

Main Street

Volume XI Number 12

December, 1995

Alton, New Hampshire



POST OFFICE UNDER CONSTRUCTION

The new Alton Post Office on School Street is under construction with occupancy anticipated early in 1996. The view is the rear of the building as seen from McGrath's Food Center parking lot.

STATE TEST SCORES RELEASED FOR THIRD GRADE STUDENTS

Last May third graders at Alton Central School participated in the 1995 New Hampshire Educational Improvement and Assessment Program. Students were tested in Language Arts and mathematics and the results were released on November 1.

In Language Arts, Alton students demonstrated proficiency levels that exceeded the statewide results. 15% of the students were identified as "Advanced" as compared to 3% statewide. 40% were considered "Proficient" as compared to 26% statewide. 30% scored in the "Basic" category as compared to 44% statewide and 15% were "Novice" as compared to 22%.

The Mathematics results indicate that 21% of Alton students were "Advanced" while only 9% of the students statewide were. 26% were at the "Proficient" level with 24% statewide. 30% of the students scored In the "Basic" level; 42% statewide. 23% of the students may be considered at the "Novice" level as compared to 22% statewide.

ALTON CENTRAL SCHOOL NAMED 1994-1995 BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL

The Alton Central School has been selected as a recipient of the Blue Ribbon School Achievement Award for the 1994-95 school year. This is the 14th year of the awards and Alton Central School has received the award 11 times.

The award is presented by the New Hampshire Partners in Education and recognizes the cooperative efforts between school and community that have resulted in an outstanding school volunteer program benefiting the children.

Coordinators of Alton's volunteer program for 1994-95 were Laurie Boyce and Frances Strickland.

ALTON TAX BILLS INCREASE 8% FROM \$10.45/\$1,000 to \$11.28/\$1,000

The new Alton tax rate has been announced and reflects an increase of 8% over the previous year. The new rate is \$11.28 per \$1,000 of property tax value. Last year's rate was \$10.45.

The school district's portion increased 8% from \$6.12 to \$6.62 and Alton's part of Belknap County expenses rose 2.75% from \$1.45 to \$1.49.

The largest increase is reflected in town government costs, an increase of approximately 10%. The rate increased from \$2.88 per thousand to \$3.17 per thousand.

Town Administrator Scott Dunn noted particular items that had a significant impact on the rate. In an article in <u>The Citizen</u>, he reported that "There are some hefty expenses for road improvements and there are some building and maintenance projects."

The reassessment of property in town was supposed to be completed this past summer, in time to be incorporated in the determination of the tax rate. However, the project, being done by the NH Department of Revenue Administration, has not moved as quickly as anticipated. According to Dunn, the Department of Revenue Administration "has some other projects that they needed to get done, things that took their attention away from Alton."

The revaluation of property, which began in May, is the first one that has been done in 10 years. The project was originally slated to take place next year, but the Board of Selectmen moved up the date when the state agency offered to do the work sooner and at a reasonable price.

ALTON MAN CITED FOR WORK AS COUNTY SHERIFF DISPATCHER

Donald Sullivan, a 20-year-old dispatcher with the Belknap County Sheriff's Department who recently kept a Sanbornton woman on the telephone while her armed husband held officers at bay, was complimented by authorities for his professionalism during the seven-hour standoff.

Sullivan, an Alton resident who became a dispatcher last year, kept Sanbornton police abreast of the situation as well as the telephone lines open to the home.

According to Sanbornton Police Chief Jack Maurath, "He's a natural. He did a fantastic job. He kept up a dialogue with her all the time. He's a real professional."

Sullivan's supervisor, Tracy Beauchemin, said, "He acted in a cool, calm and collected manner. He is a true professional. I'm very proud of him."

In an editorial, <u>The Citizen</u> said "It is good to know that in time of crisis the person on the other end of the phone will know what to do. Although just a rookie and only 20 years old, Donald Sullivan is credited with helping law enforcement officers stay clued in to the tense situation."

"Things are really rough," said one businessman to another. "This morning opportunity knocked at my door, but by the time I pushed back the bolt, turned two locks, unlatched the chain and shut off the burglar alarm, it was gone."

MANAGEMENT OF TOWN FOREST PLANNED BY CONSERVATION COMMISSION

By Sam Mekrut

The Alton Conservation Commission recently held a special meeting to inform town residents of its plan for managing the 80-acre Town Forest on Avery Hill and Alton Mountain Roads. "In addition to sharing our plan with people in town, we also wanted to extend to residents an opportunity to share with us their vision of how they would like to use this community resource," said Commission Chair Lisa Erickson-Harris.

The Town Forest project was initiated by the late Mike Burke who, in addition to being Alton's Town Forester, had also served on the Conservation Commission. In 1993 Burke brought before town meeting a warrant article which, when passed, authorized the Conservation Commission to steward the land and to set up a fund for proceeds from timber sales to be used for trail development on town land.

Current members of the Commission are seeking to complete the project in Burke's memory. Town Forester Peter Farrell, who assisted Burke in initial planning, became a member of the Conservation Commission this year. Working with Commission members Farrell drafted a Town Forest Plan addressing the group's goals in areas of conservation, education and community outreach.

The goal in managing the Town Forest set forth in the Plan is "to maintain a multiple-use forest environment which helps our community "lead by example". Specific objectives outlined include: providing opportunities for recreation; maintaining and enhancing the aesthetic value of the property; enhancing the variety of wildlife habitat; managing for high-quality sawlog production; and providing an area for demonstrating forest management practices.

The plan calls for an initial timber cutting this winter while the ground is frozen. Paths where skidders will travel were designed for subsequent use as a network of trails for walking, cross-country skiing and other passive recreation activities. The area of timber harvest will also offer schools and other groups an opportunity to learn first-hand about sound forest management practices.

Those unable to attend the meeting in November, who wish to provide the Commission with input on the project, may write to: Lisa Erickson-Harris, Alton Conservation Commission, Alton, 03809.

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SEASONAL OBSERVATIONS FROM THE GILMAN LIBRARY CAMPAIGN

One might think that the holiday season is when activities like the Gilman Library Expansion Campaign cool down and await the new year. Not so! Some residents are planning to give a holiday gift to the Library. It's a delightful idea! It can be a small gift or whatever one wishes. All contributions are important and appreciated. It doesn't have to be a major gift.

AND DON'T FORGET THOSE AFGHANS!

There's still time to purchase those special afghans for holiday giving. It's a one-of-a-kind item that will be cherished in the years ahead. And this does help the campaign and makes you a "contributor".

HONOR ROLL

A good reason for broad-based and grass-roots giving is the plan to have an appropriate honor roll on display in the "new" Library with the names of all contributors placed thereon. . . just names and not amounts.

AND THOSE MEMORIAL GIFTS

They are referred to as "memorial" gifts or projects. That's one purpose, of course. But they can also be used as tributes to living persons or to honor an individual or organization for an achievement. Most are substantial projects and run the gamut from about \$600 to over \$100,000. Some have been "sold", but many remain available for selection.

ALTON POLICE ASSOCIATION SEEKING CHRISTMAS DINNER PROGRAM SPONSOR

The Annual Christmas Dinner Program is a project that the Alton Police Association has sponsored for many years. The Association feels this yearly project is a worthwhile program to carry on. However, a decline in membership forces the Association to seek out community volunteers to take over and continue on with this program beginning with this year.

The funds which remain from donations to the Association for the dinners will be turned over to the group or organization that would take over this program. If there is an organization or group willing to take over the Christmas Dinner Program this year and to continue the program, please contact Pat Pellowe or Susan Roberts at the Alton Police Department, 875-3752.

SENIOR CITIZENS OFFERED FREE COUNSELING

The Bay Church Christian Counseling Service is offering free counseling for senior citizens at the Pearson Road Community Center every Tuesday before and after lunch. Rev. David Nolan, director of counseling, will be available to help those that are dealing with a loss of a loved one or other issues inherent with the "Golden Years" of retirement. Contact Claire Fitzgerald at the Community Action Program, 875-7102, for more information.

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TOWN HALL NOTES

By Scott Dunn, Town Administrator

ALTON'S TAX SYSTEM EXPLAINED

Now that it's tax bill time, the following is offered as a brief explanation about the tax system in Alton.

First, it's important to remember that the budget for Town and School operations are determined by the voters at Annual Meetings in March. Most or these budget items are decided by a simple majority of voters and not by Town Officials. In my opinion, there is no purer form of democracy than the traditional Town Meeting process, but this only works when all concerned citizens and eligible voters participate.

The Tax Rate in Alton for 1995 as calculated by the New Hampshire Department of Revenue Administration is \$11.28 per thousand dollars of assessed real estate. This number can then be broken down as follows: \$6.62 is for schools, \$3.17 is for the Town government, and \$1.49 is for the County. Another way of looking at it is for every tax dollar you pay, 59 cents goes towards schools, 28 cents goes towards Town government and 13 cents is for the County.

ne 1995 Town budget is a	s follows:
ater, etc.) \$1,219,589	(41%)
\$963,358	(32%)
\$418,522	(14%)
\$173,370	(6%)
\$160,222	(5%)
\$32,188	(<1%)
\$23,808	(>1%)
\$2,991,057	
\$1,102,959	
\$1,888,098	
	ater, etc.) \$1,219,589 \$963,358 \$418,522 \$173,370 \$160,222 \$32,188 \$23,808 \$2,991,057 \$1,102,959

In order for the Town to raise the \$1,888,098 required to balance the budget, each taxable piece of property has an assessed value of which \$3.17 per \$1,000 needs to be paid to the Town for municipal operations. Assessments are currently based on the value of the property based on its condition as of April 1, 1995, and this is then calculated into its probable worth in 1989 when the last Town revaluation was conducted. Of course at this point in time, the Town recognizes that most assessments are for an amount which far exceeds the actual market value for most properties. This is one reason we are in the midst of a revaluation. In 1994 the Town was told its equalized assessment ratio was 142%. With this in mind, we suggest that taxpayers divide their assessed value

(as listed on the tax bills) by 1.42 – example: a piece of property assessed for \$100,000 ÷ 1.42 means it has an approximate fair market value of \$70,422. If this formula does not result in a realistic figure, taxpayers should call the Assessing Office at 875-5095. Town Officials are frequently asked why doesn't the Town simply lower every assessment by 42%. First, the end result would be absolutely no difference in the amount of taxes that each person pays. Assessments would decrease and the tax rate would increase in the same proportion; (100% assessments would result in a Town tax rate of \$4.50 and an overall tax rate of \$16.02 as compared with the current \$3.17 and \$11.28 respectively). Second, the Town currently does not have any computerized method of reducing assessments and so the staff time required to change every property record (5500+) by hand is simply not worth the expense because the end result would be exactly the same amount being paid in taxes by each property owner.

Here's a few other things to keep in mind: Taxes which are paid late are assessed stiff penalties and interest which are set by State Law. And although the Town has not had to borrow any money to pay its bills for the last two years, late tax payments can force us to borrow money and this will ultimately lead to higher budgets resulting in an increased tax rate.

I apologize if my explanations are confusing, but it is a bit difficult to explain in a few short paragraphs. For more information, call the Town Hall or drop by during Town Hall business hours. Lastly, if you think Alton's taxes are high, consider the following equalized rates from other towns in New Hampshire: Greenville, \$43.93; Allenstown, \$43.89; Antrim, \$43.09; Charlestown, \$41.95; and Pittsfield, \$41.17.

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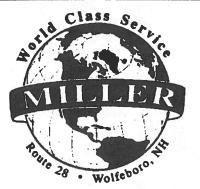
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TWO ALTON WRITERS SELECTED FOR YOUNG WRITER'S CONFERENCE

Junior Harlee Dain and sophomore Jebediah Christy at Alton Central School were among 140 high school students from across the state selected to attend the first New Hampshire Young Writers' Conference in October at Gilford High School.

Sponsored by the New Hampshire Writers & Publishers Project, the conference was intended as a celebration of the students' commitment to writing and to share in their learning with some of the Granite State's finest published authors. The conference also served to create a network that will help stimulate the teaching of writing at secondary schools throughout the state.

Poet Donald Graves welcomed the participants before the day-long writing workshops and classes. In the evening, student readings and a presentation by New Hampshire fiction writer Walter Wetherell concluded the conference.

English teacher Mary Christy accompanied the students as the faculty participant from Alton Central School.







BICENTENNIAL MEMORABILIA MAKE GREAT HOLIDAY GIFTS

Designed and crafted by Hampshire Pewter, the Bicentennial Medallions may be purchased from committee members Muriel Stinson, 875-5211, or Virginia Dore, 875-3451. The Town Hall Medallion is \$12.50 and the Bandstand in Alton Bay is \$15. These also are available at the Farmington National Bank and First NH Bank in Alton.

There are also colorful tee shirts and sweatshirts with the bicentennial logo on display at the Village Store, Wayside, and the East Alton Store.

These items make great gifts for the coming holiday season.

LINE DANCERS MEET WEDNESDAYS

The N.E. Country Drifters Dance Club is presenting line dancing Wednesdays from 7 to 8:30p.m. at the Alton Bay Community Center. The cost is \$2 to \$3 depending on the instructor and beginning enthusiasts are welcome. There will be no session on December 13. For more information call Ruth at 875-6750 or Ginger at 364-6798.









May The Peace of Christ Bless Your Home This Holy Season



The Bay Church

Roy Ames, Pastor

David Nolan, Counselor • Charles Decoff, Share Program

ALTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY ELECTS 1995-1996 OFFICERS

The Alton Historical Society held its annual pot-luck supper and meeting in October. Hostesses for the supper were Jessie Bakeman, Shirley Copeland, Phyllis Draper, and Ruth Latham.

After the supper, President Jessie Bakeman conducted the business meeting and presented the slate of nominees for office in 1995-1996. The members gave a unanimous vote for: president, Jessie Bakeman; vice-president, George W. Stone; recording secretary, Nina Liedtke; corresponding secretary, Nancy Mooney; and treasurer, Elizabeth Locke.

At the conclusion of the business meeting President Bakeman called on George W. Stone who introduced the guest speaker, Donald Leavitt of Center Harbor. Leavitt is the president of the Lakes Region Heritage Round Table. Leavitt explained that the purpose of his organization is to have each town in the Lakes Region identify its historical sites so that a future publication will be available to tourists and residents in the interests of preserving the heritage of each town. At the present, a pamphlet is being prepared for publication which describes a heritage driving tour through eight towns around Lake Winnipesaukee.

Nineteen ninety-five was a successful year for the Alton Historical Society. The only major problem is that it needs a new home for its museum and meeting place, as the Town Hall is quite inadequate. If any one has any suggestions about a new location, please let one of the AHS officers hear from you.

SUBMIT YOUR NEWS AND PHOTOS

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

Send any material to P. O. Box 210, Alton Bay, 03810, or fax to 875-3162 by the 15th of each month for the following month's issue.

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

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TOYS AND CHILDREN'S CLOTHING BEING COLLECTED BY FIREFLIES

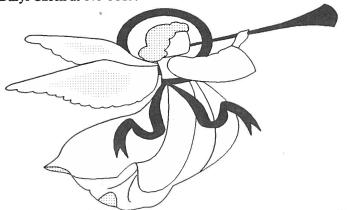
Members of the Alton Fireflies, the auxiliary of the Alton Fire Department, are asking for your help in making Christmas a little brighter for some Alton boys and girls.

New clothing and toys may be dropped off at the Farmington National Bank, the Town Clerk's Office in Town Hall, and the NH Electric Coop Office on Main Street by Monday, December 18. Boys and girls sizes 10 to 16 are needed.

Canned goods and donations of money are also welcome. Checks should be sent to Mrs. Santa, 230C Stockbridge Corner Road, Alton 03809. This money will be used to purchase warm jackets and boots.

Last year 57 children ranging in age from six months to 17 years were provided with Christmas gifts. The list promises to be even longer this year, so your help is truly needed.

If you have any questions, call Judy Fisichelli at 776-6172 or Daryl Czech at 875-3815.



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ALTON POLICE ASSOCIATION REPORTS ON FUND RAISING EVENTS

The Alton Police Association would like to extend its sincerest appreciation to all those who helped prepare the 1995 Penny Sale, to businesses and individuals for their generous donations, and to all the patrons who joined in the fun of this event.

Those generous donations raised over \$4,000 this year. The monies raised through this annual event is used for many support and assistance programs in the community, such as the Alton School yearbook, the chemical free graduation, the DARE (Drug & Alcohol Resistance Education) Program for Alton School 5th graders, Special Olympics events and the torch run fund raiser, memorials to police officers who have died in the line of duty, the American Legion Auxiliary Children's Christmas Party, scholarship funds. the Alton Youth League Fenway Park, medical expenses for ill children, donations to families who have been victims of fire, and many others.

HALLOWEEN TREATS

The Police Association again sponsored the annual Alton Police Department Halloween Treats for the community. Over 800 candies, as well as cider and donuts, were handed out to the many trick or treaters who visited the Police Station.

The purpose of this event is to promote community safety for Alton's children, as well as an open door social event with Police Department staff.

THANKSGIVING FRUIT AND FOOD BASKETS

For a number of years, the Alton Police Association has coordinated, supported; and sponsored another tradition of putting together and delivering fruit and food baskets to community members who are either elderly, shut-ins, or low income families.

The Association was still involved in the making and delivering of the Thanksgiving fruit baskets, as well as purchasing the food and turkeys for the food baskets. However, another group of volunteers from the Town Hall staff has taken over the coordinating, packing and delivery of the food baskets.

We would like to thank those volunteers who willingly accepted and offered their assistance in carrying on this program for the last two years, and who have offered to continue the Thanksgiving food basket program.

Association Members regret that the fruit basket program will be discontinued after this year. However, all funds donated for these baskets will be turned over to the new group of volunteers for the food basket program to continue. Please note this change for next year as your donations would go directly to the new coordinators of the Thanksgiving food basket program.

If there is a group or organization who would like to continue the fruit basket program, please contact Pat Pellowe or Susan Roberts at the Alton Police Department.

The average teenager still has all the faults his parents outgrew.





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FIRESIDE CHATS

By Stan Czech

DEPARTMENT BENEFITS FROM SERVICES OF LIVE-IN STUDENT/FIREFIGHTER

Alton Fire Department has a new member and his name is Joseph Dayton. What makes this newsworthy is that Joe is a live-in student at the West Alton Fire Station.

Joe is from Lunenburg, Massachusetts, and is a graduate of the Monty Technical High School in Fitchburg, Massachusetts. He is a first year student in the Fire Science Program at New Hampshire Technical College in Laconia.

Although Joe is only 18 years old, he has two years experience as a firefighter with the Lunenburg Fire Department.

Gilmanton and other towns around the college also participate in this program and what makes this a good deal for Alton is that Joe is a participating member of the Alton Fire Department. When he is not scheduled for classes, he responds to our fire alarms just like any other member of the department. Welcome aboard, Joe! We're glad you're here!

WOODSTOVE INFORMATION

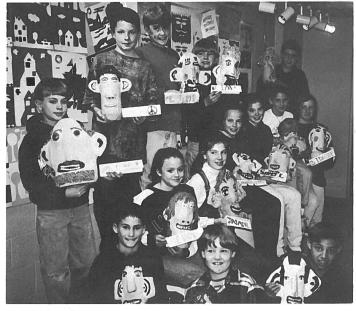
Anyone contemplating the installation of a woodstove is urged to contact Fire Department Lieutenant Jack Woodland, 875-2691, for a free consultation on guidelines and safety measures. Lt. Woodland also is available to inspect existing installations.

TOWN CHURCHES SCHEDULE CHRISTMAS SERVICES

The Community Church of Alton will have a Christmas Sunday Worship at 11a.m. and a Christmas Eve Candlelight Service at 8p.m. on Sunday, December 24.

The Bay Church will present a Christmas Cantata on Sunday, December 10 at 6p.m. followed by Christmas Fellowship. On Sunday, December 24, there will be a Family Christmas Worship at 11a.m. Both events will be held in the Moore Chapel at the Alton Bay Christian Conference Center.

Christmas Eve will be celebrated with a Midnight Mass preceded by carol singing at St. Joan of Arc Church. Masses will be offered at 8 and 11a.m. on Christmas Day.



"BOTTLE HEADS"

Members of a sixth grade art class at Alton Central School display the results of using their creativity and imagination to invent "Bottle Heads".



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MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS ATTEND MERRIMACK WATERSHED CONGRESS

Five eighth grade students from Alton Central School attended the annual Merrimack River Watershed Program Student Congress at the University of Massachusetts at Lowell on November 14. They were accompanied by science teacher Brian Davidson.

As part of an interdisciplinary unit on watersheds, students spent two days in October collecting and evaluating data from the Merrymeeting River to be presented at the Student Congress. Alton was one of approximately 60 other schools located In the Merrimack River Watershed in both Massachusetts and New Hampshire that presented data at the meeting. The results of testing conducted by those schools was shared with environmental agencies.

Students representing Alton Central at the Congress included Jessica Brownell, Joshua Dewey, Jen Howard, Elvira Hufschmid, and Nick Moulton. Alternates were Katy O'Meara and Elizabeth Quindley. In addition to Davidson, the interdisciplinary effort included Michael Folan, social studies teacher, and Deborah Kissell, English teacher.

In October, Alton students tested the Merrymeeting River for ph levels and dissolved oxygen. Measurements were taken for turbidity, water temperature, stream velocity and volume of flow. Biological characteristics, including an invertebrate count, were also studied. The findings were positive. According to Davidson, "The Merrrymeeting River has a high oxygen count. a neutral ph, and a great diversity of invertebrate animals. These factors, along with others, indicate good water quality."

To prepare for the Congress, all eighth grade students participated in the October field trip to the Merrymeeting River. Students worked on water quality monitoring, and participated in an archeological dig/survey and a creative imagery/writing project.. A "news team" conducted teacher and student interviews, photographed students at various activities, and made a videotape of this interdisciplinary unit. The video will be shared during the formal presentation at the Student Congress.

Observations, formal evaluation, and journal entries were evidence of high student interest during the watershed study. Overall, student. curiosity could perhaps be best summed up in the words of student, Jessica Brownell. "Archeology is like a box of chocolates. You never know what you're going to get!"

The line between two properties is never more clearly defined than when your neighbor mows his lawn.

Happy Holidays to all our friends and customers. Many thanks for all your support in our 1st year.

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Alton Outdoors
By Jack Miller

HUNTING SEASONS COME TO AN END

December is the month that closes out the year and the hunting season. December 3 is the last day of the firearms deer season and December 15 is the close of the archery deer season. New Hampshire provides the hunter with some of the longest and last to close hunting seasons in the New England area.

Deer are winding down their breeding season now and have "staying warm" on their minds. To provide the warmth they need, they must eat, and should be found near a food source trying to fatten up for the winter. The late season hunter must stay warm also which provides an added challenge to the hunt. Dressing in layers with wool on the outside, provides both warmth and quiet movement for hunting this month.

Gray squirrel, pheasant and ruffed grouse hunting ends December 31, although the grouse season in Coos County closes on December 1. Having flushed quite a few while deer hunting this year, a walk through the woods with a shotgun in hand could provide a tasty partridge for the holiday table.

Though this month ends the year, it is a time to look towards other seasons. This is the time to get ice fishing gear ready for the hard water season.

For the hunter, winter is the perfect time for fox and coyote hunting as they are more visible and are sometimes vulnerable to varmint calls. Coyotes seem plentiful this year. I had a good size one run by me while deer hunting. A friend called in and shot a large one while out bear hunting. Night hunting for coyote is legal from January 1 to March 31. There are special rules for this type of hunting so be sure to check the regulations.

Think of the seasons to come while shopping for a holiday gift for the outdoor person on your list. Have a very happy holiday season in Alton's Outdoors.

PHOTOS TO BE TAKEN FOR BICENTENNIAL TIME CAPSULE

The East Alton Fire Association is sponsoring a time capsule for Alton's Bicentennial celebration. Among the articles to be placed in the capsule will be photographs of families, businesses, and points of interest.

The photos will be taken by Marilyn Loud, 569-4414, and Nancy Jones, 569-1921, who will be contacting residents for a convenient time for picture taking.

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By Pat Merrill, Librarian

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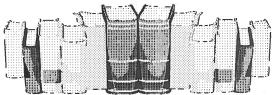
The Gilman Library is looking for old Library calendars to complete its collection. Missing are 1983, 1985 and 1990. If anyone has any of those years and would care to donate them to the Library, we would be most grateful.

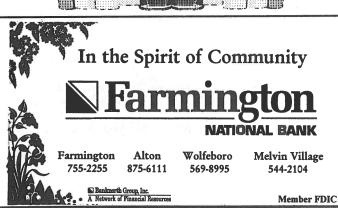
To prepare for the holiday season, the Library has on display many books for Christmas. These include books about foods and crafts, as well as various tales of folklore. These books are for children as well as adults. Come and see!

The librarian recently attended a workshop, part of which was devoted to home schooling. A list of resource books, given to each participant, is available at the Library.

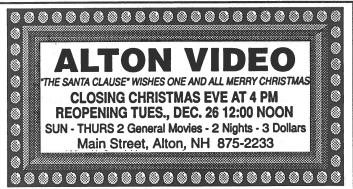
The Library is having a Christmas Open House to celebrate reaching the halfway mark toward our goal of \$350,000 for the Building Fund Drive from 10:30a.m. to noon on Saturday, December 9. Refreshments will be served and Christmas will be in the air!

The Friends of the Gilman Library is actively recruiting new members. Please consider getting involved to help our Library in providing programs for young and old. Meetings will be scheduled on a regular basis after the holidays. For information call 875-2550, 875-5510 or 875-5678 evenings.

















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Huge Selection and World Class Service!

MAIN STREET INFORMATION CENTER

Boards and Committees

- ADDRESS COMMITTEE Meets on Call. Chairman David Jensen, 875-5637.
- AD HOC COMMITTEE Meets on Call. Chairman Virginia Gray, 875-7474.
- BICENTENNIAL COMMITTEE 4th Wednesday, 4p.m., Gilman Library, Chairman Nancy Merrill, 875-2626.
- BOARD OF SELECTMEN 1st, 3rd & 5th Wednesday, 6:30 9:30p.m., Chairman Russell Jones. Call 875-2161 for Appointment.
- BUDGET COMMITTEE 3rd Thursday, 7p.m. Chairman Gregory Fuller, 875-5546
- CABLE TV ADVISORY COMMITTEE Meets on Call. Chairman Robert Boudreau, 875-6368.
- CEMETERY TRUSTEES 1st & 3rd Monday, 1p.m., Chairman Florence Shaw, 875-2220.
- CONSERVATION COMMISSION 2nd & 4th Thursday, 7p.m. Chairman Lisa Erickson Harris.
- FIRE WARDS Meet on Call. Chief Russell Jones, 875-7510.
- GILMAN MUSEUM TRUSTEES Meet on Call. Chairman Ellamarie Carr, 776-4833.
- LAND CONSERVATION INVESTMENT PROGRAM Meets on Call, Chairman Juliet Peverley, 875-7232.
- LEVY PARK TRUSTEES Meet on Call. Chairman Jonathan Downing, 875-7243.
- OLD HOME WEEK COMMITTEE Meets on Call. Chairman Debbie Burton, 875-5188
- PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION 1st & 3rd Thursday, 6:30p.m., Chairman Debbie Burton, 875-5188.
- PLANNING BOARD 2nd Monday, 7p.m., Chairman Harold Bothwick. Call 875-5095 for Appointment.
- SCHOOL BOARD 2nd & 4th Monday, 6p.m., Chairman Arnold P. Shibley, 875-2849.
- SUPERVISORS OF THE CHECKLIST Meet on Call. Chairman Alice Ziegra, 875-2151.
- TRUSTEES OF THE GILMAN LIBRARY 3rd Monday, 3:30p.m. Chairman Ellamarie Carr, 776-4833.
- TRUSTEES OF TRUST FUNDS Meet on Call. Chairman Joseph R. Houle, 875-7321.
- WATER COMMISSION 2nd & 4th Wednesday, 8a.m. Chairman George Jones, 364-6870. Office, 875-4200.
- ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT 2nd Thursday, 7p.m. Chairman Milton Jensen, 875-5990.
- *DENOTES A CHANGE OF INFORMATION

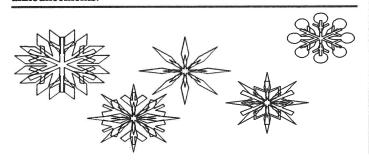
CALL 875-7300 OR FAX 875-3162

TO UP-DATE THE ABOVE LISTINGS

NO SCHOOL TODAY?

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

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



Schedules

CHURCHES:

Baha'i Fireside - Thursday, 7:30p.m., Holway Residence, Old New Durham Road

Bay Church - Sunday, 11a.m. and 6p.m., Wednesday Prayer Meeting, 7p.m., Pastor Roy Ames

Community Church - Congregational Meeting House, October-April, 11a.m., Baptist Meeting House, May and September, 11a.m., June-August, 10a.m., Dr. Peter E. Roussaki, Pastor

First Free Will Baptist Church - Sunday School, 9:45a.m., Church, 11a.m., Evening Service, 6p.m., Wednesday Prayer Meeting, 7p.m., Depot St., New Durham, James Nason, Pastor

St. Joan of Arc - Saturday, 5p.m., Sunday, 8 & 11a.m., Msgr. Leo F. Hines, Pastor

Wolfeboro Bible Fellowship, Sunday School, 9:30a.m., Worship Service, 10:30a.m. (Summer 10a.m.), Evening Service, 6p.m., Prayer Meeting, Wednesday, 7p.m., Route 28, Lee Button, Pastor GILMAN LIBRARY:

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

SENIOR MEAL SITE:

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

Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday - 8a.m. to 3p.m.

Sunday - Noon to 3p.m.; Closed Tuesday & Thursday

Burn Pit - Rines Road, Saturday, 8a.m. to 3p.m.

TOWN HALL:

Selectmen's Office, Tax Collector, Town Administrator, Town Clerk, and Welfare Officer - 8:30a.m. to 4:30p.m.

Town Planner - Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 8:30a.m. to 3:30p.m., Wednesday 1 to 3:30p.m., Meetings by Appointment, Closed Noon to 1p.m.

Building Inspector - Call 875-5095 for Office Hours and Appointments

ORGANIZATIONS:

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS - Tuesday, 8p.m., Alton Bay Community Center

AMERICAN LEGION - 2nd Monday, 7p.m., Legion Hall
AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY - 2nd Monday 7p.m., Legion
Hall

COUNTRY DRIFTERS DANCE CLUB - Wednesday, 7p.m., Alton Bay Community Center

CUB SCOUT PACK 53 - Last Tuesday, 6:30p.m., Legion Hall EASTERN STAR - 2nd Tuesday

GARDEN CLUB - 4th Tuesday

FLYING CLUB - 2nd Wednesday

HAPPY HOBBY DOLL CLUB - 4th Friday, 7p.m., Alton Bay Community Center

HISTORICAL SOCIETY - 3rd Tuesday, April - October

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS - 1st Wednesday, 7:30p.m., St. Joan of Are Church Hall

LIONS CLUB - 1st & 3rd Thursday, 6:30p.m., Mama Rina's Restaurant

MASONIC LODGE - 2nd Tuesday

PARENT TEACHER COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION - 3rd Wednesday, 7p.m., Alton Central School

ST. JOAN OF ARC LADIES GUILD - Last Thursday, 7:30p.m., Church Hall

SENIOR CITIZENS - 2nd Wednesday, 2p.m., Pearson Road Community Center

VFW - 3rd Monday 7:30p.m., Pearson Road Community Center CALL 875-7300 OR FAX 875-3162 TO UP-DATE THE ABOVE LISTINGS

Remove & Save

MAIN STREET INFORMATION CENTER

December Events

Fri.	1	-	WREATH LIGHTING CEREMONY, Town Hall, 7p.m.
			GIRLS BASKETBALL at Coe Brown, 7:30p.m.

- GIRLS BASKETBALL vs. Nute, 6:30p.m. Tue. 5 -BOYS BASKETBALL vs. Nute, 8p.m.
- STORY HOUR: 3-5 year olds, Gilman Library 10a.m. Wed. 6 -CONCERT: A WINTER WONDERLAND, Alton Central School, 7p.m.
- GIRLS BASKETBALL vs. Linwood, 6p.m. Fri. 8 -BOYS BASKETBALL vs. Linwood, 7:30p.m.
- CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE, Gilman Library, 10:30a.m. Sat. 9 -
 - CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY, American Legion Hall, 1 to 3p.m.
- Sun. 10 -CHRISTMAS CANTATA, Bay Church, 6p.m.
- Tue. 12 -GIRLS BASKETBALL vs. Derryfield, 4:30p.m. BOYS BASKETBALL vs. Derryfield, 6p.m.
- Wed. 13 -STORY HOUR: 3-5 year olds, Gilman Library, 10a.m.
- BAND & CHORAL HOLIDAY CONCERT, Alton Central Thu. 14 -School, 7p.m.
- TEEN HOLIDAY SHOPPING TRIP, Town Hall, 4p.m. Fri. 15 -GIRLS BASKETBALL at Concord Christian, 5:30p.m. BOYS BASKETBALL at Concord Christian, 7p.m.
- VISIT FROM SANTA, McGrath's Food Center, 10a.m. to Sat. 16 -3p.m.
- CHRISTMAS CAROLING, Town Hall, 6p.m. Sun. 17 -
- Mon. 18 -HANUKKAH
- Wed. 20 -STORY HOUR: 3-5 year olds, Gilman Library, 10a.m. GIRLS BASKETBALL at Laconia Christian, 6p.m. BOYS BASKETBALL at Laconia Christian, 7:30p.m.
- FAMILY CHRISTMAS WORSHIP, Bay Church, 11a.m. Sun. 24 -CHRISTMAS SUNDAY WORSHIP, Community Church,

CANDLELIGHT SERVICE, Community Church, 8p.m. MIDNIGHT MASS, St. Joan of Arc Church, Midnight

Mon. 25 -CHRISTMAS DAY

NEW YEARS EVE Sun. 31 -

Main Street

Published Monthly Since 1985 by Voice of Alton, Inc., A Non-Profit Organization P. O. Box 210, Alton Bay NH 03810

1. O. DOX 210, Alton Day 1111 03010			
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Circulation Manager	Robert Smith		
Asst.Circulation Manager	Stephen Connelly		
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Dorothy Lynds, Gerry and Frank Metca			
Tammy Murtagh, Hazel	Potter, Jean Roberts.		
Laura and George Smith, Nancy Tho			
Frances and James Washh	urn Marie Williams		

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Advertising 875-3216 Fax: 875-3162

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ALL NIGHT PARKING BAN IN EFFECT THROUGH APRIL 1

According to a town ordinance, automobiles are not permitted to be parked on any highway in Alton between midnight and 6a.m. from December 1 through April 1.

Vehicles in violation of this ordinance may be taken to a public garage for storage at the owner's risk and expense.

Classified Ads

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

FOR SALE

Clarinet with Case, New Pads and Corks, Tune-Up, \$150, 875-2456

Player Piano (Needs Help), \$500 or BO, 875-7243

WANTED

Garage to Rent in Alton Bay Area, Old Cookbooks, 875-2797

Complete Set of Encyclopedia Britannica, 11th Edition (1910-11) 569-2629

Part Time Help Afternoons and Weekends in Exchange For Riding Lessons or Board Your Horse, 569-6896

FREE

Manure for Removal, Makes Nice Garden Mulch, 569-6896

LOST & FOUND

Small all black female cat with flea collar missing from Youngtown Road since 8/20/95. Her name is Nickie and her owners would like to have her home. Small reward for return. 875-2860

OUR ELECTED OFFICIALS

U.S. SENATE

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

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

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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

NH EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

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

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

NH HOÙSÉ OF REPRÈSENTATIVES

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

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

Linda Ann Smith, 293-9637. Alice Ziegra, 875-2151.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Russell Jones, 875-7510 Reuben Wentworth, 875-3388

Arnold Shibley, 875-2849

DECORATING CONTEST PLANNED BY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

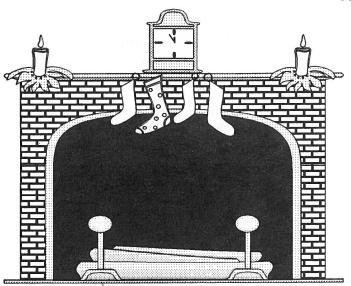
The Alton/Alton Bay Chamber of Commerce will sponsor its Christmas Decorating Contest for all residents and businesses: This annual event attracts many entries and numerous inquiries have already been received.

Categories are Residential and Commercial and only outdoor decorations are judged. The deadline for entries is Thursday, December 14, and entry blanks are available at several local businesses. Judging will take place on Monday, December 18, beginning at 6p.m. In case of bad weather, participants will be notified by phone of a new date for judging.

For additional information, call 875-5510

MAIN STREET ON THE INTERNET

Since September, the text of Main Street has been available each month on the World Wide Web of the Internet. The address or URL is http://www.win.net/~boyco - point your browser there and have look.





ALTON BOYS SOCCER TEAM MAKES STATE TOURNAMENT

The Alton boys soccer team fell just short of pulling off an upset in the Class S tournament, dropping a tough 1-0 overtime decision to Sunapee.

Sunapee outshot Alton 14-3 and had a 10-3 advantage in corner kicks, but Alton was able to stay in the game behind the

standout goal-tending of Brad Harris.

"The kids gave it everything they had," said Alton coach Gary Noyes. "I'm proud of the kids." Noyes lauded the play of fullbacks Mark Damon, Gary Noyes, Jeremy Stein, and Jason Martin and noted strong offensive contributions from Jake Tharpe, Jake Swain. Steve Noves, and Matt Pelletier.

No. 9 Alton ended up 8-9-1.

SUPPORT MAIN STREET ADVERTISERS

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

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

activity financially.

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

UNITED ASSOCIATIONS OF ALTON **ELECT 1995-1996 OFFICERS**

The United Associations of Alton has elected its new officers to serve through the 1996 season. Thomas Todd, long-time treasurer, is president with Joan High serving as vice president. Ann McCoubrey was re-elected recording secretary and Kay Pettit was re-elected corresponding secretary. Outgoing President Don Byker became an honorary director, joining other past presidents on the board.





LOBSTERS Available til New Year's



THE ALTON TRAFFIC CIRCLE

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ORDER YOUR HOLIDAY PIES AND ROLLS EARLY **OPEN CHRISTMAS DAY 2 - 8**

# rolls				
# pies DINNER	# pies		# pies	
		PUMPKIN		APPLE
WITEAT DIMINEIT		PECAN	***************************************	
				MINCE
VIENNA				*
				NAME
APPROX. DATE & TIME PICK-UP				
H APPLE BULKIE N WHEAT DINNER WHEAT BULKIE VIENNA		DUTCH APPLE PECAN		BLUEBERRY STRAW-RHUBARB MINCE

NEW AT THE GILMAN LIBRARY

FICTION A Long Fatal Love Chase by Louisa May Alcott The Bad Samaritan by Robert Barnard Mister Touch by Malcolm Bosse Love in Another Town by Barbara Taylor Bradford Silent Night by Mary Higgins Clark The Golden Straw by Catherine Cookson The Lost World by Michael Crichton A Maiden's Grave by Jeffrey Deaver Politically Correct Bedtime Stories by James Finn Garner The People's Choice by Jeff Greenfield Miracles in Maggody by Joan Hess Finding Moon by Tony Hillerman The Voyage by Robert MacNeil A Gift of Love by Judith McNaught Brightness Falls by Jay McInerney Peyton Place by Grace Metalious

Implant by F. Paul Wilson NONFICTION

All I Know About Animal Behavior I Learned in Loehmann's Dressing Room by Erma Bombeck

Young Skin For Life: Your Guide by Julie Davis

Guide My Feet: Prayers and Meditations on Loving & Working

for Children by Marian Wright Edelman Millennium by Felipe Fernandez-Armesto

Miracle in Seville by James Michener

Chain of Evidence by Ridley Pearson

Fault Lines by Anne Rivers Siddons

The Hundred Secret Senses by Amy Tan

Now You See Her by Whitney Otto

Twilight by Nancy Pickard

High Tide in Tucson by Barbara Kingsolver

Amazing Grace by Jonathan Kozol

Charles Kuralt's America by Charles Kuralt

Where White Men Fear to Tread: The Autobiography of Russell

Means by Russell Means

Unfriendly Fire: A Mother's Memoir by Peg Mullen

The End of Education: Redefining the Value of Schools by Neil Postman

Sein Language by Jerry Seinfeld

The Martha Stewart Cookbook: Collected Recipes for Everyday by Martha Stewart

First Ladies by Margaret Truman

Letting Go: Death, Dying and the Law by Melvin Urofsky

Race Matters by Cornell West 1996 Guinness Book of Records

Christmas is Coming! 1995

CHILDREN

Exploring Summer by Sandra Markle Exploring Spring by Sandra Markle Exploring Winter by Sandra Markle 1-2-3 Magic by Thomas Phelan The Bones in the Cliff by James Stevenson

ARE YOU ON OUR MAILING LIST?

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

If your mailing address has a different Zip Code than either of those and you are an Alton resident, you may receive <u>Main Street</u> each month by calling 875-7300, fax 875-3162, or send your mailing address to P. O. Box 210, Alton Bay NH 03810.



MIDDLE SCHOOL SOCCER TEAM FINISHES UNDEFEATED SEASON

The Alton Middle School boys soccer team finished their season with 14 wins, 0 losses, and 2 ties. The team also won the Suncook Valley League Tournament.

A highlight of the regular season was the defeat of Gilford 3-2 in Gilford. Alton outscored all opponents 68-23.

True friends are those rare people who ask how you are, and then wait to hear the answer.

DOCKSIDE RESTAURANT Rt. 28-A Alton Bay 875-2110

New Year's Day

Serving Breakfast and Lunch







ALTON VILLAGE 5 & 10 875-5510

We have lots of stuff, at both locations, to help complete your holiday lists!
Visit us at the 5 & 10 at the Circle and at Mustard Seed Craft Supply in our "old building"!

We wish you & yours a Blessed,
Peaceful Christmas,
and we thank you for your friendship.

BICENTENNIAL FOCUS

By George W. Stone Jr.

INDUSTRY IN ALTON Part 3

Part 2 described the milling industry, the box factory and ice harvesting. The third part of this article continues with the history of the cork-screw industry and specialized clothing.

CORK-SCREW MANUFACTURING

The industry, for which Alton may, in the dimming recollections of residents, be most famous is the cork-screw manufacture. It was a major and unique industry — major because it was the largest in output and the longest continuing one here, and unique because it was created and developed by one man — William Rockwell Clough. He did not invent the cork screw per se. One had been in use abroad since 1795. But he did invent and distribute the useful small "medicine-bottle" cork screw, which he patented in New Jersey in 1875 — and sold worldwide to be attached to each medicine bottle.

Clough, a skilled mechanic with an inventive imagination and a sense for practical uses of things in a wide range of markets, started out in Newark, New Jersey, as an accountant — a run-of-the-mill job, and for him unproductive. In 1873, there he formed the firm of Clough and Williamson for making cork screws. His father died in 1890, and he was compelled to return to his home farm in South Alton to care for his mother. There he decided to build what he called a "branch house" for the business. The place is still visible in South Alton on Dudley Road above Stockbridge. Later he cut a road through to Route 140 (for quick access to Alton Village, and still later moved the plant to a shed at the rear of his large home (White Lodge) at the center of the Village.

He saw a market in the medical supply houses, expandable no end. So he devised a screw to be available with every bottle sold. Wire was firm, points were sharp, cork was pliable. The idea was simplicity itself. Early marketing was a different matter. He hit up the bottlers and supply houses, who, when finally





attracted wished (business men as they were) to cut cost of supplying below his expense of manufacturing. But he changed the proposal, cut his price, and assured potential clients that he could produce in volume and speedily.

In New Jersey he had found the treadle-powered process to be a tedious hand-made affair — cutting, sharpening, twisting and making handles. But an order for making 11,000 gross prompted him to invent and set up a labor-saving set of machinery. The process is described in a paragraph from the <u>Granite State Monthly</u> of July 1909. He set up eight machines for the work, all done automatically.

"When one was in operation the wire was unwound from its reel, fed into the machine, and the finished product came out ready for the market. The cutting of the wire, the sharpening of the point, and the twisting of the handle were all done without the interference of the operator. The process could be completed at the rate of sixty times a minute . . . so nicely planned and so well adjusted was the machine that a single operator could attend almost any number." The Huse Manufacturing Company in Laconia made his machines. Clough traveled extensively and set up franchises in England, France, Germany, and Italy, and exhibited his machines in national exhibitions, where he won first prizes in Philadelphia, Paris, Chicago, Atlanta, and St. Louis. When bottle capping came in he adapted a "lifter". In 1931 he was turning out from 8,000 heavy ones to 15,000 lighter ones a day, for a total of 15 million a year.

His array of inventions included an improved design for the hairpin, staples for heels of shoes, a diaper safety pin, a hook wall hanger, a buckle and a chair, which though straight could recline without falling.

Clough was a busy man. When he was in the Civil War, as an idealistic youngster, he wrote patriotic verses about preserving the Union.

In Manchester, once he debated spontaneously with William Jennings Bryan. Some Altonians still recall the noisy sound of his factory when in operation, but such was the precision and dependability of his machines, it was said, that at eventide he could go into his adjoining house, and have dinner while the machinery kept chugging on — producing more and more cork screws. When the plant closed down (1930s) it seems that the heavy machinery was sold as scrap metal to the Japanese, who in the 1930s were avidly seeking such throughout the United States.

SPECIALIZED CLOTHING
Another long-time industry in the town, one enduring for nearly 38 years, specialized in making parkas, ski jackets, and such outer wear. It was begun in 1951, by William S. Freese of Pittsfield in a stitchery shop located in a building (Clough's) aft of the White Lodge. This was the "Timberlake Manufacturing Company", incorporated in 1971. By 1981 business was so good that Freese moved into a large, barn-like structure abutting the NH highway garage on Route 28, just south of the Edgewood Restaurant. Freese died in 1985 and son Timothy carried on, gradually shutting down the business in 1989.

While it was flourishing with its down-filled jackets, it also made elements for firemen's suits: fire-resistant pants, jackets, gloves and on contract taped seams for water-resistant clothing. Our good postman, Bob Witham, tells me that as a youngster he worked evenings there to sweep up, and then to unroll from a large, round ceiling-hung bolt of cloth, and cut into 15-foot strips four feet wide some 300 pieces in stacks, on which the cutters the following day would work from patterns laid out on the top cloth. They used reciprocating blades to cut out in a single operation hundreds of pieces, some sewn there, and the rest sent to Pittsfield where seamstresses put together the finished products.

This was a lively business, but a contract one — had no sales force or display room. But it employed from 12 to 36 workers as cutters, stitchers, inspectors — many of whom were Altonians. Its 35 industrial sewing machines had been supplied by Singer, Pfaff, Brothers, and such. These, when the business was sold (along with its down-filling equipment) went to stitchery operators in the southeastern United States, where demand was great and labor reasonable. The shop had been a non-union one, but it paid good wages, and provided medical benefits, along with paid vacations for its employees.

Since it was a contract shop, what it sold was the quality of its labor. Designs were specified by the contractors, the making of whose wear had been accepted. The maker supplied stores such as Montgomery Ward, Globe Manufacturing, C.B.Sports, and the like. Its "Profile" ski jackets and down-filled gloves became well known for the eastern slopes.



Why in Alton? Freese was attracted, according to his son, by an accessible, pleasant, and skilled labor force. He sought to go from 50¢ to 75¢ above the minimum wage for beginners. Some employees (depending on their experience) received as much as \$10 an hour. The weekly payroll amounted to from four to seven thousand dollars. The reason for the demise, according to young Freese, lay in his own lack of commitment, the impossibility of expanding on the new site, and of declining profitability in stitchery. Freese went into the insurance business, and leased the premises to an automatic machinery company, "A & A Technology", which upon request designed machines for packaging. It was linked to a company in Montreal, and at its peak used a staff of 35, including eight mechanical and electrical engineers. It ceased operations in 1991. Its operator moved to the River Bend Professional Building, and now operates the only extant "industry" in the town — the OSD (Orientor Systems Design) Company. This company concerns itself with designing machines for bottle capping, and other factory-oriented and computer-driven equipment, which on an assembly line puts component pieces of a device together. Its "thing" lies in continuous motion assembly machines, for example, to pharmaceutical companies for their asthma medical inhalators, and for opthamologists the handling equipment for their throw-away contact lenses. Volume and speed of production are basic to the designed machinery. Example: packaging in quantities of 25 Miracle Grow plant spikes at the rate of 200 pieces per minute.

Its operating staff is now small — two engineers (mechanical and electrical), a project coordinator, and office manager. They design machinery and produce blue prints for manufacturers. No large stock of materials is maintained. The metals — stainless steel, chain links, filters, air valves, and ball bearings needed are supplied on demand from companies in New Hampshire and Massachusetts. Most of its power comes from air-blown energy. Its carton-loader designs facilitate the handling of items such as deodorant sticks, lip-sticks, etc. solely on a contract basis. It employs no sales force. It has grown by word-of-mouth passed on by satisfied customers, and by the continuing energy of its founder, Joseph Bristol.

Half of being smart is knowing what you're dumb at.

McGrath Food Center

Main Street, Alton, NH

875-6104

For that small town friendly service.

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



NEW SUMMER HOURS OPEN: Mon - Sat 7-9 Sunday 7-6

FOR THE FUN OF IT

By Kellie McGrath, Recreation Director

HAUNTED HOUSE RAISED OVER \$1,000

The third annual Haunted Hayride and Haunted House sponsored by the Parks and Recreation Department and Boy Scout Troop #53 raised over \$1000 with over 500 visitors attending the Haunted event. The sponsors would like to thank the volunteers who helped make the event a success. A special thank you to Mike Currid, Jay Sydow, Dave Quann, Barbara Howard, Becky Jensen, Ron Ford, David Jensen, Matt Currid, Jennifer Howard and Ben Jensen.

YOUTH SOCCER AWARDS

The Alton Youth Soccer league and the Alton Parks and Recreation Department sponsored their Second annual Awards Presentation for the 1995 Youth Soccer League. Players in grades 1-6 were recognized for their talent, team work and effort. The Parks and Recreation Department would like to thank the coaches for their dedication and hard work to the Alton Youth Soccer

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League and also the following soccer league sponsors: Wayside Grocery, JP Builders, Farmington National Bank, Sandy Point Restaurant, McGrath's Food Center, Piches and Curry Realtors. For more information on the Alton Youth Soccer League, contact the Alton Parks and Recreation Department at 875-0109.

HOLIDAY CRAFTS FOR KIDS

The Holiday Craft Program will be held on Saturday, December 9, at the Pearson Road Community Center from 9 to 11a.m. Registration is required by phone or at the Parks and Recreation Department in the Town Hall Monday-Friday 8a.m. to 4:30p.m. before Thursday, December 7.

Kids have a choice of making two projects: a candy wreath or special holiday ornament. Other gift examples will be on display to give your child ideas they can make at home. The cost is \$2.00 per project and adult supervision is provided. Parents are welcome to attend. Handmade crafts by children make great gifts for parents and grandparents. For more information contact the Parks and Recreation Department at 875-0109.

TEEN HOLIDAY SHOPPING TRIP

A Teen Holiday Shopping Trip to the Fox Run Mall for students in grades 6-9 is scheduled for Friday, December 15. The bus leaves Town Hall at 4p.m. and returns at 10p.m. Students will shop in groups of two or more. Program fee is \$3. Bring money for shopping and to buy your own dinner. Register by December 5. Late registrations will not be accepted.

WREATH LIGHTING CEREMONY

The 4th annual Wreath lighting Ceremony is on Friday, December 1, at 7p.m. at the Alton Town Hall. Everyone is invited to attend.

CHRISTMAS CAROLING

Join community members in singing your favorite holiday songs on Sunday, December 17, from 6 to 7p.m. The caroling route will start at the Town Hall and continue on to the Gilman Home and the senior housing. Everyone is invited to participate.

DOG OBEDIENCE CLASS

A Dog Obedience Class will be held on Monday evenings for six weeks at the Alton Bay Community Center from 6:30 to 7:30p.m. starting January 8. Your dog will learn to walk on a leash without pulling, to stand, sit, lie down, wait and come when called. The class is open to all dogs twelve weeks and older. This is a great program to help you and your pet work together. The six week program fee is \$50. For more information contact the Parks and Recreation Department at 875-0109 or instructor Monique Tenander at 569-9457.

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

The Parks and Recreation Department is interested in lighting the large tree in Ginny Douglas Park. Anyone interested in donating new and/or used lights is asked to call 875-0109 or drop off the lights at the office in Town Hall.

The Metallic Age is when you have silver in your hair, gold in your teeth, and lead in your feet.

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ALTON CENTRAL SCHOOL SETS HOLIDAY CONCERT DATES

The Alton Central School Music Department is happy to announce its concert dates for the holiday season. This year's Kindergarten through Grade Three program, "A Winter Wonderland", will be held on the evening of Wednesday, December 6, at 7 o'clock. The snow date is Monday, December 11.

The Band and Choral Holiday Concert will be held on Thursday, December 14, at 7p.m. This year's concert will feature performances by the Middle and High School Chorus and by the Beginner, Intermediate, Concert, and Jazz Bands. The snow date for this program will be Tuesday, December 19.

Both programs will be held in the school gymnasium and are free and open to the public.

BUDGET COMMITTEE PUBLIC HEARINGS

Budget Committee Chairman Greg Fuller has announced the following public hearings:

Thursday, December 7 - Fire Department, Building Inspector, Emergency Management, and Highway Department

Wednesday, December 13 - Street Lighting, Landfill, Hazardous Waste Day, Town Water, Water Department

Thursday, December 14 - Humane Society, Health Agencies, Planning Board, Parks and Recreation, Library

Thursday, December 21 - Patriotic Purposes, Conservation Commission, Long Term Principal, Long Term Interest, Interest-Tan, Revenues, Capital Improvements

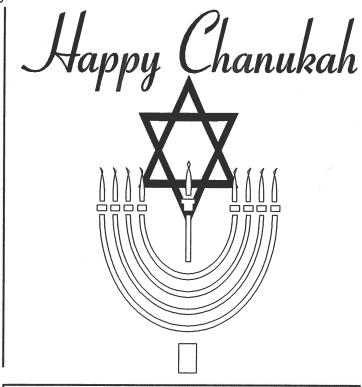
All meetings are tentatively scheduled for the Town Hall at 7p.m.

HELP WANTED ON DECEMBER 29

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

No talent will be turned away! We need reporters for general and feature stories; salespersons to call on prospective advertisers; and collators and staplers to help put it all together at the Pearson Road Community Center on Friday, December 29, at 6:30p.m. Join us!

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



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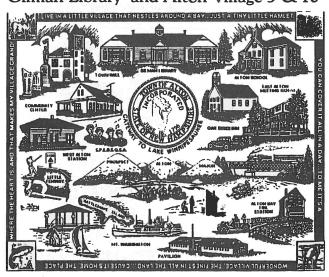
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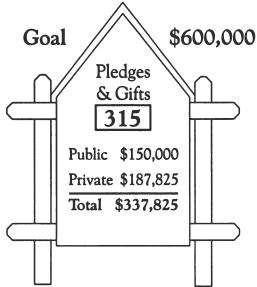
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ALTON-NEW DURHAM LIONS CLUB COLLECTS 316 EYEGLASSES

The Alton - New Durham Lions Club collected 316 useable eyeglasses and 59 reusable eyeglass items such as lenses, frames and eyeglass cases during its October collection program.

This was a successful community effort, another example of being concerned for others and putting that concern into action

by donating your used eyeglasses.

Special thanks was extended to the following for assistance in the collection effort: Alton Central School, New Durham School, Alton Bay Market, Alton Village 5 & 10, Edgewood Restaurant, Shibley's - At the Pier, Mama Rina's Restaurant, and Wayside Grocery.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY PLANNED FOR LEGION HALL

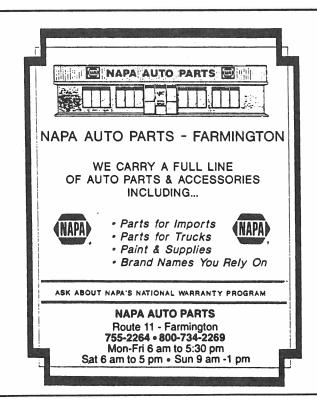
The American Legion Auxiliary will be having its Annual Children's Christmas Party for the children of Alton on Saturday, December 9, at the Legion Hall from 1 to 3p.m. The party is cosponsored by the American Legion Post, Alton Knights of Columbus, and the Alton Police Association.

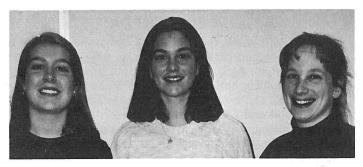
Taxes and prices are rising, And it's becoming increasingly clear: You not only can't take it with you, But you can't even keep it while here.

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ALTON CHORAL STUDENTS PERFORM IN ALL NEW ENGLAND CHORAL FESTIVAL

Two members or the Alton Central School Concert Choir attended the 1995 All New England Choral Festival at Plymouth State College on November 2. The students, Laura Levesque (left), alto, and Thaisae Whitehouse (center), soprano, were accompanied by Anne Stevens (right), the school music director.

The students spent the day rehearsing with approximately 250 other choir members from 30 schools from all six New England states. The guest conductor for the day was Barrington Brooks, chair of the Music Department, associate professor of voice, and conductor of the college choir at Talladega College, Talladega, Alabama.

During rehearsal breaks, students were entertained by the Plymouth State College Jazz Ensemble, VocalOrder, and Jazz Combos.

An evening concert featured performances by the College Chamber Singers, College Chorale, and the All New England Festival Choir. The Choir's selections included "Your Voices Tune" by Handel, two contemporary madrigals, "Come Sunday" by Duke Ellington, and "Betelehemu", a Nigerian carol arranged by Brooks.

OOPS

Jessica Locke was incorrectly identified as a senior at Alton Central School in the November issue of <u>Main Street</u>. Jessica graduated with honors one year early and is now attending the University of New Hampshire. We apologize for the error.

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ALTON VOLUNTEER AMBULANCE SERVICE IN NEED OF DAYTIME VOLUNTEERS

Once again the people of Alton have helped dearly with the annual Alton Volunteer Ambulance Service fund drive. Now we are able to provide services to our community for another year. These monies go toward our daily cost of running the service as well as providing training for our members so they can provide you with up-to-date medical care.

However we are asking one more thing from you. We are in desperate need of daytime coverage to continue this service for the town of Alton. Alton Volunteer Ambulance Service will provide the training that you will need and the only prerequisite is that you would like to help our townspeople in time of need and we will provide the rest. If you are at all interested please call Eric Elliott, 875-5089, or Judy Ingoldsby, 364-2270.

MAIN STREET AVAILABLE BY SUBSCRIPTION

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

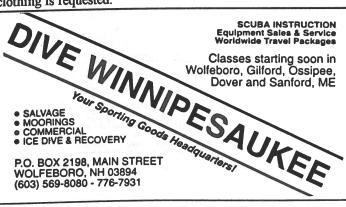
Because of its third-class status, Main Street can not be forwarded to those away from home for a period of time. However, anyone who wants to receive this publication year-round with firstclass delivery may do so by subscribing to Main Street for \$7.50 per year. This will insure receiving twelve issues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

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

"WISH UPON A STAR" PROGRAM OFFERED TO ALTON RESIDENTS

A "Wish Upon A Star" program for Alton children is being sponsored by the Farmington National Bank. The Christmas tree and stars will be on display in the bank lobby until Friday, December 15.

To place a child's name and "wish" on the tree, please notify Town Secretary Pat Rockwood at 875-2161 or Pat Palmer at the Bank with the child's name, age and gift desired. Specify size if clothing is requested.



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SANTA CLAUS TO VISIT McGRATH'S FOOD CENTER

McGrath's Food Center has invited Santa Claus to Alton on Saturday, December 16, from 10a.m. to 3p.m. Children may stop by and tell Santa all of their wishes. Also Santa will be drawing the lucky receipts for the holiday prize giveaway.

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ALTON SCHOOL SPECIAL NEEDS TEAM PRESENTS PROGRAM AT STATE MEETING

A Special Needs Team from Alton Central School recently participated in the Annual Conference of Early Education and Intervention Network of New Hampshire at the Center of New Hampshire In Manchester. The conference, titled Pervasive Developmental Disorder and Autism, focused on the many issues regarding Individuals with Autism and Pervasive Developmental Disorders.

The Alton presentation described a team approach to working with an autistic student. Five of the team members presented the program model at the conference describing its development and the roles of each team member.

Team members include Bev Sheldon, parent; Heather Bilou, the May Institute; Pam Seed, speech pathologist; Irene Gordon, occupational therapist; Carmen Dichairo, individual aide; Connie Quindley, speech assistant; Beverly Davis, individual aide; Dorothy Bristol, special needs director; and Carol Fuller, preschool and learning disabilities specialist.

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.....the Alton Volunteer Ambulance Service placed a new ambulance in service.....the Friends of the Gilman Library presented "Reminiscences of Scotland and Scandinavia" featuring Pat Merrill and Doris McGrath.....the Parent Support Group sponsored an evening "Star Watch" on the school soccer field.

5 YEARS AGO.....

.....the first issue of School Video News was produced at Alton Central School.....a group from the Community Church were organizing gift packages for military personnel serving in Saudi Arabia.....Business After Hours was hosted by the Village 5 & 10..... the senior class sponsored a basketball game featuring the MagiciansWinona Houle was elected president of the Garden Club.....the Christmas Decorating Contest winners were the Glidden residence, Homestead Place and the Lions Club.....police officer Susan Roberts was promoted to corporal.....the town received a bequest of about \$500,000 from Barbara M. Clough.....Brian Davidson was named Conservation Educator of the Year.....Arthur J. St. Laurent was appointed to the Police Department.

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