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Main Street

"The Voice of Alton"

Volume XVII Number 5

Alton, New Hampshire - May, 2001

Complimentary



Photo by Joe Harris

WHAT A WINTER IT WAS!

By Bob Longabaugh

Year-round residents of Alton will probably agree that the winter of 2000-2001 was one for the record books, and they would be right. It was not THE winter of all time, but in terms of snowfall it was among the top half dozen in the last 29 years. The numbers are from the records kept by the Concord Meteorological Station of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), which is the only official U.S. weather station in New Hampshire.

NOAA's Concord records published from the winter of 1971-72 to date show a top snowfall of 100.0 inches that year and then seven other winters with snowfalls greater than 80 inches. As of April 18 of this year Concord's snowfall for the 2000-2001 winter stood at 86.3 inches, which ties for fifth place with the winter of 1976-77 in the snowfall "derby" since 1971.

But then Concord is not in the snowfall belt where Alton is — the testimony being that while Concord stood at 86.3 inches, Alton's Highway Department reported approximately 120 inches (see page 14) over the same period of time.

A good indicator of snowfall in Alton would be Wolfeboro where amateur meteorologist Bill Swaffield has been measuring weather phenomena and keeping records since 1974. Swaffield's data for this winter back up Alton's measurement — he had recorded 123.3 inches through April 18. This is second only to the 143.2 he recorded over the winter of 1995-96. Most importantly, this past March saw

57.9 inches added to the snowpack in Wolfeboro coming in one minor and four major storms.

All of this March's snows were high in water content resulting in heavy roof loads and damage such as that suffered by the Bay View Pavilion, above, where the accumulated snow off the roof was more than the deck could sustain. Homeowners and businesses in Alton worked hard at shoveling roofs in March to keep similar mishaps from their doorsteps. It was a winter that will not be soon forgotten.

MEMORIAL DAY PARADE

Traditional Memorial Day events in Alton will be held on Monday, May 28, beginning at 10 a.m. As reported by Ray Nadeau, Legion Post Commander, the parade will form at Memorial Square where Legionnaires will be joined by the Alton High School Band, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and other local participants.

The parade will proceed down Main Street to the cemetery where local clergy will conduct a brief service. The marchers will then return to the square where wreaths will be laid on the various memorials and a speaker will address the assembled group.

Free ice cream for the children will be made available by the Legion members. Events are scheduled to conclude at 11:30 a.m.



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FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT'S DESK

By Donald E. Parks
Superintendent of Schools

SPRINGTIME IS NOT THAT EASY

Now that the budget is passed and we are officially in the spring season, some might be wondering what is happening at school. The spring of the year is a busy time at the SAU Office. This is when many hours are spent recruiting teachers. Springtime is a critical time to recruit because this is when all of the best candidates are available. Interviews have been held for a high school science teacher, junior high special education teacher, an occupational therapist, a half-time pre-school teacher, and a half-time kindergarten teacher. Soon interviews will be conducted for a vacant assistant principal in Grades K-7. Appointments are to be made at the first school board meeting in May.

For the first time in a while, there will be screening for new kindergarten and pre-school entrants. The NHEIAP and California Achievement Tests will be given during the period May 7-11. We ask that your children get a lot of sleep that week and eat breakfast before coming to school.

An area where considerable time is being spent is with the Building Committee. The committee had been meeting weekly until last month when they departed from the usual schedule in order to receive a presentation on the different types of organizations school districts may enter into with neighboring districts. By the time you read this Dean Michner from the New Hampshire School Boards Association will have spoken to the School Board and the Building Committee on the subject. After having heard this presentation and received direction from the School Board, the Building Committee will resume its regular meeting schedule.

We are looking forward to a successful close to this school year. If you have any questions, or concerns, please feel free to call me at 875-7890.



Main Street's Inside Front Page



AN ALTERNATIVE APPROACH TO SPEED LIMIT ENFORCEMENT

By Kevin D. Iwans, Chief of Police

Townpeople will be seeing a different type of vehicle being used by the Alton Police Department (APD) for traffic law enforcement this summer. Last year the APD applied to the NH Department of Safety for a Traffic Safety Grant that pays for the lease of motorcycles for a season. Alton was fortunate to receive a grant award for the years 2001 and 2002.

The 2001 Harley Davidson Police Packaged Road King, (shown above with APD's Sergeant Anderson), will be used by the sergeant and other qualified officers to strictly enforce the speed limits and traffic laws in Alton. Because of the machine's "stealth," it has been extremely successful in other communities with respect to traffic enforcement. The APD will start using the motorcycle at the Alton traffic circle, where the Old New Durham Road stop signs are constantly ignored, and will also heavily patrol Main Street through the village and to the Bay, along with School Street.

I am extremely optimistic about the use and effectiveness of the motorcycle, but I am also realistic and concerned about its stereotypical perception (that being one of the motorcycle cop lurking behind a billboard to slap a fine on the next motorist going 2 m.p.h. over the speed limit). That's not what I have in mind for Alton where one of the complaints I hear the most is about trucks barreling through town.

It is important for everyone to understand that the use of the motorcycle is a trial program to see if it can be cost effective and productive in terms of law enforcement for our town. I have already heard from many residents who support the idea of using a motorcycle patrol if it will help slow vehicles as they go through Alton. They have said "if it works, let's do it." The other side to that issue is if it doesn't work, let's get rid of it and try something else. And yes, I have also

Continued on page 20

A ROUTE 11 BYPASS?

By Dick Cunningham

More than 100 concerned residents of the West Alton and Gilford area of Route 11 along with town officials attended a status meeting presented by the NH Department of Transportation at the Gilford Town Hall on April 4. Five members of the Legislature were also present.

The DOT presenters, William Cass, Chief of Preliminary Design, Donald Lyford, and Trent Zane, reviewed the previous meetings in January 2001 at the Gilford Town Hall and July 2000 meeting at the Mt. Major Community Center in West Alton. This meeting was in response to the overwhelming sentiment that upgrading the current highway would not work due to widening restrictions and the residential characteristics of the area which could not safely absorb greater speeds.

An updated map was presented to show what would happen with improvements to the current location and with two alternative bypass routes. A status update was given based upon preliminary review of existing properties and landscape impediments. A more accurate survey will be done this summer and fall on upgrading the existing Route 11.

The meeting became very active when discussion of the existing ten-year plan developed. DOT has slotted action in 2006 if funds are available. Residents stated that this stretch of Route 11 has been included in several ten-year plans dating back for 50 years. Questions were asked as to why this section of Route 11 has been ignored. Several statements were made that hearings have been held in the past and residents have not voiced concerns. Residents felt that they had not been properly notified.

The overwhelming feeling continued to be for a bypass. However, concerns were voiced by town officials as to the condition of the existing Route 11 when it is passed over to the towns and the impact on future town budgets. In response to questions about state cost, DOT officials presented confusing estimates of \$8 million for upgrade and \$15 million for bypass. When it was pointed out that the previous estimate for bypass was \$30 million, it was explained that the \$15 million did not include the taking of existing private property.

It was recommended that written statements be sent to William J. Cass, P.E., Department of Transportation, 1 Hazen Drive, Concord, NH 03301. Several residents also felt that the Governor, Executive Councilor Raymond Burton, and members of the Legislature be sent copies. The DOT team stated that there would not be another status meeting until late summer 2002, which upset some in the audience.

TOWN-WIDE YARD SALE

By Kellie Troendle, Recreation Director

The Town-Wide Yard Sale will be held on Saturday, June 9, from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. (rain date, Sunday, June 10). All residents in Alton are invited to sign up for this town event. To have your address listed, call me at 875-0109 before May 17. I will need your yard sale location and please give specific directions. Late sign-ups will not be accepted due to printing deadlines. A map of all yard sale locations will be printed and made available at the Town Hall, Gilman Library, Bank of New Hampshire, and the Alton 5 & 10 after May 25. Come and join in the fun!

ACSP BUSY AS EVER

By Elizabeth Sweeney

The Alton Community Services Program (ACSP) is as busy as ever having served 23 adults and 25 children in February and 22 adults and 14 children in March in its food pantry. The majority of these families visit on a weekly basis. The month of April has already witnessed several new families being added to our growing list of families in need.

The ACSP is desperately seeking housing for several families who have been displaced as a result of rental homes being sold. If you know of any available housing, please let us know. We need of two-, three-, and four-bedroom rentals.

The ACSP has assisted several families in obtaining financial assistance to help pay rent and utility bills in the past few months. Assistance has been provided through St. Vincent dePaul as well as our local churches.

We thank those of you who have responded to our request for fresh produce. We will continue to accept these donations on Saturdays at 2 p.m. for immediate distribution to our families in need. Fruits, vegetables, milk, juice, and eggs are always in need and greatly appreciated. We are also grateful for the continued support of Alton's three churches and the town's Welfare Office which continue to accept donations of non-perishable foods at each of their locations.

Once again we are seeking new volunteers to join the faithful group who have continued to give so unselfishly of their time to manage the food pantry on Saturdays from 2 - 4 p.m. If you have two or more free hours per month and can volunteer your time, we would be most appreciative. Your community needs your help.

The Alton Community Services Program can be reached at 875-CARE (2273).

COLLEGE CHOIR AND "TURNING POINT"

Eastern College, a Christian college of Arts and Sciences, located in St. Davids, Pennsylvania, presents the College Choir and "Turning Point" in concert on Tuesday, May 15, at the Alton Community Church on Main Street. The performance will begin at 7 p.m.

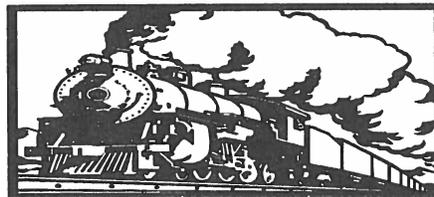
The College Choir and "Turning Point" are two of several performing ensembles in the Music Department of Eastern College. The choir provides opportunities to study and perform traditional choral works in a variety of styles, while "Turning Point" ministers as a smaller group through music ranging from the classic through contemporary popular styles. The choir's repertoire will include traditional selections by Pitoni, Bach, Brahms, Bruckner, and Britten, as well as anthems by 20th century composers and arrangements of folk hymns and spirituals.

The program is open to the public without charge. A time of refreshments and fellowship will follow the concert. All are welcome and encourage to attend.

JOINT HISTORICAL SOCIETIES MEETING

The Alton Historical Society will present a joint program with the Gilmanton and Belmont Societies on Tuesday, May 22, at 7:30 p.m. in the Gilmanton Town Hall. Elena Dodd will present Part I of her programs on the life of Eleanor Roosevelt. Part I covers Mrs. Roosevelt's childhood and adolescence and her courtship and marriage to Franklin Delano Roosevelt. Those who have heard Mrs. Dodd speak on Eleanor Roosevelt will remember how wonderfully she recreates this fascinating woman. This program is free and open to the public. Alton Historical Society members who attend are asked to contribute one plate of goodies to the refreshment table.

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THE BAY CHURCH

By Bob Hett, Pastor

Congress has established a National Day of Prayer to be observed the first Thursday in May on the national, state, and local levels. For the past three years participants have gathered in front of the Alton Town Hall and with the assistance of local pastors have prayed for the welfare of our nation. On May 3 from 12:15 - 12:45 p.m., Father Dick Wegman, and Pastors Peter Bolster and Bob Hett will lead the prayer service. Please join us and others across our land as they pray for leaders at all levels of our government.

Christian Family Week

Starting Sunday, May 6, and concluding with Mother's Day, May 13, The Bay Church will be observing Christian Family Week. At the 10:45 a.m. worship service on May 6, I will speak on "We Are Family" and the Billy Graham film,

"A Vow to Cherish" will be shown at 6 p.m. that night.

Family Night will be celebrated on Wednesday, May 9, with a "Pot-Faith" supper followed by a family fun night in the dining hall. Associate Pastor John Fogell will round out the week's observance with an appropriate Mother's Day message at the May 13 worship service in the Moore Chapel on the Alton Bay Christian Conference Center grounds.

The Taubl Family

Pictured above the Taubls are a family that plays together. They are from Derry and will perform a "Family Harmony" Christian Concert sponsored by The Bay Church at 6 p.m. on Sunday, May 27, in the Tabernacle of the Alton Bay Christian Conference Center. The Taubls are traveling throughout the northeast giving concerts and will perform songs that will bless all ages (from children to seniors). John and Carol will perform with their seven children. Instrumentation includes harp, piano, violin, viola, and cello.

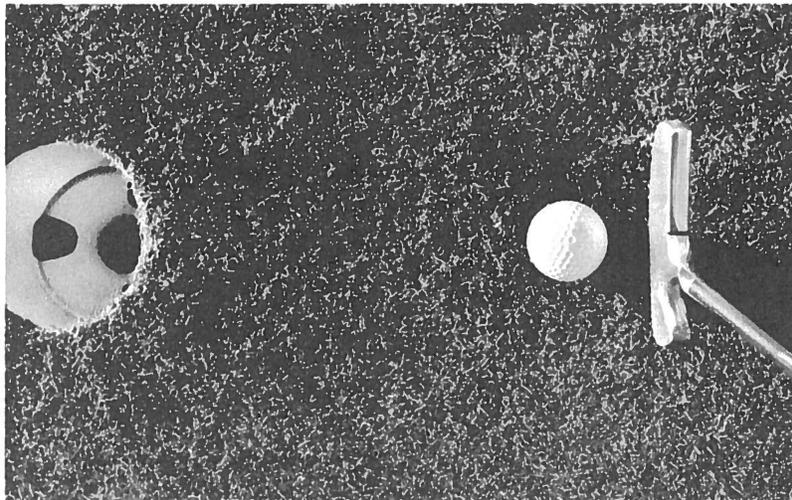
You will come away inspired and uplifted as the Taubls harmonize on family and faith. They are "a delightful, talented family!" and "will make our Memorial Day weekend a truly memorable one." There will be no admission charged for the concert, but a free-will love offering will be received for the Taubls.

BUILDING AND WORSHIP TIMES CHANGE

By Peter Bolster, Pastor

As of May 27 the Community Church of Alton will be worshipping at the Baptist Church on Main Street. A nursery will be available on the premises. Our summer hours will also begin. Worship times will be 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. with a congregational fellowship time in between. We look forward to worshipping with you.

Is this where you pray on Sunday morning?



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POSSIBLE OR IMPOSSIBLE?

By Donald E. Parks, Superintendent of Schools

The headline to this article is a question, one that you hear asked frequently around town when individuals or groups talk about whether a new school should be built, or if renovations should take place at the existing school. From my perspective there appears to be a lot of misinformation making the rounds on this subject. It may help discussions on this matter if I outline the issues connected with putting a second floor on the existing building.

There is only one small portion of the present school that can handle a second floor. It is the area where the existing third and fourth grades are housed — four classrooms. What architects have found is that with the new codes even the roof structure over this space would now have to be reinforced to accommodate a second floor. All of the rest of the school was not constructed so that a second floor could be added. In the absence of provisions for a later second floor, could one still be added? The answer is yes, but at a considerable cost along with the displacement of the students to another facility while the construction was completed.

In order to construct a second floor, exterior and interior columns would have to be added along the corridors. Additionally, code dictates two exits within 100 feet of a classroom or an elevator. At least one elevator would be required at a cost of approximately \$60,000. Stair towers end up being about 8 by 16 feet on two floors, so they take up considerable room in addition to being expensive. There can be only a 20-foot dead end corridor before another stair tower is needed.

Another problem of adding a second floor over areas that have not been designed for the weight is that the components from the acoustical ceiling above them are not reusable. This includes lighting; HVAC ductwork; wiring; cabling such as data, telephone, and fire alarm; acoustical tiling; roof structure and roofing. These items have a replacement cost of perhaps \$30 to \$45 per square foot.

Perhaps the most difficult problem of all, however, is the time scheduling. There is not that much time to tear down, rebuild the structure, and make it weathertight before the students return in the fall. Builders are working within a two-month, plus, time frame. As mentioned above, we would have to find some place to house and educate the students while the work is completed. This space is needed for several reasons. The foremost reason is safety. Construction workers cannot be overhead until the concrete floor is poured. Second, there are always weather issues and the resulting protection of the space below from the elements. Third, the disruption of instruction caused by the noise.

It's for the community to decide if it is a wise, prudent, and economical decision to build upwards on our existing facility. If done, what will be the result? It will be a short-term, costly solution on a lot that is currently too small and has no room for expansion. Moreover, the district would not be eligible for any building aid. When the last addition was completed, the district was told that it would be the last time building aid would be available because the present site does not meet State standards.

To return to the question at the top of this column: Is it possible? Yes. But, is it the right thing to do? You decide.

ALTON GARDEN CLUB

By Ruth Nickerson

A field trip to the University of New Hampshire Greenhouses in Durham is scheduled for the May 22 meeting. This will be followed by lunch at the New England Center.

IT'S OFFICIAL: ALTON'S POPULATION IN 2000 WAS 4,502

By Alan Sherwood, Planning Board Chair

The Lakes Region Planning Commission (LRPC) recently published year 2000 census data for the region. From 1990 to 2000 Alton's population grew from 3,286 to 4,502, a gain of 1,216 or 37 percent. In contrast the entire Lakes Region of 31 towns grew an average of 15.8 percent as shown in the following table.

	1990	1990	2000	Change '80-'90	Change '90-'00
Alton	2,440	3,286	4,502	34.7%	37.0%
Lakes Region	78,511	92,418	107,032	17.7%	15.8%
New Hampshire	920,475	1,109,252	1,235,786	20.5%	11.4%

Of the towns in the Lakes Region, Alton had the third highest growth rate surpassed only by Moultonborough (51.7 percent) and Freedom (39.4 percent). In fact Alton's rate of population growth has been about double the regional average for the past two decades.

The LRPC also recently published their Annual Report on Development Activity in the Lakes Region. For 1999 Alton led all other 31 towns in the region with 65 single-family building permits and 774 acres subdivided for single-family residence. This development activity report, as well as the census data for all of the Lakes Region towns, can be accessed on the LRPC website at <www.lakesrpc.org>. Copies of the reports are also available for viewing at the Land Use office on the second floor of Town Hall.

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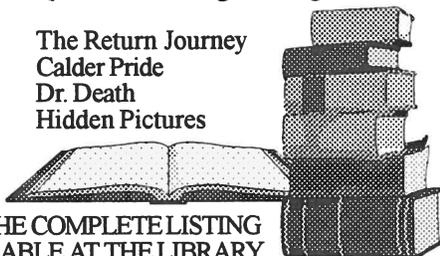
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ON THE LOCAL STAGE

By Renee LaFreniere

Come see the Apache Players as they present four one-act plays on May 11 and 12 in the Alton Central School gymnasium at 7 p.m.

"The Handicapper General," this year's NH Educational Theater Guild festival play, will start off the night. Based on Kurt Vonnegut's original short story "Harrison Bergeron," it's the story of George (played by Zach Shea) and Hazel Bergeron (Emily Sydow) and the strange world they live in — a world where everyone is the same. They mourn the loss of their son, Harrison (Dylan Laurion), to the Handicapper General Diana Moon Glampers (Lyndsey Caron) and her agents. Will Harrison ever break free and return to his family? Come and find out! Other members of the cast include Morgan Fuller, Briahna Itchkavich-Levasseur, and Renee LaFreniere in the roles of the three ballerinas.

Following will be the comedy "Not My Cup of Tea" by A. F. Groff, a story of three elderly ladies and their teatime. The thing is that tea isn't always what it seems. Cast members include Katie Brooks, Justine Houghton, and Becky Spencer.

"The Man Who Died and Went to Heaven" is next on the program. It is a real laugh-getter by John O'Brien, describing the entrance of Bill (Zach Shea) into Hotel Heaven. He meets up with some very interesting characters along the way, including God (Rachel Harrell), the all-knowing manager, and Scratch (Emily Sydow), proprietor of the "other" hotel. This fast-paced show will keep you on your toes. Renee LaFreniere, Kristie Roberts, and Geoff Scholl are also members of the cast.

Wrapping up the night will be "The Ugly Duckling," a farce about a stereotypical fairy tale, which is being directed and performed almost solely by upperclassmen. Meghan St. Cyr will be directing the show whose cast includes Briahna Itchkavich-Levasseur, Renee LaFreniere, Kayla O'Brien, Dan Quinn, Geoff Scholl, David Shibley, and Emily Sydow.

Admission is \$4 for adults, \$2, children under 12. Tickets available at the door. Please come and join the laughs.

<p>Kwoon Karate Academy of Self Defense Children's Classes (6 to 12) Tuesdays and Thursdays, 5:30 to 6:30 Adult Classes (12 and up) Tuesdays and Thursdays 7:00 to 9:00</p> <p>Personal Awareness An introductory course in personal safety for young ladies ages 13 to 19, taught by Jennifer Chardon</p>	<p>POSITIVE ENERGY Located on the Corner of Main and Mooney Streets in Alton, 875-1130</p> <p>Dance Team A Competitive Dance Team for teens 10 to 16. Boys and Girls, this High Energy activity combines Dance with Gymnastics. Great time you will flip over</p> <p>Space Available Aerobics, Yoga, Craft Classes, Scrapbooking Clubs, Quilting or any like activity. 5 Week sessions or ongoing.</p>	<p>Now We're Dancing Ages 5 and up. Learn Ballet, Tap and Jazz. Tap as Toe and Tumbling from Miss Helen. Spring Recital dates to follow.</p> <p>T'ai Chi Taught on Wednesday Nights at 6:30 by Peter Neill, this relaxing no impact workout is great for anyone with an interest in improving range of motion, flexibility, circulation and breathing. 5 Week session begins May 1.</p> <p>Free Reiki Clinic Held on the Third Friday of each month by Reiki Masters Richard and Cora Willard. Appointments Recommended. 875-8221</p>
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WHEN SPRING IS IN THE AIR

May is the month when spring is really in the air. Temperatures are warm, leaves pop out, and the bugs arrive. To the outdoors person, May is the month that will keep them busy. It is time for the fisher person to be on the water. Insects hatch as the waters warm, and the fish feed heavily. The fish catching can be good. It looks like the salmon fishing will be good as there is still very little open water as I write this (mid-April). This year bodes to be one of the latest ice outs I have seen in 24 years of salmon fishing Lake Winnie.

The 20th annual Winnie Derby will be held May 18, 19, and 20. The salmon should still be in the shallows this year, making for some good light tackle fishing. Usually by this month the salmon and lake trout head deep for cooler waters, and one must use downriggers or wire lines to catch them. For more information about the derby, see the Hawkeye sports paper, or check on line at <www.winniderby.com>.

Bass usually spawn this month so there are special regulations that must be followed when fishing for them. From May 15 - June 15 only flies and artificial lures may be used. ALL bass must be released at the site of catch during this time period. Catching small mouth bass with a fly line will test your fishing skills, and watching them jump and tail-walk will be a sight you will not forget.

For the hunter May means turkeys. May 3 - 31 is the spring hunting season. Hunting hours are 1/2 hour before sunrise to 12 noon. Only a "tom" turkey (male) may be taken at this time. It is quite exciting to hear a turkey's answering gobble to a mating call and then see one "strutting" as he anticipates meeting a receptive female. Do everything right and you might call one within 20-30 yards of your hiding spot. Your best hunting skills, patience, full camouflage, and good calling techniques are needed to harvest a wild turkey.

If that is not enough to do this month, stripped bass start showing up in New Hampshire's ocean waters. These fish

are at a population peak and are of good size. They must be 32 inches to keep at present, but meetings are being held as I write that could change the regulations. Be sure to check for updated regs before you go fishing for these fish that really pull back when hooked.

Spring is in the air, and there is something to do everywhere in Alton's Outdoors.



THE CHECKOUT DESK By Holly Brown Librarian

BOOKS AND MORE BOOKS

We are very grateful for the many donations of books we have received from our very generous patrons. We have been given so many that we must now limit the amount we can accept. Those that we can continue to take must be in good condition and have a copyright date of 1996 to 2001. Please note that these books are first considered as potential additions to the library collection; those not so selected go into the book sale. Again, we thank you for your donations and hope you understand we have limited storage space. If you have any questions regarding donations to the library, please call 875-2550 or stop in and see us during library hours.

The Book Discussion Group will be meeting on Monday, May 7, at 6:30 p.m. at the Gilman Library to share their thoughts on *The Loop* by Nicholas Sparks. Copies are available here at the library.

We will be participating once again in the Town-Wide Yard Sale scheduled for June 9 (rain date, June 10) by holding a bake and book sale. You may purchase a plastic bag full of books for \$1 or a Friends of the Gilman Library canvas bag for \$5 and fill it with books. The Friends will be accepting donations of baked goods; a sign-up sheet will be at the circulation desk.

It was nice to see familiar friends, as well as new ones, at the annual meeting of the Friends of the Gilman Library in April. Look for their article on page 15. There is a new newsletter entitled "Friends Focus" which you can pick up at the circulation desk to keep you up to date on their events.

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Photo by Joe Harris

AMERICAN LEGION MAKES BIG MOVE

By Dick Cunningham and Ray Nadeau

The American Legion Post #72 is moving to the property formerly known as the Edgewood (shown above) on Route 28, just north of the circle. The Legion hopes to make the move in early May with an official open house ceremony on Saturday, May 19, which is also Armed Forces Day. They expect to have several speakers and visiting dignitaries from the state level.

The building in Monument Square, which has been the American Legion's long-time home in Alton, was the old Cocheco House. It dates back to circa 1830 and was used as an inn and tavern, owned by Lt. Col. George Savage, a local hero of the time. It was also a recruitment center for the Civil War. The Sons of Union Veterans and their Auxiliary was formed in the early 1900's. After World War I the American Legion was established and the Alton Post took the name of Claude R. Batchelder, a casualty of that war. Post #72 was organized in January 1920 with its first Commander, Chester P. Hanson and the first Auxiliary President, Emma Adams. There are about 360 members.

The post plans to keep the building on Monument Square and renovate it for offices. The Legion purchased the Edgewood property and will support its expenses from income. It is felt that this is a win-win situation for everyone as the new location gives them more space, more and safer parking, and an outdoor area. With this move there will be more parking available in the Village and the office space will hopefully attract more professionals to the downtown area.

In an era of shrinking memberships, the Alton Post is identified as a group who has gone against the trend by buying a new location that is supported by a healthy membership able to maintain it. We are very proud of our local Post.

ALTON MIDDLE SCHOOL TRACK TEAM

By Lindsey St. Laurent, 8th Grade, Team Reporter

The Alton Middle School track team is off to a great start this year. Even though there are weather problems and a shortage of experienced team members, they are doing a wonderful job. Shelby Husak and Jayne Adams-Laurion, co-coaches, are helping students understand that this is more than a great opportunity — it is a learning experience.

There is a wide range of members on the team, i.e., 20 students in grades 6, 7, and 8, and they are all ready to try to do their best. The first track meet was "snowed out," but they are enthusiastically looking forward to the rest of the scheduled events. It is hoped that the team will have a lot of success this season.



Main Street's Information Center

MAY EVENTS

- Tue. 1 HS TRACK/FIELD, at St. Bani, 3:30 p.m.
 Wed. 2 BOYS BASEBALL at Calvary Christian School, 4 p.m.
 GIRLS SOFTBALL at Calvary Christian School, 4 p.m.
 BINGO, American Legion, Memorial Square, 6:30 p.m.
 Thu. 3 NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER, Town Hall, 12:15 p.m.,
 see story
 HS TRACK/FIELD, at Gilford, 3:30 p.m.
 ACADEMIC FAIR, High School, 6 - 7:30 p.m.
 NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY INDUCTION, ACS
 Music Room, 7 p.m.
 Fri. 4 MIDDLE SCHOOL DRAMA, Gym, 6:30 p.m.
 Sat. 5 PTSA WALK-A-THON, Benefit Playground Fund, 1, 3, 5
 Mile Walk, Start/Finish at school, 9:30 a.m., see story
 MIDDLE SCHOOL DRAMA, Gym, 6:30 p.m.
 Mon. 7 BOYS BASEBALL vs. Sunapee Middle HS, 4 p.m.
 GIRLS SOFTBALL vs. Sunapee Middle HS, 4 p.m.
 Mon 14-6 BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP, Gilman Library, 6:30 p.m.,
 see Checkout
 Tue. 8 HS TRACK/FIELD, at Raymond, 3:30 p.m.
 Wed. 9 BINGO, American Legion, Memorial Square, 6:30 p.m.
 Thu. 10 BLOOD PRESSURE CLINIC, Pearson Road Community,
 Center, 10:30 a.m. - 12 noon
 HS TRACK/FIELD, at Laconia, 3:30 p.m.
 Fri. 11 BOYS BASEBALL vs. Pittsfield Middle HS, 4 p.m.
 GIRLS SOFTBALL vs. Pittsfield Middle HS, 4 p.m.
 CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S DINNER, Conference Center,
 6:30 p.m., see story
 HIGH SCHOOL DRAMA, Gym, 7 p.m., see story
 Sat. 12 HIGH SCHOOL DRAMA, Gym, 7 p.m., see story
 Sun. 13 MOTHER'S DAY
 Mon. 14 BOYS BASEBALL at Nute Middle HS, 4 p.m.
 GIRLS SOFTBALL at Nute Middle HS, 4 p.m.
 Tue. 15 HS TRACK AND FIELD, at Kingswood, 3:30 p.m.
 EASTERN COLLEGE CONCERT, Community Church,
 7 p.m., see story
 Wed. 16 BOYS BASEBALL vs. Concord Christian School, 4 p.m.
 GIRLS SOFTBALL vs. Concord Christian School, 4 p.m.
 BINGO, American Legion Hall on Route 28, 6:30 p.m.
 Fri. 18 BOYS BASEBALL at Moultonborough Academy, 4 p.m.
 GIRLS SOFTBALL at Moultonborough Academy, 4 p.m.
 GRADES 6 - 8 DANCE, Cafeteria, 6:30 - 9 p.m.
 Sat. 19 ARMED FORCES DAY
 HS TRACK/FIELD, Laconia-Wilderness Meet, 9 a.m.
 GRAND OPENING AND OPEN HOUSE, American
 Legion Hall on Route 28
 Mon. 21 BOYS BASEBALL vs. Derryfield School, 4 p.m.
 GIRLS SOFTBALL vs. Derryfield School, 4 p.m.
 Tue. 22 KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION, Alton Bay
 Community Center, 8:30 a.m. - 3 p.m., see story
 ALTON GARDEN CLUB, see story
 CHORAL/BAND CONCERT, Grades 4 - 12, Gym,
 6:30 p.m.
 ALTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY, Gilmanton Town Hall,
 7:30 p.m., see story
 Wed. 23 KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION, Alton Bay
 Community Center, 8:30 a.m. - 3 p.m., see story
 BINGO, American Legion Hall on Route 28, 6:30 p.m.
 Fri. 25 BOYS BASEBALL at Sunapee Middle HS, 4 p.m.
 GIRLS SOFTBALL at Sunapee Middle HS, 4 p.m.
 Sat. 26 HS TRACK AND FIELD, Class Meet, TBA
 2001 ALTON HS PROM, Gunstock, 7 p.m. - 12 midnight
 Mon. 28 MEMORIAL DAY PARADE, 10 a.m., see story
 Tue. 29 ASSEMBLE Main Street, Pearson Road Community
 Center, 6:30 p.m.
 Wed. 30 BINGO, American Legion Hall on Route 28, 6:30 p.m.

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.**

YOU MIGHT ALSO LIKE TO KNOW...

LOOKING FOR A BABY-SITTER?

Several Alton Central School students spent a weekend of February vacation getting trained to baby-sit. The American Red Cross Association came to the school and trained students in grades 6, 7, and 8 in basic first aid and safety tips for baby-sitting. To spend a night out without worry, the following students are now certified baby-sitters: Jessica Harrell, Meagan DiVito, Erin Brackley, Elizabeth Husak, Carmen Niquette, Kelsey Tinkham, Samantha Corbeil, Lindsey Turner, Sara Scanlan, Susan Sherwood, Caila Kantar, Ashley Finethy, Jane Farrell, Leann Fuller, Erin Donnelly, Charolette French, Wes Taggett, Donny McGee, Jeff St. Cyr, Caitlin Wenzlau, Kelsey Crantherm, Ty Tremblay, Ashley Dwyer, and Tara Loprete. Look for a full list of names and phone numbers in the Gilman Library soon.

A REMINDER ABOUT BURN PERMITS

After April 1 a permit is required for an outdoor fire regardless of whether there is snow on the ground. Material to be burned must be clean wood or brush no larger than five inches in diameter. This does not include any stumps, pressure-treated lumber, leaves, or "non-burnable" items. For a permit to burn apply at the Central Fire Station on Route 140 each morning Monday through Friday. There is no charge for a permit. Those burning without a permit or beyond the rules are in violation of state law and could be cited. One could even receive a bill if suppression expenses are incurred. Call 875-0222 weekday mornings if further information would be helpful.

DOG LICENSES

By Lisa Waterman, Town Clerk

To all dog owners who have not yet licensed your dogs, you will be fined \$1 per month after May 31. Also, you will be in violation of RSA 466:1, and a civil forfeiture will be issued carrying a fine of \$25. Don't add to the cost of dog registration; come in soon. License fees are:

Male/Female	\$10.00
Neutered/Spayed	7.50
1st Animal of Sr. Citizen over 65	2.00

You may renew your dog license by mail. We require a self-addressed, stamped envelope, updated rabies certificate, neutering/spayed certificate, if applicable, and a check made payable to Town of Alton for the appropriate fee. The certificates will be returned to you with the new license.

Please call us at 875-2101 if you have any questions or if you *no longer have your dog*. Our office hours are 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Monday - Friday. Thank you.

SELECTMEN ORGANIZE

The new Board of Selectmen met on Monday, April 2, and voted Jim Washburn to be Chairman with Pete Shibley as Vice-Chair. They discussed alternatives for meeting times but ended up staying with the first and third Mondays of the month at 6 p.m. in Town Hall. (Cable Channel 25 will replay the meetings the following Thursday at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m.)

Selectmen representation to other governmental bodies will be: Budget Committee, Reuben Wentworth; Conservation Commission, Bill Ryan; Fire Wards, Pete Shibley; Parks and Recreation Commission, Pete Shibley; Planning Board, Steve McMahon; and the Zoning Board of Adjustment, Bill Ryan.



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.; Woship Services 10:45 a.m. and 6 p.m., Moore Chapel of the Alton Bay Christian Conference Center, Wed. night Family Supper, 6 p.m. and Fellowship Groups, 7 p.m., Lombard Center Dining Hall; Rev. Robert H. Hett, Pastor, Rev. John Fogell, Assoc. Pastor
- Community Church** — Sun. School, 9:30 a.m.; Sun. Services, 8:30 and 11 a.m., Congregational Meeting House, Church Street; Wed. Kids Club, 3 p.m.; Thu. Bible Study (Baptist Meeting House, Main Street), 7 p.m.; 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, Main Street, Sat., 4 p.m. and Sun., 8:30 a.m.; CCD (Sun. School) 9:30 a.m.; Weekday Masses in Parish Hall; Mon. - Sat., except Wed., 8 a.m., with Rosary before at 7:30 a.m.; Confessions, Sat., 4 p.m. or by appointment; Fr. Richard Wegman, 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

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. - 2:45 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

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 — Mon., 8:30 a.m., 875-2866

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

- BOARD OF SELECTMEN** — 1st & 3rd Mondays, 6 p.m.; Cable Channel 25 replay following Thursday, 10 a.m. and 7 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 Virginia Bergeron, 875-6714
- 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 Kenneth Roberts, 875-6808*
- 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: rboyce@worldpath.net

N.H. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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

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

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

Stephan McMahon, 875-6322

William Ryan, 875-2112

Arnold ("Pete") Shibley, 875-2849

Reuben Wentworth, 875-3388



CONCORD CORNER By Senator Rob Boyce and Representative Laurie Boyce

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Mid-April was the deadline for the House to act on and send to the Senate the budget as well as any education funding bills. By the time you receive this issue of Main Street, the dramatic results will be old news. The Senate will be dealing with these bills for several weeks. In the meantime, both halves of the legislature will be dealing with all the other issues before them.

Looming large in that field are several bills and proposed constitutional amendments dealing with judicial reform. Already passed by the Senate is a bill that will establish a five-year rotating term for Chief Justice of the State Supreme Court. The House dealt with a bill that would amend the constitution to give the legislature control over the court's rules and one to create a committee to study the court's rules.

Another hot topic this year are changes to our election laws. The House and Senate have acted on bills on campaign finance, straight ticket voting, requiring voters to show a picture ID before voting, clarifying the proof needed to register to vote on election day, and whether someone should be allowed to run for both a state and federal office at the same time (this has happened in at least the last two elections).

This year both the House and Senate adopted rules that require new bill requests for the next year be submitted last month. The hope is that this change will reduce the number of new bills. This remains to be seen. The last time this was tried it actually resulted in more bills.

As always, if you have questions about the legislature or state government, contact your senator or one of your representatives. Our names, telephone numbers, and e-mail addresses are listed in the Main Street Information Center, which you see to your left on page 12 of this issue.

CAREER DAY DEEMED A SUCCESS

By Rachael Strickland

Alton Central School (ACS) extends a big "Thank You" to Cathy Bond, ACS Career Coordinator, and Marilyn St. Cyr, ACS Guidance Director. They were instrumental in arranging Career Day on April 6 where over 30 speakers gave presentations. Thanks also to the National Honor Society students who helped speakers park and find their designated classroom and to Dunkin' Donuts for providing refreshments.

The event began with a keynote presentation by Paul Hogan, Director of Athletics of the NH Technical Institute in Concord. His upbeat talk focused on "trying harder," which was illustrated with jump ropes that weigh more than normal ones. Students then went to different presentations, ranging from teaching, medicine, broadcasting, automotive, and business. Representatives of the military were also present.

Juniors were later asked to comment on what they thought of their day's experience. Dana Lang who attended the dental hygienist workshop said "Mrs. Tharpe was a very good speaker and was very informative...she showed us what she was actually talking about by using examples and props." Dennis Sweeney went to the law enforcement program and went on to say "I learned about what I would need for education and what I would have to do for training to get into law. If I were going to get into the law field, I would like to be a police officer in a city." Kayla Ballentine, commenting about the presentation on careers in counseling said "they were saying that you have 11 years of schooling to become a psychologist, but a social worker does not have to do as much schooling." David Shibley observed that the radio presentation was "very cool." "The guy (Pat Kelly of WLKZ) was very energized and ready to go." Shibley also thought it would be great if next year more celebrities came in and talked.



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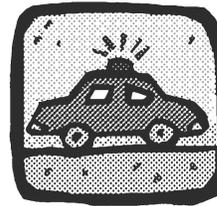
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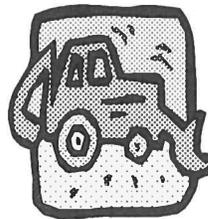
**TO PROTECT AND SERVE
 By Detective Glenna Heath
 Alton Police Department**

BE ALERT FOR TELEPHONE SCAMS

We recently got a call from a lady who had received a message on her answering machine saying that she had won a prize of \$50,000 in a sweepstakes and she needed to call what appeared to be an 800 number to claim it. When the lady called the number, it was busy. The thought occurred to her that perhaps the call was some kind of scam, so she called Union Telephone. The lady told us that Union Telephone explained to her that there is sometimes a large fee billed to a person's telephone when the return call is made. Since the phone number was a "blocked line," they were unable to give her any information about the company.

The police department urges all citizens to be careful about who they call back on seemingly "toll free" numbers. There might be some hidden charges. Also, in order to avoid fraudulent use of your name, date of birth, social security number, and/or credit card numbers, please BE SURE you know with whom you're dealing before providing any personal or financial information over the telephone.

Should anyone have a similar incident, please call the police department, and we will gladly assist you in any way we can.



**HIGHWAY HAPPENINGS
 By Ken Roberts
 Highway Agent**

RECOVERING FROM WINTER

Do you believe this weather? Did the April showers bring us May floods? Let's hope not!

Just when you think it is over, Ol' Man Winter slams again. Approximately 120 inches (10 feet) of snow fell in Alton this year. We put in about 1,515 hours of overtime starting in January just keeping the roads plowed. While Mother Nature was making up her mind, we were removing the snow and widening the roads. We also worked to fill in holes on both paved and graveled roads when not out plowing and sanding. It was difficult with the ground being so soft and wet as we went along. All of this takes a lot of time, and we do sincerely apologize for the delays and frustrations.

As of May 1 and into the first two weeks, we will be performing tree removal on Chamberlain Road; please expect delays. We have hired a truck driver so our crew is now complete. Welcome aboard Rodney!

Thank you for your support at Town Meeting in March. The articles were successful. We also appreciate your phone calls letting us know of problems that we may have overlooked. YOU do make a difference. Thanks.
 Remember Public Safety Is Our #1 Concern!

AMERICAN LEGION POST #72

By Ray Nadeau, Post Commander

The Claude R. Batchelder American Legion Post #72 is moving. See the story of our move on page 10. The additional space will allow us to expand our activities and become a still larger presence in Alton.

Celebrating its 81st year in Alton the American Legion has been a continuous presence and proud participant in community affairs and activities. Some of those community activities include: eight annual scholarships to local graduates; Girls State/Boys State candidates to state government; food drives; blood drives; CPR classes; annual Christmas party for local children; teen dances; sponsor of a local Cub Scout

Pack; Little League sponsor; community breakfasts and dinners; and adoption of needy families and elderly citizens for Christmas gifts and food baskets.

There are activities specifically targeted for area veterans which are: Memorial Day parade and service; Veterans Day ceremonies; sponsor of Valentine party at the Tilton Veterans Home; Bingo at the Manchester Veterans Hospital; and adoption of veterans at the Tilton Veterans Home for Christmas, filling their wish list.

The Legion Post and I send a personal invitation to veterans and their families to join us and become a member. We have an active Legion family and would love to have your participation. Stop by and pick up an application.

FRIENDS OF THE GILMAN LIBRARY

By MaryBee Longabaugh, Vice President

At the annual meeting in April the Friends of the Gilman Library met and elected their officers for the upcoming year. Chosen were Barbara Ingoldsby, President; MaryBee Longabaugh, Vice President; Secretary, Dot Folsom; Treasurer, Shirley Bishop; and Corresponding Secretary, Pat Merrill. There was discussion as to how many meetings should be held, and the members present decided four meetings a season, plus the Holiday Tea, was the most workable.

The meetings will be on the second Tuesday of the month, June 12, August 14, and October 9, at which time the date for the Holiday Tea will be finalized. The Friends will also be helping with the Town-Wide Yard Sale and refreshments for the two Young Authors programs in June and the special speaker coming for the Summer Reading Program. There are sign-up sheets for you to let us know if you can provide a goodie for the bake sale and/or work on that day with the sales. You may receive a call from our Refreshment Committee asking for your assistance.

If you have not yet joined the Friends of the Gilman Library, please stop by the circulation desk and fill out the form. It is only \$2, and we can always use more help. There is a newsletter now being put out to keep you more informed. Look for "Friends Focus" when you are checking out your books, etc.



TOWN HALL NOTES
By Pamela Arnold
Town Administrator

MASTERPIECES AT TOWN HALL

The Town Hall has a strange collection of characters coming through to visit our newest display in the lobby. They are dressed in hip boots, waders, all kinds of zany hats, and instead of carrying purses they are carrying fishing creels and worm boxes. This is truly an exhibit for the fisherman and even for folks that are not anglers. This "Presentation of Spring" is the masterpiece of Harry and Keith Waterman along with Blake Kellor. Please come in and spend some time!

The Town will be doing extensive roadwork on Anniversary Hill Road and from the intersection of Avery Hill Road to Alton Shores Road on Alton Mountain Road. The remainder of the Alton Mountain Road will be done in the year 2002. If you have any questions, the Selectmen would like you to feel free to call us at the Town Hall or our Highway Agent Roberts.

If you see Joe Houle, Chairman of the Trustee of Trust Funds, out and about town, please wish him a very happy birthday. I, for one, am glad that we do not publish ages, just birthday wishes. **HAPPY BIRTHDAY JOE!**

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WALK-A-THON FOR ACS PLAYGROUND FUND

By Laurie Griggs

The Alton Central School (ACS) Parent Teacher Student Association (PTSA) is again sponsoring a walk-a-thon to raise money for the school playground. We made a great start last year and want to continue our efforts! Won't you please support us by participating in or sponsoring a walker on Saturday, May 5?

Walkers of all ages and abilities are invited to join the fun! (Children under age 12 must be accompanied by an adult.) Choose a 1-, 3-, or 5-mile route. Activities will begin at 9:30 a.m. with a sign in and group stretch. The walk will begin at 10 a.m.

Sponsor sheets and permission slips for students are available at the school office. Prizes will be awarded to the walker who raises the most money and to the walker who has the most sponsors! If you have any questions, call me at 875-3949.

ELEMENTARY STUDENTS IN MOCK TRIAL

By Laura Dwyer, ACS Enrichment/GT Coordinator

Congratulations to the Alton Central School Fifth Grade Enrichment Class for their first place finish! The New Hampshire Bar Association sponsors a mock trial competition for elementary and high school students each year. This is the first year Alton has entered an elementary team, and the Fifth Grade Enrichment Class went to the state competition.

While the high school team competes live in a courtroom, the elementary team competes by video. The team traveled to the Laconia Superior Courthouse and performed the trial before a group of peers. The competition was videotaped and submitted to the New Hampshire Bar Association in March.

This is a great honor for the school and a tremendous accomplishment for the fifth grade students who are Jesse Lane, Kelsey Crathern, Caitlin Wenzlau, Brian Jones, Tyler Houghton, Ryan Lougee, Brianna Tidd, Jonathan Yelle and Gary Ford. They worked two months to prepare for the trial. Their legal team was under the direction of accomplished trial lawyer Margaret Sullivan of Martin, Lord, and Osman of Laconia. The team was very dedicated and professional in their preparation and competition. Challenging learning experiences like this help mold successful, highly motivated, individuals who are that much better prepared for the future.

"PLAYING THE MARKET" AT SCHOOL

Alton Central School (ACS) began a national Stock Market Simulation (SMS) game competition on March 5. Two high school teams and two elementary teams are acting as investors with a \$200,000 budget per team. They simulate buying and trading stocks on the New York Stock Exchange, NASDAQ, Amex, and Mutual Funds. Students from grades 5 and 6 enrichment classes make up the elementary teams, while juniors and seniors comprise the high school teams.

This is an unusual learning experience which utilizes the uniqueness of ACS by allowing high school and elementary students to compete together to create an environment rich in learning. Sandy Found and Than Chase, High School math teachers, and Laura Dwyer, Enrichment/G&T Coordinator, are directing the game. Students are in for an exciting adventure as the stock market lately has been acting like a roller coaster ride. The students are learning the value of money in the economy and what happens to the market with new political leaders or when companies merge or fail. They have been successful so far and will know the final outcome when the game ends this month.

DRAMA AT THE MIDDLE SCHOOL

On May 4 and 5 at 6:30 p.m. the Alton Central School (ACS) Middle School drama students will present two one-act comedies. The first, "Final Dress Rehearsal," written by Jack Frakes, is a farce about an amateur drama group putting on a production of Cinderella. The hilarity comes from all the things that go wrong at the final dress rehearsal. The curtain comes down on complete chaos! The second production, "The Wishin' Tree," written by Cleve Haubold, tells the tale of a magic tree that can make wishes come true. The characters soon realize the real worth of the tree.

The actors in the two shows include: Dana Fuller, Pat Quinn, Jeff St. Cyr, Rebecca Golden, Jane Farrell, Aimee Terravechia, Brad Bissell, Ashley Marren, Lyndsey St. Laurent, Ashley Hubbard, Johanna Dickson, Danielle LePouttre, Ally Dudman, Ashley Waterman, Ashley Finethy, Amanda Boudreau, Sonya Itchavich-Levasseur, Shannon Cornelisson, and Tara Loprete. Katey Best and student-director Caleb Gagne direct the shows.

Ticket prices are \$4 for adults and \$2 for students. The cast and staff are looking forward to seeing you there.



MOUNT MAJOR COMMUNITY CENTER

By Kitty Croes

We will be opening our doors soon for community events and rental functions. The center is available from May through October, temperature permitting. The hall is perfect for small or large family gatherings, reunions, showers, anniversary parties, wedding receptions, etc. It is also suitable for business meetings, sports banquets, craft fairs, fitness groups, music recitals, student clubs — the possibilities are endless.

The Mount Major Community Center is a quaint, one-story white clapboard building. The building was originally constructed as a one-room schoolhouse but has been added to and modernized over the years. For many years it housed the West Alton Grange. The building now contains a function hall with rest rooms and the capacity to seat 125 people. The kitchen is quipped with refrigerator, gas stove, microwave, dishes, and utensils.

The Community Center is located on Route 11 just west of the junction of Routes 11 and 11A in West Alton. It is adjacent to the West Alton Fire Station, and the two properties share parking facilities. A convenient footpath connects the two. Please arrange for a visit to our building as last year the floor was completely refinished. Thanks, Bill Simmonds; you did a beautiful job. For reservations, a showing, or additional information, please contact me at 875-7165 or croesn@worldpath.net for e-mail.

Upcoming events: June 9, Annual Community Yard Sale, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.; if you wish to reserve a 3'x10' table for \$10, contact me. July 14, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., Boaters Education Class (for Boaters State License). July 16, 6 - 9 p.m., Boaters Education Class, Part 1 and July 18, 6 - 9 p.m., Boaters Education Class, Part 2.



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CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S DINNER

The Lakes Region Christian Women's Club will be sponsoring an "Arranged Just For You" Guest Night Dinner on Friday, May 11, from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. at the Conference Center on Route 11 in Alton Bay.

Back by popular demand, Paul Moynihan and Friends of Laconia will entertain you with a "Spring Bouquet of Songs." Special Speakers, Dr. John and Betty Rabenstein of Columbia, Connecticut, will present "Planting Seeds of Thought," a story of love through commitment, conflict, and contentment.

Pre-paid reservations for the dinner must be made by May 1 (\$12/person - inclusive). To make your reservation and for further information, call Laura at 603-528-2577 or e-mail at <lasmith@cyberportal.net>.

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

LAKES REGION TAX SERVICE OPEN HOUSE

Willa Goodwin, owner of Lakes Region Tax Service for 17 years, is retiring. Willa and the new owner, Bernadette Kutcher, invite the residents of Alton and neighboring towns to a farewell/welcome reception to be held at the Lombard Center at the Alton Bay Christian Conference Center on Thursday, May 17, 4 - 8 p.m. Refreshments will be served, and you can receive a 10 percent discount coupon towards your 2001 tax return. RSVP by Tuesday, May 8, by calling 875-3355 or 1-800-325-5350.

AMERICAN LEGION

By Millie Pierce, Unit Secretary

The Auxiliary elected their new slate of officers at their April meeting. They are: Lisa Rojek, President; Millie Pierce, Secretary; Karen Morse, Treasurer; Gwen Nadeau, 1st Vice; Belinda Deflower, 2nd Vice; and Carol Hoist, Sgt. at Arms. Installation of officers is May 5 at 2 p.m. at the Legion Hall, Memorial Square. Members and guests are invited to attend the ceremony. Legion Post members and the Sons of the Legion will also be installed at this time.

Also electing new officers for the upcoming year was the Junior Auxiliary. They are: Leanne Kennerson, President; Courtney Rojek, Secretary; Kristine Kennerson, Treasurer; Kim Russell, 1st Vice; Crystal Deckert, Chaplin; Ashley Waterman, Sgt. at Arms; and Tiffani Hemcher, Historian.

The Junior Auxiliary is holding a spring dance for students in grades 6 - 8 on Friday, May 4, from 7 - 9:30 p.m. at the Legion Hall at Memorial Square. Donation is \$4 a person. Hope to see you there.

The Auxiliary will be holding their annual raffle for two tickets to the Nascar Winston Cup Races at the N.H.I.S. in July. See any member for tickets.

Let's keep the lights burning for our veterans and don't forget the Memorial Day Parade on Monday, May 28.

JONATHAN SNELL A WINNER

Cornerstone Christian Academy (CCA) announces Jonathan Snell of Alton as the first place winner in the CCA annual science competition. Jonathan, a 7th grader, for the second year in a row won "Best of Fair" for his presentation on the differing variables that impact the effectiveness of bleach. Included were variables of temperature, as well as the varying effectiveness of bleach when used as a solitary agent versus in conjunction with a detergent. Jonathan's findings were surprising, as he demonstrated that bleach is actually more effective when used alone and in cold water.

IMAGINE THIS COMPETITION

By Laura Dwyer, ACS Enrichment/GT Coordinator

Alton Central School (ACS) was well represented with five teams entered in the regional "Destination Imagination" competition held recently.

"The Thinkers," a primary team coached by Diana Petschuer and Kate LaChance, did very well. "The Prune Juice Pals," an elementary team coached by Cindy Caron, placed fifth out of twelve. "The Star Trakkers," an elementary team coached by Terese Hopper and Ruby and James Hawkins, placed third out of nine teams. "The Night Dreamers," an intermediate team coached by Laura Dwyer, placed third. "The Descending Divers," an intermediate team coached by Peter Farrell, placed first and went on to compete in the state competition.

In the state competition the Descending Divers placed second and won a Renaissance Award for their creative submersible. The team will be going on to the "Globals" competition in Tennessee this month.

As usual, the Alton teams represented the school very well in their creativity, poise, and spirit. As in past years, all teams were top level finishers and ACS was represented in the state competition. Congratulations to the teams for their accomplishments and thanks to all the coaches, parents, and volunteers for their hard work, determination, and enthusiasm. We will see you and hopefully many newcomers next year!

ACS's "LAWYERS" DID WELL

By Geoffrey Scholl

"Mock Trial" is a contest run by the New Hampshire Bar Association once a year. It is a fun, educational way for local students to learn about the law and courts, and there has been extremely good reactions from local people who have donated their time to help out.

The mock trial is exactly what it sounds like. Students get together and conduct a trial. They play the parts of witnesses and lawyers, essentially everyone you would see in a regular court trial except for the judge and jury. This is a very good learning experience. The part students like best is the three rounds of competition. First they compete in a regional competition. Then the winner of that round goes on to the state championship. If you win that competition, the winning team gets a \$1,000 check to help them get to the national competition.

Alton Central School (ACS) had two teams in the competition this year, a senior team, and a junior team. On the senior team were Meghan St.Cyr, Renee LaFreniere, Sara Dore, Katie Morrill, Emily Sydow, David Osborn, Ashley Southwell, Geoffrey Scholl, Marissa Peterson, and Jon Owen. The team decided amongst themselves that Renee, Marissa, Meghan, and Geoff were to be the lawyers on the team. Geoff. was the plaintiff cross-examiner, Renee the defense cross-examiner, and Marissa and Meghan the direct examiners for the plaintiff and defense respectively. They did such a good job they won the regional competition, losing to Manchester West in the state competition.

The Junior team also did very well, putting forth quite a good show for their first time out. Their team consisted of Caleb Gagne, Dana Lang, Dave Shibley, Kayla Ballentine, David Benedetto, B.K. Brown, Steve Wood, Jane Varney, Morgan Fuller, Jason Snell, and Dennis Sweeney. Good luck to the junior team for next year.

The seniors, however, did very well and definitely put forth their game face for their last appearance at the competition. They made their school proud in their last year there as one of the top four teams in the state.

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By Kellie M. Troendle
Recreation Director



MERRY MONTH OF MAY

For more information on any program, call 875-0109 or e-mail <altonpnr@worldpath.net>.

Shooter's Gold Basketball Camp

Program will be held Monday - Friday, July 9 - 13, at the Alton Central School Gym. Participants entering grades 2 - 4, 8 - 10 a.m., \$50; after June 1, \$75. Participants entering grades 5 - 8, 10:15 a.m. - 2:15 p.m., \$80; after June 1, \$110. Program includes a basketball and camp t-shirt. Typical daily schedule includes: warm up; skill work (shooting, dribbling, offense, defense); rules and game concepts; help stations; large group activity; games; and more. Bring a water bottle and snack; grades 5 - 8 bring a light lunch. Dress to play — sneakers, socks, shorts, and t-shirt. No jewelry or gum. Register at the Parks and Recreation Department. Please make checks payable to Shooter's Gold Basketball Camp.

Country Line Dancing Lessons — Adults of All Ages

Country Line Dancing Lessons are held every Thursday from 1:30 - 3:30 p.m. at the Alton Bay Community Center. Learn new dances every week. Great exercise and opportunity to meet new people. Beginners are welcome. Program fee is \$3 for the spring season.

Upcoming Events

Look for further information next month on these activities: Canoe Race, June 24, 10 a.m.; Bank of New Hampshire 5K Road Race, August 11, 9 a.m.; Old Home Day Craft Fair, August 11 and 12; Alton Bay Concerts, Saturdays in July and August, 7 - 9 p.m.

ADULT EDUCATION QUILTING CLASS

By Joan Lemay

The Alton Central School (ACS) is offering an adult education quilting class starting on Monday, May 21. It will be held in the home economics room at the school from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. Barbara Lemery will be the instructor and the cost is \$25. For further information call me at 875-3629.

Continued from page 3

heard from a few people who complain that a motorcycle is simply a toy and not needed in Alton.

Driving a motorcycle in police work is extremely dangerous. The job the officer is expected to perform while on it takes a great deal of skill and ability. Sure, it is fun at first, but like everything else in police work it becomes burdensome and plain old work before very long. The motorcycle will not be a toy for Alton's police department. People should not think of it in this way. It is a different means for us to do things that we could not do with a conventional cruiser.

Does Alton absolutely need a police motorcycle? No, we can get by without it. But can it really help us out and make a difference in our effectiveness? We don't know yet, and until we see the numbers of traffic citations and other services that it is able to perform, we won't be able to answer that question. I will tell you this though — if it doesn't measure up, it will be gone.

When you see Sergeant Anderson let him know where the problem areas are and where you would like to see the motorcycle tried out.



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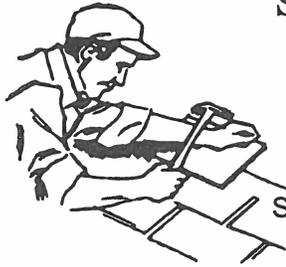
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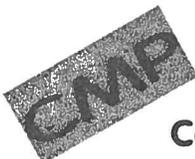
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CLASSIFIED ADS

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

KENNEL, 30'x40', 6' high, two 4' gates, \$900 or BO. 569-3252.

BEDROOM SET, 5-piece, Country Pine, includes queen-size bed, chest on chest, triple dresser with mirror, blanket chest, and night stand, \$400; "Rowe" sofa with matching love seat, \$500. 875-4475.

MAPLE BED, maple chairs, Hitchcock chairs, luggage and carrier, 2 TVs, walker, paintings, crafts, fan, sewing cabinet, tape recorder, glass clock, coffee table, tools, clothes. 875-6371.

DISHES, fiesta ware, 12 settings, varied colors, \$50. 875-0119.

WANTED

PIANO FOR BEGINNER, upright preferred, good condition; leave message. 776-7750.

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

HELP WANTED**Alton Parks and Recreation Department****Maintenance Laborer**

Full time, year round, with benefits. Duties include: mowing, raking, landscaping, rubbish removal, shoveling, plowing, building and park maintenance. Valid NH driver's license required. Application available at Parks and Recreation Department, 875-0109. Position will remain open until filled. EOE.

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SENIOR MEALS

Program is open to all age 60 and older. Meals served Monday-Friday, 12 noon. Suggested \$2 donation. 8757102.

April 30 - May 4: Mon., Chicken Filet/Gravy; Tue., Stuffed Veal Roulard; Wed., Italian Sweet Sausage/Spaghetti Sauce; Thu., Meat Loaf/Gravy; Fri., Macaroni & Cheese.

May 7 - 11: Mon., Teriyaki Chicken or Baked Chicken; Tue., Western Omelet; Wed., Hot Dog/HD Roll; Thu., Roast Pork Loin/Gravy; Fri., Tuna Noodle Casserole.

May 14 - 18: Mon., Stuffed Cabbage; Tue., Chicken Croquettes/Gravy; Wed., Sliced Turkey/Gravy; Thu., Baked Meat Loaf/Gravy; Fri., Macaroni & Cheese.

May 21 - 25: Mon., Potato Crunch Fish Filet; Tue., Italian Stuffed Shells/Meat Sauce; Wed., Cold Salad Plate; Thu., Chicken Filet/Gravy; Fri., Pot Roast/Gravy.

May 28 - June 1: Mon. Memorial Day (closed); Tue., Pub Burger/Mushrooms; Wed., Pork Sausage/Gravy; Thu., BBQ Chicken; Fri., American Chop Suey.

CARDS OF THANKS

The family of Edward (Danny) Shilo, Jr., would like to thank everyone who sent messages of sympathy, called, sent meals, and offers of help. They were very much appreciated at a difficult time for us all.

/s/Sincerely, Ed, Kay, Bob, and Claudia Shilo

On behalf of my family and myself, I would like to extend a heartfelt thanks to the many folks whose expression of sympathy helped us through the illness and ultimate loss of my wife, Nancy. The many cards, flowers, kind words, and support meant a great deal to all of us during this most difficult time.

I would like to extend a very special thank you to Becky Pellowe and Wanda Harris of the VNA Hospice of Southern Carroll County and Vicinity and to Dr. Denise Merritt and Judy Cole. We will remain ever thankful for your devotion, kindness, and expertise.

/s/Sincerely, William L. Moore

**IN Main Street
FIFTEEN YEARS AGO . . .**

. . . Joan Chase was named Art Educator of the Month . . . the Fireflies held their 7th Annual Flea Market . . . The Alton Action Alliance sponsored a drug awareness program . . . coast to coast Gary Aramini was the guest speaker at the School Athletic Banquet . . . Bill Heidke was the Grand Marshal of the Memorial Day Parade.

TEN YEARS AGO . . .

. . . The High School Drama Club presented "The Sneeze" . . . the Chamber of Commerce Business After Hours was hosted by J. H. Downing & Co., Inc. . . . the Board of Selectmen recognized Municipal Clerk's Week and cited Town Clerk Gwendolyn Jones for her service to Alton . . . the Freese Brothers Big Band appeared at the Alton School as part of the Gilman Concert Series . . . Jaime Sample was the winner of the Second Annual Variety Show held at the Alton Central School . . . sidewalk sales were featured during the Chamber of Commerce Appreciation Day.

FIVE YEARS AGO . . .

. . . Paulette Wentworth won a door prize at the Alton-New Durham Lions Club 40th Annual Penny Sale . . . Tony Mariano was the winner of the Ice Out Contest . . . The Lions Club raised \$4,500 for the victims of the dam breach in March . . . Elvira Hufschmid, Katie O'Meara, Joshua Dewey, Jason Morris, and Renee LaFreniere participated in the Lakes Region Junior Music Festival in Conway . . . Alton High School Drama presented "The Matchmaker," put on by Greg Salvatore, Tom Bernard, Mike Langer, Anna Varney, Jacob Swain, Nadine Vailotte, David Temple, Cathy Chapman, Andy Fuller, Dorene Lemay, Jill Gagnon, Tyson Blake, Kristina Gerdt, Amber Locke, Shemry Brown, Rebecca Blair, and faculty member Elizabeth Lent.

FREE REIKI CLINIC

By Richard and Carol Wallace

As certified health educators and owners Holistic Health Journey, we will offer a free clinic beginning May 18 as a public service to introduce Reiki in a compassionate and non-threatening atmosphere and to promote it as a complementary healing method not interfering with any other healthcare program or method of treatment. The free clinics will be offered the third Friday of each month with the introductory lecture at 6:30 p.m. and appointments for 7, 7:30, or 8 p.m. Contact us at 875-8221 for more information.

YOUR TRASH IS OUR CONCERN

By Warren Zitzow, SWC Director

A long, white winter is finally behind us — time now for swimming, fishing, boating, barbecuing, and “Spring Cleaning.”

Remember, recycling is mandatory in Alton. To save you time when you come to the Solid Waste Center (SWC), have your trash sorted. There are signs as to where things belong; if in doubt, ask one of the attendants.

Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day is July 28. The Alton SWC is NOT a collection point. For more information, stop by and see us or call 875-5801.

Be aware there will be new permits in January 2002. They will be good for two years, but due to disposal fee increases, the price will go up to \$5 per permit. You will need proof of residency or property ownership.

We receive many comments during the year about what a clean, neat, and user-friendly facility the Town of Alton has here. Thanks to one and all; your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION FOR 2001-2002 SCHOOL YEAR

The Alton School District will hold registration and screening for all children who will be entering Kindergarten on August 27, 2001. Registration/ Screening will take place on Tuesday, May 22, and Wednesday, May 23, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. - 3 p.m. at the Alton Bay Community Center, Route 11, in Alton Bay.

Registration packets have been mailed to all parents who have kindergarten-aged students whose names are on file at the school district. If you did not receive a packet and have a child who will be five years old on or before September 30, 2001, please call Alton Central School and speak with Sharon Guild (875-0398) or Cindy Loprete (875-7373) as soon as possible.

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