



Main Street

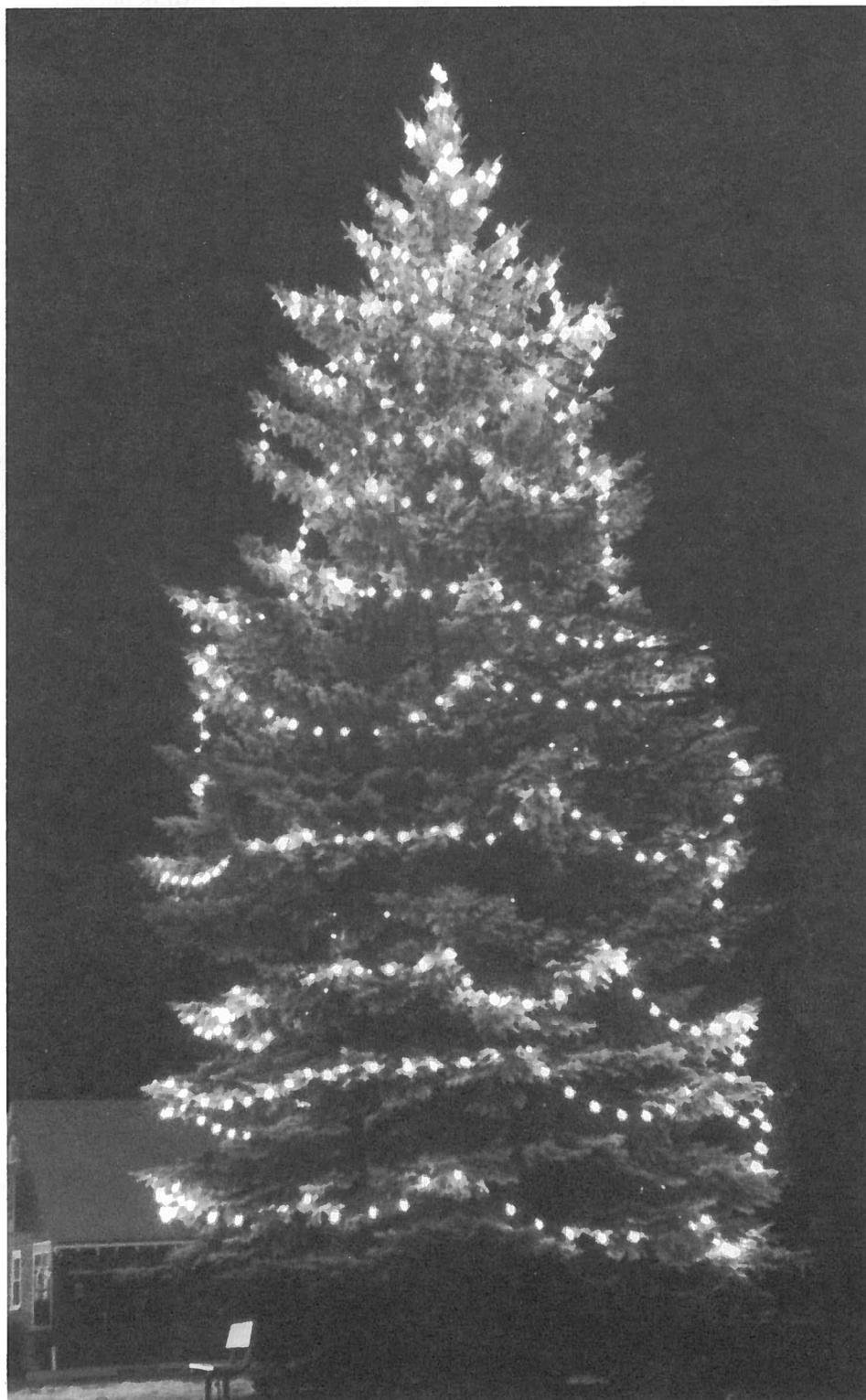
A Monthly Newsmagazine

Volume XVII Number 12

Alton, New Hampshire - December, 2001

Complimentary

**LIGHT
UP
NIGHT
DEC 1ST**





Published Monthly Since 1985

by
Voice of Alton, Inc., A Not-For-Profit Corporation
P. O. Box 210, Alton Bay, NH 03810

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THE DEADLINE IS . . .

...and always has been, the 15th of the month.

Advertisers and residents with stories to tell need to adhere to that deadline if it is important for your ad or article to appear in the next month's issue of **Main Street**.

There are months where the 15th falls on a Sunday and in those cases the deadline moves to the 14th or 16th, depending on where the last Thursday of the month falls. A mere mortal could never out guess the editors on that call, so when the 15th falls on a Sunday, it is best to have your ad or story in on the 14th to insure that it will make the next month's issue of the most popular (and only) newsmagazine in Alton.

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**Main Street's APPRECIATION
TO THE STEVENS FAMILY**

We think it only fitting and proper that the townspeople, who have been receiving **Main Street** without charge for 16 years, are given the information that they have been the benefactors of yet another contribution to the community's betterment. The **Main Street** Board of Directors has had a hunch for all the years that we have been in business that the owners of the Alton Printing Company, the Stevens family, had been favoring their town's newspaper financially, as well as with extra user-friendly, flexible, and quality service.

Now we know that it was, indeed, too good to be true. With the Stevens family's decision to close up their printing shop, **Main Street** was thrown into the real world, and what we learned was illuminating. We found 13 printing firms interested in obtaining our business, but 11 were dropped early from further consideration because their prices were much more than what **Main Street** had been accustomed to paying.

Which takes us directly to "the chase:" **Main Street** recognizes that we are overdue in expressing our appreciation and gratitude to Henry and Patricia Stevens, and their son Phil, for quietly making a significant contribution to Alton's "togetherness" over the last 16 years. Unfortunately, our readers are not able to recognize the Stevens' contribution by purchasing greater amounts of the product they no longer sell. Nevertheless, let's give them more than a nod of thanks as we see them in their other roles around Alton.

ADVERTISERS: WE HAVE TO CHANGE

Main Street advertisers, please give this your attention. With the change in printers and the new tasks that are now the job of our volunteers to do, the Board of Directors has amended the "ground rules" with respect to how advertising will be handled from this time forth.

First off, all current contracts will be honored and complied with for so long as they are in effect. No question.

Next, for renewed and new advertising contracts, the first "run" of the ad will be **Main Street's** obligation for composition. After that, any costs for making changes in the ad during the course of the contract will be the responsibility of the advertiser. (Note, however, that equivalent text substitutions might be accomplished without charge.)

Advertisers placing ads for LESS than a 6-month contract will be expected to supply **Main Street** with "camera ready" copy that can be scanned (no scotch tape across a logo or graphic). A business card works just fine most times. If further assistance would be helpful on how and where to get copy prepared for "camera," call the advertising manager or editors (see box to the left for phone numbers).

The Board of Directors is trying very hard not to raise the advertising rates or have two sets of rates (one rate for those who keep the same ad and another for those who change monthly with expensive graphics).

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Main Street's Inside Front Page

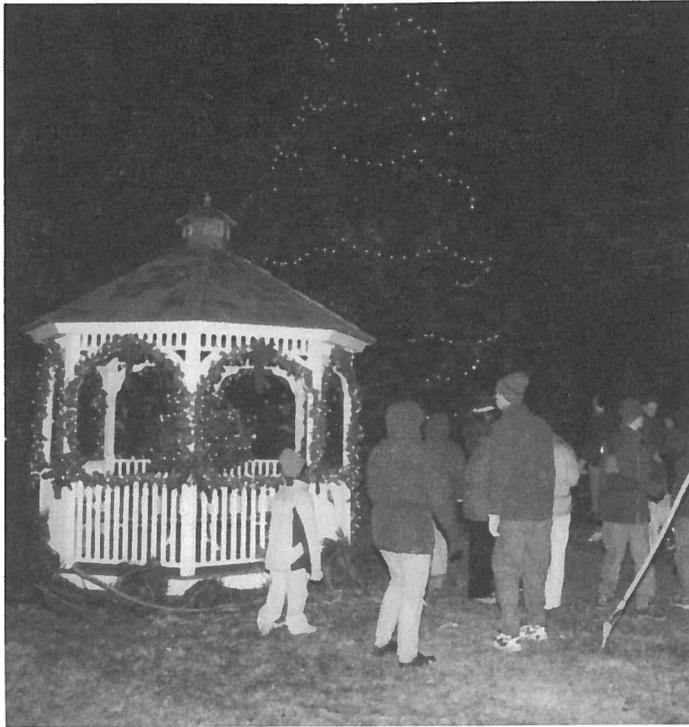


Photo by Joe Harris

LIGHT UP NIGHT IS DECEMBER 1

By Kathleen Currier, Parks and Recreation Dept.

Continuing a new tradition begun last year, Alton will celebrate "Light Up Night" on Saturday, December 1. This is a community-wide holiday event that gets its name from being the official day of turning on all the holiday lighting in the village area. The centerpiece is the lighting of the gigantic blue spruce tree at Ginny Douglas Park on Main Street at Old Wolfeboro Road.

The Detailed Schedule

Santa arrives at 5 p.m. visiting the Gilman Museum, the Town Hall, the Community Church, and the Gilman Library. He will remain at the library until 6:30 p.m., giving holiday candy to all the children who visit him there.

From 5 to 7 p.m. refreshments will be served at the Community Church on Main Street, opposite the library.

The Gilman Museum will open its doors at 5 p.m. for their two-hour Open House featuring special Victorian holiday displays. Along with their exhibits there will be music, played on an antique Victorian piano, and holiday candy.

The Town Hall will also be open from 5 to 7 p.m. for refreshments and viewing their special exhibits.

Beginning at 5:30 p.m. participants will enjoy the sounds of the Bay Church Ensemble as they perform special music and Christmas caroling until 6:30 p.m.

At 6:45 p.m. the Bay Church Ensemble will gather around the tree at Ginny Douglas Park to conduct a sing-a-long. Concluding the festivities at 7 p.m. will be the lighting of the tree and all the other holiday lights in the village. That will mark Alton's Light Up Night and begin what we hope is a joyous holiday season for all!

SCHOOL VOTE ON DEC 19

By Bob Longabaugh

Registered voters in Alton will have a decision to make on Wednesday, December 19: whether to go in with Barnstead on a physical facility to serve both communities' building needs for the higher grades, or to go back to square one on how to address the overcrowding at Alton Central School (ACS).

It's not that this is the first time this question has come before Alton taxpayers. With one proposal or another the voters have marked their ballots several times before with the result that the Alton School Board is still looking for a voter-approved solution of what to do with the 735 students that are being taught in a facility built for 500.

There is one element of the community that feels school taxes have already gone beyond reasonableness. Others are of the conviction that Alton is way overdue for an expanded facility in which to teach the community's growing number of students. Those who go to the polls on December 19 are very likely to decide in what kind of a physical environment Alton's kids will be educated for 20 or more years into the future.

The Ballot Questions

Voters will have two articles on which to mark "yes" or "no" when they step into the booth on December 19:

ARTICLE I: Shall the School District approve a Joint Maintenance Agreement with the Barnstead School District for the purpose of providing high school or middle/high school services to the students of the two districts, in accordance with the provisions of the proposed agreement on file with the District Clerk?

ARTICLE II: Shall the School District authorize the School Board to accept a donation from Addison Cate of approximately 9 acres of land known as the "Rollins Lot" said land having approximately 350 feet of common boundary with other land of the district known as Map 8, Lot 57, all on such terms and conditions as the School Board deems are in the best interest of the District?

Barnstead voters approved the Joint Maintenance Agreement at their district meeting held on November 20.

Deliberative Session on the Two Articles

On November 14 the Deliberative Session was held in accordance with "S.B. 2" to set the written ballot; 52 registered voters attended and the meeting ran for an hour and 45 minutes. Most of the time was devoted to proposing amendments to the Joint Maintenance Agreement with Barnstead and none of the motions gained a majority.

There was one theme that arose, which gathered a considerable amount of support, but was still voted down when it came to a vote. More than one speaker pointed out that the wording of Article I stated its purpose to be that of "providing high school or middle/high school services" [emphasis added by editors] and this may well turn off voters who would support a combined high school for the two towns, but not a middle school or combination thereof. Wayne Fraser, Vice-Chairman of the Alton School Board, responded that the expressed intent of the Alton and Barnstead boards was to build a high school to serve both towns, but if the bond issue to do so should fail, they thought it prudent to have a

Continued on Page 21

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A SOLDIER'S "NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS"

Submitted by Bernadette Rogers Kutcher
(From the Internet where it was attributed to "a Marine stationed in Okinawa.")

Twas the night before Christmas, He lived all alone,
In a one bedroom house made of plaster and stone.

I had come down the chimney with presents to give
And to see just who in this home did live.

I looked all about, a strange sight I did see,
No tinsel, no presents, not even a tree.

No stocking by mantle, just boots filled with sand,
On the wall hung pictures of far distant lands.

With medals and badges, awards of all kinds,
A sober thought came through my mind.

For this house was different, it was dark and dreary,
I found the home of a soldier, once I could see clearly.

The soldier lay sleeping, silent, alone,
Curled up on the floor in this one bedroom home.

The face was so gentle, the room in such disorder,
Not how I pictured a United States soldier.

Was this the hero of whom I'd just read?
Curled up on a poncho, the floor for a bed?

I realized the families that I saw this night
Owed their lives to these soldiers who were willing to fight.

Soon round the world the children would play,
And grownups would celebrate a bright Christmas day.

They all enjoyed freedom each month of the year
Because of the soldiers, like the one lying here.

I couldn't help wonder how many lay alone
On a cold Christmas Eve in a land far from home.

The very thought brought a tear to my eye;
I dropped to my knees and started to cry.

The soldier awakened and I heard a rough voice,
"Santa don't cry, this life is my choice;

I fight for freedom, I don't ask for more,
My life is my God, my country, my corps."

The soldier rolled over and drifted to sleep,
I couldn't control it, I continued to weep.

I kept watch for hours, so silent and still
And we both shivered from the cold night's chill.

I didn't want to leave on that cold, dark night
This guardian of honor so willing to fight.

Then the soldier rolled over with a voice soft and pure
Whispered, "carry on Santa, it's Christmas Day, all is secure."

One look at my watch, and I knew he was right.
"Merry Christmas my friend, and to all a good night."

COMMUNITY CHURCH HOLIDAY SCHEDULE**By Penney Avery**

Come worship with us on Christmas Sunday, December 23, at 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.

Then be sure to join us on Christmas Eve for our Candlelight Services. It will be an evening of worship and song as we celebrate the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ. Bow down before the babe in a manger and praise his coming.

Service times are 7 p.m. and 11 p.m.

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Below are listed the times for special services for St. Joan of Arc; included is the service at St. Paul's in Barnstead.

December 24 — Christmas Eve

St. Joan Vigil Mass at 4 p.m.

St. Paul Vigil Mass at 6:30 p.m.

December 25 — Christmas Day

St. Joan Mass at 9 a.m.

Remember that services for St. Joan of Arc are being held in the Baptist Meeting House on Main Street in Alton.

CHRISTMAS CANTATA**By Pastor Bob Hett, The Bay Church**

Vocalists from several area churches will be participating in the rendering of John W. Peterson's "Born a King," a Christmas Cantata, to be held in the Moore Chapel of the Alton Bay Christian Conference Center on Saturday, December 15, at 7 p.m. Originally presented in the Conference Center Tabernacle during "Christmas in August" festivities in the summer of 1988, the cantata will once again be directed by Robert Gedney and accompanied on the piano by Deborah Dwelly.

Soloists for the cantata include Deborah Dwelly, Sandra Robinson, Elinor Snell, Don Getson, David Northup, Pastor Bob Hett, and Robert Gedney. The Bay Church's Associate Pastor, John Fogell, will be the narrator. Everyone is invited to celebrate the season by participating in this special musical event.

"THE CHRISTMAS TOUCH"**By Pastor Bob Hett, The Bay Church**

What would the perfect Christmas look like? A prize-winning Christmas display outside your house? A beautifully decorated tree with the presents you've always wanted underneath? A gourmet meal with all the trimmings for a house full of relatives, all whose company you enjoy? There's nothing wrong with these things, but they are really secondary to the real meaning of the season.

The people of The Bay Church identify with the longing to create the "perfect" Christmas, and they are working together on "The Christmas Touch: Making Christlike Connections During the Holidays." Beginning Sunday, December 2, 10:45 a.m., in the Moore Chapel, and continuing on December 9, 16, 23, and 30, the church will begin this series, which includes special worship services. In addition, individuals and families can obtain a tabletop Advent Calendar for use at home. The Bay Church welcomes visitors during this seasonal Advent celebration, and any other time also. Visit the Bay Church or call 875-6765 for more information.

Other events include: a children's Christmas party at 12 noon on Saturday, December 8, and a family Christmas supper on Wednesday, December 12, at 6 p.m., both held in the Lombard Center Dining Hall; Christmas Cantata on Saturday, December 15 (see story above) and a candlelight carol service Sunday, December 23, at 6 p.m., both in the Moore Chapel.

**In a religion that was born in a barn,
an open door goes without saying.**



Our churches invite you to join us this Sunday in the worship and fellowship of Jesus Christ. The door is always open.

The Christian Churches of Alton

The Bay Church ~ The Community Church ~ St. Joan of Arc

(see Information Center for worship times)



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TREE OF MEMORIES REMINDER

VNA/Hospice asks that you take time to remember a loved one on December 8 at 11 a.m. at the Alton Town Hall.

With a donation you (or a volunteer) may hang a white porcelain dove with a family or friend's name on the Tree of Memories. For additional information you may call VNA/Hospice at 569-1590 or Alice Calvert at 875-2151.

A HOLIDAY HAPPENING

By Sue Macduff, Alton Central School PTSA

On Saturday, December 8, the Alton Central School Parent Teacher Student Association (PTSA) will host a holiday party from 2 - 4 p.m. Alton children, preschool through Grade 5, and their parents, are invited to attend this fun-filled event.

There will be something for everyone: seasonal crafts, games, music, face painting, and more. There will be a \$2 admission per child. Mark your calendar now for December 8, Alton School gymnasium. The PTSA will also be collecting new unwrapped toys to support community organization holiday needs.

For more information or to volunteer for the event, please call me at 875-2572 after 6 p.m.

PARTICIPATE IN THE MRS. SANTA FUND

By Daryl Czech

This year, once again, the Alton Fireflies (the auxiliary of the Alton Fire Department) are working with the American Legion Auxiliary to provide children of Alton a brighter Christmas. Children from birth to 17 years of age and some senior citizens are provided with gifts of winter wear, as well as toys.

It is not too late to participate. If you need help this year, or if you know of a family who would benefit from this program, please contact Santa's Elves by December 10: Elf #1, Daryl Czech (875-3815), or Elf #2, Sharon Hannafin (875-3079). Cash donations are to be made payable to Mrs. Santa Fund and sent to P.O. Box 755, Alton, NH 03809.

We hope this holiday season is a happy one for all of our friends and neighbors in Alton.

ALTON'S FOOD PANTRY

A VOLUNTEER JOB

Every Saturday at the former Legion Hall in Alton from 2 - 4 p.m., there is a distribution of food. To reiterate an old cliché, "Many hands make light work." There is a need for help to collect, sort, and distribute. The food is fresh, frozen, and canned from many sources, local, state, and federal.

Elizabeth Sweeney and Dorothea Wentworth direct this worthwhile operation. They can use more help, short term and long term. Can you file?, sort and organize?, help with the applications?, or pick up in Manchester and Concord?

Mrs. Sweeney and Mrs. Wentworth need assistance in any capacity for however much time you can give. Please call 875-CARE (2273) for additional information.

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ST. JOAN PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

By Bob Longabaugh

Those who are parishioners of Alton's Saint Joan of Arc Church already know this, having been recipients of Bishop John B. McCormack's letter of November 4. Those who may be receiving the information less directly might appreciate a quote or two from the Bishop's letter so they can have an insight on what is likely to be influencing Alton's religious geography and physical lay of the land.

Bishop McCormack's top-line message was that he had "decided to accept the recommendation of the Study Committee that there be one new parish facility to serve the faith communities of Alton and Wolfeboro." His letter went on to acknowledge the voices heard at the public meetings of the desire to maintain independent church buildings in both Alton and Wolfeboro. With that acknowledged the Bishop went on to state, "Yet, the tragic loss of the church in Alton and the fact that the number of priests for the foreseeable future will allow for the service of only one priest between the two communities are the realities on which we must base our plans."

The elaboration in the letter outlined the two-church and one-church considerations in meeting the basic requirement of one priest celebrating four "Lord's Day Masses on a weekend, accommodating approximately 2,200 people during summer months." Pointing out the reasons not to pursue a two-church solution to the requirement just described, the Bishop's letter went on to say "In Alton, a structure which includes seating for 500-600 people at Mass and space for the other needs mentioned above would require a 23,000 square foot structure which would tax the limitations of the 1.8 acre site."

The considerations expressed in the letter pointed toward the "one-church solution" which would be a single facility that would be able to seat 800-900 people at Mass and also have space on site for the other needs of the reconfigured parish. The statement in the letter that all eyes were looking for was the one that said "A new site will be chosen between the two communities to provide sufficient acreage for current needs and future growth."

CALVERT CARVES HIS WAY TO VICTORY

In Honolulu, Hawaii, on Halloween a championship contest was held to decide the world's best underwater pumpkin carver. Entrants came from far and wide. One contestant was Bob Calvert, Jr., son of Main Street's former publisher Robert L. Calvert and Assistant Editor Catherine Shoup Calvert. While his wife Mary held the light, Bob Jr. carved his pumpkin. Subsequently the judges declared him the undisputed underwater pumpkin carver of the world!

Congratulations, Bob!

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PTSA HAPPENINGS

By Lisa Jones, PTSA Secretary

The Parent Teacher Student Association (PTSA) had two very good events in October.

PTSA Middle School Dance

A good time was had by all at the Middle School Halloween Dance held October 26 in the school cafeteria. The dance was sponsored by the Alton PTSA.

Students showed much imagination dressing in costumes which ranged from the silly to the scary. Winner for best girl's costume went to Erin Brackley for her 60's retro look. A tie for best boy's costume went to Nick Lundy and Marc Roy for their "Bosom Buddies" impersonation.

Many thanks to all the volunteers who chaperoned the dance. Without volunteers the dances would not be possible. Your time was much appreciated.

PTSA Halloween Party

A million thanks to all the volunteers who helped ensure Alton's younger trick or treaters had a safe Halloween. The annual PTSA Halloween Party was held October 31 in the school gym. Over 100 children, ages up through Grade 5, enjoyed games, crafts, and refreshments, making this a successful party. In order to keep this an annual party, the PTSA needs more volunteers. It is painless and fun!

A special thank you to the Alton McDonald's Restaurant for donating their beverage container.

A NATION UNITED UNDER GOD

By Ann Sullivan

ENEMY, We will never forget September, 11, 2001. You changed the skyline of New York City and You changed us as a Nation. We are wiser. We Will be stronger and stand taller than the Twin Towers ever did. Nobody will ever take Us Down. We will soar ten times higher than The Twin Towers once stood.

ENEMY,

You are not looking down on the Fallen Ones. They are looking down on you. For Them, We are on a mission, We are coming after you, not For revenge, for justice and Being A Nation United Under God. We Know He is on our side.

Submitted by Betty Tarlton of Alton

IN MEMORIAM**GLADYSE E. HOWE**

(1907 - 2001)

The operator of the Alton Bay Information Booth for 26 years, Gladys Howe, died on November 10. A resident of Alton from 1946 until 1991 when she moved to Laconia, her contributions to the town were almost uncountable. She served as a school board member for 12 years and was chairman of the building committee when the present high school was built. In 1973 Governor Thomson appointed her as a member of his commission on public education. For 19 years she was Alton Town Treasurer, retiring in 1987, and for 25 years she was secretary of the Alton-Alton Bay Chamber of Commerce. The Gilman Home in Alton benefited from her 29 years as trustee, secretary, and treasurer until her resignation in May of 2001.

The Main Street staff extends our sympathy to her daughter, Alton resident Ethel Dodge, and the many other members of Gladys' family.

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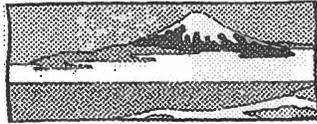
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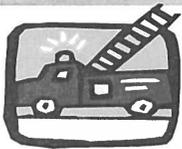
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By Chief Russ Sample
Alton Fire Department

AROUND THE FIRE HOUSE . . .

...it is beginning to feel a lot like Christmas. As you may have noticed, we began selling Christmas trees on November 24 at the Alton 5 & 10, located at the circle.

Boy Scout Troop 53 member, Ben Jensen has organized for his Eagle Scout Project the funding and construction of a beautiful sign (shown above) at the Central Fire Station. It looks very attractive and is a wonderful gift. Thank you to Ben and his crew for a job well done.

The time of the year is here when ice is forming and questionable conditions occur on our waterways. Please use extreme caution when venturing out for winter fun.

Winter weather arrives soon and with it snow. Once snow falls and stays, 4 - 6 inches or more, permits for outside burning will not be required again until the ground is clear of snow, regardless of the time of the year.

From all of us at the Fire and Rescue Department, we wish you a thankful, safe, and blessed holiday season.



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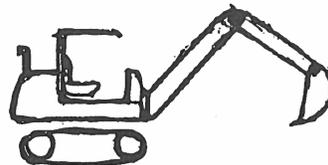
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THE CHECKOUT DESK
By Holly Brown
Librarian



A VERY BUSY DECEMBER

The Friends of the Gilman Library will hold their Annual Holiday Tea on Tuesday, December 4, from 2 - 4 p.m. at the library. All are welcome to attend. If you are interested in donating a baked good (always gratefully accepted), helping to set up the decorations, or willing to be part of the clean-up crew, please call or stop in to sign up at the circulation desk. We hope to see you there.

Many thanks to the Friends for decorating our library in celebration of the holidays. Once again they have added their special touch to our beautiful building. We would also like to thank the Alton Garden Club for providing the holiday wreathes for the front and back doors.

Santa will be visiting the library on Saturday, December 1, from 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. as part of "Light Up Night," Yuletide in Alton, the community holiday celebration. Children of all ages are welcome.

The Book Discussion Group will meet on December 10, 6:30 p.m., to share their thoughts on a *Gift From The Sea* by Anne Lindbergh. For the exact location of the December meeting, please contact Debra Laurion at 875-5488. If you are in need of a copy of the book, please let us know.

Are you looking for the Conscience Jar that normally is located on the Circulation Desk? Well, so are we! We regret to say that our jar was stolen. If you need to pay an overdue fine or would like to make a donation to the library, please do not hesitate to ask for the new jar. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause. If anyone has any information regarding the location of the jar, please let us know.

If you are in need of the perfect gift for a special someone, we still have afghans, Alton village posters, canvas book bags, t-shirts, and Alton village collectibles available for purchase.

On behalf of the Friends, Trustees, volunteers, and library staff, we wish you a very Happy Holiday Season.



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EXAMINING THE TEST RESULTS

When looking at student performance on the New Hampshire Educational Improvement and Assessment Program (NHEIAP) tests this year, you will see an even stronger performance in Grade 3, which historically has always been excellent, and a much improved performance in Grade 6, which in past years was not as good as the district would have liked it to be.

Included with the first quarter report card are the results from the California Achievement Tests (CATS) and the NHEIAP. We ask parents to spend some time reviewing your child(ren)'s performance on these exams.

The CAT is a standardized test that compares the child's performance against other students in the nation who took the exam. Overall our CAT results are quite good and show an improvement from last year. The NHEIAP looks at what the child knows in terms of the New Hampshire Frameworks. On the NHEIAP test a student can receive a score of 200 to 300. From that score students are determined to fall into one of four categories: Advanced, Proficient, Basic, and Novice. Novice is the lowest rank, while Basic shows a general understanding of a subject and is considered an acceptable performance.

Our results in Grade 3 continue to be excellent. On the English Language/Arts exam, 27 percent of our students scored at the advanced level, which is the highest level of achievement. That percentage is up from 22 in 1999/2000 and 20 in 1998/1999. In Grade 3 Math 37 percent of our students scored at the advanced level compared to 24 percent in 1999/2000, and 25 percent in 1998/1999. Both Math and English Language/Arts results are way above state results.

Grade 3 — Percentage of Student Scoring at Basic Level and Above

| Year | English Language/Arts | Math |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|------|
| 1999/2000 | 80 | 77 |
| 2000/2001 | 83 | 85 |
| State Average ('00/'01) | 72 | 78 |

In fact, the results are the best they have been in a number of years.

Our results in Grade 6 showed marked improvement in the categories of Basic to Advanced over last year in the all academic areas, particularly in English Language/Arts and Science.

Grade 6 — Percentage of Students Scoring at Basic Level and Above

| Year | English Language/Arts | Math | Science | Social Studies |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|------|---------|----------------|
| 1999/2000 | 56 | 67 | 47 | 57 |
| 2000/2001 | 68 | 69 | 68 | 61 |
| State Average ('00/'01) | 69 | 68 | 59 | 62 |

For the first time in a number of years, we had students score in the advanced category in English Language, Arts, and Science.

In Grade 10 our results are almost the same as last year. Math and Social Studies showed a decline in student performance.

Grade 10 — Percentage of Students Scoring at Basic Level and Above

| Year | English Language/Arts | Math | Science | Social Studies |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|------|---------|----------------|
| 1999/2000 | 76 | 64 | 60 | 53 |
| 2000/2001 | 76 | 61 | 60 | 47 |
| State Average ('00/'01) | 70 | 62 | 55 | 50 |

In both areas of Social Studies and Science, we have diagnosed the problem. We are not teaching the frameworks that are being tested. For example, there are several questions on American History that we do not teach until Grade 11. In 2002/2003 students will have to double up their Social Studies requirements so they will be ready. In Science we are going to align our curriculum to the frameworks so the students will be prepared for the test.

In summary, our results are much improved in Grades 3 and 6 and about the same in Grade 10. We are pleased with the growth in Grade 6. We are working very hard to be sure our curriculum aligns with the NH Frameworks. We are also asking more from the faculty and students. We feel this positive trend will continue next year.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to call me at 875-7890. Thank you.

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| | M | W | | | | |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| | | | | | | 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 | 31 | | | | | |

DECEMBER EVENTS

| | | |
|------|----|---|
| Sat. | 1 | "LIGHT UP NIGHT," IN ALTON, Alton Village, 5 p.m., see story |
| Tue. | 4 | HOLIDAY TEA, Gilman Library, 2 - 4 p.m., see invitation |
| Thu. | 6 | BOYS BASKETBALL at Concord Christian, 7 p.m. GIRLS BASKETBALL vs. Concord Christian, 7 p.m. |
| Sat. | 8 | TREE OF MEMORIES, Town Hall, 11 a.m., see story SUPERVISORS OF THE CHECKLIST, Registration of New Voters, Town Hall, 11 a.m. - 12 noon, see story SANTA VISITS ALTON, American Legion, 1 - 3 p.m., see story PTSA HOLIDAY PARTY, Alton Central School, 2 - 4 p.m., see story GIRLS BASKETBALL at Pittsburg, 3:30 p.m. BOYS BASKETBALL at Pittsburg, 5 p.m. |
| Mon. | 10 | BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP, 6:30 p.m., see Checkout for location HANUKKAH, begins at sunset BOYS BASKETBALL at Moultonboro, 7 p.m. GIRLS BASKETBALL vs. Moultonboro, 7 p.m. |
| Wed. | 12 | CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S LUNCH, Conference Center, 11:30 a.m., see story |
| Thu. | 13 | BLOOD PRESSURE CLINIC, Pearson Road Community Center, 10:30 a.m. - 12 noon |
| Fri. | 14 | BOYS BASKETBALL vs. Sunapee, 7 p.m. GIRLS BASKETBALL at Sunapee, 7 p.m. |
| Sat. | 15 | CHRISTMAS CANTATA, Moore Chapel, 7 p.m., see story |
| Wed. | 19 | SPECIAL SCHOOL DISTRICT MEETING, BALLOT VOTE, Central Fire Station, Route 140, 7 a.m. - 7 p.m., see story BOYS BASKETBALL vs. Portsmouth Christian, 7 p.m. GIRLS BASKETBALL at Portsmouth Christian, 7 p.m. |
| Fri. | 21 | WINTER SOLSTICE, 2:22 p.m. EST BOYS BASKETBALL vs. Pittsfield, 7 p.m. GIRLS BASKETBALL at Pittsfield, 7 p.m. |
| Sun. | 23 | RINES ROAD PIT Closes Until April |
| Tue. | 25 | CHRISTMAS |
| Thu. | 27 | ASSEMBLE <u>Main Street</u> , Call 875-5067 for location, 6:30 p.m. GIRLS BASKETBALL at Gilford Tourney, TBA |
| Fri. | 28 | GIRLS BASKETBALL at Gilford, Tourney, TBA |
| Sat. | 29 | GIRLS BASKETBALL at Gilford, Tourney, TBA |
| Mon. | 31 | NEW YEAR'S EVE |

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

THANK YOU FROM ACS'S CLASS OF 2002

The graduating Class of 2002 would like to thank all of the community members and Alton Central School (ACS) staff for coming out and supporting us at our spaghetti supper on October 25 at the American Legion. Also, many thanks to American Legion Post #72 for offering their kitchen, dining room, and hospitality to the Class of 2002. It was great to see so many people showing their support! Thank you again, and we look forward to seeing you at our next event!

FLU SHOT CLINIC

Alton Family Medicine, located on Main Street opposite School Street, is offering a flu shot clinic in the month of December. Everyone is eligible to make an appointment; you do not have to be a patient of the practice.

The procedure is that you call to make an appointment for any Thursday in December between the hours of 10 and 11 a.m. If you are on Medicare, you just show up with your card; if you are NON-Medicare, the charge will be \$10. Take advantage of this opportunity to get ready for the flu season.

You MUST call ahead. The phone number is 875-6151.

DATES AND DEADLINES

Lisa Waterman, Alton Town Clerk

The 2002 Town of Alton election and Town Meeting is right around the corner. Here are some important dates and deadlines to remember.

December 13 is the last day to accept petitions to amend Zoning Ordinances.

The filing period for anyone interested in a town office is January 23 - February 1. A list of the vacancies will be in the January issue of Main Street.

February 5 is the last day to petition Selectmen for a Warrant Article for the town election. The town election will be held on Tuesday, March 12, and the Annual Town Meeting on the following night. Absentee ballot applications are available at the Town Clerk's Office for the town and school elections.

It's also time to renew your "Aquatherm" permit. The cost is \$.50 and will expire July 1.

Happy Holidays!

YOUR TRASH IS OUR CONCERN

By Warren Zitzow, Director, Solid Waste Center

Another year is almost over with and soon snow will be falling. We ask that you drive slowly when coming to the facility. Please, keep your speed at 10 mph.

Starting January 1, 2002, new permits will be on sale at the Solid Waste Center (SWC). The cost is \$1 per permit and is good for two years. Proof of residency or ownership of property is required to purchase a decal.

A reminder to one and all — the Rines Road Pit will close for the winter on December 23, reopening in April, 2002.

Thanks for another great year; Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all from the folks at the SWC.

SUPERVISORS OF THE CHECKLIST

By MaryBee Longabaugh, Chairman

In accordance with the RSA's the Supervisors of the Checklist will be sitting on Saturday, December 8, 11 a.m. - 12 noon, in Town Hall for the purpose of allowing people to register prior to the Special School District ballot vote taking place on December 19. You may also fill out the Voter Registration Card in the Town Clerk's Office or see the Supervisors at the Central Fire Station on voting day. Please be aware that to comply with the state requirements, you must show a picture ID (driver's license) and a proof of residency in Alton (electric bill, cable bill, or a letter from your landlord stating you are renting).

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.; Worship Services, 10:45 a.m. and 6 p.m. in the Conference Center Chapel; Wed. night Family Supper at 6 p.m. in the Lombard Center Dining Hall; Rev. Robert H. Hett, Pastor; Rev. John Fogell, Assoc. Pastor
- Community Church — Sun. School, 9:45 a.m.; Sun. Services, 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.; nursery available on premises; Congregational Meeting House, Church St.; 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 — Weekend Masses at Baptist Meeting House on Main Street; Services, Sat., 4 p.m. and Sun., 8:30 a.m.; Weekday Masses, Tue. and Thu., 8 a.m. and Communion Services Mon., Wed. and Fri., 8 a.m. in Rectory Chapel; Fr. George Robichaud, Pastor. Sun. Mass St. Paul's in Barnstead, 10 a.m.
- 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

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

SENIOR MEAL SITE: 875-7102

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

SOLID WASTE CENTER: 875-5801

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Rines Road Pit — Sat. and Sun., 8 a.m. - 2:45 p.m. Will close December 23 until April 2002.

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, Rte 28

American Legion Auxiliary — 3rd 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

Community Services Program, Sat., 2 - 4 p.m., 875-2273

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 — 2nd Tue. (in season), Library

Garden Club — 4th Tue. (in season), Congregational Mtg. House

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., Pearson Road

Community Center

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 — Tue., 1 p.m., 875-2866

P.T.S.A. — 3rd Wed., Alton Central School HS Library, 7 p.m.

Senior Citizens — 2nd Wed., 1 p.m., Pearson Road

Community Center

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

CALL 875-5067 TO UPDATE THE ABOVE LISTINGS

BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

- BOARD OF SELECTMEN — 1st & 3rd Mondays, 6 p.m.; Cable Channel 25 replay following Thursday, 7 p.m. and Friday, 9 a.m., Chairman James C. Washburn, call 875-2161 for appointment.
- BUDGET COMMITTEE — 3rd Thursday (twice a week in "budget season"), 7 p.m., Chairman Ruth Messier, 875-6750
- CEMETERY TRUSTEES — Meetings posted at Town Hall and Post Office, Chairman Shirley Lane, 875-5864.
- CONSERVATION COMMISSION — 2nd & 4th Thursdays, 7 p.m., Town Hall, Chairman Lisa Erickson-Harris, 364-6388.
- FIRE WARDS — 2nd Monday, 7 p.m., Central Fire Station, Chairman Richard Quindley, 875-2910
- GILMAN MUSEUM COMMITTEE — Meets on call, Chairman Bill Crocker, 875-2161.
- 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 — Meets on call, Chairman William Lionetta, 875-0109.
- PLANNING BOARD — 2nd Monday, 7 p.m., Chairman Alan Sherwood; call 875-5095 for appointment.
- SCHOOL BOARD — 2nd & 4th Mondays, 6 p.m., Chairman Joyce Hopper, 776-8733
- SUPERVISORS OF THE CHECKLIST — Meets on call, Chairman MaryBee Longabaugh, 875-5067.
- TRUSTEES OF THE GILMAN LIBRARY — 3rd Monday, 3:45 p.m., Chairman Nancy Jordan, 875-2550.
- TRUSTEES OF TRUST FUNDS — Meets on call, Chairman Joseph R. Houle, 875-7321.
- WATER COMMISSION — 2nd & 4th Thursday, 8:30 a.m., Water Department Office, 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

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

N.H. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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

Laurie Boyce, 875-7371, e-mail: ljboyce@metrocast.net; "walk-in" office hours 1st Friday of the month, Town Hall, 9 - 11 a.m.

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

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

BELKNAP COUNTY COMMISSIONER

Christopher D. Boothby, 527-5400

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

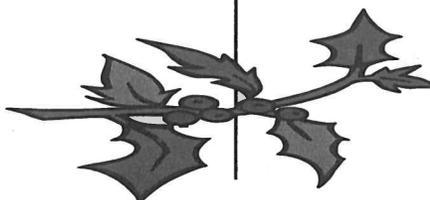
James C. Washburn, Chairman, 364-7413

Don Irvin, 875-2161

William Ryan, 875-2112

Stephan McMahon, 875-6322

Reuben Wentworth, 875-3388





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Editors' note: In late November two former residents of Alton were spotted in town. Main Street's founding editor and his spouse had, literally, rolled into town for a brief visit. We prevailed to rekindle the journalism flame in John Duffek and the result follows.



LIVE THE LIFE
By Cindy & John Duffek

FULL-TIME RV'ing IS OUR LIFE

Two years ago we set off on an adventure that has taken us to 29 states, including Alaska and 9 Canadian Provinces. To do this we sold our house in East Alton, gave away or sold most of our "stuff," moved everything we still owned into a 35-foot Winnebago motor home, and became full-time RV'ers.

It took us about two and a half years of prior planning, exploring RV websites, reading about the experiences of others, researching RV styles, sizes, and manufacturers, and convincing some of our children that we were still sane!

We hope we have raked our last leaf, shoveled our last snowflake, and mowed our last blade of grass. We go where we want, stay a while or move on, meet lots of new friends or meet up with old ones. We're not on vacation. This is our life. And we think it's wonderful!

The highlight of our past 24 months was a 42-day trip to Alaska during the summer of 2000. Our future includes a barge trip on the Mississippi River and a trip to Mexico. More on these activities in subsequent installments.

In this column we hope to share our experience with those of you who prefer the traditional fixed home and encourage others that might consider a home on wheels for either full- or part-time travel. You may have questions about this life style or thoughts for a future column. Please e-mail us at Livingourlife@aol.com.

Henry David Thoreau said, "Go confidently in the direction of your dreams. Live the life you've imagined." We agree.

ACS HAS "CX ONLINE"

By Catherine Bond, Career Coordinator

A new career education computer resource is now available to all Alton Central School (ACS) students, staff, and parents. This career/life planning program provides professional tools for teachers and counselors, information for students in an engaging magazine style format, and articles for parents.

"CX Online" is distributed via the Internet. Published daily, CX Online helps students prepare for the future by providing up-to-date information needed to make positive career decisions. Students will be able to research and explore career choices, take self-directed interest surveys, and investigate college applications and scholarship information. New employment information and articles about career opportunities are introduced on a daily basis.

Search and browse features allow for in-depth exploration in subject specific sites, such as the importance of critical thinking skills, how to handle real-life situations, or how to conduct an informational interview. Finally, parents will be able to subscribe to a free online magazine offering innovative, age-specific ways to involve their child in the world of work.

More information about this comprehensive career education resource is available through the Guidance Office at ACS.



CONCLUDING THE OUTDOOR SEASONS

Here it is, the last month of the year and the last of the outdoor seasons. December 9 ends the firearms deer hunting season as well as the general bear season. December 15 is the end of the archery deer and fall turkey hunting seasons.

After these "big game" seasons close, one may still hunt "small game" until the end of this month. Cottontail rabbit, snowshoe hare, fisher, gray squirrel, pheasant and ruffed grouse continue until December 31. There seems to be an abundance of gray squirrels in Alton (at least around my bird feeders). They can provide some exciting hunting with a 22-caliber rifle. Three to five squirrels will make a delicious Brunswick Stew.

With the closing of the hunting season, it is time to store firearms for the off season. Thoroughly clean and lightly oil your firearms. Be sure to store the ammunition in a separate place. Both firearms and ammunition should be under lock and key.

With the possible formation of safe ice this month, it could be the beginning of ice fishing season. It all depends on COLD weather. Always check carefully before venturing onto the ice.

With nothing else to do, the winter is a good time to attend hunting, fishing, and gun shows. Look for advertisements in the free Hawkeye paper. It will give dates, times, and other details.

The holidays are coming up fast, so don't forget your favorite outdoor person. Gifts for the outdoors keep giving for lots of seasons to come in the years following.

Happy Holidays to all.



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Welcome home, Phillip!



**TO PROTECT AND SERVE
By Detective Glenna Heath
Alton Police Department
ABOUT THOSE RECENT
BURGLARIES**

The police department wants to make everyone aware of the rash of burglaries which have been discovered in town of late. We are working diligently on following up on any leads and suspects. We have solved the Fernhill burglaries, but we could use your help to solve the rest of them and to prevent further crimes.

The patrol officers can't be everywhere at once so we need everyone to watch out for any vehicles that seem out of place, strangers in your neighborhood, open doors that would normally be shut in houses — things of that nature. If you report anything that you think is suspicious or out of the ordinary, we'll look into it and follow up with you. Call anytime, day or night, 875-3752.

If all the citizens of Alton make the commitment to an informal "Community Watch" program and work with us in "patrolling" an area of town, we will all benefit from the extra eyes and ears. The Belknap County Sheriff's Office covers 875-3752 for us "7/24," so do not hesitate to call if you have any information or would like to speak with an Alton officer. We will respond.



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**TOWN HALL NOTES
By Pamela Arnold
Town Administrator**

WELCOME OUR NEW PLANNER

I am very pleased to announce that the Town has hired a new planner. This position has been open for many months, as many of you know. The new planner is David Jescavage.

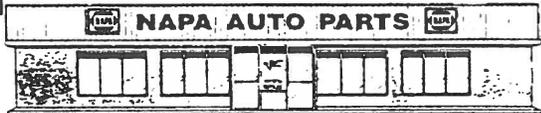
David's prior experience includes 12 years as a planner for the Town of Newport. He has a BS degree in Landscape Architecture from Pennsylvania State University and a JD degree in Law from Vermont Law School. He is a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners. His interests include being on the City Council in his hometown of Lebanon and also a long-term member of the Conservation Commission. If that is not enough to keep him busy, he combines his interest of history and planning by serving on the Lebanon Historic District Commission for the last eight years.

His hobbies include photography, hiking, boating, and trout fishing. I'm sure he will find plenty of places in Alton to pursue his hobbies. Please join us in welcoming David to our town.

Another kind of welcome is in order for the newest member of the Alton Police Department. It is "Duke" and he is our new K9 dog that you will be seeing about town with Senior Patrolman Morgan. We wish him and Senior Patrolman Morgan the very best.

You will find elsewhere in this issue of Main Street a rundown of our plans for the holiday season. If you could use more information on how you can include your family in this wonderful celebration, call Kathy Currier at the Parks and Recreation Department, 875-0109

Best wishes for peace and joy this holiday season and a new year of health, happiness, and prosperity.



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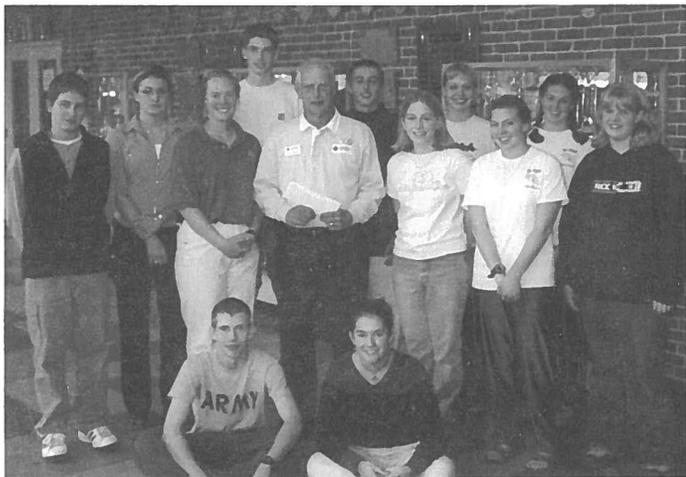


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ACS's NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY DONATES

By Scott Baumgartner, ACS NHS Member

The Alton Central School (ACS) Chapter of the National Honor Society (NHS) recently raised over \$1,300 for the American Red Cross to aid their relief efforts in the wake of the September 11 tragedies. The NHS passed collection cans around to the ACS students and placed them at various locations around the town of Alton. The Junior Class of 2003 helped out as well, donating half of the profits from their homecoming cookout to this worthy cause.

On September 28 NHS member Anthony Sanborn presented American Red Cross representative Ray Gessner with a check for \$1,310. Mr. Gessner expressed his deep gratitude for the Alton Chapter's efforts, stating that the money raised would "help immensely."

The Alton NHS is led by advisor Kristi Getz and senior Marissa Peterson. It also includes seniors Jonathan Owen, Dana Lang, Anthony Sanborn, Kayla Ballentine, Joshua Carr, Scott Blair, Jane Varney, and juniors Hilary Ballentine, Terese Hopper, Scott Baumgartner, David Snell, Katie Brooks, Amanda Jones, and Erin Wood. Present in the photo, above (left to right, standing), are Baumgartner, Lang, advisor Getz, Snell, ARC rep. Gessner, Owen, Brooks, Hopper, K. Ballentine, H. Ballentine, Jones, (sitting) Sanborn, and Wood.

The Alton NHS members would like to thank all the students, parents, staff, and community members for their contributions. Without their help and support this all would not have been possible.

CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S LUNCHEON

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

"Dazzling Fashions" is the Special Feature and will be presented by Special Speaker, Martha Fellure of Bedford, Indiana. Martha has been a fashion designer for the last 21 years, having shown her fashions throughout Europe and North American. As she shares the details of her life's design, she creatively blends solid truths and contemporary issues.

Reservations for the lunch and the available complimentary nursery may be made by calling in Alton: Janet at 875-2032 between 2 - 6 p.m. or Karen at 875-8144; in Gilford: Faith at 293-8073.

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

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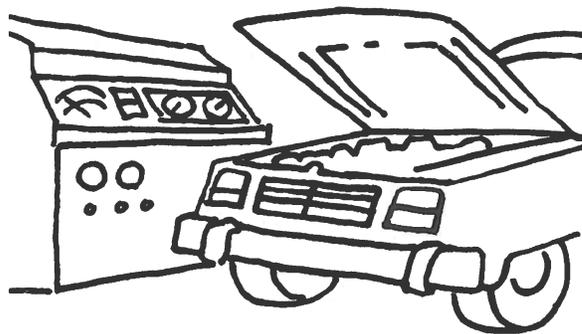
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NEW DURHAM CRAFT FAIR

By Karol Smith, New Durham Athletic Association
The 10th Annual Christmas Craft Fair will be held on Saturday, December 1, at the New Durham Elementary School. Sponsored by the New Durham Athletic Association, the Craft Fair proceeds help support the youth athletic programs for the town of New Durham.

The Craft Fair is open to the public from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. There is no charge for admission. In previous years a wide variety of gift items to satisfy those on your Christmas list, including hand dried wreaths and wall displays, hand painted specialty items, natural soaps and body oils, custom jewelry, Christmas angels, snowmen, Santas, stockings and ornaments, beeswax, polar fleece clothing, food items, and much more, have been featured.

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FICTION

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Clark, Carol H.
Connelly, Michael
Cornwell, Patricia
Diamant, Anita
Fairstein, Linda A.
Franzen, Jonathan
Fielding, Joy
Gardner, Lisa
Karon, Jan

From the Dust Returned
Fleeced
Harry Bosh Novels
Isle of Dogs
Good Harbor
The Deadhouse
The Corrections
Grand Avenue
The Third Victim
Mitford Snowman, A Christmas Story
Patches of Godlight: Father Tim's

Favorite Quotes

LeHaye, Tim
Michaels, Fern
Miller, Sue
O'Shaughnessy, Perri
Patterson, Richard North
Perry, Anne
Puzo, Mario
Roberts, Nora
Rushdie, Salman
Schlink, Bernhard
Steel, Danielle
LARGE PRINT
Plain, Belva

The Sigma Protocol
Kentucky Rich
The World Below
Obstruction of Justice
Dark Lady
Funeral in Blue
The Family
Midnight Bayou
Fury
Flights of Love
The Kiss

Daybreak

NONFICTION

Junger, Sebastian
Miller, Judith

Fire
Germs: Biological Weapons &
American's Secret War
Stolen Lives

Outkir, Malika

CHILDREN

Kirk, David
Koontz, Dean
Mallat, Kathy
Paulsen, Gary
Rylant, Cynthia

Little Miss Spider: A Christmas Wish
The Paper Doorway
Trouble on the Tracks
Caught by the Sea
Little Wistles Dinner Party

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LeCarre, John

Envy
The Constant Gardner

VIDEO CASSETTES

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Spy Kids
The Kid
The Family Man



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A TRAIL RIDE FOR THE 9-11 RELIEF FUND

By John M. O'Connor

On October 27 over 100 motorcycle trail riders, representing various clubs affiliated with the New England Trail Riders Association, gathered in A. J. Baumann's new hay field off Hall's Hill Road. Using the mostly single-track trails on Baumann's property, plus the extensive network of trails made available by neighbors Bob and Virginia Bergeron, this group had an enjoyable day of woods riding with great

views from atop Rocky Mountain and at other spots along the trail.

Each rider was asked to donate a minimum of \$20 towards the 9-11 Relief Fund for the New York City police and firemen established after the World Trade Center attack. The Merrimack Valley Trail Riders (MVTR) hosted the ride, club member Dave Heath manned the grill cooking burgers and dogs, and Trail Boss Luis Colom reports that over \$2,200 was raised for the cause.

MVTR wishes to thank A. J. Baumann and the Bergerons for the use of their trails, and also wishes to recognize event sponsors Freedom Cycle of Concord, Freedom Honda of Laconia, Cycle World of Londonderry, Nault's Honda of Windham, and Cycles 128 of Beverly, Massachusetts.



HIGHWAY HAPPENINGS
By Ken Roberts
Highway Agent

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

We are getting ready for the snow and so far it has been abnormally dry. However, please remember to flag your mail boxes so the plow operators can see them.

Alton Mountain Road phase one is complete for this year from Alton Shores Road to the Morse farm. Thank you for your patience. The second phase will resume in the spring.

We are at full crew now; welcome aboard, Jeff.

Please continue to keep your culverts clean from leaves and debris; it will benefit traveling in the snowy weather. Please do not hesitate to contact the Highway Department should you come across anything we may have missed.

Also hunting season has started; please, walk wearing bright colors, such as orange and red.

Thank you and have a safe holiday and wonderful season.



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HISTORIC ALTON

Editors' note: In August's Main Street (page 16) it was described how Ms. Merrill's Grade 11 history class at Alton Central School had prepared papers on various aspects of Alton's history. Below, slightly edited to meet Main Street standards, is the third of what we plan publishing as space permits.

A BRIEF PICTURE OF THE PAST

By David Shibley

At one time it was just a plain dock next to a sandy beach on a pristine lake with a few houses dotted along the clean shore of Lake Winnepesaukee. Now it is a bustling restaurant where tourists/sightseers can stop to quench their thirst and grab a bite to eat while watching the boaters in Alton Bay.

Yes, that's how it all started with the construction of one small dock around 1910 on the west shore of Alton Bay. The railroad brought tourists, who got off right down the street, into Alton Bay. They might stay for the night at the Lake Winnepesaukee House. Upon awaking in the morning, they walked down along the railroad to John Card's Landing, "Smokers Retreat," where they could rent a rowboat for the day or if they wanted, buy one made by John himself. John's dock soon turned into a small one-room building where he built the boats himself.

In the mid-1920's George Lynch, former 1898 Alton graduate, bought the building from John Card, tore down the small shack, and rebuilt a much bigger building named Victoria Pier. At this time the railroad claimed ownership of the land so George was forced to lease the land from them. He decided to make Victoria Pier into a small gift and coffee shop with a marble ice cream bar. George also added a dock for the same rowboats that John Card had built to be rented out to the tourists. He put in one gas tank and sold Socony gas to

both the cars and boaters. George then decided to have the local postmaster and painter Bob Rollins paint the rowboats yellow and orange to match the Socony Gas logo. George also staffed the ice cream bar with a young woman named Madeline G. Adams who was hired in the late 1930's. Hot coffee was served to the tourists and Altonians who came down to the bay to view the lake on the pier's open porch. When the railroad stopped running in 1936, the "Railroad Square" land was sold to the town.

In 1946 Allbrick "Al" Ouelette bought Victoria Pier from George Lynch with a dream of selling boat rides on his 36-foot runabout named "The 75 Special." He also sold tickets for the Lake Winnepesaukee U. S. Mail Boat, "Tonimar." Fares for a ride on the mailboat cost \$1.50 for adults and \$1 for children under 12 years for a ten-mile ride. During this time Victoria Pier served meals to various people, such as Guy Lombardo, the Dorsey Brothers, and Joe Penny.

Allbrick was going to sell Victoria Pier to two of its employees Madeline Adams and Eddie Nevel but ended up selling it to Madeline in the year 1952. Madeline kept the name the same and the function as a restaurant and gift shop through the 1960's and 1970's until 1979.

On May 24, 1979, Madeline Adams sold Victoria Pier to Arthur and Dorothy Cornelissen for a price of \$60,000. Arthur and Dorothy decided to close in the open porch and put windows all the way around the building. Through this time Victoria Pier had changed its purpose a few times. Starting as a gift and coffee shop, it was made into a bakery, then changed to being a small arcade, and ending in 1984 as a Century 21 Real Estate office. That same year on June 2, 1984, Arthur Cornelissen died. On August 29, 1985, Dorothy sold Victoria Pier to Gary J. Jenisch and Martha Carole

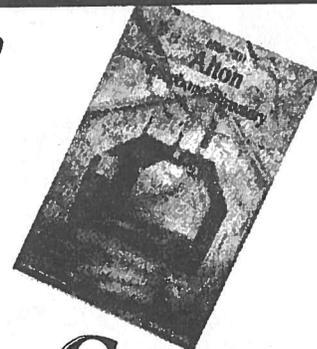
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Dwyer. Gary and Martha changed Victoria Pier back into a restaurant and kept it as a restaurant until 1989.

On March 23, 1989, Martha Dwyer and Gary Janisch sold Victoria Pier to William F. Bunker as a restaurant. William left the building the same and didn't change the function of being a seasonal restaurant until 1993.

On September 23, 1992 William Bunker sold Victoria Pier to Arnold and David Shibley who changed the name from Victoria Pier to Shibley's at the Pier the next spring. The Shibleys have done internal renovations to the pier but the building itself still remains the same as it was in the early 1980's, and it has been and is currently a restaurant.

All the way from that one-person dock built by John Card in the early 1900's to a busy restaurant almost 100 years later, Victoria Pier/Shibley's at the Pier has been a part of Alton's history. The pier has seen many changes in Alton as it went through time, but it still stands, held up by the same boards laid by George Lynch with the same dock that Allbrick Ouelette once used to sell rides on his 36-foot boat "The 75 Special." The pier is a window facing back in time throughout Alton's history.

ALTON VFW POST 11163

By John Brooks, Quartermaster

On November 11, Veteran's Day, the Alton VFW was in the North Conway Parade. The WWII 1942 jeep was the first vehicle in the parade. This was the second year we were invited there for Veteran's Day. The jeep is owned by 1st Vice Commander Cliff Wooldridge. Commander Robert Eddy led the group from Alton and marched in the parade. Despite the cold and snow showers, the spectators were very patriotic and appreciative.

Continued from page 3

backup position with another kind of school that they could take to the voters again without re-negotiating and re-approving the joint agreement.

On this, and the other amendments offered at the deliberative session, the voters seemed to respond to Fraser's and the legal counsel's point that to amend the joint agreement with Barnstead at this point — after both school boards and the State Board of Education had approved it — could well put the whole procedure in legal jeopardy. Any different wording as a result of amendments in Alton would certainly complicate things as to whether Barnstead and the State could still hang in there with what they had approved previously, or start a new round of approvals.

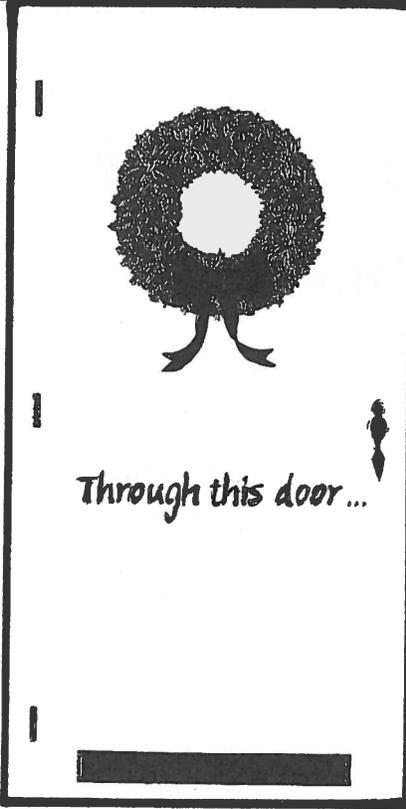
Replays on Channel 25

Those readers who wish to review the November 14 Deliberative Session in detail can catch the re-runs on cablevision's Channel 25. The last plays will be on Monday night, December 17, at 5 and 11 p.m. and the next morning, Tuesday, at 7 a.m. At any of these times set your VCR to record for 1 hour and 45 minutes and then you will have the option to observe the deliberations whenever you like before voting.

The polls will be open between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. on Wednesday, December 19. The place is the Alton Central Fire Station on Route 140, just off the intersection with Letter S Road.

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**VIDEOGRAPHERS NEEDED
TRAINING AVAILABLE**

By Paul Doane

A lot of people own camcorders that are seldom used, other than at Christmas, birthdays, etc. Lakes Region Public Access television (LRPA-TV) is in need of a few more people to cover events in the town of Alton. If you own a full size VHS, S-VHS, 8mm, or digital camcorder, you have everything needed to help out. If you don't have equipment, but do have a desire to try it, that can be worked out. LRPA-TV has cameras available most of the time, but unfortunately, not all the time. If you have the desire, a camera will be available.

As a videographer with 20 years experience, I can tell you that the type of video you will be shooting is the easiest that there is and a great way to learn the craft, more about your town, and the dedicated people who run it. Basically you are sent to a meeting of some sort and you stand or sit in one place and shoot with the camera on a tripod — no heavy lifting. I am willing to spend time with anyone who wants training, and I can assure you that with a few tips, you can shoot like an expert. I would also point out that you will be able to enhance greatly the quality of things that you shoot for your friends and family, creating records of events they will treasure. If a picture is worth a thousand words, what is a moving picture with sound worth?

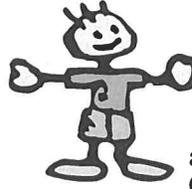
Should you screw up and fail to get the event on tape, no problem; you are a volunteer, and there is always the next time. I would also point out that should you develop more interesting video, the income can be very good. Most videographers charge a minimum of \$50 an hour for location shooting. Editing and post-production work adds more income. Weddings and special events are usually in the \$500 - \$1,000

range. There is also evidence of a current surge in videoconferencing now because of the terrorist threats and second thoughts many businesses are having concerning air travel.

So, free training is available, and an appreciative town awaits you. Please contact LRPA-TV, 528-3070 and ask for Peter Pijoan.

FOR THE FUN OF IT

By the Parks and Recreation Dept.



DECEMBER ACTIVITIES

The events listed below are for children ages 3 - 5 and will be held at the Alton Bay Community Center from 9 - 10:30 a.m. The registration fee is \$3/child for each craft day and pre-registration is required. For questions or more information, call 875-0109.

Bingo, December 5

Come play picture bingo using Hershey Kisses as markers. All players keep their markers as prizes. Deadline to register is December 5.

Oh, Christmas Tree!, December 12

We will make Christmas ornaments for the children to bring home for their trees. The registration deadline is December 7.

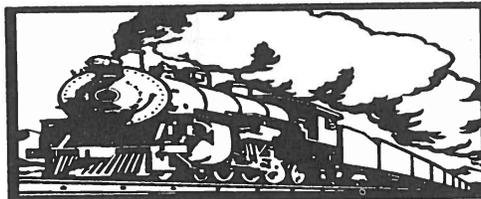
Christmas Party, December 19

Your child will make their own gingerbread house and play Christmas games. Deadline to register is December 14.

Country Line Dancing

Country Line Dancing classes are suspended until January.

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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" and "Ride Sharing" classifications.) The rate for commercial ads is \$12.50 per column inch. Main Street reserves the right to refuse any ad, or edit it for length/style. Ads must be submitted with payment to Post Office Box 210, Alton Bay 03810, by the 15th of the month preceding publication. Submissions may also be placed in the Main Street box at the Alton branch of the Bank of New Hampshire. Ads must contain a phone number.

FOR SALE

2000 KATANA GSX-R, FY 600, carbureted, metallic blue w/black; 12,000 miles, \$6,000 or BO, MUST SELL. Leave message, 875-7315.

1979 BUICK REGAL, rebuilt Chevy 350 w/33,000 miles, new turbo 350 transmission w/5,600 miles, four barrel, dual exhaust, new tires, needs new fly wheel, \$1,800, MUST SELL. Leave message, 875-7315.

1988 HONDA PRELUDE 2.0SI auto, P/W, moonroof, good condition; runs great, \$1,900 or BO. 875-5645 after 5 p.m.

DODGE SPIRIT, 1991, A/C, Cruise, Auto, Air Bag, \$1,200 or BO; Remote Car Starter, never used, \$30; Air conditioner, used one summer, \$100. 293-4267.

17' ALUMINUM BOAT with motor. Call Dan with offer. 776-5522.

PROFESSIONAL SHREDDER/SLICER, Intedge S.S. chain driven with shredder/slicer attachment; other attachments available from manufacturer, i.e., grinder, mixer, etc.; heavy duty, professional restaurant quality equipment, works great, \$500 new, asking \$150. 875-4063.

220V PROFESSIONAL ELECTRIC GRILL, double sided controls, warming tray, grease tray, counter top unit with rubber legs, works great, \$400 new, asking \$100. 875-4063.

S.S. BAKERY SHELF UNIT ON WHEELS, fits up to 25 large trays, 18'W x 25'L, for a variety of uses, stands about 5 1/2 high, large rubber wheels, \$150 new, asking \$50. 875-4063.

CLASSIC NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC EDITIONS, 1950's, 1960's, 1970's, 1980's, make us an offer. 875-4063.

ROSSIGROL SKIS, 190'S; Like new (used 6 times), \$125 or BO. Ask for Kate. 776-5522.

JEEP WRANGLER HARD TOP SLING, and bike rack, \$50 each; Fur Jacket, Opossum and Beaver, Size M, \$250; Monitor Heater System 422, \$500. 875-5931.

4 USED TIRES, P235R75 - 15, in good condition, \$70 for all; nice used Weight Bench, weights, leg lift, leather weight belt, \$46; Little Tikes adjustable basketball hoop; \$15. 875-4658.

WANTED

WANT TO RENT HOME, professional couple with children seek to rent large comfortable home, not seasonal rental, reply by phone or fax to 875-7740 or P. O. Box 1621, Alton, NH 03809.

WORK WANTED, retired man looking for part-time or full-time work, snow removal or general maintenance. 364-1998.

POOL TABLE, good condition, regulation size, slate top; will move. 776-7750, leave message (Shhhh, Christmas present.)

WANT to buy Sleigh for use in Christmas display; Call 875-2977 or 224-3886.

SHOVELING NEEDED. 875-2977 or 225-3886.

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 10 p.m. and 6 a.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.

**CARDS OF THANKS**

We would like to thank all those who made our recent loss due to a fire in our Main Street apartment bearable — the Red Cross, the Alton and West Alton Fire Departments, and all those kind people who helped us in so many ways. Your thoughtfulness will be long remembered.

/s/Reina and Francis (Frenchy) Peltier

SENIOR MEALS

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

Dec. 3 - 7: Mon., Creamed Chipped Beef or Turkey/Biscuit; Tue., Baked Chicken; Wed., Stuffed Shells/Meat Sauce; Thu., BBQ Riblet; Fri., Breaded Veal Cutlet/Gravy.

Dec. 10 - 14: Mon., Salisbury Steak/Gravy; Tue., Creamed Turkey/Broccoli/Cheese; Wed., Italian Sausage or Meatballs/Sauce; Thu., Shepherds Pie; Fri., Sliced Ham/Sauce or Turkey.

Dec. 17 - 21: Mon., Crunchy Fish Fillet; Tue., Kielbasa or Hot Dog; Wed., Beef Stew; Thu., Christmas Dinner, Baked Stuffed Chicken; Fri., Pot Roast/Gravy.

Dec. 24 - 28: Mon., Spaghetti/Meatballs/Sauce; Tue., Christmas Day — Closed; Wed., Corned Beef or Chicken; Thu., Fish & Cheese Filet/Tartar Sauce; Fri., New Year's Dinner of Roast Pork/Gravy.

Dec. 31 - Jan. 1: Mon., Stuffed Cabbage; Tue., New Year's Day — Closed; Wed., Cheese Omelet, Hash; Thu., Sliced Turkey/Gravy; Fri., Codfish Cakes/Sauce.

IN Main Street FIFTEEN YEARS AGO . . .

. . . Sean Sullivan was named NH Scout of the year . . . the Girls Cross Country Team was the State Champion . . . Terry Clifford was appointed Town Administrator . . . the Lions Club sponsored the Christmas Decorating Contest . . . Dr. Warren Harris was appointed interim pastor of the Alton Bay Advent Christian Church.

TEN YEARS AGO . . .

. . . Hurricane "Bob" damaged the roof of the Congregational Meeting House necessitating the removal of the steeple . . . the salmon run on the Merrymeeting River yielded an 11-pound, 31 incher . . . Tess Mantegani, secretary of the Alton/Alton Bay Chamber of Commerce was named one of the 50 incorporators of the newly-formed Belknap County Economic Development Council . . . Elizabeth Locke and Elizabeth MacKay were installed as the cop-presidents of the Alton Garden Club . . . the Alton Central School was selected as a recipient of the Blue Ribbon School Achievement Award for the 1990-1991 school year . . . Robert L. Calvert was elected president of the Visiting Nurse Association of Wolfeboro and Vicinity, Inc.

FIVE YEARS AGO . . .

. . . The Alton/New Durham Lions Club presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Nancy and Jonathan Downing for their support . . . five scouts, Matt Currid, Josh Dearnley, Ben Jensen, Mike Murray, and Ryan Yelle, attained second class . . . the Alton Historical Society elected Jessie Bakeman President, George W. Stone, Jr. Vice President, Elizabeth Locke Treasurer, and Nancy Mooney Secretary . . . Matthew Fenton, a senior at Alton Central High School, was selected for his qualities of dependability, service, leadership, and patriotism in his home, school, and community by the faculty and his classmates as the 1996-97 DAR Good Citizen . . . Holly Brown was named librarian of the Gilman Library with Pat Merrill choosing to become assistant librarian.



Photo by Joe Harris

SANTA CLAUS IS COMING TO TOWN!

By Dick Cunningham, Legion Post #72

Every child in the community is invited to meet Santa as he has arranged for a gala Christmas Party on Saturday, December 8, from 1 to 3 p.m. (or so) at the new American Legion Post (the former Edgewood Restaurant) on Route 28. Santa has recruited several elves who belong to the Legion to assist in gifts for everyone. This is not just for children of Legion members. All Alton youngsters are included. There will be plenty of snacks and caroling for all.

Santa is also busy at work with Legion members in identifying and making sure that up to 15 needy families and elderly individuals in the Alton community have plenty of food and gifts for Christmas. Post #72 will also "adopt" a number of hospitalized veterans at Christmas time. Their Christmas "wish lists" are being passed on from the State Legion office.

SCHOOL CLOSED TODAY?

After a night of stormy weather there is only one way to find out if the kids have to be bundled up and put out the door to go to school. The *official* school closing announcements for Alton Central School are broadcast over radio stations WEVO (89.1FM), WKXL (1450AM & 102.3FM), WLKZ (104.9FM), WLNH (98.3FM), WNNH (99.1FM), WOKQ (97.5FM), and shown on WMUR-TV (Channel 9).



Main Street

PO Box 210, Alton Bay, New Hampshire 03810

HOLIDAY TEA

*The Friends of the Gilman Library
 Invite You, Your Family and Friends
 To their Annual Holiday Tea
 Tuesday, December 4, 2 - 4 p.m.
 The Gilman Library, Main Street, Alton
 Meet Mrs. Santa and enjoy refreshments*



GETTING STARTED IN EXERCISE PROGRAM

- 12 week program
- Mon. & Wed. 9:00am
- \$149 for 12 weeks



**CALL TODAY
 875-0158**

ARE YOU TIRED OF FEELING TIRED?

- Are you out of shape or overweight?
- Has your Dr. recommended that you begin an exercise program?
- Do you need a little guidance or motivation?
- Are you unsure how to begin?

WE CAN HELP!

**The Alton Wellness Loft
 at
 Alton Family Medicine
 8 MAIN STREET
 ALTON, NH 03809**

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**CAR-RT SORT
 POSTAL CUSTOMER**

OR CURRENT RESIDENT