 1,000 calories per day, Americans take in a whopping 1,850 – 2,400 calories – and we are far less physically active than are our leaner neighbors. We confuse hunger with a need for calories. The truth is that pangs of hunger in the US are more closely related to the timing of our usual meals than to a true need for calories.

So, what can we do? In the coming weeks, you will be seeing information about a program called "Small Steps, Big Rewards." The program is designed to get people to make little behavior changes that have a lasting impact on weight and consequent disease. (For more information on the "Small Steps, Big Rewards" program, contact Beth Wheeler at the Foundation for Healthy Communities in Concord at (603) 225-0900 or send an email to: info@healthynh.com.)

What can you do on your own—right now? Take

the stairs, put the TV clicker away, in fact - turn the TV off and take a walk. While you're on the phone, walk around the house. Park in the most distant space from the store and walk to the entrance. Choose fruit instead of pastry. Limit your alcohol. Select whole grain breads instead of white. These are not big things, but added together they mean a serious change in lifestyle that will translate into a healthier you. Watch for more messages and challenge yourself to make just one change today. You'll be healthier for it.

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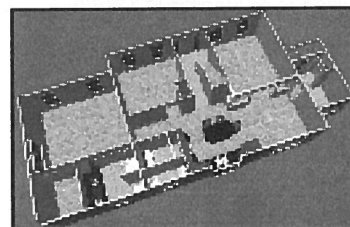
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ALTON COMMUNITY SERVICES TO HOST BUDGETING CLASSES

By Dorothy Wentworth, Director

The Alton Community Services will host a series of budgeting classes sponsored by the University of New Hampshire Co-operative Extension. The classes will be held Tuesdays during the month of February (February 1, 8, 15, 22) from one to two thirty in the afternoon. These will be held at the Community Church, Church Street, Alton (please use the side entrance).

Child care will be provided. Please call 875-CARE (2273) if you are able to attend, and leave a message.

ALTON FIRE/RESCUE DEPARTMENT

By Mary Jane Dascoli, Secretary

Calls for service for the month of December totaled 48. These calls included 19 Fire related, 26 Medical Emergencies of which 4 were motor vehicle crashes, and 3 service calls. Emergency calls remain significantly higher than last year at this same time. Total calls for service for the Year 2004 totaled 779. These calls included a variety of incidents namely, Fires, Medical, Lift assists, Rescue(s), Burning permit, Oil Burner Inspections, Woodstove Inspections, Occupancy Inspections, Foster Care and Day Care Inspections, Smoke Detectors, plus other services as needed 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

If you are interested in burning a brush pile, please call the Central Station, 875-0222, and if we are out on a call please leave your name, location of burn, and telephone number (cell phones especially) where you may be reached.

The Business Office at the Central Fire Station is open Monday through Friday from 8:30am – 4:30pm. for administrative services. Call or stop in with any questions or concerns you may have.

This time of year brings many visitors to this area for Winter fun activities. We encourage residents and visitors that may venture out onto the ice, to check if first for thickness. **DO NOT** assume that ice is safe because it looks that way or because it is snow covered. Snow acts as an insulator and can actually make the ice less safe. Just because the weather is cold doesn't mean that there is safe ice; ice is never safe and should always be checked.

Lastly, we wish to remind residents to check your chimney and have it cleaned if necessary. This could save you from incurring extensive damage to your home or save your life or a member of your family.....what is more important.

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2BR, nice in-town location, garage, available now. \$800/mo + security deposit. Call Melissa @ Prudential 875-2020.

PLANNING BOARD TO UPDATE MASTER PLAN/REGULATIONS

By Kathy Menici

In order to have time to accomplish a major update of Alton's Master Plan, Zoning and land use regulations, the Planning Board has proposed an Interim Growth Management Ordinance (IGMO) that would delay larger complex projects.

The only restrictions imposed by the IGMO would be on large subdivisions and certain major impact commercial developments. Building permits would not be affected for any residential lot of record or for any approved site plan. Also the interim ordinance would not effect: boundary line adjustments; minor subdivisions of three or less lots, affordable housing and certain elderly housing; commercial site plans for change of and/or expansion of an existing use; or new commercial site plans that do not have major wetlands/steep slope impact or highway improvements.

The proposed ordinance is "interim" in that, if passed by the voters in March, it will expire on December 31, 2005.

While the IGMO is in effect, the Planning Board will use this time to revise the town's Master Plan, Zoning Ordinance, Subdivision Regulations and Site Plan Review Regulations. The bulk of our existing Master Plan and Zoning is based on work done in the late 1980's and a major overhaul is now past due. There will be many opportunities for residents of Alton to become involved in the revision process.

The Master Plan is the town's long-range plan for guiding growth and development for the next five to ten years. Various Master Plan committees will consider and develop policies for issues such as future land use, roads and transportation, natural resources, recreation, cultural and historic resources, housing, community facilities, and more. There will also be committees who, using information from the Master Plan committees, will review and make recommendations for revisions to the town's Zoning Ordinance, Subdivision Regulations and Site Plan Review Regulations.

The Planning Board will hold the first of a series of citizen planning forums on Thursday, February 17 at 7pm at Town Hall. The Planning Board will use the first forum to discuss the purpose of the Master Plan, the process they will follow over the next few months to revise the plan, and how residents of town can participate in the process.

Residents of town who are more interested in the regular business of the Planning Board, that is the review and approval of applications submitted to the Planning Board, should consider becoming an alternate member of the Planning Board. Alternate members of the Planning Board attend the regular Planning Board meetings and workshops and are encouraged to participate in all discussions and public hearings. Alternate members fill in for any regular member who is absent from the meeting and votes in that member's place.

If you are interested in learning more about becoming an alternate member to the Planning Board, please call the Planning Department at 875-2162.

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**DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION
COMMITTEE UPDATE**
By Judy Fry



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Happy Valentine's Day!!



The Downtown Revitalization Committee has been meeting monthly for the past year and a half with Committee members focusing on grant applications, fund raising ideas, producing a brochure and finalizing the design of the B&M Railroad Park design.

A successful Clean-Up Project was held on a cold, rainy morning last October. Committee members and volunteers were organized into small work crews who successfully removed brush, small trees and rubbish in the proposed Park area. Emptying out the old Freight Building, full of long time accumulation, was started and taken to the transfer Station. Workers included, Bonnie Barsanti, Phillip Laurion, Irving Roberts, Bruce Kammer, Marty Cornelissen and yours truly.

The Railroad Park Report and Design has been available for review, for the public, since last October. The Report includes the first Architectural design and priorities from the Round Table Discussion held last August. Comments and suggestions regarding the Design are welcome.

The closing date for Public input on the August 2004 design is February 15, 2005. Your thoughts and ideas may be mailed to the Downtown Revitalization Committee, P.O. Box 65, Alton, NH 03809. This report and design are on the small table upstairs in Town Hall for everyone to read and study the design.

Townpeople are welcome to attend the monthly meeting and share their thoughts and ideas with the Committee during the scheduled Public Input times. Meeting Notices are posted at the Village Post Office and on the outside Town Hall Bulletin Board. The final Design will be ready when warmer weather arrives.

Photo, left: With the trees cleared away, this former grain storage building on the future Park site comes to life.

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START THE NEW YEAR OFF EATING RIGHT!
By Jane Smith, Family & Consumer Science
teacher, Alton Central School

Alton teens want to look and feel their best. Some are concerned with their size and shape, others may think they need to gain or loose a few pounds. Basic nutrition which is taught in health class and Family and Consumer Science is the best way to manage weight. Follow up can be done on the web. Try the following web sites:

Locate the Nutrition Analysis Tools & System. Enter the foods you ate for breakfast. Print out the nutrition data. www.ag.uiuc.edu/~food-lab/nat/NutritionAnalysisNaters2.0. Other web sites to check out:

National Dairy Council:

nationaldairycouncil.org

New England Dairy Council:

www.newenglanddairycouncil.org

Tufts University School of Nutrition:

www.nutrition.tufts.edu

Tufts University School of Nutrition:

www.navigator.tufts.edu/

American Dietetic Association:

www.eatright.org

United States Dept. of Agriculture:

www.nutrition.gov

United States Dept. of Agriculture:

www.gov/tn/Resources/menumagic.htm

Center for Science in the Public Interest:

www.cspinet.org

MOUNT MAJOR SNOWMOBILE CLUB NEWS
By Joanne Shibley, Treasurer

Well, it's February! It's time for our 'Annual Radar Run' at the Alton Bay Winter Festival on Saturday, February 19. It will take place from 10am – 3pm. Come and see how fast you can go! The cost is 2 runs for \$5 and 5 runs for \$10. Trophies are awarded at 3:30pm. Please come and support the club and enjoy all the festivities of the Winter Festival. If anyone would like to volunteer to help with the Radar Run please call Joanne at 875-3858 or e-mail us at info@mountmajorsnowmobileclub.com.

When you read this article, please go outside and do a 'snow dance'! What gives?

PUBLIC HEARING

The Alton Budget Committee will hold a Public Hearing on the proposed Alton Town Budget for Fiscal Year 2005 on Wednesday, February 2 at 6pm in the Alton Town Hall.

If required, a second hearing and/or snow date would be Tuesday, February 8 at 6pm in the Alton Town Hall.



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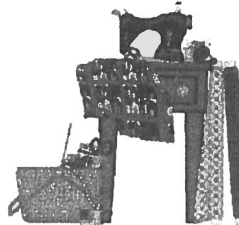
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ALTON BAY BEAUTIFICATION By Dawn Wallace

On March 9 the Town will be voting on the Article for establishing a Capital Reserve Fund for improvements to the Harmony Park and Alton Bay Beach area. The Alton Beach Committee's goal is to link the beach and park areas making the facilities accessible to each other, the road and the picnic area. The total project cost is \$75,000 and will be appropriated over a two year time period. The Board of Selectmen are recommending to establish a Capital Reserve Fund with an appropriation of \$37,500 in 2005 and in 2006; the project completion date would be the fall of 2006.

Residents may have observed the ribbon along the waters edge of the Alton Bay Beach. Erosion has been a problem at the beach, years ago timbers were placed under the sand to prevent this problem. The timbers are now exposed, thus the ribbon, and need to be removed. The Beach Committee believes the Town Beach area is worth saving. Lakefront access is an asset to our Town. The location is convenient to local business and there is a beautiful view of the lake and mountains. The solution to save the beach area from erosion is perched construction. Other proposals include safety improvements to Rt 28A, fencing and buffers between the road and the boat launch, additional picnic area, and play area for children. While uniting the Beach with Harmony Park will create one large park, swimming will still be available.

If you have questions about this project or are interested in our next meeting time call the Parks and Recreation office at 875-0109.

THE CHECKOUT DESK By Holly Brown, Librarian

In honor of Valentine's Day, the Gilman Library will "celebrate our love of books" from Saturday, February 12th - Saturday, February 19th. Let a good book warm your heart. We will celebrate in two ways. We will hold a special book sale. Fill a plastic bag for just \$1.00 or purchase a canvas book bag for \$5.00 and fill it free of charge. And we will accept all overdue materials free of late fees. Please join us in the celebration.

If you are in need of the perfect Valentine's Day gift for that special someone we still have brass bookmarks, Afghans, Alton village posters, canvas book bags, t-shirts and Alton village collectibles and commemorative bricks available for purchase. Gift Certificates are also available if you would like to purchase a Library Card for a family or individual living outside of town.

The book discussion group will be meeting on Monday, February 14 at 6:30 PM in the Agnes Thompson Meeting Room at the Gilman Library. The book of choice is entitled *The Bird Artist* by Howard Norman. If you are in need of a copy of the book please let us know.

Just a reminder, there will be no preschool story hour while the Alton Central School is on vacation or closed due to inclement weather. In the event that the Gilman Library must close due to weather conditions the announcement will be made through the following radio stations; WEVO (89.1FM), WLKZ (104.9FM), WLNH (98.3FM), WNNH (99.1FM), WOKQ (97.5 FM) and WASR (1420AM) and shown on WMUR-TV (channel 9).

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FICTION

| | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| Clancy, Tom | Splinter Cell |
| Cussler, Clive & Cussler, Dick | Black Wind |
| Higgins, Jack | East of Desolation |
| Hinton, Lynne | Forever Friends |
| Hoag, Tami | Night Sins |
| Lewis, Beverly | The Prodigal |
| Michaels, Fern | Payback |

LARGE PRINT

| | |
|---------------------------|---------------------|
| Clark, Carol H. & Mary H. | The Christmas Thief |
| Steel, Danielle | Echoes |

NONFICTION

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| Gauch, Patricia L. | Thunder at Gettysburg |
| Ham, Catherine | Knitting (The Weekend Crafter) |
| Nyiszli, Miklos | Auschwitz: A Doctor's Eyewitness Account |

JUVENILE

| | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Ardagh, Philip | Terrible Times |
| | A House Called Awful End |
| | Dreadful Acts |
| Garrett, Leslie | Helen Keller: A Photographic Story of a Life |
| Kaplan, Howard S. | John F. Kennedy: A Photographic Story |
| Kinkade, Thomas & Tamar, E. | Lizabeth's Story |
| Pastan, Amy | Martin Luther King, A Photographic Story |
| Paulsen, Gary | Dung & Amos Hit the Big Top |
| Sawyer, Kem K. | Anne Frank: A Photographic Story |
| Winkler, Henry | I Got a "D" in Salami |
| Winkler H. & Oliver, L. | Niagara Falls, or Does It? |

EASY

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Blackstone, Stella | Jump into January |
| Caillou | Colors & Shapes Everywhere! |
| Cazet, Dennis | Minnie & Moo: The Night of the Living Bed |
| Parish, Herman | Calling Doctor Amelia Bedelia |
| Parker, Marjorie B. | Hello, School Bus! |
| | Hello, Fire Truck! |

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 Fun With the Fab Four (Beatles)
 Gilligan's Island (The Complete First Season, 36 Episodes)
 Pirates of the Caribbean
 Rocky
 Without Limits

AUDIOS

| | |
|---------------|---------------------|
| Howard, Linda | Now You See Her |
| King, Stephen | The Dark Tower #VII |

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CALLING ALL APACHES!

By Cris Blackstone

Did you attend Alton Central School "back in the day" or did you teach there when it was a K-12 school? Does the thought of being an Alton Apache bring a smile to your face? As you read this, do thoughts of where you were when JFK was shot, or where you were when the Challenger disaster occurred pop into your head? Are you celebrating a significant anniversary with your high school sweetheart and you remember sitting together in 'the patio' or do you remember hiking up a hillside for a photo with your graduating senior class?

If you can answer 'yes' to any of the above, we'd love to hear from you. Alton Central School 8th graders are going to be involved in a project to gather stories from former teachers and students of the school. In this first year as a K-8 school, we are interested in preserving the history of the school, the building, and the community-at-large. The project, "Our Walls Talk", is seeking volunteers to share their stories and memories of their days at Alton Central School with 8th graders to create a permanent project about the school and the community from days gone by.

We'd love to interview you for the project. In return, you will be able to meet interesting young people attending the school now, and see your piece of Alton's history preserved in the project. Your time commitment is as great as you want it to be - the students will interview you several times over a six week period. This will give you an opportunity to visit the school, or have the students visit you in a place such as the Gilman Library to chat and gather your thoughts in their interviews.

If you know someone who attended the school and could volunteer some time to be interviewed as a part of creating this lively project to capture the school's spirit, please contact Cris Blackstone, 875-0275, or e-mail her at cblackstone@metrocast.net. Mrs. Blackstone is the volunteer coordinator for the project and will be arranging the student interview times with the participants.

Your time, memories, and stories are valuable to our community and we hope this project serves to pass those on for years to come! We're looking forward to working with many members of the community on this!

ALTON VFW POST 11163 NEWS

By John P. Brooks, Quartermaster

Alton VFW Post 11163 sent gift Christmas packages to 20 Soldiers in Iraq and 20 soldiers in Afghanistan. These gifts included a one hour free telephone call home each. Also Mrs. Kathleen Crosby's students made cookies to be included. The K-Mart store in Rochester made up the packages including other goodies. They were shipped by the VFW Post in York, Maine. K-Mart donated \$200.00 and the Alton VFW donated a matching \$200.00. These arrangements were made by Commander Frank O'Hare of the Alton Post who is also Mrs. Crosby's father.

Alton VFW Post 11153 will help at the Legion Breakfast at the Alton Post February 6th. The generosity of our brother Veterans at the Legion is greatly appreciated.

ENJOY READING MAIN STREET?

JOIN US!

By Purr Whalley

"Many hands make light work." I know you've heard that quote and, you know, it's true!

At this moment you are reading "Main Street", a monthly paper that is assembled by a loyal group of folks in town on the last Thursday of the month, each and every month. It took these good souls more than two hours to assemble over 3000 "Main Streets".

How'd you like to join us and make "Assembly Night" even shorter? It's a minor commitment, it's social and let's face it, it's a good chance to get an early glimpse of the latest scoops in Alton!

We'll be at the American Legion on the last Thursday of the month between 6PM and 8PM. You don't have to call ahead and you don't even have to come every month - although we'd like you to!

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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 (except real estate for sale or rent), 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. (There is no charge for "Cards of Thanks" or ads under the "Free" and "Ride Sharing" classifications.) 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 Bank of New Hampshire. **Ads must contain a phone number.**

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THANK YOU

We want to thank all of you for all the support and prayers for Toby. Now, Toby is home, safe and sound where he belongs. We know in our hearts it is because of all of you. His mother, father, brothers and family thank you. Thank God for small towns with people with big hearts.

Roxanne and Michael Shea

ENGAGEMENT ANNOUNCEMENT

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Eagles of Alton Bay are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Korin Lucille, to Eric Lee Thomas White, son of Donald and Sandra White of Alton.

Korin is a 2000 graduate of Alton Central School and is currently a graduate student at UNH. Eric attended Alton Central School and is a 1999 graduate of Proctor Academy. Eric graduated from MacIntosh College with a business degree. A 2006 wedding is planned.

THANK YOU

Thank you to all the people who inquired, sent notes and prayers to Fran while she was at CMC after her bypass surgery. She's doing well and we both thank you very much.

Fran and Jim Washburn

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19TH ANNUAL ICE-OUT CONTEST DEADLINE IS FEBRUARY 28

For the 19th year, Main Street is giving you the opportunity to win a prize - dinner for two donated by Shibley's at the Pier!

This is an annual contest won by the person who comes closest to the date of "ice-out" in Lake Winnepesaukee as decided by the official ice watchers around the "Big Lake." The earliest ice out date was March 28, 1921, and the latest, May 12, 1888, the first year there was an organized contest. Records date from 1887.

"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.

Entries must be postmarked no later than February 28 and participation is limited to Alton residents and subscribers to Main Street with only one entry per household/address.

ICE-OUT ENTRY FORM

Name: _____
Address: _____

Phone Number: (____) _____ - _____

I predict "ice-out" will occur on:

_____ at _____ am or pm
(date) (time) (circle one)

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

THE SECOND ALTON INFORMATION EXCHANGE MEETING By Dick Wallace

The Alton Community Visions Team has organized this second meeting as one response to a community need expressed at the Community Forum held in November of 2002. At the Forum, a high priority was given to the need for

additional communication between organizations that serve the Alton community and communication with the public. The first Information Exchange Meeting held in May 2004 was well received and helpful to those present.

Again, this meeting will feature a short presentation from several Alton community organizations about what their organization does for the community, their goals, current focus and the needs they have for achieving their goals. This is a unique opportunity to share ideas and encourage communication with other organizations and the public by: -Sharing our assets and resources; Learning what organizations do; Working together; Sharing and determining our community goals.

The Meeting schedule is: Thursday February 17, 6:30pm, Prospect Mountain High School. The Moderator is Mr. Alan Robichaud, Exec. Director, Belknap County Citizens Council.

Community Organizations and the PUBLIC are welcome and encouraged to attend!

Contact Alton Parks and Recreation, 875-0109 for additional information or questions.



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