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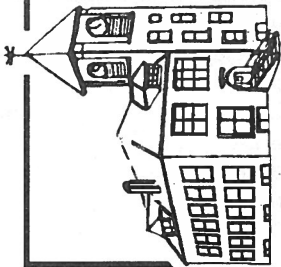
Alton, New Hampshire

December, 2002

Complimentary

Main Street

A Monthly Newsmagazine





Published Monthly Since 1985

by

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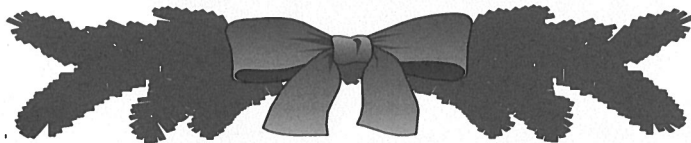
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ABOUT THIS MONTH'S COVER

The unusual "Holiday Tree" is the result of the talents of more than one Main Street volunteer. Corporation Vice President Dick Cunningham has been advocating that our magazine should utilize the cover to highlight and feature some of the issue's major stories. Co-editor MaryBee Longabaugh came up with the concept of doing so for the December issue within ornaments placed on the Town's holiday tree. The tough part, however, fell upon Layout Editor Rob Boyce to use his computer talents to combine the photograph of the tree with both clip art of ornaments and text files generated by MaryBee. We hope the final result is pleasing to our readers.



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Please join us in wishing each and everyone
A Very Happy, Happy Holiday!

OH, CHRISTMAS TREE

The Alton Fire Rescue Department is having its annual Christmas tree sale. As in the past the trees will be available at the Alton Village 5 & 10 at the traffic circle. The department extends thanks to Ed and Christine Consentino for their support in this area. Come and browse the new selection of sizes and bring one home, or perhaps, get one for someone who may not be as fortunate.

ACS HONOR SOCIETY SPONSORING DRIVES

By Kristi Getz, NHS Advisor

It's that time of year again when we tend to think about those who are less fortunate. The Alton Central School (ACS) Chapter of the National Honor Society (NHS) will be continuing the drives that they started in November to help those in these circumstances and make their holiday season a little brighter.

Following on the NHS's November food and coat drives, there will be two drives from December 9 - 20:

- 1) We will be collecting toys to send to the Salvation Army's toy drive;
- 2) "Adopt an Angel" program is part of the Make-A-Wish Foundation's fund-raiser. Angels may be purchased for \$2 to help support a child's life-long dream. These children are all coping with terminal illnesses.

Other Ways To Help

All monetary gifts should be made out to Alton Central School with "NHS - Food, Coat, Toy, or Angel" noted on check's memo line. If you would like a receipt, please send a request with your address, and one will be mailed to you.

If you would like to donate time helping us sort, send, or advertise, please contact us. Our NHS is also interested in other service projects. If you know of any that could use our help, send the details to me. The e-mail address is <kgetz@alton.k12.nh.us>, or I may be reached by phone during school hours at 875-7500, extension 7348.

The National Honor Society of Alton Central School thanks you for your help and support!

DANCE CLUB FOR PRE-TEENS AND TEENS!

You don't have to go out of town for a place to dance and socialize with your friends. A new club in the old Legion Pool Hall space is now open for teens and pre-teens. The club room of KKASD (Kwoon Karate Academy of Self Defense), also known as "The Jungle," is offering fully chaperoned social evenings with great music and atmosphere. Dances will be held monthly on different evenings for different ages. Call Meg Jones at the studio, 875-1171, for more information and dance schedule.



Main Street's Inside Front Page



IN SERVICE TO OUR COMMUNITY
By Chief Russ Sample
Alton Fire Department

THOUGHTS FOR THE HOLIDAYS

As I share these thoughts, I am reminded that we are having winter a little earlier than usual. This weather presents the need to prepare for a cold winter ahead and the chance of unsafe ice conditions. Our town roads are very well treated by our Highway Department; however, to and from town on the byways, it can be icy. Be ready. Prepare ahead for those unexpected conditions that catch you by surprise on the road, at home with a power outage, or any situation which may prevent you from keeping your regular schedule.

These things said, it's time to reflect on the seasons past and those who have assisted in the activities of your Fire Rescue Department. Fire personnel had responded to more requests for emergency service by month's end in September than all of last year. August provided more calls for fires than for emergency medical assistance with a total of 84 for the month. Autumn is when we concentrate on specialized training under the direction of training officer Deputy Chief Alan Johnson. We have been assisted several times by John Nicastro of Alton Auto Service who has donated automobiles and services to augment our training needs. I extend my personal thanks, as well as for the department as a whole, for his willing help. Our personnel have responded to many calls for service. However, one stands out in my mind. It is when we were called to a cardiac arrest, and in the midst Senior Patrol Officer Peter Lewellyn provided mouth-to-mouth rescue breathing, working along side rescue personnel. This exhibit of interdepartmental cooperation is what allows us to rise above any obstacle which may attempt to deter us from serving the emergency needs of those around us. To you Pete, a special thanks from all of us for being you.

This season of the year has us reflecting on the blessings that are ours. Many people have met a need this past year. To begin, there are those who choose to be servants to you as your emergency service personnel responding to more calls for service in nine months this year than in 12 months last year. They are a very special group. Also, I must extend thanks to Chief Iwans and the members of his department for their assistance and interaction. To Ken Roberts and his team and Kellie Troendle and hers, we thank you all for many acts of kindness through the things in which you assist us and others as well. The fact that Alton is a relatively small town while in per capita being the second largest in size in the state requires a unique group to keep it going on an annual basis. To you we say thank you.

Remember, the real reason for the season started with a very special gift which many overlook, even at this time of the year. God has been good to our community though there are challenges along the way. We must all take a moment to thank him in our own way for his many blessings this past year. Don't forget, it is more joyous to give than to receive. Please consider how you may give of yourself to your community this season and year through. Be mindful of those who protect you here and those who protect our freedom around the world. From our family to yours, we wish you a Merry Christmas and Blessed Holiday Season.



"LIGHT UP NIGHT" YULETIDE IN ALTON

The Town of Alton is sponsoring a Community Holiday Celebration on Saturday, December 7, from 5 - 7 p.m. Everyone is invited to participate in this free event. Ginny Douglas Park, Gilman Museum, Alton Town Hall, Gilman Library, and the Community Church in the downtown area will be open to the public with featured events and festive decorations for the holiday season.

At 5:30 p.m. Santa will arrive at the Gilman Library by fire truck and will be in the library until 6:30 p.m. Families are encouraged to stop by and say hello to Santa. Parking is available on Main Street. Please use the rear entrance.

From 5 - 7 p.m. the following activities will be available.

The Community Church will host seasonal, entertaining music. Cookies and hot cider will be served.

The Gilman Museum will be open for a tour of their fine antiques. The exhibit, "Keepsakes of Beauty and Tiny Treasures, Quilts and Buttons" will feature quilts from the museum's own collection, along with those from local private collections, and over 1,000 buttons dating from the mid-18th through the early 20th century. Victorian music from an upright Regina music box and Christmas carols played on an 1860's piano will entertain you. Refreshments will be served.

The Alton Town Hall will feature a Victorian Doll and Teddy Bear Tea Party and an antique doll display. Holiday treats will be presented to all children.

A Baked Bean Supper at the Pearson Road Community Center sponsored by the Alton Senior Citizens Association will be available. Proceeds go to benefit the Senior Citizen program.

Creative Concepts in Wood Working and Creative Concepts in Quilting Open House at 25 Mooney Street, behind the Dance Studio, will allow you the experience of unique craftsmanship and creative displays.

From 6:45 - 7 p.m. join in the caroling at the Ginny Douglas Park with community members, and then at 7 p.m. watch as the tree "lights up."

The Town of Alton is calling this event "Light Up Night" because it is the official day of turning on all of the holiday

Continued on page 4


Continued from page 3

lights in the downtown area. Holiday lights, greenery, and seasonal flags will be up, and the town will kick off the holiday festivities. Join us for Yuletide in Alton and light up your night by coming out to this fun holiday festival. For more information call the Alton Parks and Recreation Department at 875-0109 or e-mail <altonprn@worldpath.net>.

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**TO PROTECT AND SERVE
By Detective-Corporal Ed Correia
Alton Police Department**



A CHRISTMAS PARTY FOR THE "YOUNGUNS"

The Alton Police Department (APD) and the Police Association will be hosting their first ever Christmas Holiday party for the town's youth and their parents. The event will take place on Saturday, December 21, from 3 to 7 p.m. at the Alton Central School (ACS) gymnasium. Children 12 years of age and under — AND THEIR PARENTS — are welcome to attend and there is no charge. There will be games and prizes will be awarded. We will have a basketball shoot, hockey shoot, and other games for participants to enjoy. Door prizes will also be given. Pizza, soda, and refreshments will be served as well. Members of the ACS SADD (Students Against Drunk Drivers) group will be on hand to assist in the festivities.

The APD has already received a hot tip concerning this event. Police Chief Iwans received a call from a confidential informant who told him it was quite probable that Santa Claus would make an appearance.

Residents who do not have a child in school may not be aware that my primary duty with the APD is to serve as the School Resource Officer. It is therefore my pleasure to be at the party with guitar and microphone in hand, along with my band of merry men, to rock the night away with some classic rock and contemporary live music. So, bring your dancing shoes and partner. Please contact me at 875-0368 or Officer Grant Nichols at 875-0757 if you have any questions.

Exploring A Police Explorer Post

As School Resource Officer I have received a couple of inquiries regarding the establishment of a Police Explorer Post in town. There was an explorer post in Alton several years ago, but because of waning attendance the post was eventually disbanded. The police explorer program is a way for young people between the ages of 14 and 21 to learn about the police and other law enforcement related careers. Participants meet on a regular basis and become acquainted with such topics as search and seizure, laws of arrest, building searches, practical firearms training, defensive tactics, crime scene investigations, and much more.

We are interested in hearing from people between the ages of 14 and 21 who live in Alton or any of its surrounding communities who may be interested in being part of a Police Explorer Program. If you're interested, please contact me at 875-0757 or 875-0368.

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TREE OF MEMORIES REMINDER

December 14 is the day, 1 p.m. the time, and Alton Town Hall the place for this year's local Tree of Memories ceremony. Anyone wishing to participate can make a donation, including the name to be remembered, to VNA/Hospice. The donor or a volunteer will hang a porcelain dove (as you see above) with the loved one's name on the tree outside the Town Hall. There will be a short musical offering and service of remembrance.

For more information write or call Betty John, VNA/Hospice of Southern Carroll County and Vicinity, Box 1620, Wolfeboro, New Hampshire, 03894, telephone number 569-2729; or Alice Calvert, R. R. 2, Box 1146, Alton 03809, telephone number 875-2151.

You can help VNA/Hospice and remember a loved one.

THE BUZZ IN THE BAY

By Judith Pellowe

On a cold November evening the lights on the back porch of The Lakeside Buzz Cafe on Alton Bay cast an inviting glow. Cozy chairs and sofas fill the room, and there is a dais with a light and a microphone. It's poetry night, and 16 poets have shown up to read their work. Performers came from as far away as Manchester and Eaton. Some are published poets, many are not, but there was a great sense of community.

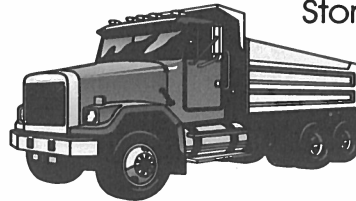
Organizer Deanna O'Shaughnessy has been a performance poet for eight years. She has been running a poetry reading night in Wolfeboro, but when the venue closed at the end of the summer, she moved the readings to The Lakeside Buzz in October and November.

"I put fliers up all over the Lakes Region for this," O'Shaughnessy says. "I also run writers workshops. We're not quite sure what's going to happen next, because The Lakeside Buzz is closed for the winter now too. They've been kind enough to open up for us to do these readings, but it's getting too cold to do it here again."

At the end of the night poets and fans alike were trading business cards and phone numbers. A new meeting spot has not yet been found, but there's little doubt that this group will continue on. Watch for their fliers.

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YOU BETTER WATCH OUT...



Santa Claus is coming to the American Legion on Saturday, December 14, at 1 p.m. He will be looking to greet children from Alton and surrounding communities who are age 12 and under. Santa will visit with the children and take their Christmas lists. His helpers will distribute gifts and snacks to everyone. Bring your little ones to see Santa and enjoy the afternoon.

TIS' THE TIME TO HELP OTHERS

The Mrs. Santa Fund is once again calling upon folks for contributions. We provide gifts for children newborn to age 17. These donations are used to purchase warm coats, hats, mittens, and boots for the children, as well as a toy or two. Donations may be made payable to the Mrs. Santa Fund and sent to P. O. Box 755, Alton 03809 or c/o Bank of New Hampshire, Main Street, Alton 03809.

If you are in need of some help this year, or know of someone who would benefit from this program, please contact one of Santa's Elves by December 10: Daryl Czech (875-3815) or Sharon Hannafin (875-3079).

"SNOWFLAKES"

By Franconia Burg, Grade 1, March 2002

Crystals falling from the sky,
Landing in my hair.
Squishy as marshmallows,
White as paper,
Gliding like kites through the air.
Silent butterflies,
Soft and cushiony, landing on my cheeks.

Editor's note: Won 1st place for Most Expressive, Massachusetts Science Poetry Contest. Granddaughter of Alton residents.

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CHRISTMAS CATHOLIC MASS SCHEDULE

The three Catholic churches in the area, St. Cecilia's in Wolfeboro, St. Joan of Arc in Alton, and St. Paul's in Barnstead, will have the following holiday services.

On December 24 join parishioners at 4 p.m. for the Children's Mass and Pageant at St. Cecilia's. Following that there will be a Christmas Eve Vigil at St. Paul's at 6:30 p.m. Back in Wolfeboro at St. Cecilia's there will be Mass at 7 p.m. and Midnight Mass at 12 a.m.

On Christmas Day there will be services at St. Joan of Arc at 9 a.m. and at St. Cecilia's at 10 a.m.

HOLIDAY SERVICES AND EVENTS THE COMMUNITY CHURCH

Mark the following dates for events that will occur at the Community Church.

Christmas Sunday School Program

The Christmas Sunday School Program will be held at 4 p.m. on Sunday, December 15, at the Church Street Meeting House. Everyone is invited! Refreshments will be served in the new addition.

Annual Community Christmas Caroling

The annual community Christmas caroling will begin at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, December 17, at the Community Church in cooperation with the Bay Church and St. Joan of Arc Church. Refreshments will follow at the Bay Church.

Christmas Eve Services

The Community Church of Alton will hold two Christmas Eve services on Tuesday, December 24, at 7 p.m. and 11 p.m. at the Church Street Meeting House. The 7 p.m. service will feature the church choir and soloists in a Service of Celebration of the Christmas season. The 11 p.m. service will feature carols, soloists, and a candle-lighting service.

SPECIAL HOLIDAY EVENTS THE BAY CHURCH

Beginning Sunday, December 1, and continuing through the holiday season, a number of special events are being planned by the Bay Church family. Call 875-6765 for more information.

Hanging of the Greens

Families will come together at 4 p.m. on Sunday, December 1, to decorate the Moore Chapel, the Bay Church Sunday School rooms, and the Dining Hall in preparation for the holidays. A light luncheon will be served at 5 p.m. with a brief carol sing and devotional in the Chapel at 6 p.m.

Kids Christmas Party

Mrs. Shirley Holway, Christian Education Director, is enthusiastically anticipating the Kids Christmas Party, beginning at 11 a.m. in the Lombard Center Dining Hall on Saturday, December 7, and continuing well into the afternoon. There will be games, refreshments, and gifts for all the children.

Christmas Tea

For the second year in a row the church ladies have planned a delightful and decorative Christmas Tea to be held at the home of Dorothy Lyons on Abednego Road at 12:30 p.m., December 8, following the Sunday morning worship service.

Christmas Musical, Dinner, and Party

A Christmas Choir has been rehearsing this past month in anticipation of a special musical program planned for Sunday, December 15, at 5 p.m. in the Chapel. In addition to as many as a dozen choral selections, there will be solos, duets, perhaps a trio, and several numbers by the Bay Church Ensemble. Following the musical everyone is invited to the

Dining Hall for the annual all-church Christmas Dinner and Party.

Announcements of Other Events

Rather than scheduling any evening events at the local church on December 21 and 22, members will be urged to attend the Lakes' Region ONE VOICE Choir Concert at the Middle High School in Gilford. This production involves singers from churches all around the Lakes' Region. The time has not yet been announced. The Bay Church family will also offer a Christmas dinner to shut ins and those who would otherwise be alone during the holiday. For those who can get out transportation will be provided to the Conference Center Dining Hall, or dinners will be brought to their homes.

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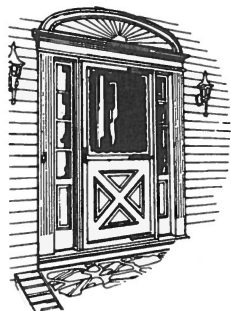
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DISCOVERING TALENTED PEOPLE IN ALTON

By Dick Cunningham

A suggestion came from one of our subscribers. It was to call attention to residents of Alton who have developed unique talents in arts and crafts or other creative areas and pursue their interest as a hobby or on a part-time basis.

This month we are featuring the first of what we hope will be many nominees — Jeff McAllister of Route 11, Alton.

A native of Hanover Jeff moved to Alton five years ago. The father of two girls, Jennifer and Dana, (Jennifer is in Grade 9 at Alton Central High School and quite a volleyball player), Jeff went shopping for furniture to furnish his home. To his dismay he discovered that the quality of commercial furniture had greatly deteriorated.

He decided to utilize a talent he began developing at age four — that is, build his own. With skills he learned from his grandfather, who only worked with hand tools, Jeff soon had others requesting he build pieces for them. As a full-time pilot for American Airlines and coach of the Gunstock Ski Racing Team, this Air Force veteran maintains a busy schedule but still devotes a minimum of 20 hours a week to his favorite task. A quote from Jeff is, "I love a challenge."

He will custom build anything from a picture or plans in any type of wood from mahogany to cherry, carefully matching grains. He also loves repairing and restoring antiques, as well as building architectural mill work. Jeff can be reached at 293-4056 or e-mail <www.sugartopfurniture.com>. Alton is very fortunate that Jeff picked our town to be his home.

NEED ASSISTANCE? WANT TO DONATE?

By Pam Arnold, Alton Town Administrator

If you need assistance in any of the following areas or wish to donate to worthwhile funds, here are some ideas.

Fuel Assistance: Applications for fuel assistance for the 2002-03 heating season are available in the lobby of Town Hall. You do not need to be on public assistance to apply; eligibility is determined by family income levels. The Community Action Program has announced that interviews concerning your application/eligibility may be made by contacting them at 524-5512.

Emergency Rental Assistance: Applications for emergency rental assistance from the New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority are available at the Town Hall.

Heidke Trust Fund: Are you an Alton citizen over 65? You are encouraged to apply for assistance with home and health care. You may be eligible. This program is offered to our seniors as a gift to the town and is not funded by taxpayers. Please call the Selectmen's Office, 875-2161, for information and an application.

Holiday Donations: There are several needy families in Alton; if you would like to donate to Operation Blessings or the Mrs. Santa Fund, a telephone call to me, Pat Rockwood, or Paulette Wentworth at 875-2161 would be appreciated. Food, clothing, toys, checks, or cash will be put to very good use. All holiday donations may be brought to Town Hall.

Alton Community Services Program: If you are in need of assistance or in an emergency situation regarding housing, utilities, food, or other necessities, please call them at 875-2273. The center is open Saturdays 10 a.m. - 12 noon and is located on Main Street across from the St. Joan of Arc rectory.

When citizens are experiencing financial difficulties, or other emergencies exist, the ACSP, Heidke Trust Fund, and the town may be able to help. Please call 875-2161 for information and referral. Office hours at Town Hall are Monday - Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

AMERICAN LEGION — WORKING FOR ALTON

By Ray Nadeau, Commander, Legion Post 72

The American Legion Post 72 continues to work for the Alton community in a variety of ways.

High School Band Uniform Drive

Now and then we get a question about the purpose of this drive so this is in answer to those questions: We hope to reach the \$12,000 goal in order to provide new band uniforms to the high school band when the Alton School is combined with Barnstead School in 2004.

In this vein we would like to thank the following people and organizations for their generous donations to the Band Uniform Fund: MaryBee and Bob Longabaugh, Alton Video, Gilman Library, and the Lions Club.

In addition we would like to thank those folks who continue to drop money in our donation canisters located around town. By the time you read this, the thermometer should read approximately \$4,400. We hope to top \$5,000 by the end of December.

Jump on board and support your high school band by sending your contributions to: High School Band Uniforms, Bank of New Hampshire, Main Street, Alton 03809 or American Legion, P. O. Box 814, Alton 03809.

Sunday Breakfasts Open To The Public

We continue to hold Sunday breakfasts from 8 a.m. to 12 noon for anyone wishing to attend. Last month's proceeds were donated to the Alton Senior Citizens Association, the High School Band Uniform Fund, Alton High School Ski Team, and the Children's Miracle Network (through the Sons of the Legion). In December the Boy Scouts and the High School Band Uniform Fund will be the recipients.

Needy Family Christmas Baskets

Christmas food baskets and toys are distributed by the Auxiliary to local needy families and senior citizens every year. This is supported by the American Legion Family, the Alton Masonic Temple, and on occasion, by other local organizations.

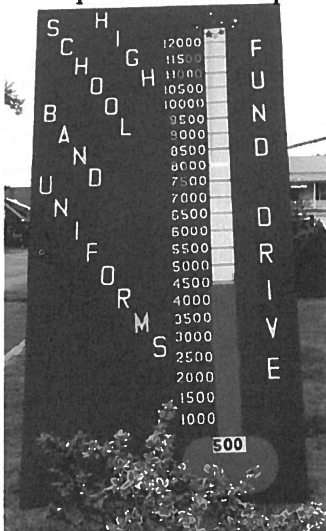

SCHOOL-AGE CHILD CARE

THE COMMUNITY CHURCH OF ALTON

The Community Church of Alton will begin offering a Monday - Friday after school Christian child care program from 2:30 - 5:30 p.m. beginning January 6, 2003. The program will be housed in the newly renovated and expanded Congregational Meeting House. It will be staffed by highly qualified individuals. The program will meet all New Hampshire state requirements.

Children in grades K - 6 will be picked up at the close of school and escorted to the church. A variety of bible stories, games, crafts, music, homework support, tutoring, and other activities will be offered. The after-school program will include the Kid's Club program currently running on Tuesdays. Kid's Club is a special program providing students with spiritual support and personal growth.

The full fee for the five-day a week after-school program will be \$40 and will follow the Alton Central School calendar. Multiple child and income-based discounts are offered. Spaces are limited and will be given on a first-come, first-serve basis. Call 875-5561 for more information and a registration form.

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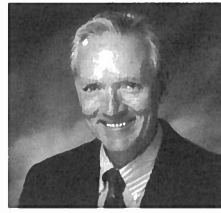
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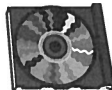
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FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT'S DESK

By Donald E. Parks
Superintendent of Schools



A LOT HAPPENED IN THE FIRST QUARTER

The first quarter of the school year has already been completed. Report cards have been sent home along with individual student results on the NHEIAP exams and the Stanford 9 standardized tests. The results on the state and national exams were very good. There is still room for improvement, however, which is one of our ongoing goals.

Congratulations to the Varsity Girls' Volleyball team for finishing second in the state tournament. Alton has been a volleyball power in the state over the last several years, advancing to the final four in the last two and to the championship game this year. Congratulations to Coach Tony Limanni and Assistants Joyce Hopper and Tammy Cornelissen. Special recognition goes to Terese Hopper who was the Class S Player of the Year after being selected Allstate the last two years.

The new academic program that is being used in grades 7 and 8 is off to a great start. Ninety-five percent of the students received a grade of 74 or above. This percentage reflects a tremendous improvement over previous years.

The School Board was scheduled to adopt the school budget on November 25 and will be passing it along to the Budget Committee for review. It is estimated the budget, less the increase for the first principal and interest payment on Prospect Mountain High School, will increase by about 6 percent. The budget will contain additional funds to hire "1.8" new teachers in the high school due to the increase in the number of credits for graduation from 22 to 25 units.

Special education expenditures will rise significantly due to rising members in the program and in particular to the cost of programs for some students who have severe needs.

The JMA ("Joint Maintenance Agreement") School Board will have adopted a budget, half of which will show up in the Alton budget as a line. The JMA budget was carefully reviewed by a Joint Budget Committee made up of members from both towns. In fact, the Budget Committee recommended a reduction in projected SAU expenditures by \$42,000.

A "Clerk of the Works," who is to be the JMA's eyes and ears during the construction of Prospect Mountain High School, was to be hired by the time you read this.

COLLEGE ADMISSIONS & FINANCIAL AID WORKSHOP OFFERED

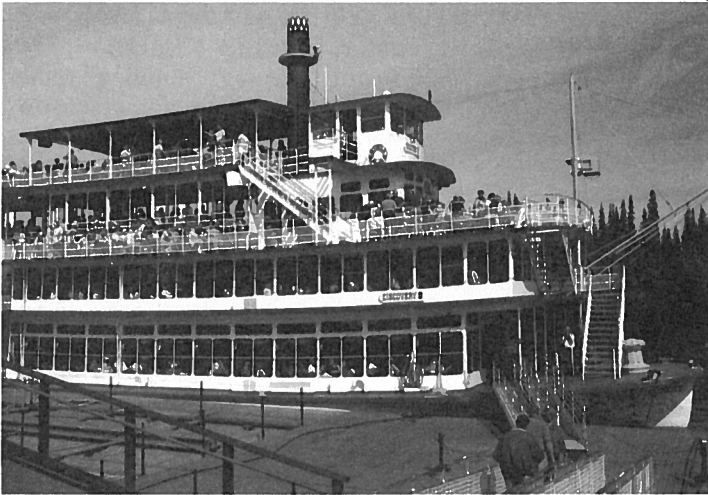
The guidance office of Alton Central School (ACS) has planned a College Admissions/Financial Aid Workshop for Alton and Barnstead students and their families. It will be held on Thursday, December 5, in the ACS High School library, starting at 6:30 p.m. The program is designed to be of the most help to high school juniors and seniors and their parents. However, all interested students, parents, and community members are invited to attend.

The schedule for December 5 is as follows:

6:30 p.m.: The college admissions process by Marilyn St. Cyr, ACS Guidance Director;

7:30 p.m.: Financial aid workshop by Beth Cilley, University of New Hampshire Financial Aid Administrator.

The ACS Guidance Office wants everyone to know that they should feel free to attend one or both sessions. If there are questions that need answers before the workshop, please call the Guidance Office at 875-0382.



LIVE THE LIFE
By Cindy & John Duffek

RIVERBOAT DISCOVERY

Among the many fascinating tours and exhibits we enjoyed on our tour of Alaska in the summer of 2000, the cruise aboard the Riverboat Discovery in Fairbanks was one of the best. The boat you see above is 156 feet long and it holds 900 passengers on four decks. A huge paddle wheel in the stern propels the boat on the Chena and Tanana Rivers. Along the way we made midstream stops that were interesting. The first was to watch a bush pilot take off and land from a very short strip next to his house. There are small private planes everywhere. There are more licensed pilots per capita in Alaska than any other state.

Then we stopped to observe a small herd of reindeer that was released from a pen as we approached the site. They ran out to nibble on their favorite bushes near the river. That was a bit too orchestrated, but it was still fun to see them close up. Reindeer and caribou are the same animals — but the reindeer are domesticated.

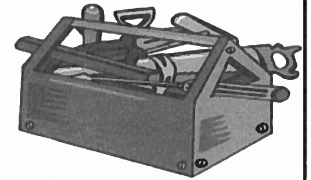
The next stop was at the home of Susan Butcher, first female winner of the Iditarod Dog Sled Race. She spoke to everyone using a remote microphone and talked about training the dogs and showed us some newborn puppies. After that we saw a replica of a fish camp where the natives set up their fish wheel — a contraption that catches salmon by rotating in the flow of water and scoops up salmon into a basket. A woman at the camp talked about the way the camp was used and demonstrated their technique for filleting a fish. She filleted a huge salmon in just 40 seconds.

The main stop was at a re-created village where we all got off and rotated among four different presentations on native life styles. The talks were given by young women from the boat's crew who were natives — Athabascans, Eskimos, Aleuts, and Tlingits.

A dinner of salmon, halibut, steak, or chicken at a local restaurant followed the tour. The abundance of fresh salmon and halibut throughout Alaska was something of which we never tired!

You may have questions about our full-time RV-ing 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.



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MORTGAGES

FROM "HUMBUG" TO "HALLELUJAH!"

By Bob Hett, Pastor, The Bay Church

Do you find yourself feeling like say, "humbug" rather than "hallelujah" at the start of this Christmas season? Perhaps you are fed up with the commercialism of Christmas or the arduous task of buying presents. Perhaps you dread getting together with a relative who seems to breed ill will. Maybe you just feel a bit depressed at Christmastime because of less-than-ideal circumstances.

The people of The Bay church invite you to join them during these weeks before Christmas as they enjoy an all-church series called "From Humbug to Hallelujah: Learning Lessons from A Christmas Carol." Together they are preparing for a Christmas without regrets by learning from the true Spirit of the season.

This seasonal Advent celebration will take place from Sunday, December 1 through Christmas Day and the 12 days of Christmas, involving everyone in the church — children and adults, families, couples, and singles.

I extend a warm welcome to anyone in the community who wants to join this celebration by attending Sunday workshop services at 10:45 a.m. The church is located on the grounds of the Christian Conference Center and meets in the Daniel Moore Chapel. Those who are interested in more information may phone the church office at 875-6765.

BUDGET COMMITTEE REALLY BUSY

Donald Mitchell and Nina Dea Chambers have been appointed to fill the vacancies on the Town's Budget Committee, thereby bringing the committee to a full complement of 11 members. Additionally, Chambers has volunteered to represent the Budget Committee on the Public Safety Building Study Committee.

Review of the town budgets for 2003 began in November while December will be devoted to the proposed school budget for fiscal year 2003-2004. That budget was due from the School Board on November 26. Review meetings will be held at the school on December 3, 5, 10, 12, and 17.

On December 19 the Budget Committee will again meet at Town Hall to review proposed Capital Improvement Projects for years 2003-2008. If necessary, a school make-up meeting is also scheduled for this date at Town Hall. After the 19th no further meetings are scheduled for December.

As always, all of the above are open meetings and the public is urged to attend.

Members of the Budget Committee extend to each and everyone very best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

DATES AND DEADLINES

By Lisa Waterman, Alton Town Clerk

The 2003 town election and town meeting is right around the corner. Here are some important dates and deadlines to remember.

1. December 11 is the last day to accept petitions to amend Zoning Ordinances.

2. The filing period for anyone interested in a town office is January 22 - 31. A list of the vacancies will be in the January issue of *Main Street*.

3. The town election will be held on Tuesday, March 11, with the Annual Town Meeting the following night. Absentee ballot applications are available at the Town Clerk's Office for the town and school elections.

5. It is also time to renew your "Aquatherm" permit. The cost is \$.50 and will expire July 1, 2003.

Happy Holidays!



Main Street's Information Center

DECEMBER 2002

≡	M	T	W	T	F	≡
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				

EVENTS

- Sun. 1 BREAKFAST, American Legion, 8 a.m.
 Tue. 3 GIRLS BASKETBALL vs. Nute Middle HS, 7 p.m.
 Thu. 5 COLLEGE/FINANCIAL AID, Alton Central School, 6:30 p.m., see story
 GIRLS BASKETBALL at Concord Christian, 7 p.m.
 Sat. 7 "LIGHT UP NIGHT," Alton Village, 5 - 7 p.m., see story for all the activities scheduled
 Sun. 8 BREAKFAST, American Legion, 8 a.m.
 Mon. 9 BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP, see Checkout for details
 Tue. 10 HOLIDAY TEA, Gilman Library, 2 - 4 p.m., see invitation
 BOYS BASKETBALL at Pittsfield Middle HS, 7 p.m.
 GIRLS BASKETBALL vs. Pittsfield Middle HS, 7 p.m.
 Wed. 11 CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S LUNCHEON, Conference Center, 11:30 a.m., see story
 HOLIDAY CONCERTS, Alton Central School, Grades 4 - 12 Band; Grades 6 - 12 Chorus, 7 p.m.
 Thu. 12 BLOOD PRESSURE CLINIC, Pearson Road Community Center, 10:30 a.m. - 12 noon
 Fri. 13 BOYS BASKETBALL at Thayer HS, 6:30 P.M.
 GIRLS BASKETBALL at Thayer HS, 5 p.m.
 Sat. 14 TREE OF MEMORIES, Ceremony, Town Hall, 1 p.m., see story
 SANTA COMES TO AMERICAN LEGION, 1 p.m., see story
 Sun. 15 BREAKFAST, American Legion, 8 a.m.
 Tue. 17 CHRISTMAS CAROLING, Community Church, all invited 6 p.m., see story
 BOYS BASKETBALL at Moultonboro Acad., 7 p.m.
 GIRLS BASKETBALL vs. Moultonboro Acad., 7:30 p.m.
 Thu. 19 HOLIDAY CONCERT. Grades K - 5 Chorus, 6:30 p.m.
 Fri. 20 BOYS BASKETBALL vs. Sunapee Middle HS, 7 p.m.
 GIRLS BASKETBALL at Sunapee Middle HS, 7 p.m.
 Sat. 21 POLICE DEPARTMENT HOLIDAY PARTY, Age 12 and under with parents, Alton Central School, see Protect
 WINTER SOLTICE, 8:15 p.m. EST
 Sun. 22 BREAKFAST, American Legion, 8 a.m.
 Wed. 25 MERRY CHRISTMAS
 Sun. 29 BREAKFAST, American Legion, 8 a.m.
 Mon. 30 ASSEMBLE Main Street, American Legion Hall, 6:30 p.m.
 Tue. 31 NEW YEAR'S EVE, Ring out the Old! Ring in the New!

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.

Support the Businesses



Main Street

TURN YOUR JUNKMAIL INTO SOMETHING USEFUL

By Peter Ferber

Expanded paper recycling at the Alton Transfer Station lets you do something useful with all that junk mail, as well as almost all your other waste paper. Catalogs, magazines, computer print-outs, even that well-read paperback romance novel can now be thrown into the recycling bin along with your newspapers. You don't even need to separate them.

While hardly a lucrative windfall, a recycling mill does actually buy the paper from the town's transfer station. Together with what is saved through reduced landfill fees, Alton nets an estimated \$68 per ton. According to a study, this additional recyclable paper makes up 20 percent of the total waste stream. So, while this may not lessen our property tax rate in town, we have the potential for a significant reduced impact on the environment through smaller landfill volume and fewer trees harvested for paper production. Hopefully this alone will be incentive enough to change your household waste disposal habits. However, since this is now part of the mandated recycling program, fines can be assessed for non-compliance.

Here is a list to get those recycling juices flowing:

Recyclable paper (in addition to newspaper): magazines and catalogs, bond paper (both white and colored), glossy paper, envelopes (with or without windows), computer paper, fax paper, card stock, file folders, chip board (including chipboard boxes for cereal, crackers, etc., with waxed paper liners removed), phone books, paperback books, and shredded paper.

Paper that cannot be recycled at this time include carbon paper, foil paper, waxed paper, plastic coated paper, tissue, napkins, paper plates and cups, blue prints, photo paper, mylar, tyvek, and waxed cardboard.

WHAT TO DO WITH THOSE UNREFILLABLE PROPANE TANKS

Alton residents are finding that as their old-fashioned propane tanks hit empty they can no longer be-refilled. Federal regulations now prohibit the refilling of tanks unless they are equipped with an Overfill Prevention Device, or "OPD." This raises the question, of course, of what to do with the empty tanks that are not OPD equipped. Unfortunately, to do the environmentally correct thing is going to cost some money. The Alton Transfer Station (also known as the Solid Waste Center) will dispose of surplus propane tanks for a fee of \$5. It is important that the valve mechanism on the top not be removed.

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 WASR (1420AM), WEVO (89.1FM), WOKQ (97.5FM), WLNH (98.3FM), WNNH (99.1FM), WKXL (102.3 & 107.7FM), WLKZ (104.9FM), and scrolled across the bottom of the screen on WMUR-TV (Channel 9).



Main Street's Information Center

SCHEDULES

CHURCHES:

- Baha'i Fireside — Thu., 7:30 p.m., Holway Residence, Old New Durham Road
- Bay Church — Services on the grounds of the Alton Bay Christian Conference Center. Sun. School, 9:30 a.m.; Worship Service, 10:45 a.m.; Wed. Fellowship Supper followed by Bible Study, 6 p.m. Rev. Robert H. Hett, Pastor; Rev. John Fogell, Associate Pastor
- Community Church — Sun. Service, 8:15 and 10:45 a.m., Baptist Meeting House, Main Street; Sun. School, 9:30 a.m., Congregational Meeting House, Church Street, 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
- Congregational Church of North Barnstead, U.C.C. — Sun. Worship and Children's Sun. School, 10:30 a.m., 504 N. Barnstead Rd., Rev. Gray Fitzgerald
- St. Joan of Arc — Weekend Masses in the Rectory — Sat., 5 p.m. and Sun., 8 and 11 a.m.; weekday Masses, Mon., Wed., and Fri., 8 a.m. at St. Cecilia's, Wolfeboro; Tue., Thu., and Sat., 8 a.m. at Rectory Chapel; Sun. Mass St Paul's in Barnstead, 9:30 a.m.; Rev. George Ham
- 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

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

Rines Road Pit — As of April 6, 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., 7:30 p.m., Legion Hall, Rte 28

American Legion Auxiliary — 2nd Mon., 6:30 p.m., Legion Hall

American Legion Jr. Auxiliary — 1st Tue., 6 p.m., Legion Hall

Boy Scout Troop 53 — Wed., 6:30 p.m., Central Fire Station

Community Services Program, Sat., 10 a.m. - 12 noon., 875-2273

Cub Scout Pack 53 — Last Tue., 6:30 p.m., Legion Hall

Eastern Star — 2nd Tue., when meeting, 875-5211

4-H Club, 1st and 3rd Wed., 5 p.m., Gilman Library, 875-5325

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., 364-7413 for directions

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., The American Legion, 6:30 p.m.

Masonic Lodge — 2nd Thu., when meeting, 875-7448

Moms In Touch — Tue., 8:15 a.m., 875-2866

Mt. Major Snowmobile Club — 2nd Tue., 7 p.m., JP China

Restaurant, Alton Bay; 875-3858 or joshibley@metrocast.net

PTSA. — 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.; (Replays on Channel 26 following Thurs. and Fri.); Chairman Stephan McMahon, 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, Co-Chairs, Earl Bagley and Justine Gengras, 875-5095.
- FIRE WARDS — 2nd Monday, 7 p.m., Central Fire Station, Chairman Stanley Czech, 875-3815
- 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 Tom Varney, call 875-5095 for appointment.
- SCHOOL BOARD — 2nd & 4th Mondays, 6 p.m., Chairman Wayne Fraser, call 875-7890 for appointment.
- SUPERVISORS OF THE CHECKLIST — Meets on call, Chairman MaryBee Longabaugh, 875-5067.
- TRUSTEES OF THE GILMAN LIBRARY — 3rd Tuesday, 4 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

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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

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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

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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, 524-6536

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

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Stephan McMahon, Chairman, 875-6322

Pat Fuller, 875-5546

William Ryan, 875-2112

Don Irvin, 875-2924

James C. Washburn, 364-7413

A TRIAL BY FIRE



On November 15 students in grades 7 - 12 at Alton Central School were able to witness a live fire and vehicle rescue training demonstration carried out by the Alton Fire and Rescue Department in collaboration with Gilmanton firefighters and a Dartmouth-Hitchcock helicopter ambulance. (See, also, photo on page 26.) The demonstration was filmed for showing on LRPA-TV's Channel 26 in December.

NEW AT THE GILMAN LIBRARY

FICTION

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------------------|
| Brown, Sandra | The Crush |
| Burke, Jan | Nine |
| Connelly, Michael | Chasing the Dime |
| Faber, Michel | The Crimson Petal & The White |
| Fast, Howard | The Outsider |
| Grafton, Sue | Q is for Quarry |
| Hoag, Tami | Dark Horse |
| Hooper, Kay | Once a Thief |
| King, Stephen | From a Buick 8 |
| Michaels, Fern | Kentucky Sunrise |
| Oates, Joyce Carol | I'll Take You There |
| Scottoline, Lisa | Running From The Law |
| Smith, Martin Cruz | December 6 |
| Smith, Wilbur | The Seventh Scroll |



LARGE PRINT

- | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| Cornwell, Patricia | Isle of Dogs |
| Follett, Ken | Jackdaws |
| Sparks, Nicholas | Nights in Rodanthe |

NONFICTION

- | | |
|--------------------|--|
| Christie, Agatha | Agatha Christie |
| Crespo, Clare | The Secret Life of Food |
| Friedman, Thomas | Longitudes & Attitudes: Exploring the World After 9/11 |
| Longman, Jere | Among the Heroes |
| Morgan, Edmund S. | Benjamin Franklin |
| Preston, Richard | Demon in the Freezer. A True Story |
| Reeve, Christopher | Nothing is Impossible: Reflections on a New Life |
| Schiller, Lawrence | Cape May Court House: A Death in the Night |

CHILDREN

- | | |
|-----------------|----------------------------------|
| Snicket, Lemony | Lemony Snicket: Unauthorized Bio |
|-----------------|----------------------------------|

AUDIO CASSETTES

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------|
| Grisham, John | The Summons |
| McCullough, Colleen | The Grass Crown |

VIDEO CASSETTES

- | |
|---------------------|
| Watching Wildlife |
| Winnie the Pooh |
| Three Little Ghosts |
| Telling Time |



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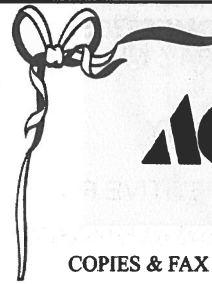


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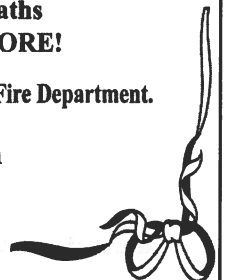
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**STUDENTS CITED FOR HONORS
AND CITIZENSHIP**

The Alton Central School (ACS) has announced the students who have made the Honor Roll and named for Citizenship during the first quarter of the 2002-2003 academic year. High Honors requires a grade of at least 92 in all subjects; Honors, a grade of at least 83; and Citizenship is based on attendance, no discipline, and no failing grades.

Grades 2 through 6 were announced at this time, and the remaining grades will be published in the next issue of Main Street.

Grade 2 Citizenship: Elaine Anderson, Dylan Bragg, Thomas Decowski, Taylor Dwyer, Julie Emerson, Chris Ennis, Patty Gage, Andrew Jackson, Anna Jortikka, Matthew Joy, Casey Lang, Trevor Liedtke, Nicole Meuse, Olivia Meyerhoff, Nicole Ouellette, Emily Parker, Alyssa St. Laurent, Serra Shepard, Natalie Stackhouse, Shayna Swezey, Rebecca Tinkham, Chelsea Vernal, Mark Wentworth, and Rachel Wilkinson.

Grade 3 Citizenship: Kristine Adams, Kirby Beranger, Renae Brunelle, Danielle Burwell, Josie Couch, Kevin Ennis, Alexander Giani, Taylor Harper, Cheyanne Harris, Ethan Henderson, Ashley Herrick, Samantha Hillis, Ethan Hunter, Rebecca Krivitsky, Brett Lamper, Emily Macduff, Rebecca Meyer, Albert Morse III, Emelie Morton, Breanna Parandes, Jennifer Peloquin, Nicole Perry, Michelle Prior, Martha Rasbridge, Lauren Stearns, Danielle Tidd, and Stephanie Waterman.

Grade 4 High Honors: Stephanie Burke, Spencer Goossens, and Loretta Tremblay.

Grade 4 Honors: Brooke Bastarache, Sarah Clifford, Kelsea Dahood, Joshua Dixon-Snell, Carter Golden, Kelsey Hannafin, Charles Holt, Kassie Lamper, Lindsay Malone, Jesse Neff, Stephanie Pryor, Jake Rochette, Fallon Rouleau, Emily Stone, Kendra Thibeault, Gregory Tinkham, Gregory Vernal, and Brittany Woitowitz.

Grade 4 Citizenship: Brooke Bastarache, Stephanie Burke, Sarah Clifford, Kelsea Dahood, Josh Dixon-Snell, Ethan Ehler, Carter Golden, Spencer Goossens, Kelsey Hannafin, Charles Holt, Michael Husak, Andrew Kim, Kassie Lamper, Andrew Long, Lindsey Malone, Jesse Neff, Stephanie Pryor, Jake Rochette, Fallon Rouleau, Emily Stone, Gregory Tinkham, Loretta Tremblay, and Brittany Woitowitz.

Grade 5 High Honors: Ashley Barsanti and Mary-Margaret Houghton.

Grade 5 Honors: Tyler Adabahr, Sarah Adams, Dylan Ball, Kayla Bastarache, Scott Brunelle, Kayla Carr, Joseph Comeau, Allison Cormier, Holly Couture, Lindsey Daniels, David Desbien, Joel Dore, Melissa Fortin, Sarah Fraser, Kelsey Hopper, Megan Hopper, Caitlin Hussey, Brian Jones,

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Levi Liedke, Kelsey Meyerhoff, Lydia Morton, Stephanie Moulton, Brittany O'Neil, Dack Rouleau, Jaclyn Saalfrank, Shabir Shaikh, Emily Sharpe, Aisha Sweezy, Kimberly Sykes, Kara Turner, and Aaron Wilkinson.

Grade 5 Citizenship: Sarh Adams, Dylan Ball, Ashley Barsanti, Kayla Bastarache, Roger Boucher, Allison Cormier, Hollie Couture, Lindsey Daniels, Joel Dore, Felicia Drewniak, Kaitlyn Fasulo, Melissa Fortin, Zach Henderson, Megan Hopper, Mary Margaret Houghton, Caitlyn Hussey, Danny Lang, Jackie LeBlanc, Catherine Martinez, Kelsey Meyerhoff, Lydia Morton, Stephanie Moulton, Brittany O'Neil, Natalia Ramey, Kyle Rondeau, Dack Rouleau, Jaclyn Saalfrank, Shabir Shaikh, Emily Sharpe, Aisha Sweezy, Kim Sykes, Kayla Turner, Aaron Vaillancourt, Zach Whissel, and Kayla Wyatt.

Grade 6 High Honors: Casey Beranger, Lyndsay Bishop, Cory Dudman, Kimberly Grant, Jack LaFreniere, Vincent Meuse, and Kathleen Sykes.

Grade 6 Honors: Vanessa Ainsworth, Alexis Barthel, Erik Caron, Joshua Crossman, Patrick Dea, Emily Donahue, Brittany Dwyer, Shannon Eagles, Megan Farrell, Richard Finethy, Danielle Fortin, Katherine Gage, Colin Hammond, Andrea Hillsgrove, Michael Jensen, Ashley Lionetta, Elaine Pelton, Stephanie Roy, Danielle Sheehan, and Jillian Stackhouse.

Grade 6 Citizenship: Casey Beranger, Lyndsay Bishop, Eric Caron, Joshua Crossman, Cory Dudman, Brittany Dwyer, Shannon Eagles, Megan Farrell, Kim Grant, Andrea Hillsgrove, Brendan Hussey, Mike Jensen, Vincent Meuse, Christine Mills, Ralph Minnick, Stephanie Roy, Danielle Shehan, Jill Stackhouse, and Kathy Sykes.



VETERANS' DAY SERVICE

The Veterans' Day service commenced Monday promptly at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month at Monument Square in Alton. The ceremony was conducted by Commander Ray Nadeau and officers of the American Legion and American Legion Auxiliary. The history and meaning of Veterans' Day, originally called Armistice Day, was explained to those in attendance. The history of the poem "In Flanders Field" was explained and recited, and the solemnity of the occasion was reiterated in addresses by the various officers. There were approximately 50 Alton residents in attendance (see photo above), and all were invited, with most accepting the invitation, to visit the Alton American Legion Post for luncheon at the conclusion of the services.



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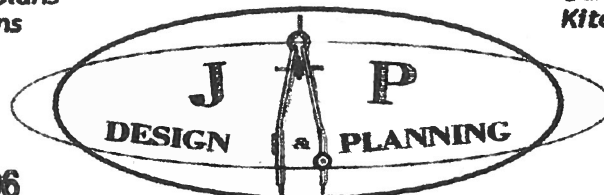
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HAPPY HOBBY DOLL CLUB NEWS

By Natalie Turner, Secretary

The Happy Hobby Doll Club held its October meeting with a Halloween "Dolly and Me" theme. Each member brought a look-a-like doll in costume. Seen at the party were Minnie Mouse, Sunny Sue, and numerous witches. One witch was wearing braces but, in spite of that possible obstruction to the enjoyment of the multiple yummys that appeared magically on the buffet table, did not act witchy at all.

The business meeting set the date for next year's annual big doll show for Saturday, June 29, which will be held in the Alton School gymnasium. Seasonal donations were voted upon for the many local Christmas charities that the club has served regularly over the years.

After the meeting, thanks to Jeannie Sieg, members received miniature Hitty Paper Doll projects which were not only challenging to make because of their tiny size but also were perfectly proportioned for the Hitty Dolls that the members had made this year. These delightful and certainly unique paper dolls were enjoyed and appreciated by all.

After refreshments door prizes were awarded. The lucky names drawn (shown above) were Ruth Messier (on the right) and Fran Washburn (on the left). Ruth won the June prize of a porcelain doll wall hanging, and Fran won a soft Hagar the Horrible Witch Doll.

Everyone went home with big smiles, tummies stuffed with treats, taking some extras home for the family, and wondering if they should save their costumes for next year!

CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S LUNCHEON

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

"Christmas Music" is the Special Feature with Marie Gronblom from Meredith who will fill your heart with the joy of the season. The Special Speaker, Alberta Caron from Melvin Village, will share how outside decorations or appearances can hide rot and damages on the inside.

Reservations for the lunch and the available complimentary nursery may be made by calling: in Alton, Melissa at 776-2224 or Karen, 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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DAR GOOD CITIZEN GOES TO GILBERT

By Marilyn St. Cyr, ACS Guidance Director

Norman Gilbert, a senior at Alton Central School (ACS), was chosen to be the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) Good Citizen of Alton's High School for this year. Norman was selected by the faculty and by the senior class for this honor. Along with the DAR Good Citizens from other New Hampshire communities, Norman has been invited to the DAR Good Citizens Luncheon in Concord that will be held on December 6. The DAR Good Citizens will also tour the New Hampshire State House and N.H. Historical Museum. The Winnepesaukee Chapter of the DAR sponsored Norman.

Senior Center on weekdays, is owned by the Town of Alton and houses the Community Action Program Belknap-Merrimack Counties, Inc., Nutrition and Elder Services (A United Way Agency). CAP serves the community by supplying Meals-On-Wheels and Congregate Dining. It also offers educational speakers, health clinics, a community resource room, and social opportunities. The Alton Senior Center is a ServiceLink satellite site enabling people to receive information and referral on aging, chronic illness, and disability. There are no dues and no membership is required. The Alton Senior Center serves the communities of Alton, Barnstead, Gilmanton and surrounding communities. The hours are 8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m., Monday - Friday. If you have any questions, please call 875-7102.

The Alton Senior Citizens Association will be having a Baked Bean Supper on Saturday, December 7, from 5 - 7 p.m. at the Pearson Road Community Center. For only \$6 you will get hot dogs, beans, cole slaw, biscuits, beverages, and homemade pie! All proceeds go to the ASCA fund.

Editors' note: Nancy Mooney Hebert will resume as the author of this column in the spring.



SENIOR CITIZENS CORNER
By Kim Gustafson, Director, Senior Services/Community Action Program

It has been brought to my attention that there is quite a bit of confusion regarding the Alton Senior Center (Pearson Road Community Center) and the Alton Senior Citizens Association. I would like to clear things up. They are two separate entities.

The Alton Senior Citizens Association (ASCA) is a "non-profit organization serving the best interests of persons over 55 years of age through social and recreational activities" (taken from the constitution and by-laws of the ASCA). Meetings are held the second Wednesday of the month at 1 p.m. Membership dues are \$5 annually, payable by June 1. The ASCA uses the Pearson Road Community Center as their meeting place. New members are always welcome!

The Pearson Road Community Center, used as the Alton

OLD FASHIONED ICE SKATING PARTY

By Kellie Troendle, Director Parks and Recreation

The Community Youth Activities Committee, in cooperation with other organizations, is sponsoring an Old Fashioned Ice Skating Party on Saturday, January 25, across from the Alton Fire Department on Route 140. This free family event will be held from 5 - 7 p.m. Activities include: ice skating, bonfire, and music. Seasonal refreshments including hot cider and s'more kits will be available for purchase. Volunteers are needed to help with the event. For more information or to volunteer contact the Alton Parks and Recreation Department at 875-0109.



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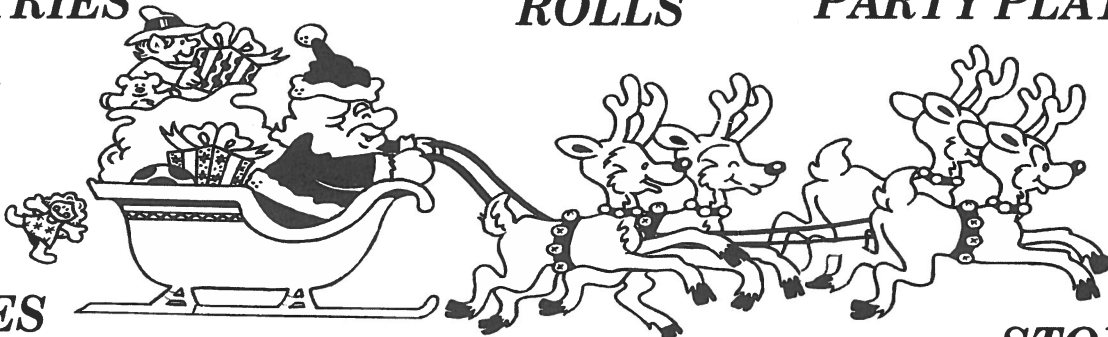
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ALTON PTSA**By Lisa Jones, Secretary**

The Alton Parent Teacher Student Association (PTSA) held their first annual Fall Festival in October. Approximately 115 children, along with their parents, enjoyed an afternoon of games and activities. There was a steady line for the hayride and bounce house. Just a few of the other activities were a hay maze, needle in a haystack, Halloween golf, bean bag toss, and face painting.

Thank you to all the volunteers who worked hard to make this a successful event. A special thank you goes out to Cameron's Home & Garden Center of Farmington for lending the hay for the hay maze and to Mike Currier for donating his wagon for the hayride. Without volunteers this event would not have taken place. Thanks to all of you.

**THE CHECKOUT DESK****By Holly Brown
Librarian****HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS**

The Friends of the Gilman Library will hold their Annual Holiday Tea on Tuesday, December 10 (see your invitation on page 2). If you are interested in donating baked goods or will help to set up or clean up, please call or stop in and sign up at the circulation desk. We hope to see you.

Santa will be visiting the library on Saturday, December 7 from 5:30 - 6:30 as part of "Light Up Night," Yuletide in Alton, the community holiday celebration (see the calendar of all the events on page 3). Children of all ages are welcome.

If you are in need of the perfect gift for that special someone, we still have brass bookmarks, afghans, Alton Village posters, canvas book bags, t-shirts, and Alton Village

collectibles available for purchase.

We are planning to issue new cards to all library patrons starting in January. During this time we will be updating patron records. When you are issued a new card, we will ask that you fill out a new application form which takes only a few minutes. In addition, you must bring your new card with you when you wish to check out library materials. We appreciate your patience and understanding as we make this transition into the second phase of the automation process.

The Book Discussion Group will meet on Monday, December 9, at 6:30 p.m. to share their thoughts on *Miss Garnets Angel* by Sally Vickers. The meeting will be held at Debra Laurion's home. For the exact location of the meeting, please contact Debra at 875-5488. If you are in need of a copy of the book, please let us know.

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

NOTICE FROM ALTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

Be aware that the following could be found on your vehicle: "YOUR VEHICLE IS IN VIOLATION OF ALTON TOWN ORDINANCE 9.2.D.1 WHICH STATES: 'It shall be unlawful for any person to cause a motor vehicle or trailer to be parked or stopped on any public highway or municipal road within the Town of Alton during the period November 15 through April 1 between the hours of 10 p.m. and 6 a.m. or at any other time during snow storms when snow removal maintenance is being performed by the Alton Highway Department.' Subsequent violations could result in the towing of your vehicle at your expense." The fine for a parking violation is \$10, plus the expense of having your vehicle towed.

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SPIRITUAL CARE — A PIECE OF THE PUZZLE

By Murray Nickerson, Spiritual Care Coordinator

Hospice — a dynamic puzzle; and somewhere in that puzzle is a piece we refer to as Spiritual Care. So much of the Hospice program appears on the surface to be a treating of a patient from a medical position or bodily care, but there is also that element of caring for the mind, the soul, and the spirit. Then there is that care for the caregiver and family. This puzzle piece is actually carried out by every member of the Hospice team and staff.

Spiritual Care is about listening and frequently affirming a belief of a dying patient. It's about bringing comfort through words, a piece of Biblical Scripture appropriate to the moment, a soft smile, or a gentle touch. As a recent member of the team as Spiritual Care Coordinator of the VNA/Hospice of Southern Carroll County & Vicinity, Inc., I am amazed at the wonderful level of spiritualness that all Hospice staff possesses and lovingly brings forth into their care-giving roles with patients. I have found that as we move through the Hospice process and approach the moment of death, one's spirit is consciously determined by present beliefs.

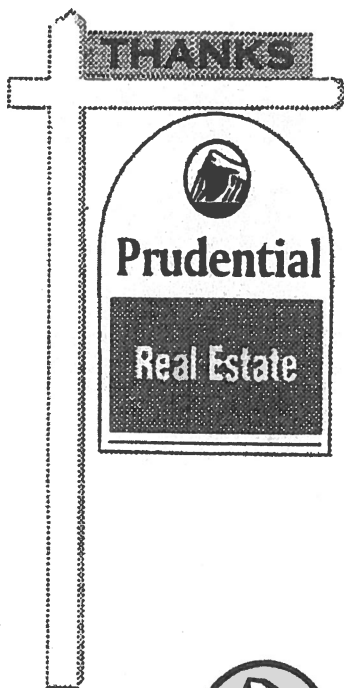
When one is dying, that spiritual attitude seems to surface, and this is where many transitions or steps from this world to the next encounter the joy or anguish of death. Spiritual Care is intended to ultimately bring the dying patient to the start of that transitioning bridge with comfort, allowing them to take the next few steps over that bridge with faith and courage. As they walk into a mist of new life on the other side, the mysteries of this earthly kingdom shall be answered by God. Spiritual Care is affirming that in death — there is our victory.

**ATTENTION ALL CHEFS AND BAKERS
THE ALTON/NEW DURHAM LIONS CLUB**

The Alton/New Durham Lions Club is trying to put a cookbook together and needs recipes! If you, a friend, or a relative have favorite recipes that you would like to share, please send them to the club. All participants will be entered in a drawing for prizes; all money goes to help people with sight or hearing disabilities.

Thanks for all your help and support on this project. The group hopes to see LOTS of recipes. Please put your name and phone number on all entries so you will be eligible to win prizes and send them to King Lion: Warren E. Pelton, RR 2, Box 1021, Alton 03809 or e-mail: <warpedw@earthlink.net>.

The members of the Alton/New Durham Lions Club were surprised and honored by a visit from Vice District Governor Wayne Bowden and his wife, Miribel, at the November meeting. Wayne gave a short talk on the Lions USA/Canada forum he recently attended. Miribel then presented the club with its first recipe for the cookbook. The meeting proceeded with a review of the turkey raffle ticket sales at the poles and a vote to donate monies to the New Durham Food Pantry and Alton's Community Services Program. Two new members were then welcomed. Anyone interested in joining this community-orientated organization, contact Lion Steve at 875-3117.



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HIGHWAY HAPPENINGS
 By Ken Roberts
 Highway Agent

WELCOME TO WINTER

Its time for the holidays again. We have put our sanders and plows on; in fact, we have already started plowing and sanding. It looks like an early winter.

On that note we request all of you who have a rural mailbox to flag it with a tall pole and a bright colored ribbon. This is to alert the plow drivers to watch for them. Unfortunately, sometimes they get clipped with the tip of the wing, and we are sorry, but anything in the right of way is not our responsibility.

Range Road has been paved, as has Pearson Road. The graveled shoulders have been done on both these roads. Stockbridge Corner Road has been shimmed and graveled and shoulders were put down, and we have been in the process of spreading gravel on the dirt section. We laid gravel and ditched where we were able. Should we have missed anything, please feel free to call us at 875-6808.

We have hired a new truck driver — Welcome aboard, George. He will be plowing and sanding the south end of Alton.

Please drive safely and stay back 200 feet from the plow trucks and any heavy dump trucks. Give them plenty of room!

Remember, Public Safety Is Our #1 Concern

ALTON TURNED OUT ON ELECTION DAY

By Bob Longabaugh

Alton voters did slightly better than their counterparts elsewhere in New Hampshire in turning out to vote on November 5. Statewide, 452,371 of 687,879 registered voters went to the polls, or 66 percent. This set some sort of participation record for a non-presidential election. In Alton 1,977 of the town's 2,945 persons on the checklist turned up to cast their vote. This was 67 percent of those eligible.

Alton is quite unlike the rest of New Hampshire with respect to the party affiliations of its voters. Locally 50 percent of the persons on the checklist are enrolled as Republicans and only 13 percent consider themselves Democrats while a significant 37 percent are undeclared with respect to a political party. Across the state the undeclared voters are the largest percentage with 38 while Republicans are 37 percent and Democrats 25 percent.

AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY NEWS

The following events are scheduled for members and their guests at the American Legion Hall on Route 28 North.

Dinner is Served

The kitchen continues to be open with Chef Andy Schofield serving from 5 - 8 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays.

New Year's Eve Dinner Dance

Tickets went on sale on November 15 for the dinner dance on Tuesday, December 31. The club will be closed at 6 p.m. except for ticket holders for the dinner dance. Dinner starts at 7 p.m., and the entertainment begins at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$20 each.

FREE TAXI SERVICE will be available for those without a designated driver.



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IN ALTON'S WOODS



Opening season for deer hunting was especially memorable for Tony Rogers, age 13, of Alton. On the second day of kids' weekend, he shot his first deer, a 133-pound doe. Tony was accompanied by Arthur DiVito.



ALTON OUTDOORS
By Jack Miller

THE END OF THE YEAR HAS ITS BENEFITS

December is the month that not only ends the year but also ends the hunting seasons. December 8 is the end of the firearms deer season; the archery season for deer and turkey ends December 15; and the very end of the year, the 31st, is also the end of the small game season. Small game includes cottontail rabbit, gray squirrel, pheasant, raccoon, and ruffed grouse. I've seen lots of fat gray squirrels and flushed quite a few partridge while deer hunting. A walk in Alton's woods with a 22 rifle or shotgun these last few weeks may provide some tasty table fare. It takes a good, accurate 22 and good hunting techniques to bag squirrels at this time of year. Fast flushing partridge are also a challenge to the best wing hunters with a shotgun. Good luck!

This is also the month to get ready for the upcoming ice-fishing season. Check out your tip ups, renew fishing lines, sharpen your ice chisel, or get that ice auger tuned up and running.

With the Holidays coming up, now is the time to think of gifts that keep giving for your favorite outdoor person. Warm clothes, gloves, and socks are always welcome. Fish and game cookbooks are another great idea that is always useful to the outdoors person, as well as the entire family who sits down to dine together.

Happy Holidays to all!

2000 years later, Christianity's biggest competition is still the Lions.



Before you sit down for an afternoon with the Lions, Bears, Dolphins, Rams, Cowboys, or Patriots, come spend an hour with some very nice Christians in the love, worship, and fellowship of Jesus Christ.

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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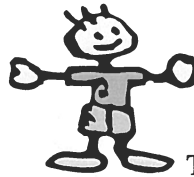
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FOR THE FUN OF IT
By Kellie Troendle, CPRP
Parks and Recreation Director

ALTON ACTIVITIES

The big event coming up will be "Light Up Night" on Saturday, December 7. See article on page 3.

Secret Santa Bingo

American Legion Post 72 and the Parks and Recreation Department are sponsoring a Secret Santa Bingo on Friday, December 6, from 1 - 3 p.m. at the Pearson Road Community Center. Win pocketbook prizes and supplies with which to wrap and decorate your holiday gifts. Holiday refreshments will be served. The program is free to all Alton seniors.

Recreation Soccer League

The Alton Parks and Recreation Department sponsored its annual Soccer Awards Presentation for participants in grades 1 - 6 in November at the Alton Central School. Over 120 players participated in the soccer program. The Parks and Recreation Department recognized all players with a soccer trophy, and the teams enjoyed an ice cream social while looking at soccer photo collages from 1997 to 2002. The department thanked and recognized all of the volunteer coaches and assistant coaches for making the program possible. A special gift of appreciation was presented to Mr. LaFreniere for being a volunteer coach for six years. The 2002 soccer season was the last year of coaching for Mr. LaFreniere who was noted with making a positive difference in the lives of his players and to the program. The department would also like to thank the many volunteers who helped set up and take down the chairs in the gym and serve the ice cream sundaes. Thank you all for your contribution to our community program.

Country Line Dancing Lessons

The Country Line Dancing lessons will not be held in December due to the holidays. Lessons will resume in January. For more information call Alton Parks and Recreation Department at 875-0109.

KID'S CLUB

THE COMMUNITY CHURCH

Attention all kids in kindergarten through grade 5! Kid's Club is held on Tuesdays after school until 5:30 p.m. at the Community Church on Church Street. A light dinner is served. There will be great games and activities, singing, devotions, crafts, and during the snowy months we will have cross-country skiing with Pastor Peter. If you need further information, please contact the church office at 875-5561.

SNOWMOBILE CLASS ON SAFETY

By Joanne Shibley

The Mt. Major Snowmobile Club is sponsoring an OHRV Safety Class on Saturday, December 7, 8:30 a.m., at the Bay Church on Rand Hill Road in Alton Bay. Please call Vickie Bergeron at 875-6714 to sign up. Also, the club is holding monthly meetings on the second Tuesday at the JP China Restaurant on Route 11 in Alton Bay. Our web site is <www.mountmajorsnowmobileclub.com> for meeting dates/times, membership forms, trail conditions, etc.

Another groomer has been added to the club's fleet for a total of four. Volunteers are always needed for trail work — snipping or clearing downed branches in the trail. It's great exercise for the whole family. Please send in your memberships today to ensure you get your membership card before you go to register your snowmobile! Help support our trail system!

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

1983 F 700 14' PLATFORM DUMP TRUCK, new steel deck, pintle plate, d ring, pintle hitch, recent brakes, steering box, fuel pump, water pump, tie rod end, new paint, and power angle snow plow, very nice truck, no rust on body, asking \$8,250. David at 569-3252.

RECENT 7' BUSH HOG, with 2 tail wheels, \$2,800; Forks, to go on loader bucket with chains and binders, \$50. David at 569-3252.

1986 CHEVY C-10 pickup truck, short bed, 305 V8, lots of new parts including gas tank, radiator, brakes; 92,000 miles, \$1,500 or BO. 875-2693.

1991 PLYMOUTH VOYAGER minivan, great condition, 4-sp auto, A/C, am/fm cassette stereo, family value package, 3.3L V-6, heavy duty suspension, full spare, very clean, runs great, \$1,200. 875-4063.

1988 PONTIAC GRAND AM, 4-door sedan, runs great, real clean, "Iron Duke" 2.5L 4 cyl. engine, 3-sp. auto, CD stereo, A/C (needs belt & charge), cruise control, \$500. 875-4063.

FLU PIPE AND ELBOWS, 5" galvanized, used, \$1 and \$1.50 each; Outboard motor, 12v, with stand, good for trolling; Hess collectible toys to year 1978, set of 24, on display, mint; also set of 5 mini Hess toys in boxes. 293-7105.

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**CARDS OF THANKS**

I would like to extend my deepest appreciation to all members of the community for their help and support through a difficult time.

/s/Sincerely and graciously, Diane Johnson

LUNCH AT THE SENIOR CENTER

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

December 2 - 6: Mon., Pub Burger/Mushroom Sauce; Tue., Honey Mustard Fish Fillet; Wed., Chicken Leg/Gravy; Thu., Spaghetti/Meat Sauce; Fri., Pork Sausage/Onion Gravy.

December 9 - 13: Mon., Creamed Chipped Beef or Chicken; Tue., Grilled Chicken/Gravy; Wed., Veal Parmesan/Sauce; Thu., BBQ Rib; Fri., Fish Fillet.

December 16 - 20: Mon., Chicken Primavera; Tue., Cheese Omelet; Wed., Baked Ham or Turkey; Thu., Christmas Dinner-Baked Stuffed Chicken/Gravy; Fri., American Chop Suey.

December 23 - 27: Mon., Batter Dip Fish; Tue., Salisbury Steak/Gravy; Wed., Christmas Day, Closed; Thu., Chicken Fillet; Fri., New Year Dinner-Roast Pork/Gravy.

December 30 - January 3: Mon., Beef Stew; Tue., Lasagna; Wed., New Year's Day, Closed; Thu., Pork Cutlet/Gravy; Fri., Fish Fillet.

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

. . . Pam Andrade was named acting town administrator following the resignation of Terry Clifford . . . a report by the Landfill Study Committee, led by Ted Cole, offered recommendations that established the future of waste disposal in Alton . . . Chip Fifield received the highest Cub Scout award, the Arrow of Light . . . Main Street revised its advertising policy to permit out-of-town businesses to advertise if they did not compete with an Alton business . . . Alton - A Town To Remember, published by the Old Photos Committee, went on sale at the Town Clerk's office.

TEN YEARS AGO . . .

. . . Alton Central School received its eighth Blue Ribbon School Achievement Award for its outstanding volunteer program . . . John Duffek received the NH Municipal Association's "Volunteer of the Year" award . . . Richard Canuel was named Building Inspector/Health Officer . . . Main Street saluted the voters of Alton for an 80% turnout at the November General Election . . . Juleigh Everson and Jessica Emanouil of the Alton School Band were selected to perform in the Northeast Instrumental Music Festival in Lake Placid, NY . . . Jesse Bakeman was elected President of the Alton Historical Society.

FIVE YEARS AGO . . .

. . . Gregory Salvatore, a junior at Alton Central School, was selected as one of six students from NH to win a trip to New York City and a visit to the United Nations . . . The Bay Church welcomed a new pastor and his wife, Bob and Donna Hett . . . The loop trail at the Town Forest was pronounced open and ready for exploring thanks to 41 hours of volunteer work . . . a relatively inexperienced team from Alton came home victorious as champs of the Pemi Baker Soccer Tournament . . . the Alton Middle School Volleyball Team won the Suncook Valley League tournament.



Three teams of rescue workers came together to carry out the live fire and vehicle rescue training demonstration reported on page 15 of this issue. Alton Fire and Rescue Department personnel were joined by Gilmanton firefighters and a Dartmouth-Hitchcock air ambulance crew. Kneeling in the front row, above (left to right), are Alton Firefighter ("FF") Kyle Walker, FF/EMTI Stark Liedtke, Lt. Chris Johnson, EMT Mary Jane Dascoli, Gilmanton's Adam Holman, Lt. Gary Hannafin, Gilmanton's Tom Wholey, and Gilmanton's Tom Young. Standing in the back row are the helicopter pilot, Alton's FF Rachael Strickland, FF Dave Turner, Deputy Fire Chief Scott Williams, Lt. Sharon Hannafin, two air ambulance crew members, Sr. Patrol Officer Peter Lewellyn, and Fire Chief Russ Sample.

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