



Main Street

Volume XIII Number 3

March, 1997

Alton, New Hampshire



TUG-OF-WAR

Participants in the Alton Winter Carnival Tug-of-War last month give it their all!

WINTER CARNIVAL ATTRACTS OVER 500

The Alton Parks and Recreation Department hosted its Annual Winter Carnival on February 15 and 16. Over 500 people attended the event and DJ, Rick from Direct Current Top 40 Productions kept the Bay rocking with great music.

The Great Alton Bay Bed Race attracted entries from as far away as Indiana, "Indiana Express"; Boston, "Jack's Folly"; as well as local entries "The Bed Wetters", ABCCC, and Septic Men.

First place went to the Bed Wetters with members Dick Canuel, Brandon Canuel, Dan Paolo Sr., Joseph Fisichelli, and Dan Paolo Jr. forming the team. Second place was won by "Indiana Express" with team members J.J. McKain, Jenny McKain, Abby McKain, Katie McKain and Emily McKain.

The first place team received five all day Gunstock ski passes donated by Gunstock and a trophy. The second place team received five Bed Race t-shirts.

Scavenger Hunt - First place team: Chris, Kerry and Nick Faucher finding 14 items out of 20 in 1 hour and 15 minutes. The team received three Parks and Recreation t-shirts.

Snow Shoe Obstacle Course - 14 participants ran the snow shoe obstacle course and first place was won by Dylan Laurion who finished in 42.35 seconds and received an all day Gunstock ski pass. Krista Shibley took second place and Owen Laurion came in third.

Poker Run - First place and a Parks and Recreation t-shirt went to Chad Tenander.

Limbo - Patty Currid won first place and a Winter Carnival t-shirt.

The Parks and Recreation Department would like to thank Gunstock for donating six ski passes and also the volunteers who helped make the program possible: Jay Sydow, Debbie Burton, Mike Currid, Matt Currid, Maryellen Kenerson,

CANDIDATES FILE FOR TOWN AND SCHOOL POSITIONS LOCAL

The election of Town and School officers will be held Tuesday, March 11, at the Alton Central Fire Station from 7a.m. to 7p.m.

There are only three races among the declared candidates. All other positions are being sought by only one person, often the incumbent, or no candidate at all.

Three people are seeking the three-year selectman's job. They are Albert C. Burbank, Peter J. Pijoan, and William Ryan. Six people are running for the two School Board positions: Robert L. Carr, Angelyn D. Duffy, Joyce Hopper, Marjorie O'Toole, Robert Loprete, and William "Bill" Watson, Jr.

In the only other race Ruthanne Barnet, Stephen Sheldon, David P. Sleeper, Jr., and Pamela Canuel are hoping to fill the two openings on the Planning Board for two years.

Unchallenged are Gwendolyn M. Jones, Town Clerk for three years, Anne M. Kroeger, Tax Collector for three years, Helen M. Sullivan, Treasurer for three years, Muriel V. Stinson, Trustee of Trust Funds for three years, Kenneth G. Roberts, Highway Agent for three years, Ellamarie Carr, Library Trustee for three years, Russell E. Jones, Fire Ward for three years, John E. Streeter, Water Commissioner for three years, Pamela Canuel, Budget Committee for two years, Scott Gage, Budget Committee for one year, Bonnie Dunbar, planning Board for one year, Nancy L. Mokrzecki, Supervisor of the Checklist for three years, Terri A. Noyes, School Moderator for one year, Cynthia A. Duffek, School Clerk for one year, and Shirley E. Young, School Treasurer for one year.

No one filed to be a Cemetery Trustee for three years or for the three openings as a Budget Committee member for three years.

Statements submitted by candidates explaining why they are seeking an office may be found on page 42 of this issue.

March 1 is the last day to register to vote at the Town Hall. You may, however, register to vote in person at the polls on election day.

An absentee ballot will be mailed upon receipt of an application filled out by the voter. Please allow enough time for the request and for the ballot to be mailed to you. Ballots must be returned to the Town Clerk's office by 5p.m. on the day before the election.

Jimmy Kenerson and Ann Norman-Burke.

The Department is forming a 1998 Winter Carnival Committee to plan next year's activities. Anyone interested in becoming a member is asked to please contact the Parks and Recreation Department at 875-0109.

HIGHWAY HAPPENINGS

By Ken Roberts, Highway Agent

CAUTION: MUD SEASON AHEAD

Spring is right around the corner and the thaw is about to begin (hopefully!). Frost is formed from the top and freezes down. Unfortunately, it does the same when it thaws and this is very bad for road health. For example, as I write this article the frost is about 16" deep. After about a week's worth of warm weather, the top 6" of roads thaw out leaving a mushy mess that has no structural integrity. But, there is still 10" of frost which prevents water from passing through. And so "mud season" lasts about a month, even on paved roads where you can't see it.

When the meltdown starts, we will use our York rakes on gravel roads to help dry the roads. We will not use our grader until the frost is out because it will damage the roads. We ask that during this time you be extremely careful on pavement, too, and especially near shoulders because the gravel will be very soft.

Once the snow is completely gone, we will be sweeping all town-owned paved roads with a pull-behind broom. This broom does not pick up sand it just sweeps it to the side of the road. Depending on weather, this could take 5-6 days

In the meantime, the never ending job of cutting back brush will continue whenever possible. Please use caution when approaching or passing through a work zone. It is recommended to pass at 10mph on our roads. It gives the road crew time to react to traffic.

Pot holes are another spring time dilemma. The frost breaks up pavement and we fill it in. As fast as the company makes our cold patch, we will be putting it out. We do pot hole repairs 6-10 times a year and spend about \$6,000 on materials. This is an ongoing project that never ends.

Here's hoping that warm and sunny days are in the near future.



HEAR YE, HEAR YE, COME HEAR THE CANDIDATES

by Bob Longabaugh

All of Alton knows that there is an election and School District and Town Meetings coming up in March, but do you have all the information that will enable you - the voter - to decide the best way to cast your vote? If your answer is "maybe not," then Main Street has an offer you should consider seriously: come to Candidates' Night.

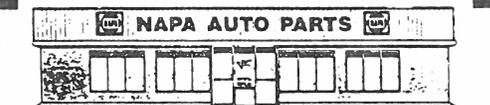
On Tuesday, March 4, in Town Hall at 7p.m. Main Street will be sponsoring a program which offers the candidates for School Board and Town offices an opportunity to appear in an open forum. There they can present their positions on why they are the best persons for the elected job they seek. To provide that extra assurance that the voters are making the wise decision, the candidates will be asked to field questions from the audience. This will be a second chance for the candidates to convince you - the voter - on who deserves your vote.

Every candidate for school and town office has been informed of, and asked to attend, this event. When they filed to run for office, each candidate was given a questionnaire asking about their qualifications and why they were seeking the office. The responses received will be found elsewhere in this issue. The space limitations of a monthly newspaper, however, kept just about every candidate from saying all they wanted to say about why they deserved your vote. Candidates' Night is their's - and the voters' - best opportunity to get minds almost made up on how their ballots should be marked on March 11.

BOTTOM LINE: if you are a registered voter in the Town of Alton, the place to be on Tuesday, March 4, at 7p.m., is upstairs in Town Hall to hear what the people seeking your vote have to say on just that—why you should vote for them.

This year's Candidates' Night will be moderated by Mark Northridge, Treasurer of the East Alton Fire Association, President of the East Alton Meeting House and a past member of the Alton Planning Board. Refreshments will be offered by the Alton High School French Club as part of their efforts to defray expenses for an upcoming field trip to Quebec. The Main Street staff who are organizing the event are Marybee and Bob Longabaugh.

Since Main Street started publication in July of 1985, it has sponsored six Candidates' Nights. The event was not held in 1987 and 1996. In the other four years it was sponsored by the Alton-Alton Bay Chamber of Commerce with the Gilman Library being a co-sponsor with the Chamber in 1986.



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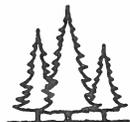


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CONCORD CORNER

By Alice Ziegra, State Representative

BILLS PROGRESSING SLOWLY

February was the month of hearings. New bills (some 800 for the House) have been slow in getting written and SLOW in getting printed and delivered to appropriate committees. All bills had to be introduced by January 31. We have a strict schedule for acting on bills in committee and sending them on to the full House for action before sending them to the Senate.

Thus far, the House has passed a bill to allow selectmen to apply funds from abatements to overdue taxes owed by the taxpayer. Passed was a bill to allow county commissioners to arrange for uncompensated public service by prisoners at municipal or nonprofit owned property. The House killed a bill to require any increase in any state tax rate to be passed by a 60 percent majority of the House and Senate. The vote against was 318 to 26.

Meanwhile, our county job is working to evolve the budget for this year. We (the 18 legislators in the county) have subcommittees to discuss and firm up the budgets in (1) the Court House (Register of Deeds, County Attorney, Finance Officer, Commissioners, Welfare Department and Custodian of the Court House); (2) Jail; (3) Sheriff's Department; (4) Airport; (5) Nursing Home; (6) Fire Dispatch; and (7) Outside Agencies (Economic Development, County Extension, Conservation District, C.A.P. Programs, and Mental Health).

Requests are made in December and must be discussed in public hearings and finalized by March 31. In the last two years, the budget has been level or has gone down.

I will be in Alton Town Hall on March 3 from 3 to 4p.m. Meanwhile, I can be reached at 875-2151.



BLOOD DRIVE NETS 88 PINTS

Another successful Red Cross Blood Drive was held last month at the Alton Central School. 98 people generously gave of their time to donate blood. The Red Cross was able to collect 88 productive pints. Organizers wish to thank co-sponsors Farmington National Bank and the Alton PTSA. Thanks also go out to businesses such as Village Pizza, Dunkin Donuts, Shibley's, Wayside Grocery, Alton Home and Garden Center, Parker Marine, and McGrath Food Center for donations of refreshments or sign space. Members of the National Honor Society and Boy Scouts as well as the many other volunteers also deserve thanks for their efforts. The Red Cross will return to Alton in July for the annual summer blood drive.

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BY ALTON ARTIST PETER FERBER

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**TOWN MEETING WILL ADDRESS
36 WARRANT ARTICLES**

The Annual Town Meeting begins officially on Tuesday, March 11, at 7a.m. when the polls open at the Alton Central Fire Station for ballot voting on Article 1. The polls remain open until 7 pm. Discussion and voting on the other 35 articles take place in the Alton Central School Gym beginning at 7p.m. on Wednesday, March 12.

ARTICLE 1 (Ballot issues) has five parts: 1a - voting on candidates for town offices; 1b - Ballot bill vote to determine if all issues before the town in future years would be by ballot (RSA 40:13 and also known as SB-2); 1c - modification and liberalization of elderly exemptions; 1d - increasing Board of Selectmen from three to five members. The remainder deal with amendments to the Zoning Ordinance.

Money Articles Involving Capital Reserve Funds are five in number: \$50,000 for Fire Department Equipment Fund; \$50,000 for Highway Department Heavy Equipment Fund; \$68,500 to Bridge Replacement Fund changing the purpose of existing Hollywood Bridge Fund and added to the above; \$50,000 for Gilman Library Addition Fund; and \$25,000 to a proposed Fund for updating Tax Maps.

Spending Appropriations include: \$5,000 for repair to Town Boat Docks; \$20,000 for a new police cruiser; \$30,000 for a new fire boat; \$45,000 for resurfacing dirt roads; \$18,000 for a new Town Hall copy machine; \$28,000 salary for Town Clerk; \$25,000 salary for Tax Collector; \$36,000 salary for Highway Agent; \$6,584 increase in collective bargaining agreement with union employees; \$22,000 for new machine roller for Highway Department. (by petition); and \$32,600 for a boat for the Police Department. (by petition).

Appropriations with Offsetting Funds include: \$575,000 for reconstruction of town highways, offset in part by an estimated \$109,115 Highway Block Grant; and \$10,000 for improvements to the Alton Bay Community Center, offset entirely by a projected grant of \$10,000 from the Clough-Morrell Trust Fund.



**EASTER SCHEDULE ANNOUNCED
BY COMMUNITY CHURCH OF ALTON**

The Community Church of Alton announces its Eastertide schedule of services.

The March 23 Palm Sunday morning service will include a children's palm procession. On Maundy Thursday, March 27, the 7:30p.m. service will include Holy Communion. There will be two services on Resurrection Sunday, March 30, a sunrise service at 6a.m. followed by a continental breakfast, and the traditional service of worship at 11 o'clock.

These services will be held at the Congregational Meeting House on Church Street and all are welcome.

Overall Operating Budget exclusive of special warrant articles totals \$2,314,965 as proposed by the Selectmen. (Last year's original proposal was \$2,203,181).

Independent service agencies (all by petition at the request of Selectmen) include: \$1,000 for New Beginnings; \$8,166 for VNA-Hospice; \$5,302 for Community Action Program; \$1,500 for American Red Cross; and \$3,000 for Community Health and Hospice in Laconia.

Other articles include: one to deal with prohibiting processing, storage and the spreading of sludge (by petition) and one from the selectmen calling for a moratorium on such sludge disposal or use until a study can take place. At early press time, it should be noted that this latter proposal by Selectmen could be changed on final warrant. Also: proposed adoption of a Conflict of Interest ordinance for all town personnel, hired, appointed and elected; one declaring invalid a 1976 agreement with the Alton Bay Campmeeting Association and establishment of a new agreement; one authorizing the Trustees of Trust Funds to accept a gift from the estate of the late A. William Heidke to establish a non-expendable trust fund for the purpose of assisting Alton residents to remain in their homes longer despite aging and health problems; and to rescind an August 10, 1967, Special Town Meeting vote to create a Gilman Museum Committee and now to change and simplify the makeup of such a committee.

Selling of Town Property would be considered in three cases: (1) Tax Map 17, Lot 15 (West Alton Community Center) to the West Alton Fire Association for \$1; (2) Tax Map 27, Lot 36 (former Anna Haase house, next to library) and (3) Tax Map 28, Lot 6 (land where old salt shed was located).



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A NOTE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

By George J. Rogers, Alton Central School

ALTON CENTRAL SCHOOL EARNS BLUE RIBBON ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

The Alton Central School has received the Blue Ribbon Achievement Award presented by the NH Partners in Education for school volunteerism. We are very proud that this is the twelfth year that the Alton School has received this award. We thank the community members for all of your valuable donated time to the students of Alton.

Four young women have been awarded the Women Athletic/Academic Award in a ceremony conducted 7 in the Legislative Chamber of the State House. Liz Knowlton, Diana Daniels, Becky Miller and Lindsay Osborn were honored for their academic and athletic achievements.

I'd also like to point out that several graduates of Alton School have been nominated to the Dean's List at the University of New Hampshire. Receiving Highest Honors are Margaret Birdsey, Erica Fenton and Jessica Locke; High Honors: Stephanie Osborn and Kelly Lord; and Honors: Eric O'Brien and Eric Widestrom.

The superintendent and I met with two members of the community who expressed concerns about student transportation. Their questions included who to call when a parent has questions relating to the buses or the transportation of a student. The answer to that is the school (875-7500). There is someone at the school everyday until at least 4:00 p.m. We will be happy to help you with your questions. If we are unable to answer it directly, we would get necessary information from the bus company and relate it to you. The bus company has direct radio contact with each bus. In the event of an accident, our office is staffed as long as necessary. In this situation, we would be in direct contact with the bus company and the accident site through radio. It is our practice to attempt to notify parents as soon as information comes to us regarding any accident.

If you have questions relating to a change in a bus stop, an unsafe stop, or bus routes, I encourage you to contact me with these questions. Changes in routes can only be made through the school board. It has been our practice that the Business Administrator of the district would review the site, review the concerns, and make recommendations to the board. At the school, the assistant principals or principal will be happy to answer your questions and attempt to resolve the issues.

Another issue expressed about the transportation is discipline on the buses. This is a situation where the school administrators and the bus drivers need the help of the parents. We urge parents to discuss with their children appropriate behavior and the rules stated in the student handbook. Driving a bus is a very difficult job. A student has the right to ride a bus provided that they do not create a safety hazard. It is a



VOLUNTEER PROGRAM RECOGNIZED

Alton School Principal George J. Rogers and Volunteer Coordinators Lori Boyce (center) and Theresa Beaupre display the Blue Ribbon Award recently received by the school.

privilege to ride the bus. Students who create safety hazards will be removed from the buses as part of the school's discipline plan.

The high school conducted its Winter Carnival activities during the week of February 17-21. This annual event is highlighted with intramural contests that include a brain bowl, volleyball tournament, sled races, and many other activities. This is an event that I strongly support as it helps create spirit, enthusiasm, and fond memories for the students.

We look forward to seeing you all at the School District Meeting on Saturday, March 15, at 1p.m. in the gymnasium at the school.

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As candidates filed for office, they were given a form that asked for their background as it applied to the office being sought and for a statement indicating why they were seeking the office.

SELECTMAN FOR THREE YEARS

ALBERT C. BURBANK

Background: Attended early school years in Alton. Have been a resident all of my adult life. College and business background. Statement: With the approach of the 21st century, many decisions will be forthcoming in regard to the future development and progress of Alton. I feel I possess the background and knowledge to become a useful selectman to help make decisions so vital to the orderly growth and development of our town.

PETER J. PIJOAN

Background: Retired Engineer, mostly in management capacity. Old Home Week Committee - 3 years. Cable TV Committee. Budget Committee.

Statement: The town deserves a selectman who is not holding another position in town (i.e. School Board), has management experience, is qualified through participation on other town committees, is a straight shooter, has no hidden agendas or vested interests and will make every effort to represent the desires of the townspeople.

WILLIAM RYAN

Background: Resident and business owner for over 10 years. Planning Board member.

Statement: The town enjoys one of the lowest tax rates in the area. As more and more children move into town, pressures on town services and the school system increase disproportionately to the revenue generated. The best protection against escalating tax rates is broad spectrum growth - business, commercial and industrial.

TRUSTEE OF TRUST FUNDS FOR THREE YEARS

MURIEL V. STINSON

Background: Served on various boards of civic organizations and church board of trustees within the community. Alton Bicentennial treasurer.

Statement: Being a resident and property owner in the

CANDIDATES'

community, I am extremely interested in the government of the town.

HIGHWAY AGENT FOR THREE YEARS

KENNETH G. ROBERTS

Background: Highway Department employee for 3½ years, 3 as Highway Agent. Master Road Scholar designation from UNH Technology Transfer Center. Staff Sergeant, U. S. Marine Corps. Statement: Our hard-working crew and I strive for practical solutions, efficient use of resources and the highest levels of job performance. We emphasize training, safety and cost effectiveness. I will continue to do my very best to apply my leadership skills and demonstrate the value of honest, hard-working public servants.

LIBRARY TRUSTEE FOR THREE YEARS

ELLAMARIE CARR

Background: Previous terms in this office. Statement: I would like to continue my involvement in the value of the Gilman Library and in the completion of its addition to the building. Support for the addition continues from individuals, grants, taxpayers, the Kitchen Cabinet, Building Committee, Library staff, its volunteers, and fellow trustees - all so inspiring.

BUDGET COMMITTEE FOR TWO YEARS

PAMELA CANUEL

Background: I presently manage a 1.3 million dollar business as well as staff and provide training to approximately 15 employees. Statement: Town, in fact, ALL Government is an incorporated business supported by the stockholders (taxpayers) and as such is required to provide the best return on our investment. In order to receive the best return we must be willing to subscribe to proven business practices.

PLANNING BOARD FOR THREE YEARS

RUTHANNE BARNET

Background: Planning Board Alternate for nine months. Statement: I am concerned that proposals for commercial and industrial growth will diminish the unique small town quality of life we enjoy in Alton. Growth must be balanced with a concern for preservation of our wetlands and woodlands. I will work to extend the Shoreland Protection Overlay District.

STEPHEN SHELDON

Background: Business and property owner for 15 years, related to real estate.

Statement: One of my goals would be to contribute to the clarification of the Planning Board regulations involved, in order to ensure uniformity and efficiency of the enforcement of the regulations. In addition, I believe that to both preserve our community and tax rate, business and industrial zones are needed.



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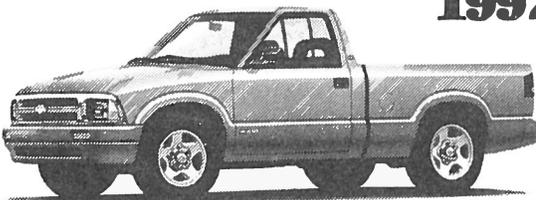
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STATEMENTS

DAVID P. SLEEPER, SR.

Background: 30 years as a builder, 3 years Planning Board
 Statement: The longer one sits on a board, the better he/she understands the issues that are at hand. They gain knowledge not only from other board members, but also from the people they serve. I plan to continue to listen, learn, and serve the people to the best of my ability.

PAMELA CANUEL

Background: I presently manage a 1.3 million dollar business as well as staff and provide training to approximately 15 employees.
 Statement: Updating the Master Plan is a priority, with consideration of the growth rate and development to insure that our financial obligations will not be subject to overwhelming increases. A stronger relationship with the School Board, Board of Selectmen and Zoning Board would help define mutual goals and sense of community.

**PLANNING BOARD MEMBER FOR ONE YEAR
 BONNIE DUNBAR**

Statement: I would like to see long-range planning by intensive work updating the Master Plan using the 1989 Master Plan Workshop, the 1991 Civic Profile, and 1996 Heritage Roundtable which all have recurring concern for preserving the town's "rural" character. A public forum is needed to update/reiterate the important community cornerstones.

**SCHOOL TREASURER FOR ONE YEAR
 SHIRLEY E. YOUNG**

Background: Have held this position since 1972.
 Statement: I work in town and therefore able to get to the School or SAU office on short notice, as the occasions arise. I would like to thank all those who have voted for me over the years, and again ask for your support.

**SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER FOR THREE YEARS
 ROBERT L. CARR**

Background: School Board member for the last three years with service on the following committees: representative for two years as chairman and one year as co-chairman on the Budget Committee, Buildings and Grounds Committee chairman for three years, Negotiation Team co-chairman for 2½ years, SAU 72 Study Committee chairman, Space Needs Committee chairman, SAU 51 Board chairman for one year, Alton School Board vice-chairman for two years.

Statement: The next few years will require critical decisions that will effect the educational programs and tax rate for many years to come. I believe my three year experience as a Board member enables me to further guide the school towards the best educational programs that the taxpayers can reasonably afford.

ANGELYN D. DUFFY

Background: Voter and involved parent.
 Statement: I am concerned about the development of the Alton School District and the many important issues that the Board and the School District must resolve in the next few years: the new SAU, space, staff and curriculum development. Creative and progressive solutions must be reached while addressing the costs.

JOYCE HOPPER

Background: Mother of four. Vice President of Trees Company. Business courses at NH College, PTSA President, Accreditation Committee.

Statement: To get back to education: the process of developing methods and ideas for learning. To look, listen and learn as a community. Then we possess the knowledge to do the best we can to educate our youth. We must assume the responsibility for change. It's time!

MARJORIE O'TOOLE

Background: Attended Alton School first grade through graduation. Associate's degree from UNH. Two children in school. PTSA member. Active in Boy Scouts and Odyssey of the Mind. Elementary grades volunteer twice a week.

Statement: To help improve communications so we can all work together to solve problems quicker. I feel this will help everyone to feel better about their part in this community.

ROBERT LOPRETE

Background: Management training and experience on a director's level. Owned and operated two companies with several employees. Committee member for the Chrysler Apprenticeship Program working on the curriculum for tech students. Currently employed in management, as well as controlling budgets, projections, and all aspects of business related issues. PTSA member.

Statement: I have two children in the school system and want to be a part of their education. I have concern about the curriculum and how it will influence our students' future. My agenda will be to improve the image and communication between the School Board, students, parents, and faculty.

WILLIAM "BILL" WATSON, JR.

Background: Previous member. Well read on educational matters. Highly cognizant of political issues involved in school operations.
 Statement: To steer the Board onto more educational issues to better prepare our children for the workplace into the 21st century.

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SUBMIT YOUR NEWS AND PHOTOS

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

Send any material to P. O. Box 210, Alton Bay, 03810, fax to 569-9807 or E-mail to jduffek@worldpath.net by the 15th of each month for the following month's issue. Material may also be left in the Main Street mail box at the Farmington National Bank.

Main Street reserves the right to limit or edit all material. For additional information call 569-4441.

55 ALIVE HELPS DRIVING SKILLS

A refresher course in safe driving skills for those 55 years of age and older will be offered March 10 and 11. The course, "55 Alive," will take place from noon to 4p.m. at Lakes Regional General Hospital (LRGH) in Conference Room 1 A & B, located on Level 1. The program fee is \$8 (payable at the door) for both days, and pre-registration is required.

The course is sponsored by the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) and LRGH. For more information or to register, call 527-2816.

SENIOR CITIZENS CORNER

By Nancy Mooney

ROBINS AND CARDINALS IN ALTON?

Top O' the mornin'
And Erin go bragh!
We Seniors greet March
With a loud hurrah!

It is 7a.m., and I am sitting on the screened-in back porch drinking my coffee and watching two robins hop along side by side over the lawn, hoping for their daily sustenance. A cardinal is singing sweetly from a tree top. A gentle, warm breeze is blowing, and the sun is shining with blinding brightness.

"Wait a minute," you say. "You can't be in Alton, or else you're severely delusional!"

You're right on the first half of the above comment. I am in Palm Bay, Florida, for a little vacation, but I'll return soon to my beloved New Hampshire. What a contrast between Alton Bay and Palm Bay! Located on the east coast of Florida, midway between Jacksonville and Miami, Palm Bay has seen its population grow from 60,000 in 1990 to its present 75,000. It is the fastest growing community in Florida, and it has only been in existence as a town since 1960.

However, with all the amenities that Palm Bay has to offer, there is no place I would rather be than in Alton, N.H.! Less traffic, less noise, less crime, friendly people with big hearts, more beautiful scenery, more healthful climate (in spite of winter), wonderful organizations that selflessly serve the community—I hope one never takes Alton for granted.

But, wouldn't it be great if someone started a fitness center in Alton? Many people I know travel a long way to get exercise in the winter when it is too cold to get outdoors much.

I have been keeping in touch with the folks at the Alton Senior Center, and they are anxious for Spring to arrive. To help usher in this most welcome season, the seniors will hold a social on Tuesday, March 18, at 2p.m. There will be innovative bingo games and refreshments afterwards. You might even hear a few strains of "When Irish Eyes Are Smiling." All seniors are cordially invited.

Please do circle Sunday, March 16, on your calendars. Chef Tony Mariano will be in charge of a special corned beef and cabbage dinner sponsored by the Knights of Columbus (\$6). All are invited to what is sure to be a super meal.

The seniors are showing videotapes once a month at the center. Call Claire Fitzgerald at 875-7102 to check the time and date.

It is wonderful to learn that Lester Grigg and his wife, Lillian, have returned to the activities at the Senior Center. Lester recently spent nine weeks in the hospital, and we missed their presence.

So long from Palm Bay, Florida. I'll be out of this sauna soon and ready to slog through mud season with no complaints! Happy Spring! Happy Easter!

**R.B. AUTO IMPORTS
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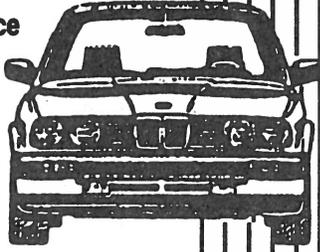
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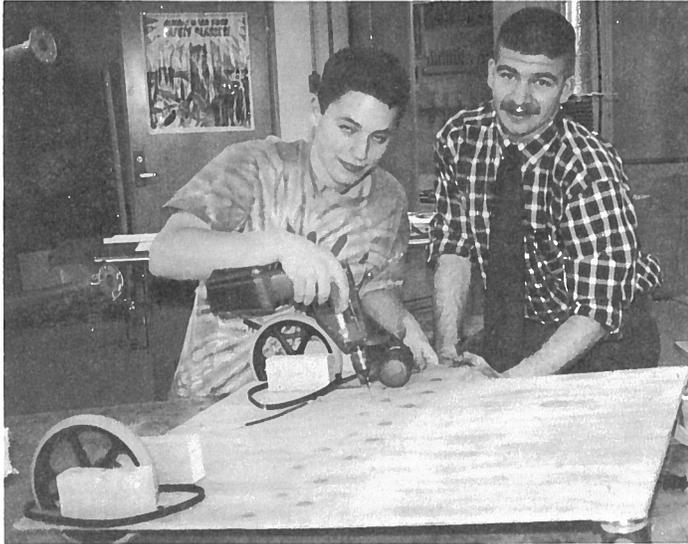
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ALTON STUDENTS PREPARE ENTRY FOR "THE COMPETITION - 1997"

Jason Martin (left), a student at Alton Central School, and Brian Hikel, technical education teacher, work on part of the robot that will be entered by a team of Alton students in "The Competition - 1997" sponsored by FIRST.

The FIRST Competition, now celebrating its sixth year, is a national tournament which pits radio-controlled, programmable "robo-athletes" against each other in elimination matches. The robots, built from a high-tech kit of parts provided by FIRST, are created by teams of high school students, professional engineers and technical personnel from businesses and universities. Borrowing from the philosophy of sports, this exciting hands-on, high visibility program delivers a powerful message - that engineering can be fun and rewarding.

Founded in 1989 by Manchester-based inventor and entrepreneur Dean Kamen, FIRST is a national, not-for-profit coalition developing a broad range of innovative new programs to create excitement among the next generation about science and technology. The Competition - 1997 is one of those programs.

The Alton team includes Jen Merfeld, Rachel Kubicki, Jeb Christy, Jason Martin, Blake Kellar, John Irving, Kevin Enright, Justin Herman, Matt Fenton, Duane Carr, and Pat Hanley. They are assisted by Coach Hikel, Enrichment Coordinator Ann Hoopes, and retired machinist Jim Dill. Richard E. Dame's Garage provided supplies and Tom Hoopes of Rust Pond Workshop donated team shirts.

10 YEARS AGO.....

.....voters at Town Meeting approved a bond issue article to erect a new building to house the Police Department.....a bond issue article for alterations and additions to the Alton Central School was approved at the Annual School District Meeting.....Pat Merrill and Russell Jones were elected to the Board of Selectmen and William Moore was elected its chairman.....plans for a Vietnam Monument were begun by American Legion Post 72.....the Apache Players presented two one-act comedies, "Who Am I This Time?" and "Baby".....Dorothy Bristol was appointed Director of Special Needs at Alton Central School.

5 YEARS AGO.....

.....Alton voters were to vote on 16 Warrant Articles including repair of the underwater electric cable to the bandstand in Alton Bay.....35 candidates were vying for 22 offices in the town and school elections.....Jill Dunham won the local award in the Alton/Alton Bay Veterans of Foreign Wars' Annual Voice of Democracy contest.....the Alton Volunteer Ambulance Service advised the community they had no intention of disbanding their service even though the deaths of the founders, Leo and Marion MacDonald, had left them shorthanded during the daytime....the Alton Junior Apache Players were presenting the play "The Day the Cat Jumped".....Blue Ribbons were awarded to Tanya Witherbee for two works entered in the Boston Globe Scholastic Art Awards competition.

SALES SPACE ON VOTING DAY

Town and School Elections will take place from 7a.m. to 7p.m. at the Central Fire Station, Route 140, on Tuesday, March 11.

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



Spring Supplies Arriving Daily!

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Hardware - Paint & Supplies

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THE CHECKOUT DESK

By Holly Brown, Librarian

NEW BEGINNINGS TO OFFER COURSE ON CHILDREN'S CONFLICT RESOLUTION

New Beginnings - A Women's Crisis Center will be offering a five week children's story hour called "We can work it out!" The program focuses on helping young children to understand that problems and disagreements can be worked out in a positive and non violent way.

The story hour is offered to children in kindergarten through second grade. Children will have stories read to them as well as participate in games, finger plays and role plays. The goal will be to teach children how to discuss feelings and learn practical skills for resolving conflict.

The story hour will be held at the Gilman Library starting on Wednesday March 26, from 3:30 - 4:15p.m. through April 23. The program will be facilitated by a volunteer from New Beginnings. Books and materials for the program were purchased with a one time grant from the Americorp Program.

New Beginnings provides community education and emergency shelter, 24 hour crisis response, support groups, and court advocacy for victims of domestic violence and their families throughout Belknap County. For more information, please call New Beginnings at 528-6511.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY DINNER-DANCE

The American Legion Auxiliary will be having a St. Patrick's Day Dinner-Dance on Saturday, March 15 at 7p.m. A corned beef dinner with all the trimmings, music by DJ Wayne, door prizes, and lots of fun are offered for only \$5 per person. Tickets are on sale now at the Dugout or may be purchased at the door.



"TOUCH OF SPRING" LUNCHEON

The lakes Region Christian Women's Club will hold a "Touch of Spring" luncheon on Wednesday, March 12, from 11:30a.m. to 1:30p.m. at the Alton Bay Christian Conference Center.

Natalie Rudzinskyj will demonstrate how to paint Ukrainian Easter Eggs. Marilyn Page will provide special music and Wanda Dresser from Vermont will be the special speaker.

The Christian Women's Club is an interdenominational group with no formal membership. Reservations for the luncheon and the available complimentary nursery are necessary and can be made by contacting Helen Harris in Alton or Thelma Osborne in Laconia by March 10.

ALTON AUTO CENTER

Saturday, March 22, 1997 1:00pm-3:00pm

FREE!! VEHICLE AWARENESS CLINIC



LEARN THE BASICS... ABOUT TIRES, (Changing a flat, air pressure, etc), FLUIDS, SUSPENSION, OPERATIONAL PROCEDURES, AIRBAGS, IDIOT LIGHTS, TYPES OF SERVICES YOUR CAR NEEDS.

JUST LEARNING THE BASICS, CAN SAVE YOU \$\$\$\$!!

ATTENDANCE IS LIMITED TO 10 (ten)

Preregistration is required!

Please call now to register !

875-AUTO (2886)

Depending on class demand, we would like to hold these classes on a monthly basis.

*****Must have valid Drivers License to attend.**

MAIN STREET INFORMATION CENTER

Boards and Committees

- ADDRESS COMMITTEE - Meets on Call. Chairman Russ Jones, 875-7510
- AD HOC COMMITTEE - Meets on Call.
- BOARD OF SELECTMEN - 1st, 3rd & 5th Wednesday, 7 - 9:30p.m., Chairman Reuben Wentworth. Call 875-2161 for Appointment.
- BUDGET COMMITTEE - 3rd Thursday, 7p.m. Chairman Gregory Fuller, 875-5546
- CABLE TV ADVISORY COMMITTEE - Meets on Call. 875-2161.
- CEMETERY TRUSTEES - 1st & 3rd Monday, 1p.m., Chairman Florence Shaw, 875-2220.
- CONSERVATION COMMISSION - 2nd & 4th Wednesday, 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. 875-0109
- PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION - 1st Thursday, 6:30p.m., Chairman Debbie Burton, 875-0109
- PLANNING BOARD - 1st Monday, 7p.m., Chairman James Washburn. 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 Thursday, 8a.m. Chairman John Streeter, 875-2490. Office, 875-4200.
- ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT - 2nd Thursday, 7:30p.m. Chairman Donn Brock, 875-4343.

*DENOTES A CHANGE OF INFORMATION
 CALL 569-4441, FAX 569-9807
 OR E-mail jduffek@worldpath.net
 TO UP-DATE THE ABOVE LISTINGS

Main Street

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- Business Manager Jeanne Cole
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- Circulation Manager Robert Smith
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Remove & Save!

Schedules

CHURCHES:

- Baha'i Fireside - Thursday, 7:30p.m., Holway Residence, Old New Durham Road
- Bay Church - Sunday School (all ages), 9:30a.m., Worship, 11a.m., Evening Study, 6p.m., Wednesday Prayer Meeting, 6:30p.m., Rand Hill Road, 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. Roussakis, 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. & 7p.m., Monday thru Saturday except Wednesday, 8:30a.m., Confessions Saturday, 4p.m. or by appointment, Fr. Richard Wegman, 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
 Rines Road Pit - Saturday, 8a.m. to 3p.m.; Sunday, Noon 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
- AMERICAN LEGION JUNIOR MEMBERS - 3rd Monday, 6p.m., Legion Hall
- BOY SCOUTS TROOP 53 - Wednesdays, 6p.m., Central Fire Station
- CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BOARD - 1st & 3rd Wednesday, 8a.m., 875-5777
- CUB SCOUT PACK 53 - Last Tuesday, 6:30p.m., Legion Hall
- EASTERN STAR - 2nd Tuesday
- GARDEN CLUB - 4th Tuesday
- FLYING CLUB - 2nd Wednesday
- HAPPY HOBBY DOLL CLUB - 4th Friday, 7p.m., Alton Bay Community Center
- HISTORICAL SOCIETY - 3rd Tuesday, April - October
- KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS - 1st Wednesday, 7:30p.m., St. Joan of Arc Church Hall
- LIONS CLUB - 1st & 3rd Thursday, 6:30p.m., Mama Rina's Restaurant
- MASONIC LODGE - 2nd Tuesday
- PTSA - 3rd Tuesday, School Library
- 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 569-4441, FAX 569-9807
 OR E-mail jduffek@worldpath.net
 TO UP-DATE THE ABOVE LISTINGS

DOG LICENSES ARE NOW AVAILABLE

"The 1998 dog tags are now in and we are processing renewal dog licenses", according to Town Clerk Gwen Jones. Fees are as follows - male/female dog \$10, neutered or spayed dog \$7.50, first animal of a senior citizen (over 65) \$2. The date for the April Rabies Clinic has not yet been determined. Please call the Town Clerk's office after March 1 for the date and time.

MAIN STREET INFORMATION CENTER

March Events

- Tue. 4 - CANDIDATES' NIGHT, Town Hall, 7p.m.
 Wed. 5 - BUSINESS AFTER HOURS, Bayside Inn
 BINGO, American Legion Hall, 7p.m.
 Thu. 6 - BLOOD PRESSURE CLINIC, Pearson Road Community
 Center, 10:30 to noon
 Tue. 11 - TOWN & SCHOOL ELECTIONS, Central Fire Station,
 7p.m.
 Wed. 12 - LUNCHEON, Alton Bay Christian Conference Center,
 11:30a.m.
 BINGO, American Legion Hall, 7p.m.
 TOWN MEETING, School Gym, 7p.m.
 Fri. 14 - YOUTH LEAGUE REGISTRATION, School Cafeteria,
 3 to 4p.m., Town Hall, 6 to 8p.m.
 Sat. 15 - SATURDAY FUN DAY, Town Hall, 9 to 11a.m.
 YOUTH LEAGUE REGISTRATION, Town Hall, 9a.m.
 to noon
 SCHOOL DISTRICT MEETING, School Gym, 1p.m.
 ST. PATRICK'S DINNER-DANCE, American Legion
 Hall, 7p.m.
 Sun. 16 - CORNED BEEF & CABBAGE DINNER, Pearson Road
 Community Center
 Mon. 17 - ST. PATRICK'S DAY
 Wed. 19 - BINGO, American Legion Hall, 7p.m.
 Thu. 20 - SPRING BEGINS
 Sun. 23 - PALM SUNDAY
 Wed. 26 - CHILDREN'S STORY HOUR: "We Can Work It Out",
 Gilman Library, 3:30 to 4:15p.m.
 BINGO, American Legion Hall, 7p.m.
 Fri. 28 - GOOD FRIDAY
 Sat. 29 - EASTER EGG HUNT, Route 140 Recreation Area,
 10a.m.
 Sun. 30 - EASTER

OUR ELECTED OFFICIALS
U.S. SENATE

Robert C. Smith, 307 Dirksen Senate Office Building,
 Washington DC 20510, 202-224-2841, Fax 202-224-1353.
Judd Gregg, 393 Russell Senate Office Building, Washington
 DC 20510, 202-224-3324.

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

John E. Sununu, 202-225-5456, 603-641-9536

NH EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

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

NH SENATE

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

NH HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Gordon Bartlett, 524-1220(w), 524-6536(h).
Robert Boyce, 875-6066(w), 875-7371(h), rboyce@worldpath.net.
Paul Golden, 269-4071(w), 269-5511(h).
Alice Ziegler, 875-2151.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Reuben Wentworth, 875-3388
Arnold Shibley, 875-2849
Stanley Czech, 875-3815

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), WZNN(930AM) or WMUR-TV (Channel 9) for official school closing announcements.

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

Motorcycle Trailer, Carries 1 or 2 Bikes, 13" Tires and a 6' Ramp, Excellent Condition, \$1195 or Best Offer, 875-2694

Kerosene Stove, Dehumidifier, Sump Pump, Old Quilt, Lawn Mower, Wheel Barrow, Garden Cart, 20' Aluminum Ladder, All Reasonable, 875-6710

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Metal desk, 48" w x 27" d, 875-6750

Harley Davidson Leather Pants with Fringe on Legs and a Zipper, Size 14, \$125 or Best Offer, 875-2694

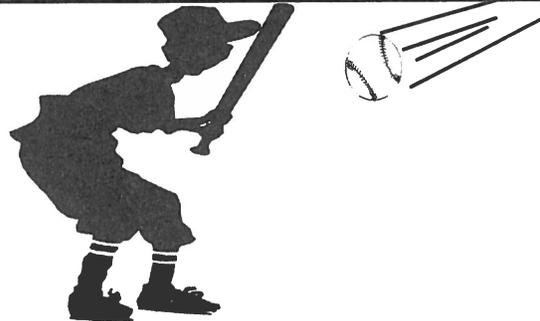
WANTED

Need Help Soon? Opening homes, starting cars and boats, putting boats in water and miscellaneous maintenance, Mature retiree with references, 875-5229

PERSONAL

My deepest thanks to all the people in Lions Club, Winnepesaukee Lodge of Masons, Bektash Shrine, neighbors and friends for all the cards, phone calls, flowers and fruit sent to me during my recent heart by-pass surgery. I am recovering well and hope to be back in circulation very soon. Robert Smith

I would like to thank everyone very much for all their help in the search for my dog, Jake. He is finally home after 9 days on the loose! Thank you, Shirley Bullock

**COACHES AND UMPIRES NEEDED FOR ALTON YOUTH LEAGUE**

The Alton Youth League is searching for head coaches, assistant coaches, and umpires for T-ball, girl's softball and boy's baseball for the upcoming season. Anyone interested in or learning how to become a coach or umpire should contact Mike Currid at 875-5375 as soon as possible.

Registration for the Alton Youth League (T-ball, softball and baseball, ages 6-12) will take place on: Friday, March 14, Alton School Cafeteria, 3 - 4p.m.; Friday, March 14, Alton Town Hall, 6 - 8p.m.; and Saturday, March 15, Alton Town Hall, 9a.m. - noon.

Mandatory for registration this year will be a photocopy of the player's birth certificate along with the \$10 registration fee.

All children enrolled in the Alton Youth League will be selling raffle tickets to friends and relatives. The selling of raffle tickets is a great way for kids throughout the league to win prizes while at the same time raising money for needed equipment and uniforms for the league. Friends and relatives who buy the \$5 tickets are eligible for cash drawings through the season ranging from \$25 to \$100.

FOR THE FUN OF IT

By Kellie McGrath, Recreation Director

ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT

The Alton Parks and Recreation Department is sponsoring its Annual Easter Egg Hunt for children ages 3-8 on Saturday, March 29, at the Route 140 Recreation Area. The event will be held rain or shine and starts PROMPTLY at 10a.m. Participants looking for eggs will be divided into groups by age. Eggs are distributed equally among participants. This event is open to Alton residents only.

Decorate a bag, basket or bucket and enter our "Best Decorated Container Contest". Judging begins at 10:15a.m. First place receives a big Easter basket full of prizes.

REGISTER BY MARCH 28 FOR LAKES REGION SPRING SOCCER

The Department is sponsoring a spring soccer league including: Gilford, Wolfeboro, Moultonboro and Wakefield. The League will run April through June and will play games on weekends with practices throughout the season. Registrations are now being accepted until March 28 for the following teams: 15-19 years, one boys team and one girls team; 13-15 years, one co-ed team; 12 years and under, one co-ed team.

Registration fee is \$10. Volunteer coaches are needed.

ADULT CO-ED SOFTBALL LEAGUE REGISTRATION STARTS MARCH 31

The Department is sponsoring a Co-Ed Adult Softball League for participants 18 years and older on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from June 23 to September 4. All games begin at 6:15p.m. Playoffs will be held September 13 and 14. An official will be present at all games. There is a \$15 per player registration fee to offset the umpire fees, maintenance and cost of balls.

Team coaches must contact the Parks and Recreation Department for registration information. Players should contact their coach for registration forms, payment of registration fees and League rules. Coaches can register their teams from March 31 to May 23. The league is limited to the first six teams that register. A mandatory coaches meeting, for coaches only, will be held June 3 at 7p.m. at the Town Hall to discuss League rules and game scheduling. Coaches must bring all of their players registration forms, fees and questions to the meeting.

SATURDAY FUN DAYS

March 15 - Games, prizes and fun - ages 6-14, 9 - 11a.m., Alton Town Hall. FREE for residents. Register March 14.

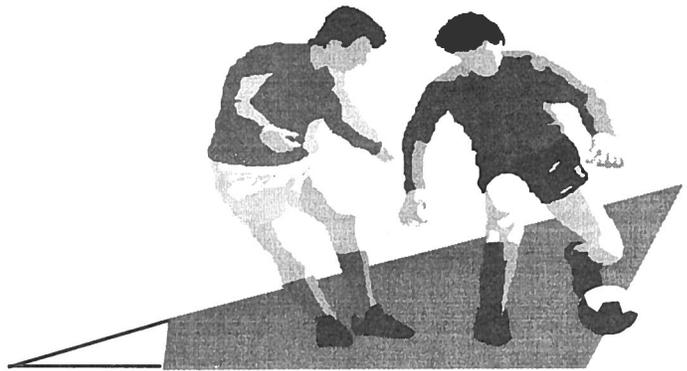
Participants will play innovative, exciting and creative games, including cooperative and board games. Prizes will be awarded.

April 5 - Scavenger Hunt - ages 11-14, 9 - 11a.m., Alton Town Hall. \$20 grand prize! FREE for residents. Register by March 31.

*Karen's
Country Kitchen*
Main Street, Alton
OPEN 7 DAYS
Breakfast - Lunch - Dinner

Every Night Value Meals
4 p.m. - 7 p.m.
only \$4.99

Take Out Orders Available
(603) 875-6544



SENIOR CITIZEN BINGO

The Department sponsored its First Annual Winter Senior Citizen's Bingo in January. Over 20 seniors played novelty bingo games for great prizes donated by Alton businesses. The would like to thank the following sponsors for their generous donations: American Legion Post #72, Farmington National Bank, McGrath's Food Center, Citizen's Bank, Alton Harvest Grille, Alton Village 5 & 10, Village Store, Wayside Grocery and Alton Video. We would also like to thank Helen Sullivan for coordinating this great program.

PENN DUTCH/ GETTYSBURG TRIP PLANNED SEPTEMBER 11

A four day trip to Pennsylvania September 11-14 with Collette Tours. The bus departs and returns to Alton or a surrounding town.

Tour highlights include: Penn Dutch Country, Amish and Mennonite Farmlands, Dutch Apple Dinner Theater, Gettysburg, Hershey Chocolate World USA, Founder's Hall, Roadside America and more.

The rate per person (twin \$324, triple \$320, single \$424) includes transportation, hotel, highlighted tours three breakfasts and three dinners. A \$25 deposit is due by April 11. Final payment must be received by July 13. A cancellation waiver may be purchased for an additional \$10.

For more information on any of these activities, contact the Alton Parks and Recreation Department at 875-0109.

**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

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



**ALL NIGHT PARKING BAN
IN EFFECT THROUGH APRIL 1**

According to a town ordinance, motor vehicles or trailers are not permitted to be parked or stopped on any highway in Alton between 10p.m. and 6a.m. from November 15 through April 1 or at any other time during snow storms when snow removal maintenance is being performed.

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

HISTORICAL SOCIETY BAKE SALE

The Alton Historical Society will hold a bake sale Tuesday afternoon, March 11, at the Central Fire Station during Town and School Elections. All members are kindly asked to bring in baked goods for the sale starting after noon. The bake sales are a major source of income for the Alton Historical Society, and we appreciate your efforts!

THE ONE STOP STORE FOR ALL YOUR NEEDS!

**Wayside
grocery**

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Live Bait
Now Available

**Ice Fishing
Tackle**

TOWN HALL NOTES

By Scott Dunn, Town Administrator

TOWN MEETING APPROACHES

Town Meeting is just around the corner and the warrant is ready. This is the time when voters decide how the Town will function. **GET INVOLVED!**

PLANNING DIRECTOR

The Town is pleased to welcome aboard Karen Cullen, our new Planning Director. Ms. Cullen is a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners and comes to us with over 13 years of experience. She has a master's degree in regional planning from the University of Massachusetts and was most recently the Planning Consultant for the Town of Peterborough. Her husband is an engineer, they have a 10 year old son and reside in Hillsborough. Her first assignments will be to complete the up-date of the Town's Master Plan while assisting the Planning Board, Zoning Board of Adjustment and Conservation Commission with their duties.

RINES ROAD PIT

The Rines Road Pit will re-open for disposal of brush and stumps on April 5. Hours are Saturdays, 8a.m. - 3p.m. and Sundays noon - 3p.m. Solid Waste Center Permits are required.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Volunteers are needed. There are currently no members appointed to serve on the Old Home Week Committee. This proud tradition is in danger of being abandoned due to a lack of interest. There are also openings for a Parks & Recreation Commission member, Alternates to the Zoning Board of Adjustment, Budget Committee members and Cemetery Trustee, Anyone interested is asked to please contact the Town Hall.

WOODMAN FETED ON RETIREMENT

Happy retirement to George Woodman, town custodian for the past 13 years. A farewell party was held on January 30 and George was given a send-off which will not soon be forgotten. He will be missed very much.

BEST WISHES TO REUBEN

Best wishes to Reuben Wentworth. Having served the Town as Selectman for the past 5 years, (twice as Chairman of the Board), Mr. Wentworth decided not to run for re-election to devote his energies full-time to his hardware store and other ventures. A man of principles and distinguished beliefs the Town won't be the same without his leadership abilities.

SCHOOL OFFERS WALKING PROGRAM

The Alton Central School will be starting an adult walking program from March 17 through May 2. This program will take place inside the school where it is warm and safe from 6:30 - 7:30 in the mornings and in the afternoons from 3 - 5, Monday through Friday on school days. For more information or to sign up, call Mrs. Stover at 875-0375 or Mrs. Valley at 875-7373 during school hours.

XX

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TO PROTECT AND SERVE

By Steven T. Holly, Community Liaison Officer

**NEW LAW RESPONDS TO
TEENAGE DRIVING ACCIDENTS**

As of February 1, any person under the age of 20 who is convicted of ANY motor vehicle offense will have their driving privileges suspended. The first motor vehicle conviction will result in a suspension for 20 days, second conviction for 45 days and third conviction for 90 days. This law has been put in effect in response to the high number of teen deaths resulting from speed-related motor vehicle crashes. All law enforcement personnel want to see our youth safe and, hopefully, this law will deter some of the thrill behind speeding. If any parents or teens have any questions about this law, don't hesitate to call any of us at the police department.

While we're on the topic of crashes, the number of snowmobile fatalities this winter has soared. Snowmobiling is a sport enjoyed by many during the winter season and provides an excellent way to get out and see some of the beautiful areas in the state. However, these beautiful scenes can quickly become gruesome when an irresponsible rider takes the controls. DWI, high rates of speed and snowmobiling is a deadly combination which can quickly ruin the sport and your life. If you snowmobile, remember to keep updated on the OHRV laws, maintain the proper speed limit on trails, drive within your and the snowmobile's limitations, wear a helmet and as always, don't drink and drive.

I received a letter recently from a parent asking at what age is their child held criminally responsible as an adult for their actions. I'm glad this question was asked as this law was recently changed and since then this has become one of the most frequently asked questions by parents.

The legislation recently enacted laws which greatly impact the state's juvenile justice system, because of claims that the system is ineffective in dealing with older offenders. One of the changes was in the age of accountability for adult prosecution of criminal offenses. If a child is 17 years of age and commits a criminal offense, then that child can be prosecuted as an adult. Before this law was enacted, the child could not be charged as an adult until they were 18 years of age. At 17 years of age the child is responsible for all punitive damages and penalties just as an adult would be for criminal behavior.

However, as a parent you are still responsible for your child's welfare and care until they reach 18 years of age. If a child is not committing any criminal acts, but is disregarding the lawful order of their parent, is truant from school, etc., then this remains within the juvenile system under CHINS (Children In Need Of Service) statutes. A parent is responsible for this child financially and morally until 18 years old.

If you, too, have questions you would like answered, you can drop an anonymous letter at the Police Station or E-mail me at altonpd@juno.com. Stay Safe!



CHAMPION SPELLERS

Dan Moulton, winner of the Alton Middle School Spelling Bee, is congratulated by Spelling Bee Coordinator Barbara Enos as first runner-up Becky Spencer looks on.

**DAN MOULTON IS TOP SPELLER
AT ALTON MIDDLE SCHOOL**

Dan Moulton, an eighth-grader at Alton Central School, was recently declared the winner of the Middle School Spelling Bee. Sixth-grader Becky Spencer was first runner-up. There were nine students in the competition each representing their homeroom in grades six, seven, and eight.

Dan will represent Alton next month at the district level spelling bee in Concord. He is the son of Mr and Mrs, Stanley Moulton of Alton.

The classroom champs are Katie Boles, 8C; Emily Sydow, 8A; James Borelli, 7B, Greg Gatton, 7A; Gina Teolis, 7C; Nick Hallin, 6C; Josh Kern, 6D; and Becky Spencer, 6L.

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MINDING ALTON'S BUSINESS

By Julie Slayton Frank, Executive Director
Alton-Alton Bay Chamber of Commerce

HOME & CONSTRUCTION EXPO PLANNED

The Board of Directors of the Alton/Alton Bay Chamber of Commerce has been busy planning for the 1997 summer season and beyond. Upcoming events include the Home and Construction Expo to be held at the Brookwoods Conference Center on Saturday, April 19; the production of the all new Alton Area Guide; construction of two travel kiosks; the election of officers and Board members and two Business After Hours.

The Chamber will once again be producing the Summer Calendar and we are asking for listings of any events scheduled in the Alton Area - the deadline is April 15. Look for future announcements regarding the Chamber Annual Dinner and a new event - A Taste of Alton.

On Wednesday, March 5, the Bayside Inn will be hosting the first Chamber After Hours of 1997. All Chamber members are invited. Please RSVP to the Chamber office (875-5777) or the Bayside Inn (875-5005).

As mentioned above, the Chamber will soon be holding its annual elections of directors and officers, and we are looking to our membership for nominations. Any Chamber member is eligible for nomination to the Board of Directors. The election will be held at the regular meeting of the Board on Wednesday morning, April 16, 8a.m. at the Alton Bay Community Center. All Chamber members are invited to attend this or any other meeting. Meetings are held at 8A.M. on the first and third Wednesdays of the month at the Community Center.

Inquiries for the summer season are coming into the Chamber office at the rate of about a dozen a week. By all indications, it looks to be a busy season.

We welcome our newest members Shelby's Interiors for Living and the Alton Bay Christian Conference Center.

Elections: Things that are held to see if the polls were right.

**GILMAN LIBRARY BUILDING FUND
NEARS GOAL OF \$658,500**

By David Countway, Building Fund Chairman
"Help Make the Gilman Library All That It Can Be" has been the slogan of a very successful private and public fund raising appeal during the last four years. Our goal, including the architect's fee, is \$658,500. The building fund now has reached the 80% level, with a current total of \$525,765 raised to date. \$325,765 has been given in the form of gifts, pledges, foundations gifts, memorial gifts, grants, gifts of stock and the purchase of community Afghans and bicentennial posters. Our remaining private fund raising goal now stands at \$82,735. Public support for the expansion of the Gilman Library has been demonstrated at the Alton Town Meeting during the last four years with a total of \$200,000 approved towards the construction. A final request of \$50,000 will be presented for voter approval at the Town Meeting in March.

The expansion of the Gilman Library has received a broad base of support from year-round residents, visitors and summer residents. The largest single gift, in excess of \$100,000 has come from a summer resident in West Alton. The new Adult Wing of the Gilman Library will be named in honor of her family. A similar naming opportunity awaits to be fulfilled for the new Children's Wing. One major gift now could complete our fund raising goal. However, in order to maintain a realistic perspective, at this time it is important to make a final appeal to the entire community. Several gifts in the small, medium and large range are needed to meet our goal. Important naming opportunities are still available. We ask that you reflect upon the value of maintaining a first class library in Alton and make your additional personal contribution now.

Milestone Engineering and Construction of Concord was hired by the Gilman Library Trustees in December of 1996 as the construction manager to build the proposed Gilman Library expansion. A cost estimate by Milestone in January of 1997, indicated an increase in the cost of materials, with a construction estimate of \$712,000. This figure is currently being analyzed by Architect Bruce Brook, in conjunction with Milestone, with the goal of reducing the construction cost to \$650,000. Our final fund raising appeal is even more important to guarantee a funding commitment to preserve all of the design features and to meet all of the expenses of construction.

Your gift to the Gilman Library Building Fund is very important at this time as Milestone is projecting a ground breaking by April 1, 1997 and a construction period of six months. Fund raising will continue through the construction period. Every effort will be made to maintain library services through the construction period. I urge you to give me a phone call to discuss your desire to contribute to the Gilman Library Building Fund. I can be reached through the Gilman Library at 875-2150 or at my home in East Alton at 569-3648.

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GOOD CITIZENS IN KINDERGARTEN THROUGH GRADE THREE

Principal George J. Rogers (rear) awarded students in kindergarten through grade three Good Citizen Awards for the second quarter.

ALTON CENTRAL SCHOOL RECOGNIZES GOOD CITIZENS

Students in kindergarten through grade five received special recognition in ceremonies at Alton Central School. Special awards were presented to those students who earned good citizenship status for the second quarter of the school year. They are:

Kindergarten: Shaida Anderson, Marina Avery, Nathan Barrett, Lyndsay Bishop, Erik Caron, Shanelle Chagnon, Emily Donahue, Shannon Eagles, Megan Farrell, Richard Finethy, Amber Fielding, Amber Gagnon, Kimberly Grant, Cohn Hammond, Andrea Hillsgrove, Mike Jensen, Justin Kantar, Stephanie MacDonald, Heidi McGlone, Laura Merluzzo, Katelyn Ordway, Katelynn O'Toole, Maegan Rojek, Stephanie Roy, Kelsea Scerra, Xavier Stone, and William Wenzlau.

Grade 1 : Erin Brackley, Tony Castagnaro, Amber Couture, Jacob Dore, Ryan Finethy, Jessica Harrell, Chelsea Hawkins, Patricia Holmes, Daniel Hopper, Logan Hopper, Makina Itchkavich-Levasseur, Jesse Lane, Christopher Loprete, Alma Loynd, Samantha MacDonald, Karol Anne Mansfield, C.J. Moulton, Amanda Pellowe, Kristie Lee Powers, Tara Prescott, Abby Rasbridge, Matthew Rojek, Jennifer Shafer, Chad Tenander,

Brianna Tidd, Olivia Varney, Krystal Vigue, Caitlin Wenzlau,



GOOD CITIZENS IN GRADES FOUR & FIVE

Assistant Principal Dorothy Bristol (rear) awarded students in grades four and five Good Citizen Awards for the second quarter.

Jonathan Yelle, and Jordan Yelle.

Grade 2: Dottie-Jean Bailey, Bryan Bishop, Megan Burwell, Kristopher Callahan, Mara Cook-Hamer, Jeffrey DeLemus, Katie Dunn, Jane Farrell, Ashley Finethy, Charlotte French, Kimberly Hannafin, Caila Kantar, Joshua Liedtke, Donny McGee, Kendra Merluzzo, Jeffrey St.Cyr, George Stevens, Merrill Stone, Ashley

Sweeney, Ben Varney, and Steven Waterman.

Grade 3: Shannon Cornelissen, Johanna Dickson, Allyson Dudman, Makayla Goings, James Grant, Peter Kaszynski, Owen Laurion, Brittany Moore, Kathryn Pellowe, Taylor Peterson, Marie Phelan, Jacqueline Piaseczny, Dan Pitman, Patrick Quinn, Amber Richardson, Sara Talon, Aimee Terravecchia, Katrina Tidd, and Caitlin Wentworth.

Grade 4: Brittany Bartlett, Amanda DeLemus, Kelly Eagles, Anne Farrell, Vanessa Gilbert, Tarsha Goodwin, Erin Hannafin, Christine Holmes, Morgan Locke, Tara Loprete, Camille Niquette, Brenna Quann, Shayna Randall, Andrea Sell, Stephanie Tanguay, Michael Tidd, and Ashley Waterman.

Grade 5: Lindsey Caron, Tamara Cornelissen, Kate Dore, Kristine Kenerson, Lindsay Kenerson, Falon Lambert, John Latchaw, Dylan Laurion, Kristy Lefebvre, Kyle McAuliffe, Christa Perkins, Tara Proulx, Dan Quinn, Meredith Roy, Krista Shibley, Matt Sydow, and Isaac Tharpe.

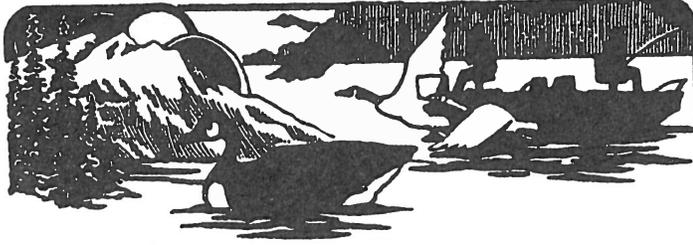


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ALTON OUTDOORS

By Jack Miller

TIME TO GET READY TO FISH

March is the "madness month", when cabin fever can get one wishing for spring. It is the month when one can get ready for spring as open water salmon fishing begins on April 1st.

This is the month the outdoor person can get out the fishing gear! It's time to renew line on reels, clean rods and reels, polish spinners and spoon lures, tie flies, clean and treat fly lines, and clean out tackle boxes or vests. Time to get the boat ready by putting in new plugs; sanding down and recoating canoe paddles; oil and grease oar locks, steering cables, down riggers, wheel bearings and trailer hitch. Time to charge up the trolling battery and sharpen up the fillet knife.

The ice is not good "black ice" this winter, so maybe we will have an early ice out providing some good open water to fish on opening day. Some nice rainbows have been caught on the "Big Lake" and quite a few salmon have been hooked and released. Prospects look good. Whatever your preferred method of fishing, spend this month getting ready for next month's fishing.

For the hunter this month, one can start locating turkey hunting sites. These elusive big game birds require some foot work to locate and become familiar with their habits if one is to have success when they may be hunted in May.

The archer can start practicing for the fall now as there are many 3D archery shoots taking place throughout the state starting in March.

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SECOND QUARTER HONOR ROLL ANNOUNCED BY ALTON CENTRAL SCHOOL

The following students were named to the honor roll for the second quarter at Alton Central School. High Honors requires a grade of at least 92 in all subjects and Honors requires a grade of at least 83 in all subjects.

GRADE 4 - High Honors: Stephanie Tanguay; **Honors:** Brittany Bartlett, Brittney Chapman, Shaylyn Cornelissen, Amanda Delemus, Kelly Eagles, Vanessa Gilbert, Tarsha Goodwin, Leslie Guertin, Erin Hannafin, Christine Holmes, Alex Kaszynski, Alicia Lambert, Tara Loprete, Camille Niquette, Brandon Pellowe, Brenna Quann, Derek Rondeau, Brian Roy, Michael Tidd, and Ashley Waterman.

GRADE 5 - High Honors: Lyndsey Caron, John Latchaw III, Dakotah Nixon, Tonya Prescott, Daniel Quinn, Krista Shibley, and Matt Sydow; **Honors:** David Currid, Elspeth Dana, Carl Dickson, Lindsay Kenerson, Dylan Laurion, Kyle McAuliffe, Tara Proulx, Chris Ryan, and Kelsey Yelle.

GRADE 6 - High Honors: Scott Baumgartner and Terese Hopper; **Honors:** Adam Ames, Megan Audette, David Bailey, Hilary Ballentine, Heath Berthiaume, Katie Brooks, Dennis Callahan, Jamie Coigley, Ashley Coughlin, Patty Currid, Christopher Duffy, Nicholas Hallin, Stephanie Hillsgrove, Amanda Jones, Joshua Kern, Marc Levasseur, Thomas Malone, John McGlone, Kristin Murray, Patrick Quann, Kimberly Russell, Mathew Scott, David Snell, Amanda Tarpe and Erin Wood.

GRADE 7 - High Honors: Briahna Itchkavich-Levasseur, John McAuliffe and Marissa Peterson; **Honors:** Joshua Albair, Matthew Currid, Serry Hayward, Dana Lang, Brandon Proulx, Anthony Sanborn, and Jane Varney.

GRADE 8 - High Honors: Sara Dore and Meghan St. Cyr; **Honors:** Allyson Fortier, Loretta Helie, Renee LaFreniere, Katie Morrill, Ashley Southwell, Emily Sydow, and Matthew Tardy.

GRADE 9 - Honors: Frederick LaCrosse, Asako Maeda, Jenny Martin, Eric Morrill, Elizabeth Quindley, and Ryan Sell.

GRADE 10 - High Honors: Amanda Lambert; **Honors:** Rebecca Blair, Timothy Croes, Desiree Crossley, Tonia Elliott, Jennifer Emanouil, Michael Langer, Amber Locke, Gregory Salvatore, Korin Todd, Nadine Vailette, and Anna Varney.

GRADE 11 - Honors: Jonathan Choquette, Jedediah Christy, Kristen Duval, Heather Feger, Blake Kellar, Jennifer Merfeld, Tammy Murtagh, Amy Teague, Aaron Terravechia, Jacob Tarpe, and Todd Thurston.

GRADE 12 - High Honors: Jessica Donahue and Matt Fenton; **Honors:** Thomas Bernard, Duane Carr, Matthew Collins, Diana Daniels, Elizabeth Knowlton, Rachel Kubicki, Rebecca Miller, Jaime Sanborn, and Kevin Wentworth.

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| Cornwell, Patricia | Hornet's Nest |
| Cross, Amanda | The Collected Stories |
| Evanovich, Janet | Three To Get Deadly |
| Guest, Judith | Errands |
| Harrod-Eagles, Cynthia | Blood Lines |
| Jacob, Anna | High Street |
| Jardine, Quintin | Skinner's Round |
| Linscott, Gillian | Dead Man's Sweetheart |
| Pearson, Ridley | Beyond Recognition |
| Pella, Judith | Blind Faith |
| Phillips, Tori | Fools Paradise |
| Rankin, Jan | Let it Bleed |
| Schopen, Bernard | The Iris Deception |

NONFICTION

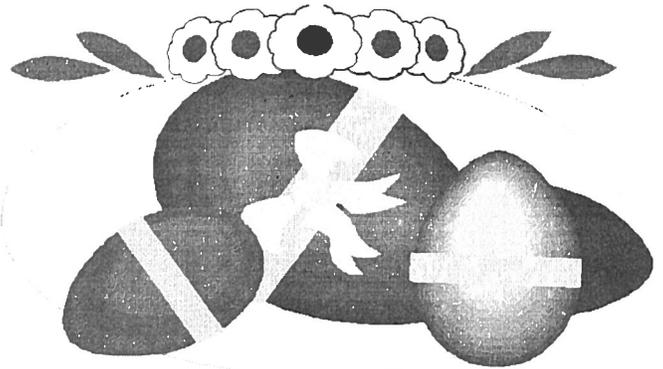
- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| Ackerman, Diana | A Slender Thread: Crisis, Healing and Nature |
| Allen, Tim | I'm Not Really Here |
| Fulghum, Robert | True Love: Stories Told, etc. |
| Kunstler, James | Home From Nowhere: Remaking Our World for the 21st Century |

CHILDREN

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| Accorsi, William | Rachel Carson |
| Gibbons, Gail | Putt...Flash...Bang! A Book About Signals |
| Greene, Bette | The Drowning of Stephan Jones |
| Harvey, Amanda | Stormy Weather |
| Hest, Amy | Pajama Party |
| Kirk, David | Miss Spider's Wedding |
| Kirschner, David | The Pagemaster |
| Micklethwaite, Lucy | I Spy a Freight Train |
| Naylor, Phyllis | Shiloh Season |
| Potter, Beatrix | The Tale of Squirrel Nutkin |
| San Souci, Robert | The Talking Eggs |
| Shrode, Mary | Just Imagine with Barney |
| Sis, Peter | Stormy Messenger |
| U.S.Olympic Committee | Chamonix to Lillehammer |
| Van Allsburg, Chris | Two Bad Ants |
| Wood, Audrey | The Sweetest Fig |
| Wynne-Jones, Tim | Heckedy Peg |
| | The Maestro |

SUMMER EVENTS LISTINGS NEEDED

The Alton-Alton Bay Chamber of Commerce is seeking listings for its summer events calendar. Information should be mailed to Post Office Box 550, Alton. The deadline is April 16.



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.

ELECTION DAY VOLUNTEERS SOUGHT FOR TOWN ELECTIONS ON MARCH 11

Town Moderator John Duffek is seeking volunteers to staff the polls for the Town and School Elections on March 11. Individuals will be needed to check in voters, provide voter assistance and booth supervision, and count ballots at the close of the polls.

Any registered voter interested in helping should call Duffek at 569-4441.

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**MUNICIPAL SPOTLIGHT ON
MIKE McGOVERN
SUPERVISOR OF MAINTENANCE**

By Muriel Walker

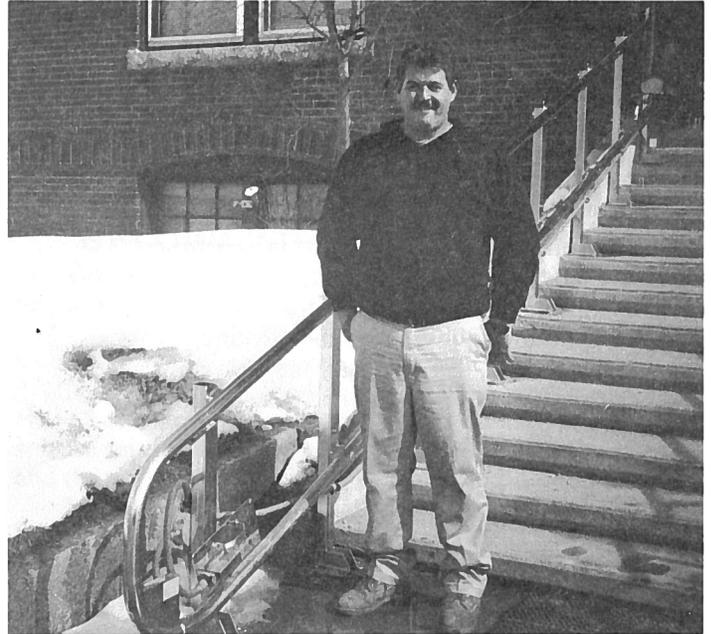
Mike was born and raised in Winthrop, Massachusetts. He attended schools there and graduated from Winthrop High School in 1977. After graduation Mike was in the U. S. Marine Corps for over two years and was stationed in Norfolk, Virginia. Mike was discharged in 1980 and returned to Massachusetts. He attended the Franklin Institute of Boston for two years and studied plumbing. He received his journeyman's license and worked as a plumber for 15 years. He married and had three daughters.

After being widowed, Mike moved with his daughters to his parents' home in Rochester in 1988. He received his master's license in New Hampshire and worked as a plumber. Mike met and married his wife, Margo, in Rochester and the family moved to Alton in 1993. They have five children - Bridgette is 15 years old, Lorin is 14, Tracy is 11, Ben (Bernard) is 5, and Michaela is 3.

When time permits, the family enjoys camping and exploring New Hampshire by car. "We like to camp at the Dolly Copp Campground during summer vacation time," said Mike. He also enjoys fishing when he can. Margo likes to sew and she and the girls enjoy quilting and crafts. The family are members of the Community Church of Alton and the children attend Sunday School there.

Mike's position as supervisor of maintenance for the town keeps him very busy. He is responsible for total maintenance of all town-owned buildings including the Police Station, Library, three community centers, Town Hall, and the Solid Waste Center. Mike is especially busy now seeking a replacement for Custodian George Woodman, who recently retired.

Mike is attending a 24-week course called the New England Fuel Institute at the NH Technical College in Manchester. This course will enable Mike to repair and better



maintain heating systems in town properties.

When asked what he likes best about his present position, Mike quickly replied, "The people are the best! I love working here!" He added, "I like the people in all the departments. They are friendly and helpful to each other. It's not like the departments are separated from each other. They're like one big family."

In the future Mike says "I just want to work for the town and hopefully spend more time with my family. I also am a member of the volunteer fire department and I would like to do more for it." The family has purchased a parcel of land in Alton and Mike says "My big goal is to build a house there for my family."

We wish him well!

ARE YOU ON OUR MAILING LIST?

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

If your mailing address has a different Zip Code than either of those and you are an Alton resident, you may receive Main Street each month by calling 569-4441 or faxing 569-9807 or send your mailing address to P. O. Box 210, Alton Bay NH 03810.



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BOY SCOUT TROOP HAS ACTIVE SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

In addition to the regular meetings each Wednesday night at the Central Fire Station, Troop 53, Boy Scouts of America, has enjoyed a number of special activities.

On January 19, two vans and 10 scouts went to the Boston Museum of Science, an experience enjoyed by all. On February 8, several members of the troop participated in a Winter Fun Day at Tamworth. Over 140 boys and 40 adults attended with all kinds of sleds and skis. Lunch was served in the Tamworth Town Hall and each participant received a special colorful patch as a memento of the occasion. An overnight skiing trip to Loon Mountain was held on February 22 and 23. Although the boys are prepared for and experienced in winter camping, it was decided to stay at nearby Parker's Motel for the night this time.

On Boy Scout Sunday, February 9, boys attended the church of their choice in uniform to observe the anniversary of the founding of the Scouting Movement. In one church the boys were invited to present the flag, and Scouting's contributions to developing "one nation under God" were highlighted by the pastor.

Plans are under way for Troop 53 to participate in the New Hampshire Highway Department's Adopt-a-Highway program. The troop will adopt a two-mile stretch of one of the state highways in the Alton area. In choosing to help the community in this way, the boys have the opportunity to add to their total of required service hours to qualify for rank advancement.

A Court of Honor for presenting awards was held February 19 at the Central Fire Station. The troop is pleased to welcome a new member, Joshua Simonton, who received his Scout rank. Three scouts advanced to Second Class rank: David Benedetto, Greg Gatton and Sean Ford. Seven scouts advanced to First Class rank: David Benedetto, Matt Currid, Joshua Dearnley, Greg Gatton, Ben Jensen, Mike Murray and Ryan Yelle. One scout, Daniel Moulton, advanced to Life rank. Dan is now eligible to begin planning his Eagle rank project. Other scouts have nearly completed the requirements for advancement and will be receiving their next rank at the next Court of Honor in the spring. Each advancing scout received a badge with the emblem of rank embroidered on it which is worn on the uniform. He also received a gold pin of the same emblem which he then presented to a parent who is entitled to wear it to any subsequent meetings. All scouts were also given the World Crest badge, an emblem that may be worn by all members on their uniforms as an expression of world brotherhood. First Class Scout Michael Murray served as Master of Ceremonies for the program. After the program the parents and Troop Committee members served refreshments to all the boys and their invited guests.

CHILDFIND AVAILABLE AT ALTON SCHOOL

Parents of children up to 6 years of age who suspect that a child may be educationally disabled, are invited to contact Special Education Director Dorothy Bristol at the Alton Central School at 875-7500. Assessments will be performed to determine if children qualify for special education programs and services. Areas to be screened will include hearing, vision, communication and motor functioning.

HELP WANTED ON MARCH 27

Anyone interested in participating in Main Street is encouraged to call Editor John Duffek in Alton at 569-4441.

No talent will be turned away! We need reporters for general and feature stories; salespersons to call on prospective advertisers; and collators and staplers to help put it all together at the Pearson Road Community Center on Thursday, March 27, at 6:30p.m. Join us!

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



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TREES AND SHRUBS AVAILABLE FROM COUNTY CONSERVATION

For the seventh year the Belknap County Conservation District will be conducting a fund raising program that offers shrub and tree planting stock that should grow well in the Lakes Region. Orders should be received by March 6 for pickup on either May 2 or 3. Orders received after March 6 will be filled if supplies permit.

New items this year include Canadian Harmony Peach, Mountain Laurel, Pagoda Dogwood, and six other fruit trees. Continuing from previous years are such favorites as blueberries, strawberries and raspberries as well as hardwood and evergreen trees. Also new for 1997 are two pickup sites, Gilmanton Iron Works fire station being the closest to Alton.

Offered again is the "shoreland packet," although of a different mix than prior years. The varieties in the shoreland packet are chosen for their shoreland and wildlife protection properties, and now "viewsheds" (visual paths) have been introduced into the qualities of the packet.

Time is running out, so if interested, call 528-8713 for further information.

Spring is the time when a little hard work on your lawn will reward you with a lot of hard work later on.

MAIN STREET AVAILABLE BY SUBSCRIPTION

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

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

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

AVAS ANNOUNCES OFFICERS

Sherman Brown was recently reelected president of the Alton Volunteer Ambulance Service (AVAS). Other officers are Eric Elliott, vice president; Judy Ingoldsby, secretary; Sharon Whitehouse, treasurer; and Dexter Brown, training officer.

AVAS provided medical care for 331 calls during the 1996 year. There is still a great need for daytime help and training will be provided for anyone interested. Call 875-7337 or 364-2270.



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