



# Main Street

"The Voice of Alton"

Volume XVI Number 4

Alton, New Hampshire - April , 2000

Complimentary

## MUSINGS OF A "SAPPER"

By Cecil Abels

I know exactly when the thought occurred to me. It was on the second tap when I hung the bucket from the 24-inch Rock Maple. After searching in vain for the new fangled plastic tubing and spiles I spent a small fortune on last year to install, I decided to go back to the old-fashioned method of hanging the 30 or so buckets on those sugar maple trees. In purchasing and devising the plastic, self-draining, storing system, I was only trying to be practical. Getting home late in the evening made slogging out to the two-acre parcel awfully tiresome. Since starting a boil is a commitment, it doesn't work well on a weeknight; weekend boils are more "efficient." The purpose of the endeavor was solely to make my life as a backyard sugarer more productive. Maybe!

Hanging those buckets made me see it a little differently. I remembered my "old timer" neighbor Kenny Hall teaching me the secrets of tapping the trees not long after I had moved here. Observing the grain of the wood and the direction of the growth up to a low hanging limb or main branch of the tree, you could practically feel the sap vein running under your palm and fingertips. With the hand drill I carefully carved out the hole and cleared it of shavings; then I gently tapped in the old metal spile. In the silence of the forest there was the steady plunk, plunk, plunk echoing so quietly of drop after drop of sap into those old tin buckets. A peace seemed to come over me, accompanied by a gentle breeze and an earthy, sweet smell from the forest and field still half covered in snow.

My neighbor, Kenny, was a serious magician when it came to maple sugaring. I followed his directions without even noticing. On the second tap I realized at that pace it was automatic to apply much more care in the selection and drilling of the trees. Using automation is without a doubt a considerable efficiency, but there's less care and attention to

Continued on page 21



## BEAR WARNING!

*EDITOR'S NOTE: As shown in the photo above taken at a backyard bird feeder off Alton Mountain Road, it is that time of year (4/1) to caution Main Street readers to be wary of bears. The following notice downloaded from the Internet seems particularly appropriate.*

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game recently issued this bulletin: "Warning: In light of the rising frequency of human/grizzly bear conflicts, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game is advising hikers, hunters, and fishermen to take extra precautions and keep alert for bears while in the field.

"We advise outdoorsmen to wear noisy little bells on their clothing so as not to startle bears that aren't expecting them. We also advise outdoorsmen to carry pepper spray with them in case of an encounter with a bear.

"It is also a good idea to watch out for fresh signs of bear activity. Outdoorsmen should recognize the difference between black bear and grizzly bear manure: Black bear manure is smaller and contains lots of berries and squirrel fur. Grizzly bear manure has little bells in it and smells like pepper."

(On the serious side, real tips on dealing with bears are on page 17.)





# Main Street

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by

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## BE PART OF Main Street ON APRIL 27

Anyone interested in participating in Main Street is encouraged to call co-editors MaryBee or Bob Longabaugh at 875-5067.

No talent will be turned away! The most immediate need is for collators and staplers to help put the next issue together at the Pearson Road Community Center on Thursday, April 27, at 6:30 p.m.

## ALTON ON-LINE

By Joe Harris



### INTRODUCING OUR NEWEST FEATURE

Welcome. You are now reading Main Street's newest column, "Alton On-Line," dedicated to reviewing web sites of community interest. Local businesses, town services, and similar groups maintain web sites on the Internet as a tool to inform the community on-line of services, events, and other information that seems to be worth "getting the word out."

This first installment of On-Line highlights the Alton Central School, which will be found when you click on:

[www.alton.k12.nh.us](http://www.alton.k12.nh.us)

This is a well-organized and user-friendly site. The home page has a directory that gives visitors to the site the choices of accessing Alton Central, Elementary, or High Schools, Faculty/Staff, Administration, or the Bulletin Board. Parents, students, or anyone with a computer on-line can view the school profile, handbook, program of studies, departments, extra curricular activities, library, or the "Apache Review" and "Expressions" magazine on-line. Click on the "Bulletin Board" and choose to see the school calendar of events, the Parent Teacher Student Association (PTSA) page, the Alton Teachers Association page, or the sports schedule.

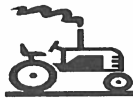
Other options are: "What's New," "Events," and minutes of recent school board meetings, where you can review the latest school board meeting and the decisions made there.

Also included within the web site is the Alton Parks and Recreation News. There you can check out upcoming events sponsored by the department or times and locations of ongoing activities offered, such as the exercise and fitness programs.

E-mail may be forwarded to the school by using the web address [webmaster@alton.k12.nh.us]. Whether you are looking for a specific school policy, reviewing a School Board meeting, or checking on a future event, it can all be found on this site. It's worth checking out.

Next month we will visit the Alton Police Department "On-line."

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# Main Street's Inside Front Page

## THREE ELECTIONS HELD ON MARCH 14

By Bob Calvert

It was a "triple-header election" at the Alton Fire Station on March 14: School, Town and a special election of a state representative to replace the late Paul Golden of Barnstead.

**School** results had Joyce Hopper and Wayne Fraser elected to the School Board. Moderator Terri Noyes and Treasurer Shirley Young were reelected unopposed. Ruth Messier gained the Clerk position with 17 write-in votes. Articles 9, 11, and 14 failed. All others passed, including the proposed school budget for the first time in three years.

**State Representative-elect** David Russell of Gilmanton had 534 votes (in Alton) to 120 for Vincent Miller and 191 for Daniel Barraford, both of Barnstead.

**Town** results showed Steve McMahon (601) besting Evelyn Nardo (191) and Daryl Tilton (111) for the Selectman seat. Lisa Waterman (700) retained her Town Clerk role against Lynn Brooks (267). For Library Trustee it was Nancy Jordan (664) over David Rockwood (207). John H. Young, Sr., (502) defeated Joseph Brennan (291) for a Fire Ward seat.

Unopposed winners were: Anne Kroeger - Tax Collector; Helen Sullivan - Treasurer; Muriel Stinson - Trustee of Trust Funds; Ken Roberts - Highway Agent and Fire Ward; Mark Northridge - Moderator; Shirley Lane, Paulette Alden, and Mark DiVito - Cemetery Trustees; John Streeter - Water Commissioner; Donna Briggs - Budget Committee; Alan Sherwood - Planning Board; Frances Washburn - Planning Board; Laurie Boyce and MaryBee Longabaugh - Supervisors of the Checklist.

All five zoning questions passed. A total of 1,014 cast ballots. Absentee ballots included: 128 for town, 93 for school, and 49 for the state representative election. Two ballots were disallowed as unreadable.

## SCHOOL WARRANTS DECIDED

Alton voters went to the polls on March 14 and said "yes" to 13 of the 16 articles on the school district ballot, including the \$5,856,321 operating budget recommended by the School Board. (All articles were described in the March issue of Main Street, starting on page 2.) The article (IX) to establish a Capital Reserve Fund with \$10,000 in it for the purchase of a new tractor failed. A petition article (XIV) to establish a Capital Reserve Fund for the purpose of replacing the playground also failed, no doubt because another article (XV) approved \$7,500 for the same purpose. The article to return to the traditional annual school district meeting received 429 yes votes and 463 no votes.

## YEAR 2000 TOWN MEETING

By Judith Pellowe

Some 200 Alton voters gathered in the Alton Central School gymnasium at 7 p.m. on March 15 for an extremely lengthy annual town meeting. Some seven hours later the meeting came to a close.

There were a number of articles that were debated at length. One was Article 2 addressing the need for a new town well at a cost of \$550,000, which would be borne by water system ratepayers. The article required a secret ballot vote resulting in 140 yes votes and 38 no votes. Article 16

Continued on page 14



## SOMETHING NEW IN FIREFIGHTING

By Stan Czech

Although you would never recognize him in his "work clothes," firefighter Gary Hannafin, shown above, is tuning up one of the newest pieces in firefighting technology for use in the practice fire conducted in Alton on March 19.

It is called a thermal-imaging camera. As shown in the photo, it is a device not much bigger than a small video camera that has a four-inch screen. In a smoke-filled room the screen will show an image of what's in the room, only the image appears as a negative with the hot areas shown in white. This technology gives the user a much better chance of getting through a smoke-filled house to locate people or animals and to find fires or hot spots in a wall, floor, or ceiling that might not otherwise be visible to the naked eye. In a demonstration videotape, a person walked across a floor in bare feet and the camera was able to image the footprints on the floor just from the body heat transferred to the floor from the feet.

The loaned camera that the Alton Fire Department was able to use in its training fire also had the capability to transmit its image to a remote TV receiver. With this kind of setup others can look over the firefighter's shoulder from outside the burning building and provide an extra set of eyes. It is very impressive technology, but expensive.

The chances appear to be very good that the Alton Fire Department will probably have a fund-raising event in the next year in order to buy one of these cameras. The potential for saving one life or minimizing property damage because you can find the fire without tearing apart the structure would make it worth the effort.



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**ALTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY HOSTS STATE ORGANIZATION**

By Bob Calvert

The Alton Historical Society is hosting the April quarterly meeting of the Association of Historical Societies of New Hampshire (AHSNH) on Saturday, April 22, at the Gilman Library meeting room (downstairs) and the Alton Historical Society Museum quarters at the library.

The event begins with registration at 9:30 a.m. and adjourns by 3 p.m. In the morning Linda Wilson of the NH Division of Historical Resources will discuss how to have a new state historical highway marker erected as well as how to have corrections made on existing markers. An annual business meeting will be held, and the Alton Society will have a speaker and video from the Alton Bay Christian Conference Center, whose roots go back to the 1860's. Luncheon will be served, and an afternoon tour of our local historical museum will be featured.

Interested Alton residents are urged to attend a portion or all of this meeting, help our local group welcome the out-of-town folks, and show our support of our own Historical Society of which Jean Roberts is president.

**PFUHLS CONDUCT EXCITING SURVEY**

By R. Lee Trevlac

They are in the news again! April and Ernest Pfuhl recently conducted an extensive survey on campaign signs used in the recent town elections. They found, for instance, that red and white were the dominant colors of choice for several candidates, a phenomenon that usually occurs in years when we have little snow until later in the winter. But one candidate not only had the most signs by far, but also used a brilliant orange attached to strong metal stakes. He disregarded town boundaries and placed them throughout the area!

Unlike other candidates, he didn't take these signs down immediately after the elections. F. Heaves is the guilty one with the unique first name of Frost. The strange thing noted by the Pfuhs was that he (or she) never listed what office was being sought! Just the name.

The Pfuhs bored in and finally think they have the answer: Heaves hasn't decided yet what office he seeks. In the meantime, and for the past few years, he has been putting up his signs to get name recognition before actually making a specific campaign push!

If anyone can find a different and more logical explanation, please call the Pfuhs at 875-2151 and ask for April. She and Earnest earnestly want to investigate other hypotheses.



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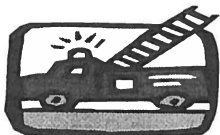


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**FIRESIDE CHATS**  
By Stan Czech  
Alton Fire Department

**IT HAPPENED ON MAIN STREET**

In case you hadn't noticed, Main Street in Alton is a little emptier now. On the weekend of March 18 and 19, the Alton Fire Department did a "practice burn" on that little white house next to the library. Those of you who came through town on one of those days couldn't miss all the commotion on Main Street.

Alton lost a little bit of its history too on those days. Some family lived in that house, maybe more than one family, I don't know for sure. I do not know either how old the house was, but it just seemed strange to burn down somebody's home — Anna's home. Anna died a few years ago, and the town bought the house to give the new library some breathing room. Now the house is gone along with all its memories. I think it's kind of sad.

There are some good things though that came out of that house burning. The most important is that the Alton Fire Department and some members of the New Durham and Gilmanton Fire Departments got some pretty good training.



Alton's new ladder truck was put through its paces. Not only was the aerial ladder used extensively, but also the truck has a fully operational pump and carries three pre-connected "attack lines." The truck performed magnificently. Individual firefighters got some real hands-on training when parts of the house were set on fire and then crews were sent in to locate and extinguish the fire.

Additionally, as reported on page 3 in this issue of Main Street, our department got to try out a new piece of equipment — a thermal-imaging camera — in a "no fooling" fire and heavy smoke situation. All in all, it wasn't a bad weekend for the Alton Fire and Rescue Department.



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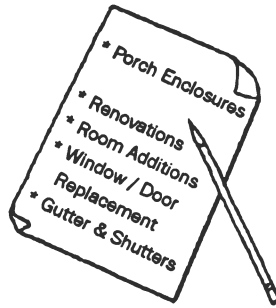
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**HISTORIC ALTON:**



**McGRATH'S STORE**

By Judith Pellowe

Before Clifford McGrath ran the grocery store located in Alton Village, there was a store in Alton Bay known as McGrath's General Merchandise. Prior to that the store had been known as W. P. Emersons. That store was bought in 1933 by Clifford McGrath's grandfather and was later taken over by Clifford's father, "Pete" McGrath. The store consisted of a living area on the top floor, the grocery on the main floor, and a storage area underneath. In addition, there was a barn and stable area in the old part of the building that had been converted to hotel rooms. The McGraths lived in the area above the store.

In February of 1971 a gas leak caused an explosion and the store was burned. Nobody was killed, but there were injuries and Pete McGrath broke his leg. After the fire Pete built a smaller building on the site, which became Woody's Marine and is now Gillan Marine. In 1972 the present McGrath's store was built, and the business was moved to Alton Village. Pete ran the store in the Village until 1982 and now Clifford McGrath runs it in the third generation.

**NEW AT THE GILMAN LIBRARY**

**FICTION**

Coyle, Harold  
Doctorow, E. L.  
Frucht, Abby  
Gerritsen, Tess  
Higgins, Jack  
King, Laurie  
Craig, Lesley  
Robards, Karen  
**NONFICTION**  
Ball, Edward  
Gibbons, Gail  
Wise, Steven M.

God's Children  
City of God  
Polly's Ghost  
Bloodstream  
Day of Reckoning  
Night Work  
Storm Riders  
Ghost Moon

Slaves in the Family  
St. Patrick's Day  
Rattling the Cage ... Toward Legal  
Rights for Animals

**CHILDREN**

Bunting, Eve  
Morrison, Toni  
Schwartz, Amy

St. Patrick's Day in the Morning  
The Big Box  
How to Catch an Elephant

**AUDIO CASSETTES**

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Peters, Elizabeth

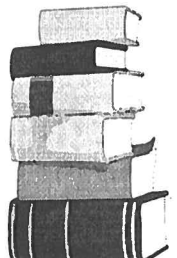
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**CONCORD CORNER**  
**By Rob Boyce**  
**State Representative**

**CROSSOVER**

The legislature has reached an annual milestone — the crossover. Per our rules all bills originated in the House have been acted upon during the first three months of this year and then “crossed-over” to the Senate. Likewise, Senate rules call for them to act on all their bills, and those that pass are transferred to the House for new hearings and consideration. If we continue to keep to our self-imposed deadlines, the session could be over by the end of May. That would certainly be a change from the last two years which saw both legislative sessions extending well into the Fall.

Among the many bills already considered and discarded were new and recycled ideas to fix, correct, or extend the education funding bill passed last year. These include several constitutional amendments and tax proposals.

As yet the looming budget deficit has not been addressed; most members seem to be taking a “wait and see” attitude until after the April tax filing season. The size of that deficit could range from the \$38 million we knew about when the education-funding bill was passed to as much as \$60 million if tax revenues don’t meet expectations.

On the GOOD NEWS front, newly-elected Representative David Russell has been sworn in by the Governor and Executive Council and has been welcomed into the House. His first session day included such intense topics as partial birth abortion and school prayer. If that didn’t scare him off, nothing will. Welcome, David.

If you have questions on any of the above, or have other State government matters that you would like to discuss with me, I can be reached at 875-7371 when I am not in Concord. My e-mail address is <rboyce@worldpath.net>.

**JOHN STREETER RETIRES**

One of Main Street’s longest running advertisers and supporters is retiring. John Streeter, a household name in Alton and vicinity and a very involved Alton resident, is entering retirement after a lifetime of well and water service. Included in his stable of vital services have been installation of pump systems, drilling artesian wells, cable tool drilling, and just about anything else needed in his profession.

He always seems to have had time to “pitch in” on anything for the good of Alton. John has served on town task forces and the water commission in the past, and in the March election he returned to the water commission. He’s a good neighbor, and fortunately for Alton he’ll still be our neighbor for a long time to come! A hearty salute and thanks John from Main Street.

**BLUE RIBBON FOR SNELL**

Cornerstone Christian Academy held its annual Science Fair on February 21. Science projects were presented by the individual students in Grades 5 - 8. Judges from Brewster Academy and other academicians selected Alton’s Jonathon Snell as the top entrant from Grades 5 and 6. Jonathon was awarded a blue ribbon as well as a prize of a ski ticket. His project demonstrated the varied uses of lasers.

Jonathon was also recognized earlier in the school year for his artistic talents. His handmade jewelry was displayed in Cornerstone’s foyer for the month of October.



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**ALTON GARDEN CLUB**

**By Betty Locke**

Spring is here, and the Alton Garden Club will hold its first meeting on April 25 at 1:30 p.m. at the Gilman Library.

Ron Panneton of Catamount Farm in Pittsfield will speak on "The Importance of Bees, Pollination, and the Plants That Attract Them."

The committee providing refreshments will be Kay Connolly, Chairman, Marion Davis, Michelle Hanley, Barbara Itchkawich, Evelyn Locke, Betty MacKay, and Adelma Messenger.

**TAX HARDSHIP RELIEF EXTENDED**

The January issue of Main Street reported (page 6) how taxpayers who meet certain criteria are eligible for whole or partial relief of the percentage increase in their tax bill due to the new state-wide education property tax. Alton's Tax Collector, Anne Kroeger, reports that the deadline for such applications has been extended to May 15.

The application is not simple, but worth looking into if you think you may qualify. Ask for Form DP-6 at the Tax Collector's office in Town Hall.



**SALMON MEANS SPRING**

Spring is here! It's salmon season!

Any outdoors person who lives near the "Big Lake" hopes for an early ice-out to have some open water to fish in. Since you live in Alton, even if you are not a fisher person, you must be aware of the fishing season opening on April 1 simply by seeing the number of anglers hanging over the Bay Bridge. I've been there when, after ten casts, the line is freezing in the guides on the rods. It doesn't matter what the weather is, they will come. This is serious business.

So, what is the attraction? A fighting, leaping, silver salmon on the end of the line gives one a great feeling, as well as seeing all "the regulars" after months of cabin fever, knowing that Summer is on the way, being in the outdoors with all the sights, sounds and smells that go along it, and breathing that good, fresh air. This encourages me to "get out there."

Speaking of "attractions," have you ever seen a mink in Alton? I see them often. The last one was on the ice right in the bay near a circulation hole the day before Alton's Winter Festival. There are also otters that live there. They can often be seen in the spring before the motor boats force them to become more reclusive. Ducks and mergansers can be heard by the sound of their oncoming wing beats before you even see them. A salmon, leaping through the air, shaking off prisms of water droplets, is a spectacular sight. These are the "attractions" for me.

At this time of year, any fishing method can hook a salmon, rainbow, or lake trout. I prefer to troll with my hand-tied trolling streamers. My favorite is my own version of a Maynard Marvel. Any streamer that imitates smelt or a small bait fish can be effective. Everyone has their favorite spots, but the fish can be anywhere at this time of year. The best thing to do is just have your line in the water. Good luck.

This is also the month to scout for turkey since the Spring turkey hunting season opens next month. One does not have to travel far as there are several flocks in the Alton area. Finding where they roost at night is the key to success with these wary birds.

Need I remind you? Spring is here. See you out there.

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 ALTON, NH 03809





**NEW LIFE FOR THE BAY'S KIOSK**

The information kiosk adjacent to the Community Center in Alton Bay was brought into being in 1997 by the Alton/Alton Bay Chamber of Commerce with the cooperation of the Town's Board of Selectmen. Local contractor Brad Hunter built the kiosk without charge. With the disbanding of the Chamber in the Fall of 1998, the kiosk was left without a caretaker.

Main Street posts its monthly "Information Center" pages on the kiosk, and when it started to show signs of neglect, its situation was brought to the attention of the Selectmen. At the initiative of Selectman Pete Shibley, negotiations were begun with the Lakes Region Association, culminating in an understanding that the LRA will maintain the kiosk for the coming season.

**INPUT, IDEAS, INVOLVEMENT**

**Parks and Recreation Commission Needs You:** The Alton Parks and Recreation Commission is a five-member, volunteer board that advises the Parks and Recreation Department on: planning future facilities — trails, fields, courts; suggesting ideas for programs/events; establishing park policies; participating in volunteer projects, and much more. Meetings are held one night a month. We really need new ideas and are looking for members to fill the two vacant places on the board. If you have ideas that would benefit the community, please call to find out more. Stop by our next meeting to see what it is all about

**Literacy Program:** The Alton Parks and Recreation Department and caring community members are interested in starting a Literacy Program in Alton for adults and children. If you are interested in this type of program, please let us know. We are looking for feedback from community members to see if they would participate if the program were offered.

To receive more information concerning the needs of these two groups or to offer your participation in the programs, please call 875-0109.

**COLGATE DEAN'S AWARD**

Alton resident, Laura A. Coots, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Coots, is a recipient of the Dean's Award for academic excellence at Colgate University. She is a member of the class of 2000 and achieved an average of 3.30 or higher while carrying a full course load. A 1996 graduate of Alton Central School, Coots is concentrating in Anthropology and Sociology.

**MOVIE MANIA**

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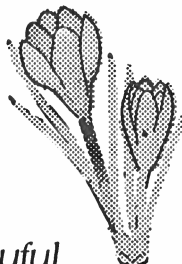
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Bunny - Stuff for Easter!



*We wish you a Blessed & Joyful  
Easter & Spring!*



**SCOUTS SKIING TRIP BIG SUCCESS**  
**FREE TRANSPORTATION PROVIDED**

Boy Scout Troop 53, sponsored by the Alton Fire Department, spent the weekend of March 11 at Sunday River skiing, snowboarding, and having a great time. Eight boys, ranging in age from 11 to 16, three adults, skis, snowboards, tents, sleeping bags, suitcases, and food — it was a tight squeeze — made it into the 15-passenger van.

The group is shown above. In the front row (left to right) are Ben Berry, Dave Currid, and Zack Porter; the middle row, Josh O'Neil, Ben Jensen, and Bruce Yelle; and the back row, Greg Gatton, Ryan Yelle, Shaun Ford, and Chet Porter.

Scout Master Bruce Yelle said, "the trip was one of those memory makers. The boys skied their hearts out, did their own cooking, and in general just had a great time." Members of the troop raised the money themselves to pay for the skiing trip through a variety of activities, including a pancake breakfast. The ski trip is part of an effort by the boys to earn Ski Merit Badges.

The vehicle was provided by Express Rent-A-Car, a division of The Miller Auto Dealerships headquartered in Wolfeboro. Candy Olson, Division Manager, said she was pleased to be able to provide the troop with the necessary transportation.

**TROUT SALE**

Here's your chance to stock your pond! The Belknap County Conservation District wants to remind you that orders for the third annual Trout Sale are due by April 15. The date for pick up is Saturday, May 6 from 1 - 1:30 p.m. at the Federal Building, 719 North Main Street, Laconia. Please release the fish into your pond directly after pick up — do NOT wait! Purchases of fish that are 10 inches or larger can be delivered by us to your pond after 2 p.m. on May 6.

The Conservation District is taking orders for rainbow and brook trout. These disease-free, New Hampshire-raised fish can be an exciting and tasty addition to your pond. The trout are being sold 25 to a bag for fish 6 - 8 inches or in units of 50 for fish 10 - 12 inches. Also available are bags of floating fish food. By ordering now you will give your fish a chance to adjust to your pond over the summer, plus provide your family an opportunity to watch them grow. Call the Conservation District at 528-8713 for further information.

**SPRING**



# Main Street's Information Center



						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	<b>APRIL EVENTS</b>					

- Sat. 1 APRIL FOOL'S DAY!!!
- Sun. 2 DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME, 2 a.m., Clocks move forward
- Tue. 4 FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY, Annual Meeting, 7 p.m., see "Checkout"
- Wed. 5 BINGO, American Legion Hall, 6:30 p.m.
- Sun. 9 NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK BEGINS
- Mon. 10 BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP, 6:30 p.m., Gilman Library, see "Checkout"
- Wed. 12 CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S LUNCH, Conference Center, 11:30 a.m., see story
- Thu. 13 BINGO, American Legion Hall, 6:30 p.m.
- BLOOD PRESSURE CLINIC, Pearson Road Community Center, 10:30 a.m. - 12 noon
- Sat. 15 RABIES CLINIC, 12:30 - 2 p.m., Alton Fire Station, see notice
- Wed. 19 PASSOVER, begins at sundown
- BINGO, American Legion Hall, 6:30 p.m.
- Sat. 22 HISTORICAL SOCIETY, Annual Meeting, 9:30 a.m. - 3 p.m., Gilman Library, see story
- EARTH DAY
- Sun. 23 EASTER
- Tue. 25 ALTON GARDEN CLUB, 1:30 p.m., Gilman Library, see story
- Wed. 26 BINGO, American Legion Hall, 6:30 p.m.
- Thu. 27 ASSEMBLY NIGHT, Main Street, Pearson Road Community Center, 6:30 p.m.
- Fri. 28 NATIONAL ARBOR DAY
- Sun. 30 SPRINGTIME DOLL SHOW AND SALE, 9:30 a.m. - 2 p.m., Alton Central School, see story

TO LIST YOUR EVENT SUBMIT WRITTEN INFORMATION TO:  
 (1) P. O. Box 210, Alton Bay, 03810 or (2) Farmington National Bank (Main Street box). Be sure to include a phone number.

## COMMUNITY WELLNESS CENTER

The following are programs offered at the Community Wellness Center, 31 Gilford Avenue, Laconia, a part of LRGHealthcare (Lakes Region General Hospital).

April 4 - May 16: "Freedom From Smoking" — Seven-session smoking cessation program developed by the American Lung Association; free orientation class with remainder of program costing \$60.

April 10: "Ask A Nutritionist" — Registered nutritionist on hand to discuss recipes, special diets, food labels, or any other related questions.

April 18: "Know Your Budget and Credit Limits" — Presented by Consumer Credit Counseling Services.

April 24: "Gentle Yoga And Meditation" — Classes taught by Kashala Hill and offered in two communities.

April 24: "Strong Living Program" — For seniors, a program in weight training, flexibility, and balance development exercises.

To register or obtain more information, call 527-7141.

## IMPORTANT MISCELLANY...

### BURN PERMITS FOR OUTDOOR FIRES

The Alton Fire and Rescue Department would like to remind residents that starting April 1 burn permits are required for outside burning. Anyone in need of a permit can come to the Alton Central Fire Station on Mondays, Wednesdays, or Fridays from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. or call the Alton Fire/Rescue Department at 875-0222 to make arrangements to receive a permit. Please take advantage of this weekday schedule so that the Department may prepare a permit to meet your weekend needs.

### PLEASE DON'T FORGET REGISTER YOUR DOG

Dog licenses expire on April 30 and are now due for renewal as required by state law. The owner may incur additional costs, such as a civil forfeiture of \$25, plus a late fee of \$1 per month after May 31.

#### License fees are:

- Male/Female.....\$10
- Neutered/Spayed.....\$ 7
- 1st Animal of Senior Citizen over 65.....\$ 2

A current rabies certificate must be presented at the time of licensing. Residents also are reminded that the Town of Alton does have a leash law ordinance.

Please call if you no longer have your dog — 875-2101

### RABIES CLINIC AND DOG LICENSES

#### SATURDAY, APRIL 15

A Rabies Clinic will be held Saturday, April 15, from 12:30 - 2 p.m. at the Alton Fire Station on Route 140. The cost for the rabies shot is \$8. Dog licenses will also be available that day. If you have any questions, please call the Town Clerk's Office at 875-2101 from 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

### OPENINGS FOR VOLUNTEERS

We need you to step up and become involved — so say the Board of Selectmen.

What they want you to do is show some interest in the boards, commissions, and committees within the Town of Alton. They would like to have a list of people interested in becoming involved so when a vacancy occurs, there is a pool from which to select a new member. There are some vacancies right now for members and alternates.

Some areas to consider are: Planning Board, Zoning Board, Conservation Commission, and Parks & Recreation Commission. If you are willing to have your name on such a list, please contact Pat Rockwood at 875-2161.

### RINES ROAD PIT

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**IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT DISPOSAL RULES!**

**PUBLIC COOPERATION IS APPRECIATED!**



# Main Street's Information Center

## SCHEDULES

### CHURCHES:

- Baha'i Fireside — Thu., 7:30 p.m., Holway Residence, Old New Durham Road
- Bay Church — Sun. School, 9:30 a.m.; Sun Services, 10:45 a.m. and 6 p.m., Moore Chapel of the Alton Bay Christian Conference Center; Wed., Family Night Supper, 6 p.m., followed by Fellowship Groups, 7 p.m.; Rev. Robert H. Hett, Pastor, Rev. John Fogell, Associate Pastor
- Community Church — Sun. School, 9:30 a.m.; Sun. Services, 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.; Congregational Meeting House, Rev. Peter Bolster, Pastor
- First Free Will Baptist Church — Sun. School, 9:45 a.m.; Church, 11 a.m.; Evening Service, 6 p.m.; Wed. Prayer Meeting, 7 p.m.; Depot St., New Durham; Pastor James Nason
- St. Joan of Arc — Sat., 5 p.m., Sun., 8 and 11 a.m., Mon. - Sat., except Wed., 8 a.m.; Confessions, Sat., 4 p.m. or by appointment; Fr. Richard Wegman, Pastor
- Wolfeboro Bible Fellowship — Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.; Worship Service, 10:30 a.m.; Evening Service, 6 p.m.; Wed. Prayer Meeting, 7 p.m.; Route 28; Pastor Scott Button

### GILMAN LIBRARY: 875-2550

Mon. and Wed., 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.; Tue. and Fri., 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Sat., 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.; closed Thu. and Sun.

### SENIOR MEAL SITE: 875-7102

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

### SOLID WASTE CENTER: 875-5801

Sun., Mon., Fri., and Sat., 7 a.m. - 4:45 p.m.  
Closed Tue., Wed., and Thu.

Rines Road Pit — Sat. and Sun., 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.

### TOWN HALL: 875-2161

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

### ORGANIZATIONS:

- Alcoholics Anonymous — Tue., 8 p.m., Alton Bay Community Center
- American Legion — 2nd Mon., 7 p.m., Legion Hall
- American Legion Auxiliary — 2nd Mon., 7 p.m., Legion Hall
- American Legion Jr. Auxiliary — 1st Tue., 6 p.m., Legion Hall
- Boy Scout Troop 53 — Wed., 6 p.m., Central Fire Station
- Cub Scout Pack 53 — Last Tue., 6:30 p.m., Legion Hall
- Eastern Star — 2nd Tue., when meeting, 875-5211
- Flying Club — 2nd Wed., 6:30 p.m., 859-7900
- Friends of the Gilman Library — 1st Tue. (in season), Library Garden Club — 4th Tue. (in season), Congregational Mtg. House
- Girl Scout Jr. Troop 630, Wed., 5 p.m., Pearson Road Community Center.
- Happy Hobby Doll Club — 4th Fri., 7 p.m., Pearson Road Community Center
- Historical Society — Watch for announcements of programs, Apr. - Oct.; Nov. - Mar., Museum open by request, 569-2629
- Knights of Columbus — 1st Wed., 7:30 p.m., St. Joan of Arc Church Hall
- Lions Club — 1st and 3rd Thu., Foxy Johnnie's Restaurant, New Durham, 6:30 p.m.
- Masonic Lodge — 2nd Thu., when meeting, 875-7448
- Moms In Touch — Mon., The Bay Church, 9:30 a.m.
- P.T.S.A. — 3rd Wed., Alton Central School Library, 7 p.m.
- Senior Citizens — 2nd Wed., 1 p.m., Pearson Road Community Center
- VFW — 3rd Mon., 7:30 p.m., Pearson Road Community Center

CALL 875-5067 TO UPDATE THE ABOVE LISTINGS

## BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

- ADDRESS COMMITTEE — Meets on call, Chairman Russell Jones, 875-7510.
- BOARD OF SELECTMEN — 1st & 3rd Mondays, 6 p.m.,\* Chairman James C. Washburn,\* call 875-2161 for appointment.
- BUDGET COMMITTEE — 3rd Thursday (twice a week in "budget season"), 7 p.m., Chairman to be announced.
- CEMETERY TRUSTEES — 1st & 3rd Tuesdays, 1 p.m., Chairman Shirley Lane, 875-5864.
- CONSERVATION COMMISSION — 1st & 3rd Tuesdays, 7 p.m., Chairman Lisa Erickson Harris, 364-6388.
- FIRE WARDS — 4th Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.,\* Chairman Richard Quindley,\* 875-2910
- GILMAN MUSEUM COMMITTEE — Meets on call, Chairman Ellamarie Carr, 776-4833.
- LAND CONSERVATION INVESTMENT PROGRAM — Meets on call, Chairman Juliet Peverley, 875-7232.
- LEVEY PARK TRUSTEES — Meet on call, Chairman Dick Jones, 875-3855.
- PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION — 1st Wednesday, 6:30 p.m., Chairman William Lionetta, 875-0109.
- PLANNING BOARD — 3rd Monday, 7 p.m., Chairman Bonnie Dunbar; call 875-5095 for appointment.
- SCHOOL BOARD — 2nd & 4th Mondays, 6 p.m., Chairman Joyce Hopper,\* 776-8733
- SUPERVISORS OF THE CHECKLIST — Meet on call, Chairman MaryBee Longabaugh, 875-5067.
- TRUSTEES OF THE GILMAN LIBRARY — 3rd Monday, 3:30 p.m., Chairman to be announced, 875-2550.
- TRUSTEES OF TRUST FUNDS — Meet on call, Chairman Joseph R. Houle, 875-7321.
- WATER COMMISSION — 2nd & 4th Thursday, 8 a.m., Chairman Reuben L. Wentworth, 875-4200
- ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT — 1st Thursday, 7 p.m., Chairman Fran Washburn, 875-5095.
- \*DENOTES A CHANGE OF INFORMATION  
CALL 875-5067 TO UPDATE THE ABOVE LISTINGS

## OUR ELECTED OFFICIALS

### U.S. SENATE

Robert C. Smith, 307 Dirksen Senate Office Building, Washington DC 20510-2903; Phones: (800) 922-2230, (202) 224-2841, Fax: (202) 224-1353; e-mail: opinion@smith.senate.gov

Judd Gregg, 393 Russell Senate Office Building, Washington DC 20510-2904; Phones (202) 224-3324, (603) 225-7115, Fax (202) 224-4952; e-mail: mailbox@gregg.senate.gov

### U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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

### N.H. EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

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

### N.H. SENATE

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

### N.H. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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

Robert Boyce, 875-7371, E-mail: rboyce@worldpath.net

Stanley Czech, 875-3815, E-mail: sdczech@worldpath.net

Dave Russell, 364-7449, Fax: 7448, E-mail: russells@worldpath.net

### BOARD OF SELECTMEN

James C. Washburn, Chairman, 364-7413

Harold M. Bothwick, Jr., 875-6262

Arnold ("Pete") Shibley, 875-2849

Stephan McMahan, 875-6322

Reuben Wentworth, 875-3388

*Pardon the reminder but does April 15th ring a bell?*



**ALTON AMERICAN LEGION**  
**By Millie Pierce, Unit Secretary**

The Legion Auxiliary members presented Ella Adams (shown above) with her 80 years pin. Ms. Adams was unit president from 1929 to 1931. She is the only surviving charter member.

Ms. Adams will be 100 years young on July 19. An Alton resident for many years, she moved to Hyde Park, Massachusetts; she now lives at the Parkwell Nursing Home.

Members Millie Pierce, Julie Limper, Muriel Stinson, Jane Rojek, Maryellen Emerson, and junior members Leanne and Kristine Emerson, with friend Courtney Dewey, were joined at the nursing home by Auxiliary members of the Fogg/Roberts Post in Hyde Park. The Alton American Legion was represented by Past Commander Ed Russell. Friends Ruth Higher and Robert Hannah also joined in the celebration. The junior members presented Ms. Adams a copy of Main Street and flowers from the Auxiliary Unit; a cake decorated in blue and yellow with the Auxiliary insignia for the New Hampshire unit was unveiled and enjoyed by everyone.

Ms. Adams asked to be remembered to all her friends in Alton and said she misses Alton very much.

**INTRODUCTION OF FOCAL POINTS**

Focal Points is a new information and referral service funded by the Belknap County Commission. This senior program provides education, support, advocacy, linkage, and follow-up relating to elder and chronic illness issues. This LRGHealthcare-based service is a result of a collaborative community-wide effort between agencies and citizens of Belknap County. Information sessions on Focal Points are being held throughout the county. Please contact Lisa Morris at 603-527-7009 or 1-888-339-5419 for information.

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**Acts**

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- ★ Paul Rishell & Annie Raines
- ★ Racky Thomas Band
- ★ Mark Miller Blues
- ★ Kan~Tu Blues

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**Coming 6 May! National Acts!**

- ~ Jesse Winchester - Songsmith
- ~ Erica Wheeler - Hearty Folk
- ~ Skip Gorman - Prairie Homer
- ~ Harvey Reid/Dan Crary Guitars!
- ~ The Angel Band-Celtic O'Carol
- ~ The Short Bros. Thousands served
- ~ New England Bluegrass Band! Old-hip





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for water system improvements along Riverlake Street would also be offset by revenues from fees billed to water users and the amount of \$35,000 was approved.

Article 10 addressed the need to establish a Capital Reserve Fund for site acquisition and construction of a new fire station to replace the station on Route 140. The sum of \$10,000 was to be placed in the fund. The article failed.

Article 22 asked for \$40,000 to conduct investigative studies of sites for a multi-use municipal facility. This was amended to \$20,000, and it was described as being a collaborative effort with the School Board. There was much discussion as to the legality of voting on a school issue at town meeting, and the article failed by a 40-46 standing vote shortly before midnight.

Article 12 asked for \$500,000 to be added to the Highway Reconstruction Capital Reserve Fund. This was amended to \$600,000 and passed. Article 20 addressed the need to establish a "Benefit Pay Trust Fund" and asked for \$50,000 to be placed in the fund to cover bonuses, unused vacation time, etc., that is paid to Town employees when they leave. The article was amended to \$25,000, which passed.

Two students spoke in support of petition Article 27 asking for \$7,400 to construct a skateboard facility at Liberty Tree Park. The voters bought their argument that a dedicated safe place to skate would be of benefit to skaters and the rest of the public alike.

An article asking for \$20,000 to be placed in a Capital Reserve Fund to update the tax maps failed, as did an article asking for \$15,000 to be placed in a "Housing Demolition Trust Fund." A request for \$3,241 for the Alton Youth League also failed, along with a petition article asking for \$75,000 to install drainage and paving on Mauhaut Shores Road.

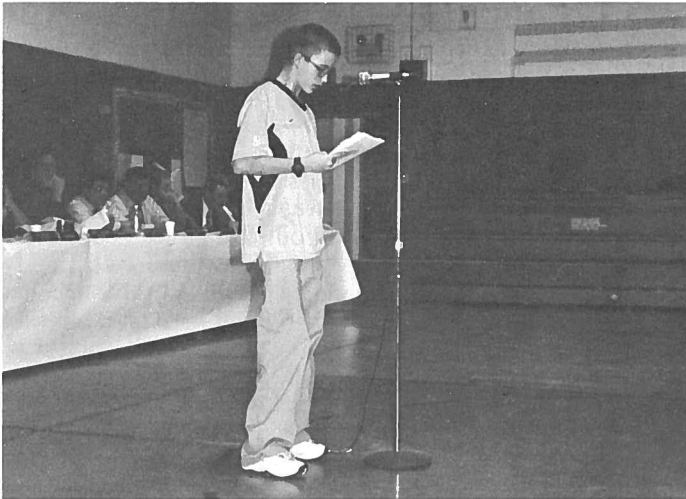
Other money articles that passed included \$5,900 to complete construction of basketball courts at Liberty Tree Park, \$23,400 for a new cruiser for the Police Department, \$9,000 for an outboard motor for the Public Safety Boat that was acquired from government surplus, \$8,500 for the purchase of police mobile data terminal communication systems, \$30,000 for the Fire Department Equipment Capital Reserve, \$10,000 for the Fire Department Radio Capital Reserve Fund, \$5,000 for a portable pump for the fire department, \$75,000 for the Highway Garage Expansion Capital Reserve Fund, \$14,800 for repairs to the Pearson Road Community Center, \$20,000 to rebuild the tennis courts at Liberty Tree Park, \$3,000 for rent for the food pantry, \$10,000 to repair the granite steps and wall at the Town boat launch, \$22,200 for the Lakes Region Mutual Fire Aid Association Capital Improvement Project, \$39,000 for a new Highway Department dump truck, and \$35,094 for various community organizations.

Article 31 was passed, which restricts revenues from ambulance billing to expenditures for the purpose of ambulance replacement. Petition Article 32 requested that School Street be changed to one-way operation for two one-half hour periods on school days. It failed.

The "sweep article" to defray anticipated charges "arising as part of the Town's operating budget" for 2000 came up at 10 minutes past midnight. Numerous amendments and 45 minutes later it passed in an amount of \$3,227,056.

At the conclusion of the meeting Bill Ryan, Selectman, and Bob Calvert, Town Moderator, were both recognized for their service to the town. The meeting adjourned shortly before 2 a.m.

## SKATEBOARD ADVOCATE WINS THE DAY



At Town Meeting on March 15 Nathan Alden pleaded the case for Alton skateboarders to have a facility at Liberty Tree Park. The voters responded with a yes to expend the necessary \$7,400.

### HOW OLD ARE YOU?

To score your REAL age, how many do you remember?

1. Blackjack chewing gum?
2. Wax Coke-shaped bottles with colored sugar water?
3. Candy cigarettes?
4. Soda pop machines that dispensed bottles?
5. Coffee shops with table side jukeboxes?
6. Home milk delivery in glass bottles with cardboard stoppers?
7. Party telephone lines?
8. Newsreels before the movie?
9. P.F. Flyers?
10. Butch wax?
11. Telephone #'s with a word prefix (e.g., Olive - 6933)?
12. Peashooters?
13. Howdy Doody?
14. 45 RPM records?
15. S&H Green Stamps?
16. Hi-fi's?
17. Metal ice trays with levers?
18. Mimeograph paper?
19. Blue flashbulbs?
20. Beanie and Cecil?
21. Roller skate keys?
22. Cork popguns?
23. Drive-ins?
24. Studebakers?
25. Wash tub wringers?

**Scoring:** If you remembered 0-5 = You're still young; If you remembered 6-10 = You are getting older; If you remembered 11-15 = Mum's the word on your age; If you remembered 16-25 = You must be on Medicare!

### SENIOR MEALS

Program is open to all age 60 and older (875-7102). Meals served Monday-Friday, 12 noon. Suggested \$2 donation.

April 3 - 7: Mon., Herb Baked Chicken/Gravy; Tue., Salisbury Steak/Gravy; Wed., American Chop Suey; Thu., Hot Dog/Roll; Fri., Pier 17 Fish Filet.

April 10 - 14: Mon., BBQ Riblets; Tue., Chicken Fricassee/Biscuit; Wed., Stuffed Shell/Meat Sauce; Thu., Roast Pork Loin/Gravy; Fri., Lemon Pepper Fish Filet.

April 17 - 21: Mon., Veal Parmesan; Tue., Teriyaki Chicken; Wed., Corned Beef; Thu., Shepherds Pie; Fri., Pollack Filet.

April 24 - 28: Mon., Easter Baked Ham Dinner; Tue., Tuna Noodle Casserole; Wed., Hearty Beef Stew; Thu., Meat/Gravy; Fri., Fish Filet/Cheese/Roll.



### WINDOW BOX SERVICE



*We plant, design and/or maintain your window boxes so you don't have to!!*

Range Road  
P.O. Box 41  
Alton, N.H. 03809  
603-875-5156

## Alton Circle Grocery

875-2861  
Formerly Wayside Grocery

*Is NOW a Family Member  
of the Stafford Oil Co.*

*We Still Have The Best In*

Chili  
Subs

Vegetables  
Meats

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Live Bait

Groceries

Fishing Tackle

Ice Cream

Auto Supplies

Fresh Baked Breads

Pies & Rolls

CITGO Gasoline  
and Motor Oil

Pastries





**THE CHECKOUT DESK**  
By Holly Brown  
Librarian

**VOLUNTEERS AND FRIENDS**

April 9 through 15 is National Volunteer Week. I would like to take this time to give our heartfelt thanks to all of our volunteers and to commend them for the outstanding job they do to help make the Gilman Library the best it can be. Without their tireless efforts it would not be possible to operate the library.

Library volunteers help to serve the community in many ways. We have a few people who come to work regularly while several are temporary volunteers. If you are interested in serving the community through volunteering at the library but realize that — like most of us — your time is limited, please consider becoming a member of the Friends of the Gilman Library.

Members of the Friends take part in the preschool story hour, Book Discussion Group, annual mum sale, summer reading program, town-wide yard sale, and various other programs. The Friends sponsor the annual Holiday Tea as well as many other programs. Current fund-raisers include the yearly calendar, T-shirts, and canvas book bags.

The next Friends meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 4, at 7 p.m. in the Agnes Thompson meeting room at the library. New ideas and talents are always welcome. Please attend, and bring a friend!

The Book Discussion Group will be meeting on April 10 at 6:30 p.m. in the Agnes Thompson meeting room. The subject will be *The French Lieutenant's Woman* by John Fowles. If you would like to participate and are in need of a copy of the book, please contact the library.

**HIGHWAY HAPPENINGS**  
By Ken Roberts  
Highway Agent



**SPRING IS COMING!**

We are waiting patiently for it — blue skies, green grass, and warmer temperatures. March 11 and 12 the snow prediction was two inches changing to rain. Surprise! We measured eight inches plus. It was a difficult storm due to the fact dirt roads were thawing out and paved roads were and are vulnerable to heavy plows. It took a lot of time to take care of the snow. We had to travel so slow and not damage the roads. This is New England — wait a minute! The weather will change.

On better notes the Highway Department received a grant from the State of New Hampshire for a little over \$19,000 to improve the two major culverts on Coffin Brook Road. Please expect a two-day closure on this road in the summer. The dates will be announced.

Our culverts were thawed out by our new pressure washer. It takes about 40 minutes to cut through a culvert frozen solid with ice. Thank you for voting for it!

So now we wait for mud season to be over so we can begin our projects. Have a good spring.

**Remember Public Safety is Our Number One Concern**

**BASKETBALL STAR ON THE MOVE**

Zach Christy, Alton Central School junior, has been outdoing himself this year on the court. He made his 1,000th point in February, and this was done in just two years as he did not play basketball in his freshman year. If that is not enough to earn applause, Christy was awarded Player of the Year for the South Boys' Basketball team. Wonder what new heights he will reach next year!



**J.R. CHINA**  
**RESTAURANT & LOUNGE**  
Rt. 11 & Riverlake West • Alton Bay, N.H. (at the Alton Bay Inn)

*Entertainment in our lounge!*

ACOUSTICS - LIVE MUSIC

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7 DAYS  
A WEEK**



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**24-HOUR BURNER SERVICE  
FOR OUR CUSTOMERS ONLY**

CROWLEY ST., FARMINGTON  
MALCOLM GLIDDEN, PRESIDENT CHRISTOPHER GLIDDEN, VICE PRESIDENT  
RICHARD CHRISTOFRE, TREASURER

**755-3562**  
**1-800-640-3562**



“Pinetop” Perkins, a double Grammy nominee, will be featured at Alton Bay’s First Blues Festival, along with six other acts, on April 1, noon to midnight, at the Bay View Pavilion.

**BEARS, ON THE SERIOUS SIDE...**

**By MaryBee Longabaugh**

As the snow leaves us the bears begin to come out of hibernation — and they are HUNGRY! To help prevent these canny, food-seeking, sunflower seed-loving, trash-searching bears from destroying your bird feeder(s), undoing your garbage cans/trash, or wrecking your barbecue grill, there are a few simple guidelines to follow.

Remove bird feeders by April 1 and clean up the seeds below; or if you just cannot keep from feeding your feathered friends, take in all the feeders at night; keep the garbage in airtight containers inside; don’t put meat or leftovers in the compost; don’t leave the pet food dish(es) out at night; and clean up your grill after use. Of great importance is the rule: Do NOT intentionally feed the bears as you are asking for trouble.

Are you aware that these bears have a really strong sense of smell and are able to pass to other bears all that good information about your backyard feeders, trash, etc.? Once they learn to rely on you as a food source, nothing will keep them from visiting often and thus become a nuisance. If you provide a fast food restaurant, they will come.

Of concern this year is the fact that there was a very poor production of acorns and beech nuts this past Fall; it is reported that many of the bears will be in poor condition and very, very hungry. Forewarned is forearmed.

There is a new service offered by the U. S. Department of Agriculture’s Wildlife Services and the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department. It is a Bear Information Services with a toll-free phone number: 1-888-749-2327 (1-888-SHY-BEAR) and will be staffed Monday - Friday during business hours.

**WE BEAT THE BANKS**

- ◆ First Time Homebuyer Programs
- ◆ FHA & VA Loans
- ◆ Zero Money Down Programs
- ◆ Refinance or Purchase Programs
- ◆ All Credit considered
- ◆ Get rid of PMI



*Cash out and Consolidate Debt*

*Slow or No Credit O.K.*

**RENTERS!**

Are you tired of throwing money away on rent?

Are you tired of not owning anything?

Have you thought of buying a home, but don't have the down payment?

**WE CAN HELP!**

Now, you can buy a home with **ZERO DOWN** and in most cases have a lower payment than renting

**CALL NOW FOR A FREE CONSULTATION AND PRE-APPROVAL**



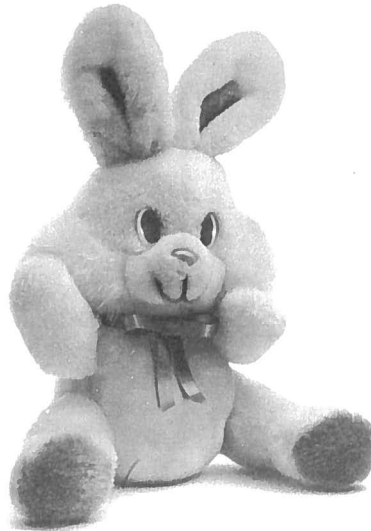
**1-800-525-0995**

[www.foundationmortgage.com](http://www.foundationmortgage.com)

**HELPING YOU GET HOME**

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# Has the true meaning of Easter gotten a little fuzzy?



Give your children more than bunnies and baskets this year.  
Give them a miracle. Join us on Easter as we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

The Christian Churches of Alton  
The Bay Church ~ The Community Church ~ St. Joan of Arc  
(see Information Center for worship times)

## **EASTER SONRISE SERVICE**

Weather permitting, this year's Community Sonrise Service will be held April 23 at 6 a.m. at the Alton Bay Bandstand. In case of inclement weather the service will be moved indoors to the Moore Chapel at the Christian Conference Center. This year's speaker will be the Reverend Peter Bolster of the Alton Community Church. Breakfast will be served in the Lombard Center Dining Hall following the service.

## **NEW ASSOCIATE PASTOR**

**By Pastor Bob Hett, Bay Church**

The Reverend John Fogell, his wife, Katie, and their four children recently moved into the parsonage of the Bay Church to assume their new ministries with both the Bay Church and the Alton Bay Christian Conference Center. We are delighted to welcome the Fogells to our fellowship, plus anticipate John's new role as Worship Chairman. We will also be able to hear him speak at the Worship Services on Sundays, April 2 and 30 during his first full month of employment.

I personally have had the privilege of working with John here at the Conference Center in the past. He has tremendous talent musically and will bring some real enthusiasm into our worship services.

A welcoming event, along with an "Open House" at the newly renovated parsonage, is being planned for a Sunday evening some time in the month of April.

## **ACSP's CONTINUING SERVICE**

**By Elizabeth Sweeney**

The Alton Community Services Program (ACSP) finished the month of February having served 39 adults and 39 children in its food pantry. Many of these families returned several times during the month to help them through a difficult period.

The ACSP would like to thank Alton's three churches

and the Alton Central School for their generous donations of food. Food drives are a critical component to the success of the food pantry, and we are grateful for the willingness of these groups to host food drives. Many more donations of food will be needed to assist us through the Spring and can be dropped off at any of the three churches or with Pat Rockwood at the Alton Town Hall. The pantry is open Wednesdays from 10 a.m. - 12 noon and Saturdays from 2 - 4 p.m.

Cash donations are also needed to continue our weekly purchase of fresh produce. Checks can be made out to The Bay Church with a notation "for the Food Pantry Fund."

The ACSP, in addition to providing several referrals for assistance to St. Vincent dePaul and other organizations, has helped in obtaining housing for another family who had recently become homeless. Transportation was also provided to several medical appointments as well as to our pantry.

If you would be interested in volunteering with the ACSP, please contact us at 875-CARE (875-2273).

## **MOMS IN TOUCH**

**By Phyllis Brooks**

Just a reminder! Moms In Touch changed its meeting time to Mondays at 9:30 a.m. We meet at the Bay Church on Rand Hill Road and childcare is provided.

Please join us for some fantastic time of prayer. I realize a lot of moms work, but if there were even one mom interested in meeting in the evening, I would be willing to begin an evening group too. If any grandmothers would like to join us, please give me a call.

Once again, just because we meet in a church building, don't let that stop you. We are a nondenominational group with no political agenda. Call 875-2866 for more information.



**VIDEO BIBLE STUDIES**

The Bay Church is presently involved in two ongoing video study series, one on Sundays at 6 p.m. and the other following Family Night Supper on Wednesdays at 6 p.m.

The Wednesday night adult fellowship has been following a 12-step study based on the Scriptures called "A Hunger for Healing," featuring video lessons by J. Keith Miller.

Focus on the Family's "Faith Lessons on the Death and Resurrection of Jesus" provide the meat for discussion at the Sunday night services held in the Moore Chapel of the Alton Bay Christian Conference Center.

On Sundays at 10:45 a.m. Pastor Bob Hett is in the midst of a series of sermons on "Words to Live By," a look at the seven "words" that Jesus spoke while dying on the cross.

The public is invited to any of these services. Each family attending the Wednesday night supper brings a dish to share.

**CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S LUNCHEON**

The Lakes Region Christian Women's Club will be sponsoring a "Splish, Splash Luncheon" on Wednesday, April 12, from 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. at the Conference Center on Route 11 in Alton Bay.

Enjoy our Special Feature, a "Rain Barrel of Bargains," with Eleanor Brake from Trumbull, Connecticut. Listen to the "Rhythm of the Rain" with Special Music by Steve Holmes of Alton. "A Rainbow of Thoughts" about "the best things in life are free" will be presented by Special Speaker, Eleanor Brake.

Reservations for the lunch and available complimentary nursery may be made by calling Janet in Alton at 875-2032 between 2 - 6 p.m. or Harriet in Gilford at 524-7194.

The Lakes Region Christian Women's Club is an inter-denominational group with no formal membership.

**WOLFEBORO BIBLE FELLOWSHIP (WBF)**

**By Scott Button, Pastor**

On April 2 please come listen to the message of Missionary Art Cunningham with Gospel Fellowship Association. Art will be explaining his important church planting ministry in Slough, England, and challenging us about missions. Also, we will have three special sermons leading up to and including Easter Sunday: April 9, "The Prophecy of the Resurrection;" April 16, "The Proclamation of the Resurrection;" and April 23, "The Power of the Resurrection."

All are welcome to join us for these special services. WBF also has a new ministry available on the Internet. You're only one mouse click away from encouraging and thought-provoking articles at <wolfeborobible.com>. Here you'll find our schedule, Christian Teen Corner, and much more. For more information call me at 875-2985 or visit our web site.

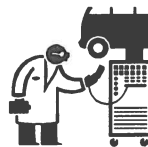
**HOSPICE VOLUNTEER TRAINING**

VNA-Hospice of Southern Carroll County and Vicinity seeks caring men and women who would like to train to become Hospice volunteers. The Spring training program will be held for nine consecutive weeks, beginning Monday, April 17 and continuing through June 19 (no class May 29). Classes will run from 6:30 - 9:30 p.m. and will meet in the Adult Day Care Suite, Huggins Hospital, Wolfeboro.

Hospice volunteers are trained to provide practical and emotional support to individuals and families when there is a life-threatening illness. The main goal of Hospice is to help the patient and family live as fully and comfortably as possible and to provide supports for the family during bereavement.

If you would like to learn more about the opportunity to be a Hospice volunteer, please call Betty John, Volunteer Coordinator, at 569-2729 for information.

**TIRE WAREHOUSE**  
875-TIRE(8473)



**ALTON AUTO CENTER**  
875-AUTO (2886)

**Rt. 28 South, Alton, NH**



Generation Gold Discounts  
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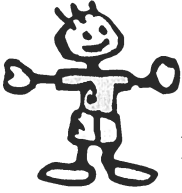
**Spring Special!**

**4 Tire Change Over \$39.95 (includes new valve stems, balance)**  
**Aluminum Wheels=\$44.95 (prices for most cars valid through April)**

*You can depend on us....*



*Because we depend on you!*



**FOR THE FUN OF IT**  
**By Kellie M. Troendle**  
**Recreation Director**

**FUN, EXERCISE, FULFILLMENT!**

For more information on programs, involvement, or questions on upcoming events, call Parks and Recreation at 875-0109.

**Easter Egg Hunt**

The annual Easter Egg Hunt will be held on Saturday, April 22, at the Alton Central School athletic fields at 10 a.m., rain or shine. This event is free for Alton residents. Ages 3 - 9 are invited to attend and will be divided into groups for the fun hunt. Plastic eggs with prizes and wrapped candy will be hidden throughout the area. Bring a container to collect your eggs. Enter the Easter Hat contest: make a bonnet, cap, or something creative to wear on your head. The contest will be judged in age divisions following the hunt. Prizes will be awarded. Volunteers are needed to help hide eggs; please call if you would like to be involved.

**Body Works with Lisa Jones**

Join this fun group and enjoy exercising. Body Works is a weight training class designed to build strong, lean muscle while reducing body fat. Lose inches, reduce stress, and feel great. Class is 60 minutes, including a warm up and cool down period. Classes are held at the Alton Bay Community Center every Tuesday and Thursday (at a new time) 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. Program fee is \$3/class or \$20/month. Drop in anytime. Bring light hand weights, water, and a mat.

**Country Line Dancing Lessons**

This activity is for adults of all ages and takes place every Tuesday at the Alton Bay Community Center from 1:30 - 3:30 p.m. Learn new dances every week. Great low impact exercise and opportunity to socialize. Program fee is \$3/entire spring season. What a deal! Drop in anytime.

**Alton Town-Wide Yard Sale**

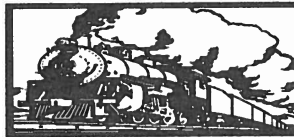
A town-wide yard sale will be held in Alton on Saturday, June 10, from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m., and YOU are invited to participate. The rain date is Sunday, June 11. All residents in Alton are able to sign up to be included in the event. This is how it works: if you would like to have a yard sale on June 10, call Kellie at 875-0109 by May 18 with your name and yard sale location. Due to the printing deadline, locations will not be posted on the map after May 18. We will provide a map of all the yard sale locations to shoppers, thereby having a giant town yard sale. Completed maps will be available May 25 at the Alton Town Hall and local businesses. There is no fee to have your spot listed or to get a map; it's free. Join in this fun community event by having a yard sale or checking out the sales on the map.

**Alton Canoe Race**

**Co-Sponsored by Parker Marine**

The Alton Parks and Recreation Department is sponsoring its annual Canoe Race on Sunday, June 25, at 10 a.m. at the Masonic Temple Parking Lot on Route 28 in Alton. Participants will canoe approximately five miles of flat water, two portages. Register by June 13 and receive a race shirt. Entry fee is \$15 per canoe with two people and \$10 for single. Categories include recreational, racing, and kayak. Prizes will be awarded. Call us for a registration form.

# NEW DURHAM RAILWAY STATION



## SERVING LUNCH AND DINNER

**WEDNESDAY THROUGH MONDAY 11:30 AM TO 9:00 PM**

**ITALIAN**

**TRY OUR NEW MENU**

**AMERICAN**

**TAKE OUT MENU = 1-609-859-5696**

**Entertainment Schedule – April {8:30-1:00am}**

Jonathan Webster Band – Fri., April 14<sup>th</sup> & Sat., April 15<sup>th</sup>

Ron Jones Band – Fri., April 21<sup>st</sup> & Sat., April 22<sup>nd</sup>

The Dave Berry Band – Fri., April 28<sup>th</sup> & Sat., April 29<sup>th</sup>

**COME SEE OUR NEW TAVERN AND DECK**

**ORIGINAL 1936 BOSTON AND MAIN CABOSSE**

**ICE CREAM STAND AND CLAM BAR**

**GRAND OPENING APRIL**

**FROM ALTON ROTARY 2 MILES SOUTH ON RT 11**

## CLASSIFIED ADS

Alton residents may place classified ads in any issue of Main Street. As a public service ads are primarily for *noncommercial* private individuals who have items for sale (except real estate for sale or rent), items or services wanted, free items, personals, or help wanted notices. The rate is \$1 for each noncommercial ad of 35 words or less. Each additional 35 words costs \$1. (There is no charge for "Cards of Thanks" or ads under the "Free" classification.) The rate for commercial ads is \$12.50 per column inch. Main Street reserves the right to refuse any ad, or edit it for length/style. Ads must be submitted with payment to Post Office Box 210, Alton Bay 03810, by the 15th of the month preceding publication. Submissions may also be placed in the Main Street box at the Alton branch of the Farmington Bank. Ads must contain a phone number.

### FOR SALE

1987 BLAZER K-5, 4WD with 7 1/2 foot Fisher Plow, 305 V-8, 170K, runs good, body needs work, asking \$2,995 or best offer. 875-2866.

FORD FALCON ECONOLINE CONVERSION VAN, fully equipped with generator, sleeps 4, very good condition. 875-5495.

EXERCISE EQUIPMENT, Nordic Track Achiever, Weider Ultramax (1033) Bench, Schwinn Stationary Bike, DP BodyTone 300 Exerciser, over 500 lbs. various weights, dumbbells, long and short bars, hand grips, chest springs, and misc., as a package only \$1,250; CONTOUR COMMODORE PEDAL BOAT, \$350. 293-7972 or 207-967-2406.

PRESSURE COOKER, perfect condition, \$25; CROCKPOT, \$10; new SLEEPING BAG, \$10. 875-3442.

BRASS BED, DESK, CHAIR, antiques, 1930's. 293-8387.

### WANTED

CHILD CARE in my home or yours for the hours of 3:45 - 10 p.m. Please leave message with my Mom, 875-2009 or call me at 875-1201.

### DAYCARE

**Tired of large impersonal daycares?  
I provide a safe nurturing family environment  
with individual care and attention  
for your child in a quiet neighborhood.  
Please call 875-4529**

### TEN YEARS AGO . . .

. . . The School Budget was cut by over \$270,000 through an amendment offered by Alton Concerned Taxpayers, which would have the savings come from changes in health benefits . . . the Apache Players were putting on a dinner theater with the play "Why Do We Laugh?" . . . the Town Meeting took 5 1/2 hours . . . Alton was focusing on recycling for its participation in the 20th anniversary of Earth Day . . . the Boy's varsity basketball team ended the season with a 17-1 record.

### FIVE YEARS AGO . . .

. . . The Farmington National Bank made a \$4,500 commitment to the Gilman Library Expansion Campaign . . . the Town Meeting approved the first "\$3 million plus" budget for the town . . . the Annual School District Meeting turned down the third factfinder's report intended to resolve the dispute over the teachers' contract . . . Alton students Kelly Lord, Stephanie Osborn, Eric O'Brien, and Diane Carr were inducted into the National Honor Society.



## CARDS OF THANKS

To the Residents and Voters of Alton: As many or all of us know, 1999 was a year full of emotions and uncertainties in regard to education and funding for New Hampshire and especially for Alton. While this issue continues to be a dominate factor affecting all of us in so many diverse ways, the people of Alton have chosen to "dig in" and make decisions that may be a hardship financially on the individual but strengthen the whole.



By voting on March 14 to support the Alton School budget and warrant articles, you have made a powerful statement to our children, community, and to the State of New Hampshire: Alton does believe it takes a whole community to educate its children and only by keeping the circle intact can we maintain the present, while slowly taking steps together towards the future.

The Alton School Board would like to thank the voters of Alton for its financial and moral support on behalf of the children of Alton and the Alton Central School community.

/s/Alton School Board

Deborah Burton, Chair, Joyce Hopper, Vice-Chair  
R. Loring Carr, Robert Loprete, Lawrence Alting

To the Town of Alton Voters: Thank you very much for your votes on election day and the support and confidence you have shown me. I am very honored to serve you as the Alton Town Clerk and will continue to provide a full-service office for the next three years. Also, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the election workers who volunteered their time. Your help and knowledge is truly appreciated. Thank you again, and I look forward to seeing all of you.

/s/Lisa Waterman  
Alton Town Clerk

Continued from page 1

the great trees that are giving us a portion of their bounty. I thought, there's probably a lesson for me there somewhere.

Creating efficiencies is the name of the game today. Work smarter, not harder is an adage I learned in the Navy and tried my best to put into effect. Yet, as I sat feeding the split firewood into my backyard sap boiler and watching the fire bring the sap to a rolling boil, I felt no need to be "smarter." I was just tending. At that pace I could see clearly, reflect a bit easier on important things — things I don't often take time to ponder.

For instance, how important is such a ritual to my son and daughter who started out at a young age to help collect sap and firewood? Both are too preoccupied to sit around watching sap boil now, but they still get a grin on their faces when they see me out there half covered in soot and ash like some moonshiner. Both still love the taste of that first warm syrup. Or, from another angle, I watched my horse, "Nellie Cain," stuff her snout into a flake of hay, breathing in its heady smells. I wondered — is she daydreaming of fields of alfalfa, clover, and timothy from last summer or, perhaps, of an early spring? I liked to think she was. Maybe all God's creatures need something to spark desires for good times to come, hope for the future, and memories of good times long past.

Now, with a bit over ten "fifths" of dark amber, grade B, homegrown syrup sitting on my counter, I'm a little bit proud of how it came to be — the old-fashioned way. I'm still enjoying seeing it, dark and handsomely bottled, reminding me that not rushing has its benefits.

**DID YOU HAPPEN TO CATCH...**

...the Art Show at Town Hall presented by the students of Alton Central School? If not, you missed out on artwork such as shown above. The artists from left to right were Grade 6 students Sara Talon, Taylor Peterson, and Jacki Piaschny.

**ANOTHER HARBINGER OF SPRING****By Ruth Messier**

Generally robins are the harbingers of Spring. In Alton, however, for the 15th year dolls will usher in Spring — dolls, dolls, and more dolls, as well as doll clothing, furniture, accessories, miniatures, and all other related items. It's time for the Happy Hobby Doll Club's annual Springtime Doll Show and Sale to be held at the Alton Central School (ACS) Sunday, April 30, 9:30 a.m. - 2 p.m. Dealers from the New England states will offer doll items to tempt the collector and investor.

This show is the doll club's one major fund-raiser working toward a long-range goal of having a doll museum in Alton. Anyone with the price of admission (\$2 adults/\$1 under 12) is invited to "come on over" to the ACS. What can be more exciting than seeing your childhood (or your mother's) doll on display? Who knows what treasure will find its way home with you. A great day is in store for all. If it's your first doll show, be prepared to be amazed and overwhelmed. If you've attended the show in years past, you know it is the best way to spend a Sunday in April. It sure beats Spring cleaning!

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