



Main Street

VOL. III, NO. 12

DECEMBER 1987

ALTON, N. H.



Photo by Sylvia Countway

TERRY CLIFFORD RESIGNS ADMINISTRATOR POSITION

Town Administrator Terry Clifford has resigned her position to become the Town Manager of Ossipee on November 30.

Clifford previously served as Alton's Administrative Assistant and as Assistant to the Selectmen in Hopkinton.

Pamela Andrade has been named Acting Town Administrator by the Selectmen.

BOSTON POST CANE TO BE DISPLAYED IN TOWN HALL

By Bill Watkins

The Alton Selectmen have accepted an offer from the staff of Main Street to provide an appropriate display case for the Boston Post Cane to afford public viewing of this historical item. Also featured will be the names of those Alton residents honored by a presentation, past and future.

A white oak, glass-front case in traditional styling is being constructed by woodworker Steve Dana, to be mounted in the Town Hall where it can be easily appreciated by the public. To preserve this piece of Alton's heritage from loss or damage, representative awards will be presented in the future.

Notice has been received that Charles S. Lovett (1872-1964) and Frank Mitchell (1860-1953) were holders of the cane not mentioned in an earlier account. Only a few nominations for recipients have been forwarded to date; readers are urged to lend a hand in identifying and honoring Alton's senior citizen.

LANDFILL COMMITTEE OFFERS RECOMMENDATIONS

Following an extensive survey of waste disposal operations in a number of New Hampshire communities, Chairman of the Landfill Study Committee Ted Cole has presented the Selectmen with a series of recommendations for the management of the present landfill and for addressing Alton's future needs when the present facility is no longer operable.

Several immediate measures have been approved and implemented by the Selectmen. The stump dump is permanently closed; tires are accepted for a fee; a separate depository for roofing shingles is established; car mufflers, catalytic convertors, and batteries must be put in a specially designated area.

For the longer view, Cole envisions a town recycling operation. Plans are being made to separate scrap metal to make it saleable, and similar treatment of plastic containers, glass and aluminum will be enforced.

He proposes for the 1988 Town Warrant the purchase of a bailer to package paper, cardboard and aluminum cans; a shredder to reduce plastic containers to a saleable substance; and a magnetic sorter for steel and aluminum cans. All garbage removal possibilities will be investigated, the most promising being conversion to energy production.

According to Cole "landfill space is filling at a faster rate this year than ever before". To plan for the predicted cost of closing the landfill, Cole proposes that the Town budget \$40,000 a year for the next five years to be put in escrow for the closing costs.

Cole says it is "urgent that the Town understand this problem will neither disappear nor solve itself, and that advance planning and preparation is essential to avoid an eventual dilemma of staggering proportions".

DID YOU KNOW THAT.....

...no vehicles may be parked on either side of any highway in Alton from December 1 to April 1 between the hours of midnight and 6a.m.?

Violators will have their vehicles taken to a public garage for storage at owner's risk and expense.

SCHEDULES

CHURCHES:

- Advent Christian Church - Sunday 11a.m. & 6p.m.
- Baha'i Fireside - Wednesday 8p.m., Gustafson Residence, 293-7865
- Community Church - Sunday School 9:30a.m., Worship Service 11a.m., Congregational Meeting House, Rev. Dwight V. Meader
- Hosanna New Testament Fellowship - Sunday School 9:45a.m., Church 10:45a.m., American Legion Hall, Rev. Gene V. Beaudry
- St. Joan of Arc - Saturday 5p.m., Sunday 8 & 11a.m., Msgr. Leo Hines

COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAM:

Monday & Friday 1 to 3p.m., Wednesday 9a.m. to 3p.m., Alton Bay Community House, 875-7102

GILMAN LIBRARY:

Monday & Wednesday 2 to 8p.m.
Friday 9a.m. to 5p.m. Saturday 9a.m. to 1p.m.

TOWN HALL:

Selectmen's Office, Tax Collector, Town Administrator, and Town Clerk - 8:30a.m. to 4:30p.m.
Welfare Officer - Call 875-2000
Planning Board - Monday 9:30a.m. to 4:30p.m., Tuesday and Wednesday 8:30a.m. to 4:30p.m., Closed Noon to 12:30p.m.

LANDFILL:

Open Daily 8a.m. to 3:30p.m. except Sunday and Wednesday

ORGANIZATIONS:

- ALTON CONCERNED TAXPAYERS - Meets on Call, 859-2021
- AMERICAN LEGION - 2nd Monday 7p.m., American Legion Hall
- AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY - 2nd Monday 7p.m., American Legion Hall, Frances Cassidy, 859-4741
- BOY SCOUT TROUP 53 - Tuesday 7p.m., American Legion Hall, Steven Temple, 859-6270
- CHESS CLUB - Tuesday 7p.m., Busy Corner Store
- CUB SCOUT PACK 53 - Last Tuesday 7p.m., American Legion Hall
- EASTERN STAR - 2nd Tuesday
- GARDEN CLUB - 4th Tuesday, 875-6426
- FLYING CLUB - 2nd Wednesday
- HAPPY HOBBY DOLL CLUB - 4th Friday, 875-6750
- HISTORICAL SOCIETY - 3rd Tuesday 7:30p.m., Cong. Church
- KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS - 1st Tuesday 7p.m., St. Joan of Arc Church Hall, 293-7749
- LIONESS CLUB - 1st Wednesday 6:30p.m., Alton Bay Community House, 875-5645
- LIONS CLUB - 1st & 3rd Thursdays 6:30p.m., Alton Bay Community House, 875-5916
- MASONIC LODGE - 2nd Thursday, 875-6610
- NEW DURHAM CAMERA CLUB - 2nd & 4th Wednesday 7p.m., New Durham School
- ST. JOAN OF ARC LADIES GUILD - Last Thursday 7:30p.m., Church Hall
- SENIOR CITIZENS - 1st Tuesday 12:30p.m., Community House

♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

CALL 875-2051 TO UP-DATE THE ABOVE LISTINGS

CHECKLIST SUPERVISORS AVAILABLE DECEMBER 3

For those who have not yet registered for upcoming elections or who wish to alter their party affiliation, the Supervisors of the Checklist will be in session on Thursday December 3 from 7 to 9p.m. in the Town Hall.

BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

- ALTON BAY IMPROVEMENT STUDY COMMITTEE - Meets on call. Chairman J. Leo Meehan, Jr. 875-5311
- BOARD OF SELECTMEN - Meets every Monday at 8a.m. Chairman William Moore. Call 875-2161 for appointments
- BUDGET COMMITTEE - Meets on call. Chairman James Newton 875-2252
- CABLE TV COMMITTEE - Meets on call. Elaine MacDonald 875-6389
- CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS COMMITTEE - Meets on call. Chairman Thomas W. Varney 875-7110
- CEMETERY TRUSTEES - Meets on call. Chairman Thomas Hoopes 875-3400
- CONSERVATION COMMISSION - Meets every other Thursday at 7:30pm Chairman Thomas Hoopes 875-3400
- FIRE WARDS - Meet on call. Chief Russell E. Jones 875-7510
- GILMAN MUSEUM COMMITTEE - Meets on call. Anna Haase 875-5611, Eleanor Hayes 875-7420
- LAKES REGION PLANNING COMMISSION REPRESENTATIVES - Meets on Call. Chairman Juliet E.E. Peverley 875-7232
- MUNICIPAL BUILDING STUDY COMMITTEE - Meets on call. Chairman A. William Heidke 875-2000
- OLD HOME WEEK COMMITTEE - Meets on call.
- OLD PHOTOGRAPH COMMITTEE - Meets on call. Co-Chairmen Gwendolyn Jones 875-7510 and Jean Roberts 569-2629
- PARKS AND PLAYGROUNDS COMMITTEE - Meets first Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. Chairman Herbert Persan 875-6779
- PLANNING BOARD - Meets first Monday at 7:00p.m.
- SEWER COMMISSION - Meets on call. Chairman Stephen Dana 875-3658
- SCHOOL BOARD - Meets second and fourth Mondays. Chairman Terri Noyes 875-7140
- SUPERVISORS OF THE CHECKLIST - Meet on call. Chairman Alice Ziegler 875-2151
- TRUSTEES OF THE GILMAN LIBRARY - Meets third Monday at 3:30pm Chairman Ellamarie Carr, 776-4833
- TRUSTEES OF TRUST FUNDS - Meets on call. Chairman Joseph R. Houle 875-7321
- WAGE AND SALARY REVIEW BOARD - Meets on call. Chairman Eldon C. Swim 875-5158
- WATER COMMISSIONERS - Meet on call. John Streeter 875-2490
- ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT - Meets on call. Chairman Rodger Matthewman 875-3964

MAIN STREET

Published Monthly by Voice of Alton, Inc.
A Non-Profit Organization

- Editor.....John Duffek
- Assistant Editor.....Catherine Calvert
- Business Manager.....Marion MacDonald
- Advertising Manager.....William Watkins
- Circulation Manager.....Robert Smith
- Staff.....Eileen Brown, Bob Calvert, Jeanne and Ted Cole, Elizabeth Duffek, Linda Hanley, Barbara Ingoldsby, Jill Landry, David, Linda, and Scott Overall, Doris Selfridge, Jean Roberts, Gerald Row
- Printing.....Alton Printing Company
P. O. Box 210, Alton Bay, NH 03810
- Phones: Editorial - 875-2051 Advertising - 569-6584
- Subscriptions are available to receive Main Street by first class mail at \$5 for 12 issues

DECEMBER EVENTS

- Tue. Dec. 1 - BOYS BASKETBALL SCRIMMAGE vs. Belmont, 4p.m., Away
BUDGET COMMITTEE HEARINGS - Library, Parks and
Playgrounds, Town Offices, Misc. Insurance, 7p.m.
Town Hall
- Wed. Dec. 2 - STORY HOUR: 3-5 Year Olds, 1-2p.m., Gilman Library
- Thu. Dec. 3 - VOTER REGISTRATION - 7 to 9p.m., Town Hall
- Fri. Dec. 4 - GIRLS BASKETBALL vs. Laconia Christian Fellow-
ship, 6:30p.m., Home
- Sat. Dec. 5 - HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE/CRAFTS EXHIBIT - 10:30a.m.-
12:30p.m., Gilman Library
- Tue. Dec. 8 - BOYS BASKETBALL SCRIMMAGE vs. Coe Brown, 5:30p.m.
Home
GIRLS BASKETBALL vs. Concord Christian, 6:30p.m.
Away
- Wed. Dec. 9 - STORY HOUR: 3-5 Year Olds, 1-2p.m., Gilman Library
FINANCIAL AID WORKSHOP - 7p.m. School Library
- Fri. Dec. 11 - GIRLS BASKETBALL vs. Nute, 6:30p.m., Home
BOYS BASKETBALL vs. Nute, 8p.m., Home
- Tue. Dec. 15 - GIRLS BASKETBALL vs. Moultonboro, 6p.m., Home
BOYS BASKETBALL vs. Moultonboro, 7:30p.m., Home
- Wed. Dec. 16 - STORY HOUR: 3-5 Year Olds, 1-2p.m., Gilman Library
GIRLS BASKETBALL vs. Ashland, 5:30p.m., Away
BOYS BASKETBALL vs. Ashland, 7p.m., Away
- Sat. Dec. 19 - CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY - 1:30p.m., American
Legion Hall
CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS JUDGING - 7p.m.
- Sun. Dec. 20 - SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM - 4p.m., Communi-
ty Church
CHRISTMAS CAROLING - 6:30p.m., American Legion
Hall
- Wed. Dec. 23 - STORY HOUR: 3-5 Year Olds, 1-2p.m., Gilman Library
- Thu. Dec. 24 - SCHOOL CHRISTMAS VACATION BEGINS
CAROLS AND CANDLES - 11p.m., Community Church
MIDNIGHT MASS - Midnight, St. Joan of Arc Church
- Fri. Dec. 25 - CHRISTMAS DAY
- Mon. Dec. 28 - BOYS BASKETBALL at Gilford Christmas Invisa-
tional
GIRLS BASKETBALL at Gilford Christmas Invisa-
tional
- Thu. Dec. 31 - NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY - 9p.m., American Legion
Hall

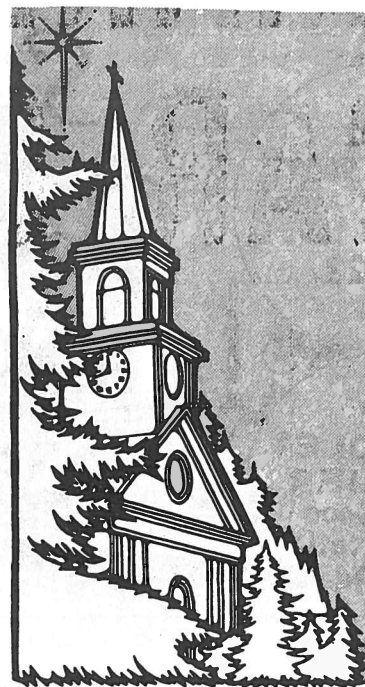
CHAMBER DINNER

The Alton-Alton Bay Chamber of Commerce is making plans for the Fall Dinner-Meeting. Call Secretary Chris Consentino at 875-5510 or 875-5678 for information and reservations.

BRUCE K. JOHNSON
Attorney at Law

(603) 875-6131

Main Street
P. O. Box 817
Alton, N. H. 03809



MAILING LIST

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

If your mailing address has a different Zip Code than either of those and you are an Alton resident, you may receive Main Street each month by calling 875-2051.

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FLASHBACKS



Can you identify the building that had a sign over the door that said "Tea Room"? And that's the strongest thing you could get there in 1920!



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ALTON**

\$UPER TAX NEWS\$

Good news from the State Department of Revenue Administration indicates that the Alton tax rate will drop from \$30.33 per \$1000 to \$29.97 or a drop of \$2.36 (7.8%).

The town portion drops 24% or \$1.73 per \$1000. The county share drops 27 cents or .06% and the school portion drops 36 cents or .02%.

Contributing to the decline is an increase of \$5,238,343 in net assessed valuation of properties, and careful underspending of both town and school budgets for this year. The amount of taxes to be committed per official tax rate letter is \$3,041,762.

**NEW YEAR'S EVE
AT THE LEGION**

Tickets are still available for the New Year's Eve Party planned by American Legion Post 72 for Thursday, December 31, from 9p.m. to 1a.m. at the Legion Hall.

\$30 per couple includes a roast beef buffet, a bubbly toast, party favors, and music by Bittersweet.

HELP WANTED

Anyone interested in participating in Main Street is encouraged to call Editor John Duffek at 875-2051.

No talent will be turned away! We need reporters for general and feature stories; salespersons to call on prospective advertisers; and collaters, folders, and staplers to help put it all together once a month.

ABITRONICS

The Fone Shoppe

Busy Corner

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THE CHECKOUT DESK

BY PAT MERRILL, LIBRARIAN

**HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE
AT GILMAN LIBRARY**

The Holiday Open House will take place at the Gilman Library on Saturday, December 5, from 10:30a.m. to 12:30p.m.

The program will feature Christmas music, refreshments, books, and Christmas movies. A special highlight will be an exciting exhibit of crafts from local artisans. These crafts will be on display until December 18 and anyone wishing to be an exhibitor should speak to the librarians prior to December 3.

Susan Lord, Pat and Syd Merrill extend to all of you best wishes for the merriest Christmas and the most joyful New Year ever!

NEW PUBLICATIONS

- A Southern Family by Gail Godwon
- The Messiah by Marjorie Holmes
- Rich in Love by Josephine Humphries
- Touch by Elmore Leonard
- Before the Darkness Fall by Eugenia Price
- Rage by Wilbur Smith
- Kaleidoscope by Danielle Steel
- Family: The Tie That Binds...and Gags by Erma Bombeck
- Time Flies by Bill Cosby
- Titantic: The Death and Life of a Legend by Michael Davie
- The Making of The Africa Queen by Katherine Hepburn



SCOUTS RECEIVE AWARDS

Chip Fifield received the highest Cub Scout award, the Arrow of Light, at a recent ceremony and Webelo Badges were presented to Chris Choquette and Gary Noyes, Jr.

Steven Noyes received a Scouting Recruiter Badge for introducing James Gagnon and David Messier to the world of Scouting.

Adults, with or without children in Scouting, are invited to a meeting on Wednesday, December 2, to learn how they can become a part of the local Scouting program.

FINANCIAL AID WORKSHOP

Andre Lavoie, Guidance Director at Alton Central School, announces a Financial Aid Workshop for parents of juniors and seniors planning to attend college.

The session will begin at 7p.m. in the School Library on Wednesday, December 9, and financial aid forms will be available.



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CHRISTMASTIME IN ALTON

CHRISTMAS DINNERS

The Alton Police Association will be delivering dinners on Christmas Day again this year.

The churches, clubs and businesses in Alton and New Durham assist in this project with donations and many interested citizens help to deliver the dinners so they arrive hot promptly at noon.

Approximately 90 dinners are enjoyed by friends and neighbors who either live alone, are unable to go out of the house, or just are not able to cook a turkey dinner for themselves.

If you have a friend or neighbor who you feel would enjoy a dinner on Christmas Day, call Marion MacDonald at 875-6389 or leave a message at the Police Department at 875-3752.



HOLIDAY DECORATING URGED BY ALTON'S CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

This month we leave behind the dour days of November and become caught up in the excitement of Christmas. The festive season, when infectious expectations charge to home and an upbeat spirit pervades the town. It is the most outgoing of times.

In our heritage the small New England town has come to epitomize the traditional image of the season. We live in everybody's Christmas cards.

The Alton-Alton Bay Chamber of Commerce would like to urge its neighbors to dress up our town for the season, lights and decorations in homes and businesses to match the mood, by sponsoring an outdoor decorating contest.

Entry forms are available at several town stores and prizes will be awarded by the Chamber and local merchants.

The judging will take place Saturday, December 19, beginning at 7p.m. For more information or the inclement weather date, call 875-5510 or 875-5678

CHILDREN'S PARTY

Parents! Mark your calendar for Saturday, December 19, at 1:30p.m. for the Annual Children's Christmas Party at the American Legion Hall. All Alton children are invited.

The fabulous Dr. Sayno will perform amazing magical feats and Old St. Nick is expected to make an appearance to gather lists from all good little boys and girls and distribute early Christmas gifts to all.

All of this will be followed by special refreshments.

The Children's Christmas Party is sponsored by the American Legion Auxiliary Unit #72, the Knights of Columbus, the Police Association, and the American Legion Post #72.

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HELPING, SERVICES, FUN

CHRISTMAS BASKETS

The Christmas season is upon us and everyone is bustling around doing Christmas shopping and making plans for the most joyous and celebrated holiday. It is also a time to stop and remember the true meaning of the holiday. A time for giving and sharing.

The American Legion Post #72 and the Auxiliary Unit #72 started making plans in October for their annual Christmas Food and Fruit Baskets for the families who need a little extra Christmas cheer. Also, Santa Claus has been scheduled to hand deliver a surprise or two to the children. Deliveries are to start December 20 and will run to Christmas Eve.

Donations will be greatly appreciated in any form and will be welcomed at the Legion Hall. Call Donna Russell at 875-5720 for more information.

HOLIDAY SERVICES

The Community Church will present its Sunday School Christmas Program on Sunday, December 20, at 4p.m., according to the Reverend Dwight V. Meader. He also announced a special program for Christmas Eve at 11p.m. called "Carols and Candles". There will be no service on Christmas Day.

Monsignor Leo Hines will celebrate a Midnight Mass on Christmas Eve at St. Joan of Arc Church beginning at midnight. The regular Sunday schedule of Masses at 8 and 11a.m. will be followed on Christmas Day.



TOYS AND CLOTHING COLLECTED BY FIREFLIES

The Alton Fireflies, the fire department auxiliary organization, is seeking donations of new toys and clothing or money to purchase the necessary items for distribution to needy families in Alton.

All donations must be received by December 11. Call Fireflies President Jean Sample, 875-7534, to arrange for delivery of items or send your donation in a check to P. O. Box 281, Alton Bay, 03810.

Anyone who knows of a family that could benefit from this effort should call Mrs. Sample as soon as possible.

CAROLING PARTY

On Sunday, December 20, the American Legion Post #72, Auxiliary Unit #72, Alton-New Durham Lions, Alton Lioness, and Cub Scouts will be going out Christmas Caroling. They will be serenading along the streets of Alton center and visiting the Gilman Home.

Refreshments will be served at the American Legion Hall for all who participate.

Anyone may come along and join in on the fun. All are welcome. No voice is refused, good or bad. It's all in the Christmas spirit. Be at the American Legion Hall at 6:30p.m. for an evening of friendship and good cheer.

THE BETTER WAY TO SELL YOUR HOME.

Main Street
Alton, NH
Office: 875-2525



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SUPPORT WELCOMED

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

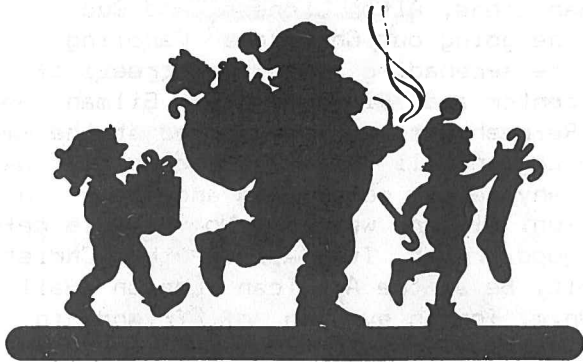
Many individual residents have expressed their appreciation for Main Street and have indicated an interest in supporting this activity financially.

We welcome individual support and accept donations sent to Main Street, Post Office Box 210, Alton Bay, 03810.

NO SCHOOL TODAY!

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

You tune your radio to WASR(AM 1420), WLNH(FM 98.3) or WWNH(AM 93) for official school closing announcements.



ALTON NAMES TELL QUITE A STORY

BY Bob Calvert

Alton can toot its own HORNE. It's really in the SWIM of things! We can BRAGG about having KINGS, LORDS, NOBLES, BARONES, MARSHALLS, KARDINALS, BISHOPS, KNIGHTS with SHIELDS, PRINCES and DAMES.

Our residents OVERALL cover many trades and professions. Here's a SAMPLE: HUNTERS, TAYLORS, FISHERS, MESSENGERS, SAWYERS, COOKES, COOPERS, SEXTONS, BUTLERS, PORTERS, WEAVERS, BAKEMAN, WOODMAN, DRAPERS, POTTERS, and CARRIERS. And that works up to a lot of SWETT!

Some are BALD. Some are BUSHY, and some have BANGS. We've got BRUNETTES but no blondes. At the same time, we've got SLEEPERS and WALKERS. For CARRS and REIDERS we have DODGES and FORDS. We don't cover the rainbow, but we do have BROWNS, WHITES, BLACKS, GREENS, GRAYS, and GOLDMANN. We NEED more.

And there's MOORE too! There are YOUNG SWAINS on the CHASE in the WOODLAND, with the MOON on the THISTLE and the CHICKS in a ROW in the LANE. We have no judge, but we have CHAMBERS and a JURY. We have the BEST economy there is. We have COYNES and we can GRANT LOANES at the PRIME.

It's quiet in winter, but there's NOYES in summer as we FRY BACON while we KROON! ORR as we HAMMER on the DORE. And as we RIVET on a ship's HULL. We tend to keep up with the JONESES. We QUITT CUTTING when the SNOW falls. Some of us are over the HILL, and we play our CARDS carefully. It's TRUE that there's JOY in Alton even though we have our ups and DOWNS. Things were reputedly WILDER in PRIOR times.

But when we try to identify whiskeys, we come 'a CROPPER! There's just CALVERT. Oh well, we could do a lot worse.



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CLASSIFIED ADS MAY BE PLACED IN MAIN STREET

Alton residents may place classified ads in Main Street each month. Ads are limited to non-business, private individuals who have items for sale, items wanted, free items, personals, or help wanted notices. The cost is \$1 for each ad per month.

Space for classified ads is limited and available on a first-come, first-served basis. Main Street reserves the right to refuse any ad.

Ads may be mailed with payment to P. O. Box 210, Alton Bay, 03810. The deadline is the 15th of the month.

=====

CLASSIFIEDS

=====

FOR SALE

=====

WANTED

=====

FREE

=====

HELP WANTED

=====

PERSONALS

=====

Happy 18th Birthday, Sharon, and Much Love from Mom and Dad!

=====

Video Films
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Sales & Rentals

THE VILLAGE VIDEO

Box 837, Main St.
Alton, NH 03809

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Norm & Terry Gilmore

MAIN STREET REVISES ADVERTISING POLICY

It has been the policy of this publication to carry advertising only from commercial entities doing business primarily from and in Alton. Two factors have led us to reconsider that policy: the growth of the town which has expanded interest from businesses outside Alton, and a perceived need for residents to be informed of services available in neighboring towns but not in Alton.

We, therefore, will inaugurate in 1988 a more flexible policy regarding the acceptance of non-Alton advertising from firms which provide services not already met by local businesses. In consideration of the possibility of overlap of services offered, we retain the right of judgment as to conformance with this criterion.

SERVISTAR.

(603) 875-3900

ALTON HOME CENTER

HOURS:

Mon.-Sat. 7:30-5:00

Sun. 9:00-12:00

P.O. Box 57

Alton, NH 03809

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- * SAND and GRAVEL

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THE BUDGETING PROCESS: A SYSTEM OF HARD WORK AND PUBLIC HEARINGS

By Bob Calvert

The receipt of new tax bills often has a "shaking up" effect for many of us. It renews our interest in town and school budgets and how they got that way. "Our memories are often dim of the fiscal actions we all took the prior March at the two annual meetings. Two? That's right. There's Town Meeting and School District Meeting. Two annual meetings and you have to add the two together to find what the total is!

The proposed total tab at each meeting is recommended by the Town Budget Committee. This is unique in that both the town and the school budgets are presented to this one committee. Budget Committee members are normally elected with some interim appointments by the Town Moderator when vacancies occur.

The current committee of some 9 to 10 members, chaired by Jim Newton, has been hard at it since November 10. All departments, except the school, present proposed 1988 budgets to the Selectmen in November. Eventually the Selectmen make decisions on all requests and finally present a Selectmen's Budget to the Budget Committee. Similarly, the School Board completes its planning and presents a School Budget to the same committee.

The Budget Committee analyzes, questions and thoroughly reviews each request to ensure need, accuracy and impact of each proposal. This committee acts on behalf of all of us to watch costs but also to get the most effective program in place. They present

one budget to the Annual Town Meeting in March. It is this budget that we vote on. Then they present a School Budget at the Annual School District Meeting, also in March. It's a very important town Committee.

As important as it is for all of us to attend the Annual Town Meeting and School District Meeting, the best place to understand the "nitty-gritty" of each budget is at public hearings set up by the Budget Committee for this purpose. Make note now that the date of FEBRUARY 3 will be the Public Hearing for the Selectmen's Budget and FEBRUARY 10 will be the same for the School Budget. Questions can be asked, input offered and statements made.

Following each hearing, the Budget Committee considers all input and finalizes its budgets - the ones that go to the Town Meeting and School District Meeting. Members of the Budget Committee will be at both meetings to answer questions as they arise.

On FEBRUARY 4, a public hearing will be held on Revenue Sharing, Bond Issues and any Special Articles being proposed. Sometimes, sizeable dollar figures appear in these articles. Another important date to note!

A new factor this year is the advent of a Capital Improvements Plan with a committee chaired by Tom Varney of the Planning Board. This committee was charged with analyzing all capital needs with a price tag of \$5000 or more and recommending a six year plan (six budget years) to spread major capital needs and funding over a longer period and avoid peak costs in some years or capital projects competing with each other in a given year. This committee has been active since early summer and is another plus for sensible fiscal planning.

This next year's Town Meeting will be on March 8 with the School District Meeting on March 16. But the best way to influence the budget is found in the public hearing dates in February noted above. Watch succeeding issues of Main Street for dates and locations of important meetings in this budgeting process.

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ALTON SCHOOL TO HOST MR. & MRS. FISH PROGRAM

On December 4, the students of grades kindergarten through six will be immersed in an aquatic world as guests of Mr. and Mrs. Fish, also known as Jeff and Deb Sandler.

Their internationally-known, award-winning show features the couple taking on the roles of various sea dwellers and drawing the children into participation through droll and provocative impersonations of their subjects.

Resource Center Director Mary Batchelder explains that while the students may view the show as an interlude of fun and fancy, the real purpose is to teach them to understand and appreciate creatures of the sea. The Sandlers will make presentations on whales and on inhabitants of tidal pools.

Parents are welcome, as Mr. and Mrs. Fish are accustomed to throwing in a few items of adult-level enlightenment.



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ALTON PHOTO BOOK READY THIS MONTH

Alton - A Town to Remember will be the title of the special book about to make its appearance.

A product of many months' efforts by the Old Photos Committee, the book will be for sale at \$7 at the Town Clerk's Office according to Chairman Jean Roberts.

At press time, she indicated that the best estimate would be "sometime in December" and hopefully in time for Christmas gift giving. When ready, she said, it will be widely advertised locally. So watch for it, and be among the first to share in this backward glance at Alton memorabilia.

SUBSCRIPTION TO MAIN STREET A UNIQUE HOLIDAY GIFT

Do you know someone who spends some time away from Alton who would like to keep up with Alton news? Why not surprise them with a subscription to Main Street as a stocking stuffer this Christmas.

Twelve issues of Main Street will be mailed first class for only \$5 a year!

Subscription requests should be sent to Main Street, P. O. Box 210, Alton Bay, NH, 03810. Include the name and mailing address and a \$5 check payable to Voice of Alton, Inc. Call 875-2051 for more information.

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CROSS COUNTRY TEAMS HAD REBUILDING YEAR

To say that this was a rebuilding year for Alton's Cross Country teams would be stating the obvious. The girls lost five members of the team which won the State Class Meet last year and graduation and soccer claimed five of last year's boys team.

This year's team was made up of a very young group. Jannis Burke, Terri McKenna, Lisa Racine, and Carol Young ran on the girls team and, for a while, Matt Christy was the only boy runner. During the season, Tom Glidden and Eric Kleeberg joined Matt.

There were several highlights of the season. Terri McKenna and Jannis Burke consistently placed in the top five. At the J.H. State Meet in Londonderry, Terri placed 4th and Jannis finished 8th, giving Alton the distinction of being the only school to have two runners in the top ten. At the State Class Meet, Terri ran an excellent race finishing 2nd and Jannis came in 8th with a steady performance.

The future is brightened by the participation of four runners from grade four who trained with the team and participated in two mini races. Jacob Swain won both races and was joined by classmates Laurie Coots, Stephanie Osborn and Jeremiah Wright.

BOYS BASKETBALL OPENER IS DEC. 11 AGAINST NUTE

By Jill Landry

The Alton Varsity Boys Basketball Team is excited about the upcoming season. The team will have a mixture of talented younger and older players and the new 3-point line creates new interest for players and fans.

Returning lettermen include seniors Jim Brown, Rodney Lamper, Don Matson, and Deane Rines, and sophomores Chris Irvin and Russ Troendle. Moving up from the junior varsity squad are juniors Steve Burke, Dana Sackos, and Keith Watts, and sophomores Ken Lurvey and Rob Wyatt. Joining the team this year is newcomer Bryan Scovill.

The Apaches plan to play an exciting brand of basketball, including fast break offenses and pressure defenses. The athletes have been working hard during the pre-season and hope to have a very successful year.

The season opener is against Nute at home on Friday, December 11, at 8p.m.



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