

Main Street

A Monthly Newsmagazine

Volume XVIV Number 2

Alton, New Hampshire - February, 2003

Complimentary

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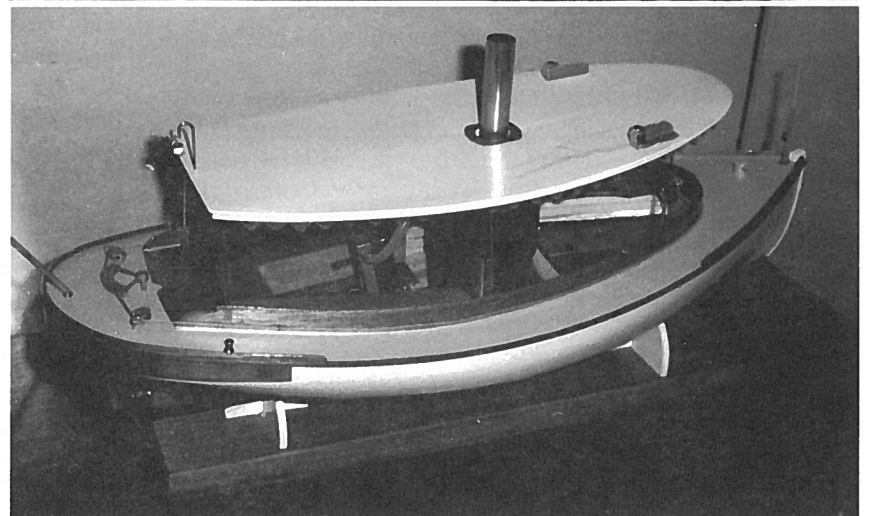
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SOME HANDY TIPS

WHEN SUBMITTING TO Main Street

When you wish to submit a story/article or advertisement to Alton's monthly newsmagazine:

ALWAYS give us your name and phone number. There are times when information must be verified before your submission can be accepted.

Do NOT fold any picture or advertisement that is "camera ready" because the crease will show up when scanned. Do not use scotch tape on ad copy. Classified ads are not for businesses. A business ad is \$12.50 a column inch.

When submitting an article, the editors would like to be able to put your name in as a by-line to show attribution to the readers. If you do not wish your name used, you must then write the article without the use of *I, we, our*, etc.

If you are submitting a photograph and wish it returned to you, please include a stamped self-addressed envelope.

If in doubt, call the editors at the number above.



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FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT'S DESK
By Donald E. Parks
Superintendent of Schools

GOING INTO OUR NEXT SEMESTER

By the time this article is read Alton Central School will be in the second semester of the school year. The first semester has flown by; it hardly seems possible that it is now February.

The second semester of the school year is going to be exciting and busy. On February 1 the district will hold a Deliberative Session to review the 2003-2004 school budget. The meeting will be held at the Alton Central School beginning at 1 p.m. The budget this year is up considerably due to the first payment on the principal and interest on the ten-year bond to build Prospect Mountain High School. I am sure residents knew that this year would be the first payment, but there is always a bit of a shock over the magnitude of the raise. In addition to the principal and interest payment, the operating budget will increase by \$402,000. About 50 percent of this increase is in the area of special education due to a rising population of special needs children.

The projected tax increase for 2003-2004 to cover these expenditures will not be as high as projected because the assessed value of the district will increase and the fund balance will be higher than projected. Last year when district residents approved the budget, the bonding for the new high school, and the warrant articles, the projected tax rate was slated to increase by \$1.28. We now find that the actual increase will be \$.56. This year the projected rate increase is over \$2 but it should be less than this projected figure for the same reasons as last year — increased assessments and a higher fund balance than projected.

With respect to Prospect Mountain High School, the bids will be opened at the Town Hall in Barnstead at 2 p.m. on Thursday, January 30. People with knowledge of the construction industry indicate this bidding time is the best it has been in ten years in the State of New Hampshire. It is hoped for excellent bids. The March issue of Main Street will have a complete summary of the bids.

ALTON BUDGET COMMITTEE

By Ruth Messier, Committee Chairman

The Budget Committee has completed its review and recommendations on the proposed school budget for FY2003 - 2004. The School Deliberative Session is scheduled for February 1 with a storm date of February 8. Voters at the Deliberative Session will determine what will be on the school ballot to be presented to voters on Tuesday, March 11. Voters should recognize the importance of their attendance at the Deliberative Session. In accordance with SB2 it is at that time that they can approve or amend the warrant articles as they will appear on the ballot. The need for attending the Deliberative Session cannot be emphasized enough.

During February the Budget Committee will be devoting their meetings to the town budget for 2003. All departments have presented their requests to the committee, and the Board of Selectmen have made their recommendations. A public hearing will be held in Town Hall on Thursday, February 6 at 7 p.m., storm date, Tuesday, February 11. Based on all the information at their disposal and public input at the hearing, the Budget Committee will make their recommendations on the town budget.

All committee meetings are posted and open to the public.



Main Street's Inside Front Page



DORIS ANDREWS AWARDED BOSTON POST CANE

By Bob Longabaugh, Co-editor

On July 27, 1901, Doris McDuffee entered the world in Alton, New Hampshire. More than 101 years later at her daughter's home on Pine Street Doris (now) Andrews became the newest recipient of the Boston Post Cane. The cane is traditionally bestowed upon the town's "oldest and most worthy resident." Stephan McMahon, Chairman of the Alton Board of Selectmen, is shown presenting the cane to Mrs. Andrews at a ceremony held before family and friends on December 23.

Mrs. Andrews graduated from Alton High School and after one year at Bradford Academy went on to graduate from Boston University. At B.U. she majored in history which she taught at Abbott Academy until her marriage three years later to Boston University professor Charles T. Andrews. At one point she played violin in the MacDowell Orchestra under Arthur Fiedler. During World War II she competed with "Rosie the Riveter" for supporting the war effort by working the night shift at the Raytheon Company in the production of electron tubes.

THE HISTORY OF THE POST CANE IN ALTON

By Bob Longabaugh, Co-Editor

The news, above, that Doris McDuffee Andrews has become the latest honoree to hold the Alton edition of the revered Boston Post Cane has regenerated some interest in the history of the cane. Most Alton citizens know nothing more than the cane is bestowed upon the oldest resident of the town.

What particularly caught the interest of this reporter and relatively new (eight-year) resident of Alton is that there was a period of inattention in town to maintaining the cane's legacy until Main Street played a major role in its rebirth in 1987. There were hundreds of Post Canes in New England early in the 20th century after the editor of the *Boston Post* in 1909 came up with a promotional gimmick to flood every

continued on page 10

WINTER FESTIVAL 2003

By Kellie Troendle, Parks and Recreation Director

The Alton Parks and Recreation Department is sponsoring its annual Winter Festival on Sunday, February 16. The Winter Festival will be held at the Alton Bay Bandstand on Lake Winnepesaukee from 1 - 3 p.m. Free events include a family scavenger hunt, disc jockey music, and the Great Alton Bay Bed Race. Prizes will be awarded.

To enter the Great Alton Bay Bed Race please pre-register at the Alton Parks and Recreation Department, 875-0109 or on race day before 2 p.m. at the bandstand. The race consists of five team members who push, pull, or drag a bed to the finish line. Creative beds are encouraged. Please no cleats. First prize will receive five tubing passes to Gunstock Ski Area.

Other activities include the Mt. Major Snowmobile Club Radar Run from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. The PTSA (Parent Teacher Student Association) will be sponsoring a refreshment area serving hot beverages and snacks. Please stop by and support their fund raiser. It is important to dress for the weather, including warm boots, gloves, hat, and sunglasses. For more information about the festival, please contact our department.

CANDIDATES NIGHT MARCH 4

Once again Main Street will be offering the candidates running opposed for town and school offices an opportunity to appear in an open forum. There they will be asked to present their positions on why they are the best person(s) for the elected job they seek. To provide that extra assurance that the voters are making the wise decision, the candidates will be asked to field questions from the audience. This will be a second chance for the candidates to convince you — the voter — on who deserves your vote.

Candidates who are running unopposed will be introduced if they are in the audience.

Put Tuesday, March 4, on your calendar. Attend Candidates Night in the Cafeteria of the Alton Central School at 7:30 p.m. Remember to vote on Tuesday, March 11.

CHANGE IN TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

The Board of Selectmen have announced that Pamela Arnold, who became Alton's Town Administrator in January, 2001, resigned her position effective January 10. On January 14 Richard Plante assumed the duties of Interim Town Administrator until such time as the Selectmen appoint a permanent Administrator. He will be working a three-day week (Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday), so persons wanting to conduct business with the Administrator should plan accordingly.

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).

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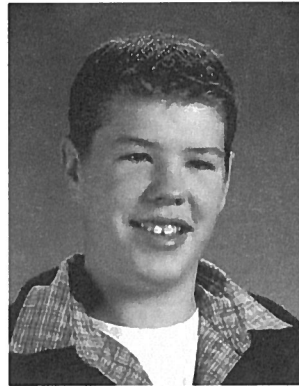
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ALTON'S AMBASSADOR FOR PEACE

By Sally Casoni, Parent

Joshua Casoni, a freshman at Alton Central School (ACS), has been selected to be part of a delegation of 40 students from New Hampshire to visit England, France, Italy, and Greece in July.

The Student Ambassador Program is operated under the auspices of People-to-People International, a nonpolitical, private-sector organization founded by President Eisenhower in 1956 to further international goodwill and understanding.



Student Ambassadors have played a key role in easing world tensions over the past 40 years. President Eisenhower once wrote: "As the dark breeds fear in children, so ignorance breeds suspicion in the people of the world." It is ironic

that it would be children who would make the greatest contributions towards dispelling this ignorance and suspicion. Young people have always been much more open to new experiences and meeting new people without cumbersome preconceived notions or prejudices. The need for improving understanding between nations has never been greater. Student Ambassadors are in the unique position to be of service to their country and make a positive impact on the world, and learn much in the process.

Joshua has already begun to take classes to learn how to be a representative of Alton, New Hampshire, and the United States. In the coming months he will be learning about the government, economy, and culture of each of the countries he will visit, as well as briefings at embassies and ministries and discussions with industry and trade officials.

Please join us in supporting Joshua as he moves ahead with this exciting endeavor. On Tuesday, March 4, at 6:30 p.m. in the Music Room of ACS, we will be having an international tea party hosted by Sally's Tea Room. It will feature tea and desserts from England, France, Italy, and Greece. We will have musical entertainment by students from the ACS Music Department. Additionally, we will meet a past Student Ambassador from Alton.

It will be an evening to remember. Bring a neighbor, bring a friend, or bring a grandparent or an aunt/uncle, but come and enjoy a wonderful evening out while helping Joshua. Tickets are \$5. For more information or for tickets call me at 875-1401.



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POETRY/WRITING WORKSHOPS RESUME

By **Judith Pellowe, Staff Writer**

The Kwoon Academy in Monument Square will be host to a poetry and writing workshop on February 11 at 6:30 p.m. The workshop is free and open to anyone who would like to have a place to share their work and discuss the writing process.

Deanna O'Shaughnessy will be leading the workshop. O'Shaughnessy has been running workshops and poetry readings for many years, including the recent "poetry at the Buzz" series. O'Shaughnessy writes "the group is not based on criticizing other people's work, but uses the policy of encouragement to help guide writers toward their strongest points. Newcomers to writing or writing workshops need not fear sharing their work for the first time."

Call Deanna at 875-7562 or Meg at 875-1171 for more information.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL 7533

By **John Brooks, Council Treasurer**

The Alton Knights of Columbus (K of C) donated \$75 to the American Legion Auxiliary for the children's Christmas party. The Alton American Legion Post sponsored a breakfast for our benefit and donated \$113.88 to the K of C. We were very grateful to Chef Andy Schofield and Post 72.

St. Joan of Arc Council 7533 will be hosting a spaghetti supper at St. Cecilia Hall in Wolfboro on February 15 from 6:15 - 8:15 p.m.

Our Chaplain, Father Ham, has updated us on plans for the new church to be built in Alton on Route 28 just past Route 28A.

**17TH ANNUAL ICE-OUT CONTEST
DEADLINE IS FEBRUARY 28**

There's still time for you to enter the 17th annual ice-out contest. Main Street will still accept one form per household/address postmarked no later than February 28, and the prize to the winner for this year is a gift certificate to Patrick's Pub in Gilford.

This is an annual contest won by the person who comes the closest to the date of "ice-out" as decided by the official ice watchers around the "Big Lake." Last year "ice-out" occurred at 5:30 a.m., April 5. The earliest date was March 28, 1921, and the latest, May 12, 1888, the first year there was an organized contest. Records date from 1887.

"Ice-out" is defined as that moment when the M/S Mt. Washington can reach each of its ports unobstructed by ice. A group of local residents who are considered experts in the art of ice watching, supplemented by observations from aircraft, pinpoints the exact date and time when the last large section of ice disappears from Lake Winnepesaukee.

Participation is limited to Alton residents and subscribers to Main Street. Most important is the fact that your entry must be postmarked by February 28 and be sure that you indicate a.m. or p.m. on your form. Only one entry allowed per household/address.

ICE-OUT ENTRY FORM

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 Phone Number: (____) _____ - _____

I predict "ice-out" will occur on:
 _____ at _____ a.m. or p.m.
 (date) (time) (circle one)

Mail this completed entry form by February 28 to:
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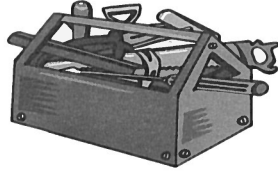
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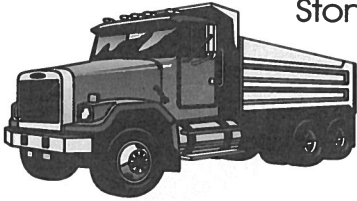
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THE LEGION SERVES ITS COMMUNITY

By Ray Nadeau, Post Commander

The High School Band Uniform Fund Drive continues to be a high priority for the American Legion family. We are very pleased to report that by the end of January we reached the halfway mark of \$6,000. This has been accomplished through the efforts of the American Legion family with individual and group donations and fund-raisers. We would like to recognize and thank the following Alton area residents and businesses for their generous contributions: Bill and John Gruntkosky, Mr. & Mrs. Rubbico, Joe & Winona Houle, Elizabeth Locke, and an anonymous donation of \$100.

We continue to encourage and welcome the generous support of residents and business owners in the Alton area as we enter the second six-month period of our fund-raising efforts. Let's all pitch in and provide the funds necessary to give the band members in the new Prospect Mountain High School the uniforms that will help them proudly represent their school at the various school and community functions. Contributions may be made directly to the High School Band Uniform account at the Bank of New Hampshire branch on Main Street in Alton, or may be mailed to American Legion Post 72, P. O. Box 814, Alton, New Hampshire 03809.

Sunday breakfast at the Legion is definitely here to stay. We are still serving an all-you-can-eat breakfast buffet with made to order eggs and omelets and all the trimmings for just \$7. Even though the number of patrons is down a bit due to the weather, we will remain open for this once-a-week breakfast. We have sponsors for the breakfast booked into March. If your organization would like to sponsor (and work) a breakfast, please let us know.

The American Legion family is planning a St. Patrick's Party on Saturday, March 15, starting at 7 p.m. There will be corned beef, ham, and cabbage with all the trimmings. Karaoke and dancing will start at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$10 and will be on sale at the Legion beginning February 14.

Auxiliary News

The Senior Auxiliary of Unit 72 will sponsor their annual Sweetheart Breakfast on Sunday, February 9. The Junior Auxiliary will hold a Sweetheart Teen Dance the following Saturday, February 15, from 7 to 9:30 p.m. This dance is for grades 6, 7, and 8. We have our own DJ, so bring your edited CD's and join us. The cost is \$5, or \$4 with an edited CD.

FULLER NAMED TO DEAN'S LIST



Timothy Fuller, son of Mr. and Mrs. Gregory Fuller of Alton, was named to the Dean's List at Pensacola Christian College for academic achievement during the 2002 fall semester. Fuller, a freshman, is majoring in both Business Management and Marketing. He graduated in June 2002 from Southeastern New Hampshire Christian Academy and was third in his class, graduating with honors.



TREE OF MEMORIES 2002

On the quiet snow-covered lawn of Alton's Town Hall, friends and families met in December to remember loved ones at this season's Tree of Memories ceremony. Rev. Murray Nickerson conducted the observance and appropriate music was played. Sixty-four doves were hung on the spruce tree in front of Town Hall. VNA/Hospice is very grateful to all those who chose to remember. Those who wish to have their doves may pick them up at the Town Clerk's Office in Town Hall until February 5. Thank you all.

PTSA HAPPENINGS

By Lisa Jones, PTSA Secretary

The PTSA (Parent Teacher Student Association) has two major events coming up in February and early March.

Father/Daughter Dance

The Alton PTSA will be holding their third Annual Father/Daughter Dance for girls in kindergarten through grade 5 on Saturday, February 15. The dance will be held at the Alton Central School from 6 - 8:30 p.m. Tickets are \$5 per person and may be purchased in the ERC (elementary library) from Debbie Lane. Refreshments will be served. Bring extra money as there will be exciting raffles. Mark your calendar, dads, and treat your daughter(s) to a fun evening!

Blood Drive

The Alton PTSA will be sponsoring a Red Cross Blood Drive Monday, March 3. The Blood Drive will take place in the Alton Central School gym from 3:45 - 7:45 p.m. If you would like to volunteer or donate food, call me at 875-7515 or Kristin Stearns at 875-3391. Any questions concerning eligibility for donating? Call the Red Cross, 1-800-262-2660.

Donating blood is a simple procedure and relatively painless. Red Cross workers and volunteers are pleasant and often entertaining. The Alton Blood Drives are famous for their great food so stop by and donate; you just might bump into old friends.

Your blood is needed, and you could save a life!

NEW BEGINNINGS

AN IMPORTANT SUPPORT GROUP

Since 1991 New Beginnings has been working to help women in Belknap County who have domestic violence problems. This group reaches out to women who are victims of physical and/or emotional abuse. For 24 hours a day a crisis line is available. Sadly, one in four women have been physically abused by someone close to them and 57 percent do not tell anyone. Support, advocacy, crisis intervention, shelter, police assistance, and educational programs are available for the asking. The services are free and confidential to all women. The 24-hour Hot Line is 1-800-852-3388 and the daytime office phone is 528-6511.

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By Jack Miller

FISH DERBIES AND MORE

To the outdoor person February is the ice fishing season — PROVIDED that there is safe ice. With the very low temperatures of January, there should be safe ice this month. To give one the incentive to do some ice fishing, the 24th Annual Great Rotary Ice Fishing Derby will be held February 8 and 9. This derby, sponsored by the Rotary Club of Meredith, will award \$58,000 worth of prizes. Not only are there prizes for fish caught — lake trout, rainbow trout (the largest tagged rainbow trout caught wins the fisherperson a \$22,000 boat/motor/trailer outfit), white perch, yellow perch, pickerel, and cusk — but there are cash prize drawings every 15 minutes and a drawing for a "grand prize" of \$5,000 each day. The entry fee is \$30, and registration forms are available at most fishing shops; for more information call 279-7600.

If you do not wish to participate in derbies but want to see the size of the fish available in our local waters, take a ride up to Hesky Park in Meredith (across from Mill's Falls) and check out the "derby board" that displays the entered fish caught each day.

If you are not into ice fishing, this month is the start of some of the outdoor shows. From February 6 - 9 is the Eastern Fishing and Outdoor Show at the Worcester Centrum in Worcester, Massachusetts. This is a big show with something to see for the whole family. The Second Annual NH Fishing & Outdoor Show will be held February 15 and 16 at the Winnie Expo Center in Laconia. For more information call 524-0105. Shows are a good place to see and try out new gear. One can also get some good deals as vendors often have special show prices and offer some good deals on gear, tackle, etc.

I while away the winter doldrums by tying flies and loading ammunition, getting myself and my equipment ready for the next outdoor season. It is also the time to start looking into fishing trips and gathering information for the upcoming fishing opportunities. The Internet is a great resource to help you find that special dream trip. There is a world of information available at your fingertips.

See you out there.



THE CHECKOUT DESK
By Holly Brown
Librarian

CELEBRATE OUR LOVE OF BOOKS

In honor of Valentine's Day the Gilman Library will "celebrate our love of books" for the week of February 8 - 15. Let a good book warm your heart. We will celebrate in two ways: 1) we will hold a special book sale — fill a plastic bag for just \$1 or purchase a canvas book bag for \$5 and fill it free of charge; 2) we will accept all overdue books free of late fees. Please join us in this celebration.

Don't Forget Your New Library Card!

Do you have your new library card yet? If not, be sure to stop in and get it soon. Once you are issued a new card, you should notice faster, more efficient service, but there will undoubtedly be some kinks that will crop up here and there. Getting used to using the new system is a challenge for all of us. We thank you for your patience and understanding as we make this new transition in the automation process. Also, a parent or guardian needs to sign application cards for any child under the age of 14 who wishes to receive their own

card. Therefore, please plan to visit the library with your child if you would like them to have their own library card.

A major change of which you should be aware is that your new plastic, bar-coded library card **MUST** be presented each time you wish to borrow library materials. It has to be "wanded" in for the new system to work. Please remember to carry your card with you as you cannot take out items from the library without it.

Let's Keep Talking About Books!

The Book Discussion Group will be meeting on Monday, February 10, at 6:30 p.m. in the Agnes Thompson Meeting Room at the library. The book of choice is entitled *Clan of the Cave Bear* by Jean Auel. If you are in need of a copy of the book, please let us know.

Weather Related Closings

Just a reminder that there will be no preschool story hour while the Alton Central School is on vacation or closed due to inclement weather. In the event that the library must close due to weather conditions, the announcement will be made on the following radio stations: WEVO (89.1 FM), WLKZ (104.9 FM), WLNH (98.3 FM), WNNH (99.1 FM), WOKQ (97.5 FM), and WASR (1420 AM); it will be shown on WMUR-TV (Channel 9).

NEW AT THE GILMAN LIBRARY

FICTION

- | | |
|------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Brown, Rita Mae | Hotspur |
| Brown, Sandra | The Rana Look |
| Collins, Joan | Star Quality |
| Connally, Michael | The Black Echo |
| Cookson, Catherine | The Fifteen Streets |
| Crichton, Michael | Prey |
| Cross, Amanda | The Edge of Doom |
| Follett, Ken | Hornet Flight |
| Harrod-Eagles, Cynthia | Gone Tomorrow |
| Howard, Linda | Kill and Tell |
| Kinkade, Thomas | Home Song: A Cape Light Novel |
| Leonard, Elmore | When the Women Come Out to Dance |
| Lewis, Beverly | The Covenant |
| McBain, Ed | Fat Ollie's Book |
| Michaels, Fern | No Place Like Home |
| Michener, James A. | Alaska |
| Patterson, James | Four Blind Mice |



LARGE PRINT

- | | |
|------------------|------------------------|
| Evanovich, Janet | Visions of Sugar Plums |
| Kinkade, Thomas | Home Song |

NONFICTION

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--|
| Andersen, Christopher | George & Laura: Portrait of an American Family |
| Benjamin, Carol Lea | Second-Hand Dog |
| Cornwell, Patricia | Portrait of a Killer |
| 501 Fun-to-Make Family Crafts | |
| Somers, Suzanne | Suzanne Somers' Fast & Easy, Quick Meals for the Entire Family |
| Wurtman, Judith | The Serotonin Solution |

CHILDREN

- | | |
|---------------------|------------------------------------|
| Bunting, Eve | Sing a Song of Piglets |
| Danzinger, Paula | Get Ready for Second Grade |
| McPherson, James M. | Fields of Fury: American Civil War |
| Naylor, Phyllis R. | Starting with Alice |
| | Simply Alice |
| Oates, Joyce Carol | Big Mouth & Ugly Girl |
| Rylant, Cynthia | The Lighthouse Family: The Storm |
| Snicket, Lemony | The Carnivorous Carnival |
| Teague, Mark | Dear Mrs. Larue |
| Van Allsburg, Chris | Zathura |

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AVAILABLE AT THE LIBRARY



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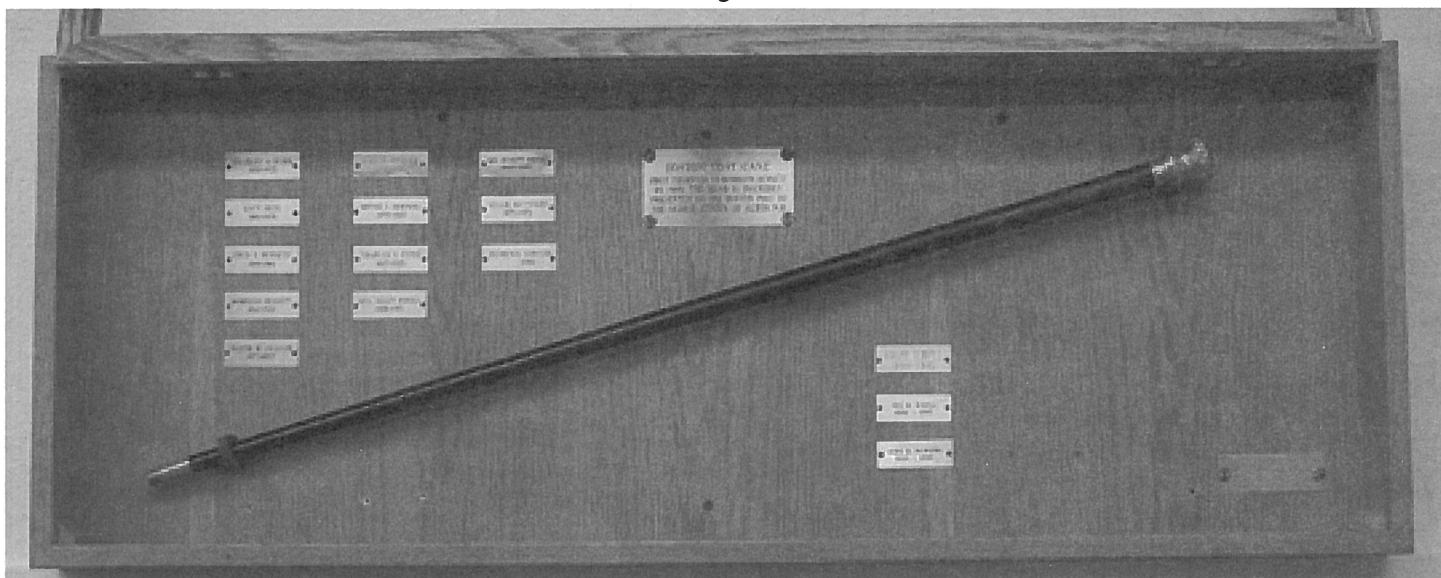


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http://doglady1.tripod.com

Winter grooming tip: Keeping the feet trimmed short prevents uncomfortable snowballs from forming between the pads. Brushing reduces tangles.



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Justice of the Peace



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Secretary/EMT
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Home: (603) 776-5971

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Carol Letourneau - Owner

Continued from Page 3

municipality in his paper's circulation area with walking sticks that would be bestowed, with suitable fanfare, on the town's oldest citizen.

Thus, it came to pass that an ebony shaft with a gold plated brass head engraved with the inscription "Presented by the Boston Post to the Oldest Citizen of Alton, N.H." arrived in town in 1909 or soon thereafter and was presented to Morrison Bennett, then in his late 80's. Bennett was Alton's cane holder until his death in 1922 at the age of 100.

It appears that the lineage of the cane's holders fell into relative obscurity until 1987 when William A. Watkins, then President of The Voice of Alton, Inc., Main Street's parent not-for-profit corporation, wrote Alton's Selectmen in regard to reviving "the institution of recognizing our eldest citizens." He cited the history of the Boston Post Cane and concluded "we at Main Street feel it appropriate that, in light of our intent to focus on matters specific and unique to Alton, we should support the revival and continuation of this charming custom." The letter concluded with an offer to assist in reviving the bestowal of canes and the donation of a case to be mounted in town hall displaying the original cane and containing commemorative inscriptions listing all known recipients of the cane.

The November, 1987, issue of Main Street summed up the results of Watkin's research on the Boston Post Cane in Alton and listed ten known recipients as of that time. Subsequently two more recipients were identified so that the display case in the Heike Conference Room in Alton's Town Hall (shown above) names 12 holders of the Boston Post Cane from 1909 until 1988. Since the Voice of Alton presented the display case to the town on April 4, 1988, four later holders of the cane have been added so that Doris Andrews will have the 17th inscription as Alton's holder of the cane since 1909.

Some interesting inferences can be drawn from the life spans of the 17 individuals who are know to have been holders of Alton's Boston Post Cane. As may be expected from the sole qualification to be a cane holder, they are marked by their longevity; no more than three holders died before their 90th birthday. Seven died in their 90's and seven passed their 100th birthday with two tying for the longest at 105! Since 1990 all four cane holders have been centenarians.



Main Street's Information Center

FEBRUARY 2003

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						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	

EVENTS

- Sat. 1 SCHOOL DELIBERATIVE SESSION (snow date 2/8)
ACS, 1 p.m., see story
- Sun. 2 BREAKFAST, American Legion, 8 a.m. - 12 noon
- Tue. 4 BOYS BASKETBALL vs. Lin-Wood, 7 p.m.
GIRLS BASKETBALL at Lin-Wood, 5:30 p.m.
- Thu. 6 PUBLIC HEARING ON TOWN BUDGET (snow date
2/11), Town Hall, 7 p.m., see story
BOYS BASKETBALL at Concord Christian, 7 p.m.
GIRLS BASKETBALL vs. Concord Christian, 7 p.m.
- Fri. 7 SWEETHEART BREAKFAST, American Legion Auxiliary
Sun. 9 8 a.m. - 12 noon
- Mon. 10 BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP, Library, 6:30 p.m., see
Checkout
- Tue. 11 POETRY/Writing WORKSHOP, Kwoon Academy,
6:30 p.m., see story
BOYS BASKETBALL vs. Pittsfield Middle HS, 7 p.m.
GIRLS BASKETBALL at Pittsfield Middle HS, 7 p.m.
- Wed. 12 CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S LUNCHEON, ABCCC,
11:30 a.m., see story
- Thu. 13 BLOOD PRESSURE CLINIC, Pearson Road Community
Center, 10:30 a.m. - 12 noon
GIRLS BASKETBALL vs. Laconia Christian, 7 p.m.
- Fri. 14 VALENTINE'S DAY
BOYS BASKETBALL at Laconia Christian, 7 p.m.
- Sat. 15 FATHER/DAUGHTER DANCE, see PTSA story
SPAGHETTI SUPPER, Knights of Columbus, see story
SWEETHEART TEEN DANCE, Jr. Auxiliary, American
Legion, see story
- Sun. 16 BREAKFAST, American Legion, 8 a.m. - 12 noon
WINTER FESTIVAL, Alton Bay, 1 p.m., see story
- Mon. 17 PRESIDENTS' DAY
- Tue. 18 BOYS BASKETBALL at Nute Middle HS, 7 p.m.
- Thu. 20 BOYS BASKETBALL vs. Concord Christian, 7 p.m.
- Sun. 23 BREAKFAST, American Legion, 8 a.m. - 12 noon
- Mon. 24 ACS WINTER VACATION, No school until March 3
- Thu. 27 ASSEMBLE Main Street, American Legion Hall, 6:30 p.m.
- March 1 SUPERVISORS OF THE CHECKLIST, Voters registration,
11 a.m. - 12 noon, see story
- March 3 BLOOD DRIVE, sponsored by PTSA, ACS, see story
- March 4 STUDENT AMBASSADOR TEA PARTY, Tea and
desserts, ACS, 6:30 p.m., see story
CANDIDATES' NIGHT, ACS, 7:30 p.m., see story

ABCCC=Alton Bay Christian Conference Center; ABB=Alton Bay Bandstand; ACS=Alton Central School

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.**

ARE YOU REGISTERED TO VOTE?

By **MaryBee Longabaugh, Supervisor of the Checklist**

Please be aware that if you wish to vote on Tuesday, March 11, (ballot election day) on town and school issues, you must be a registered voter. You can register in the Town Clerk's Office during office hours, with the Supervisors of the Checklist on Saturday, March 1, from 11 a.m. to 12 noon, at Town Hall (Depot Street) or on election day at the polls. You must bring with you a picture ID and a bill or car registration which shows your physical address (road, route, street) — a P. O. Box is not accepted as a place of residence.

The Supervisors do not register people to vote at Town Meetings or Deliberative Sessions; it only happens on an election day. However, for people to vote at Town Meeting or Deliberative Session, they must be registered and on the Checklist. A Checklist is posted with the Town Clerk, in Town Hall hanging at the information desk, on the wall opposite the Alton Central School offices, and at the Alton Bay Post Office.

DOG LICENSES

By **Lisa Waterman, Town Clerk**

New dog licenses are now available at the Town Clerk's Office. Your current license expires on April 30. Please bring an updated rabies certificate and a neutered, spayed certificate, if applicable. If you *no longer* have your dog or have any questions, please call 875-2101 between the hours of 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

ALL NIGHT PARKING BAN IN EFFECT THROUGH APRIL 1

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

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

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Alton Budget Committee will hold a
Public Hearing on the Proposed
Alton Town Budget ~ FY 2003-2004
Thursday, February 6, 2003 - 7PM
Alton Town Hall
(Storm Date Tuesday, February 11)



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, 6 p.m., followed by Discipleship Study, 7 p.m. Rev. Robert H. Hett, Pastor; 875-6765
- 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; 875-5561
- 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
- North Barnstead Congregational Church — Sun. School and Worship Services, 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; 875-7191
- 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 — Closed until April 2003

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

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

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

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, Alton Bay; 875-3858 or <info@moutmajorsnowmobileclub.com>

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

OUR ELECTED OFFICIALS

U.S. SENATE

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

John E. Sununu, United States Senate

Washington DC 20510; Phones: (202) 224-2841, (603) 641-9536, Fax: (202) 228-4131; e-mail: mailbox@sununu.senate.gov

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Jeb Bradley, 1218 Longworth House Office Building, Washington DC 20515; Phones: (202) 225-5456

Fax, e-mail: To be announced

N.H. EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

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

N.H. SENATE

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

N.H. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Janet Allen, 269-6313

James Pilliod, 524-3047

Gordon Bartlett, 524-6536

David Russell, 364-7449

Laurie Boyce, 875-7371

John Thomas, 528-5112

Charles Clark, 293-9194

Mike Whalley, 875-7266

BELKNAP COUNTY COMMISSIONER

Christopher D. Boothby, 527-5400

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Stephan McMahon, Chairman, 875-6322

Pat Fuller, 875-5546

William Ryan, 875-2112

Don Irvin, 875-2924

James C. Washburn, 364-7413

Valentines Day

MT. MAJOR SNOWMOBILE CLUB UPDATE

By Joanne Shibley, Club Treasurer

I hope that most of you have had a chance to get out there and experience the awesome riding that we are enjoying. Many thanks to our "groomer guys" for getting the trails into shape and making them nice and smooth! Please be sure to thank them! Remember, they are volunteering their time.

Our club's ride-in was on January 11. It was a beautiful day and the trails were nice. This was the chance for those who wanted to learn our trail system. So, where was everyone?

The following Sunday we ran a Poker Run. I would like to thank those of you who supported the club by participating. The groomed trails were some of the best our system has seen, ever! Riding in Belknap County doesn't get much better than it was on that Sunday!

Our ANNUAL RADAR RUN will be held Sunday, February 16, on Alton Bay as part of the town's Winter Festival. This event runs from 10 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. Trophy and plaques for the fastest runs in each class will be awarded at 3 p.m. The course is over a plowed 660-foot-long strip. Two runs cost just \$5 or you can make five passes for \$10. We still need more volunteers to help with course set up, signing in racers, recording speeds, selling tickets, etc. Ideally we'll set up shifts of two-three hours so that one group of volunteers doesn't have to be out in the cold all day. If you're willing to help, please contact me at 875-3858 or e-mail <info@mountmajorsnowmobileclub.com>. Another truck to plow the track would be very useful; if you can help, please let us know. Spread the word about this fun event and plan to attend to show your support for the club.

What have you done for the trails lately? All yearlong trail maintenance is needed! So, next time you come across a tree branch on the trail, stop and move it; don't just ride around it. Between rides why not take a walk to trim back those "face whacker" branches over the trail. If everyone does a bit to maintain the trails in their area, we will have an even greater system.

Some Mid-Season Trail Changes

1) "No parking" is in effect at the end of Jesus Valley Road. People have been parking trailers by the house; you cannot park there! Please obey all trail signs and speed limits.

2) The town has thoughtfully provided snowmobile trailer parking at the Bay, right next to Pop's Clamshell, with additional parking available at Jones Field. Speaking of which, the trail has been re-routed around Jones Field and the bridge has been closed to keep motorized vehicles at least 400 feet distance from the new town well. Thanks to the volunteers for doing the re-routing.

3) We are trying to find new access across Halls Hill Road (Trail G). This trail has been closed due to the lack of landowner's permission. If anyone has any knowledge of another access across this area, please let us know.

Our next club meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 11, at 7 p.m. at the JP China Restaurant in Alton Bay. If you plan to eat first, please try to get there early. We want your ideas and input, so please attend this meeting.

As always, many thanks to all the landowners who allow us access to their land.

MARCH ELECTIONS

By Lisa Waterman, Alton Town Clerk

Voting for town and school offices and zoning amendments will take place on Tuesday, March 11, at the Alton Central Fire Station on Route 140 between the hours of 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. It is hoped that a copy of the town ballot can be printed in the March issue of Main Street. The Alton Town Meeting will be Wednesday, March 12, commencing at 7 p.m. in the Alton Central School gymnasium. The deadline for filing for a town or school office was Friday, January 31, at 5 p.m.

Only registered voters can apply for an absentee ballot. Applications for absentee ballots can be obtained at the Town Clerk's Office and town absentee ballots will be available approximately February 21. Absentee ballots must be mailed or given directly to the voter. You may register to vote at the Town Clerk's office by February 28, with the Supervisors of the Checklist on March 1 between 11 a.m. to 12 noon at Town Hall, Depot Street entrance, or on election day.

February 4 is the last day for 25 or more registered voters of the town to petition selectmen to include a warrant article for the Town Meeting on March 12.

A limited amount of tables are available on election day for any non-profit organization to sell products, raffle tickets, etc. Contact the Office of the Town Clerk at 875-2101 if your group is interested or if you have any questions about the election.

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Photo by Mark DiVito and Fran Bonfanti



HIGHWAY HAPPENINGS By Ken Roberts Highway Agent

WINTER IS REALLY HERE

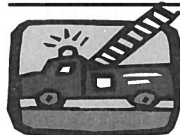
The weather has been unusual this year; these types of storms we generally see in February. So far, since November, we have had 59.5 inches of snow (as of January 22).

We are out plowing and sanding, bucketing the snow back, and cleaning out, more often than not around the clock.

Just as a reminder — please, flag your mail boxes. It is very difficult to see them. Picture yourself high up in a truck loaded with a spreader full of sand, a plow, and a 14-foot wing. The snow is coming down, the wind blowing, and the snow flying up from both plows. It makes visibility very difficult. If the mail box is brightly flagged, at least it gives the drivers a chance to know it is there. Sometimes even that is difficult to see, depending on the roadway and conditions. It is most unfortunate when, say, a mail box is clipped, but we cannot be responsible for anything that is in the right of way. Again, we apologize.

Also, I would like to add that there is a town ordinance which prohibits the plowing of the snow across the roadway from your driveway. Please, do not do this; it is a hazard.

If you see any problems that we have overlooked, do not hesitate to call the Highway Department at 875-6808.



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

WINTER INCREASES FIRE DANGERS

Winter is in full swing and chimney fire season is here. The proper use and operation of solid fuel burning appliances is encouraged. A new change in the State law governing outside burning regulations took place as of January 1 of this year. The law now prohibits the outside burning of household waste. Household waste is any material other than clean burnable wood or brush under 5 inches in diameter. Pressure-treated and painted materials of composite nature are not permitted for burning. If you have any questions or concerns, hand out materials are available to outline in detail the new ruling.

The weather has become very cold; however, the heavy snowfall has insulated ice surfaces which raises a question of ice stability. It is important to remember that any area of

ice should be evaluated **VERY** carefully before you venture out onto it.

Winter is a busy time for training programs for Alton's Fire and Rescue Department, and February remains true to the pattern. The Department will have four new personnel coming on board this month beginning emergency medical technician training and certified pump operations. While the doldrums of winter abound, perhaps you may want to consider how you may become involved in some of these programs. Please call us at 875-0222 to discuss the possibilities.

OBITUARY INFORMATION

A request was made to Main Street to list Alton residents who pass away so that readers who reside elsewhere can stay informed. This information is available twice a year (January and July) from the Town Clerk's Office.

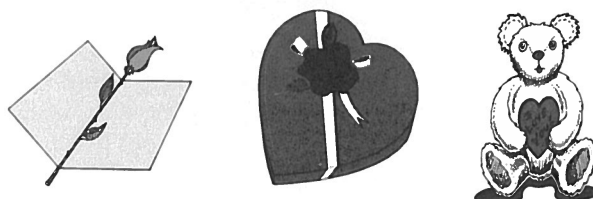
<u>Decedent's Name</u>	<u>Date of Death</u>
Nowe, Henry J.	1/03/2002
MacDonald, George F.	1/04/2002
Decoff, Charles W.	1/29/2002
Cote, Rodney L.	2/05/2002
Hartford, Audrey B.	2/13/2002
Carr, Donnell M.	3/05/2002
Laurion, Helen G.	3/12/2002
Callaghan, Barbara E.	3/20/2002
Comeau, Donald H.	3/29/2002
Moulton, Francis E.	4/03/2002
Boisvert, Lawrence P.	4/09/2002
Lamper, Virginia E.	4/14/2002
Holmes, John R.	5/26/2002
Stevens, George A.	6/02/2002
Stafford, Lewis E.	6/20/2002
Sawyer, Woodrow	7/12/2002
Paquette, Edward N.	7/22/2002
Brigham, Nancy W.	7/23/2002
Grace A Boles	7/29/2002
Thibedau, Frank E.	8/11/2002
Dobbin, Dorothy E.	8/13/2002
Hathorn, Gilbert P.	8/29/2002
Ciampo, Carl C.	9/07/2002
Parrino, Dorothy	9/11/2002
Boucher, Leo E.	9/13/2002
Blackden, Kenneth E.	9/18/2002
Macelroy, Ellen	9/19/2002
Davis, Leah R.	10/05/2002
Potter, Helen	10/09/2002
Martin, Estelle T.	10/23/2002
Russell, Christine C.	10/23/2002
Ford, Marjorie F.	11/08/2002
Bishop, John E.	12/05/2002
Croke, Thomas F.	12/13/2002
Olsen, Alfred W.	12/16/2002
Marston, John R.	12/21/2002
Hussey, Harriet E.	12/31/2002



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CONCORD CORNER
By Senator Rob Boyce
with Representative Laurie Boyce
LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

The legislature is back in session and the pace is hectic. Over 1,200 bills and the biennial budget all have to be dealt with in the next few months. There are some big changes in the make up of the legislature. Locally, Laurie and I were both re-elected and a new face was added to the Alton delegation. Mike Whalley, who has been a summer resident of our town for years, recently became a year-round resident and is now our other State Representative.

Laurie is still on the Municipal and County Government Committee and Mike is Deputy Speaker of the House and a member of the Rules Committee and the Election Law Committee. My Senate committee assignments are more numerous: Chairman of the Internal Affairs Committee, Vice-chair of the Finance Committee and the Public Institutions/Health and Human Services Committees. I am also a member of the Capital Budget and Ways and Means Committees.

With the new Governor vowing to make the state run more like a business, the challenge for the legislature is to make the changes required to implement those visions. In addition to the usual work of processing all the proposed bills, there is the added problem of erasing the current year's budget deficit of some \$60 million and creating a new balanced budget in the midst of an economic downturn.

As always, if you should have any questions or comments about what is or should be going on in Concord, get in touch with any of your elected representatives. All of our names and telephone numbers are listed in the "Information Center," which is on page 12 of this issue of Main Street.

"WHO DONE IT?"

HELP WANTED IN SOLVING A MYSTERY

Shepherd's Players will present a mystery dinner theatre, "Reading Aunt Louise's Will" on February 14 and 15. The show will be held in the Fellowship Hall at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Parade Road, Laconia.

Mystery dinners provide entertainment, a meal, and an opportunity for you to participate in solving "the crime." As the story goes, Aunt Louise has left a considerable fortune to her wacky family. Certain surprises in the reading of the will lead to a murder. Come help the Inspector sort through all the clues — there just might be a reward in it for you!

Tickets are \$15 a person which includes dinner and the play. Call 293-2048 to reserve your tickets. Advance reservations are required due to limited seating capacity.

ANNUAL SPRING PLANT SALE

The Belknap County Conservation District (BCCD) will soon be sending out information and order forms for the annual Spring Plant Sale. There are many types of plants, trees, and shrubs available, including raspberries, blueberries, birches, Christmas trees, fruit trees, ginkgos, black walnut trees, and plants for hedges. There are also special conservation packages which include shoreland, turkey, or lilac packages. All sizes of trees and plants vary from seedlings to several feet tall depending on the type of plant. All orders benefit the BCCD, a non-profit organization, which provides conservation information to both students and adults and promotes responsible use of our natural resources. If you would like information and an order form for the plant sale, please call the BCCD at 527-5880 or 527-9146 or stop by the office at Room 203, 719 North Main Street, Laconia.



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AMERICAN LEGION PROVIDES MEMBERSHIPS TO LOCAL SERVICE MEN AND WOMEN

By Ray Nadeau, Post Commander

Alton's American Legion post is offering memberships in the Legion to the sons, daughters, and spouses of local residents who are serving on active duty in the military. This would include grandchildren as well. Legion membership dues will be paid by Post 72 as long as they are on active duty.

Membership in the American Legion offers many benefits such as: up to 40 percent discount on eye care, 20 percent on prescription drugs, up to 40 percent on national movers, up to 30 percent on travel and accommodations, several full coverage life insurance plans, and help in employment placement at the end of one's time in the service, just to name a few.

Each member also will receive the American Legion monthly magazine. All active members are welcome at any American Legion facility in the United States. The Legion maintains a fully staffed office in Washington, D.C., to represent its members before Congress and consistently monitors all legislation that concerns active and retired military, veterans, and their families. Also, each American Legion Department (e.g., state) has fully accredited service officers to help you and your family obtain the full VA benefits to which you are entitled.

All we need to sign up your loved one(s) is the name, service address, and service serial number. For more information, contact either of the following Post officers:

Brian Schofield, Post 72 Adjutant - 875-3133
 Ray Nadeau, Post 72 Commander - 569-1977.

THE MASONIC FRATERNITY

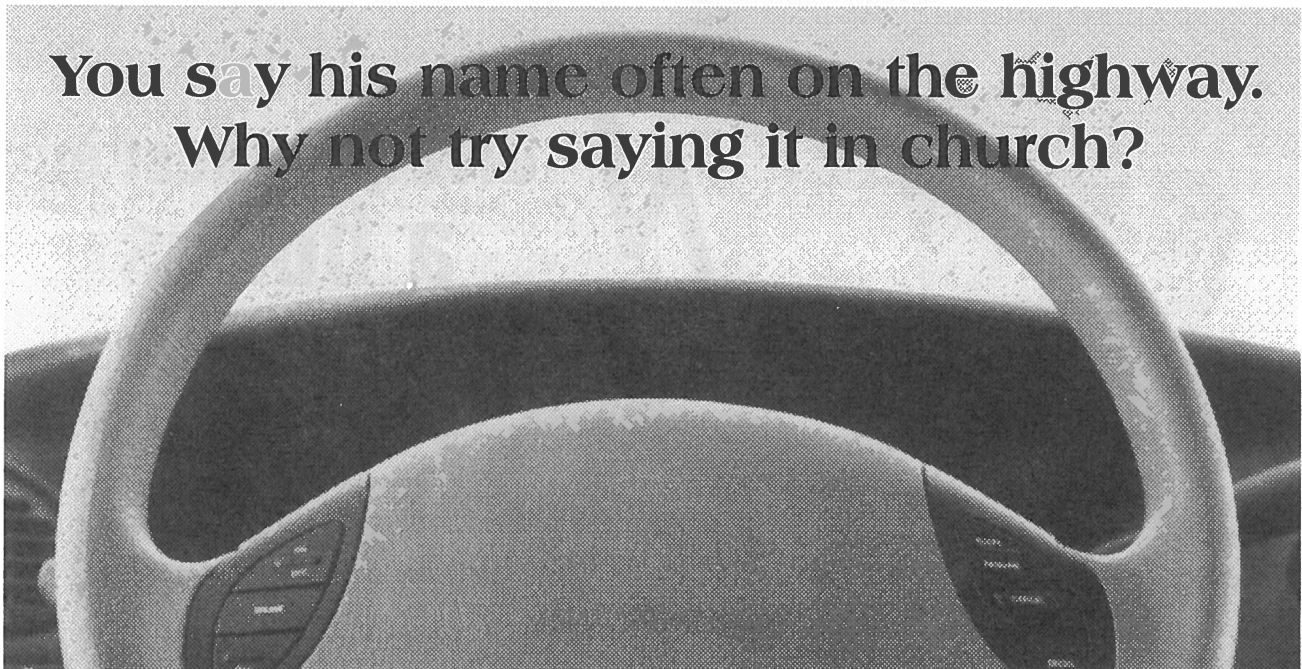
How much do you know about this group?

The Masonic Order is a group of men (the lady's branch is the Eastern Star and the young people's branches are Demolay and Rainbow) who come together in service to others. Any man who professes a belief in a Supreme Being may join. "Service" is the working word at all levels of the organization.

Locally the entry level is into the Blue Lodge. Local lodges support the Grand Lodge charities and specific programs here in this area. In Alton educational help and a very active D.A.R.E. program is ongoing. Statewide the Grand Lodge supports the Grand Lodge Charity Fund, the Masonic Home, and the D.A.R.E. program. In Nashua there is an outstanding Center of Learning Disabilities for children funded by the 32nd degree Masons. The Scottish Rites Masons have several charities and the Museum of Our National Heritage in Manchester. York Rites Knight Templars also support an eye foundation to assist those who are uninsured and in need of eye care. The Commandry will provide trips to the Holy Land for clergy of any denomination. Medical research in the prevention and treatment of arteriosclerosis has another support group.

Most of us know of the wonderful care and treatment given at the Burns Center in Boston and at the Hospital for Crippled Children in Springfield. The Shriners, who are Master Masons, support both of these fine institutions. Scholarship help is a large part of the help given by the Masons. The generosity of this group is carried out very quietly, but the Masonic Order in the broadest and fullest sense is a service organization. For more information a call may be made to the Master of Alton's Blue Lodge, Arthur Douglas, 875-6372.

**You say his name often on the highway.
 Why not try saying it in church?**



*You'll feel much better using the Lord's name in prayer. Not in traffic.
 Worship this Sunday.*

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



THE MODEL MAN

By Jesse Lindland, Alton Homeschooler

Ed Dalton and his dog Corey live on Alton Mountain Road, their home nestled between the evergreens that dominate Pine Mountain. Ed is an avid model shipbuilder. He has constructed approximately 25 ships in the past 20 years, working on models during the winter and enjoying the outdoors during the summer.

Ed's interest in shipbuilding began when he was in college. It was a great outlet after his strenuous studies to do a hands-on project. As career and family began to fill his time, Ed took a rest from his models for 30 years. When he retired to Alton, it became a full-time passion once again.

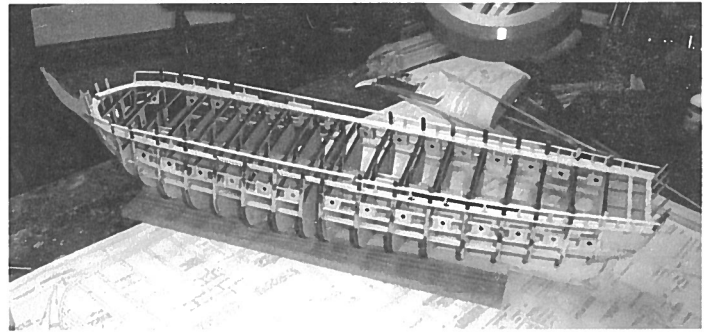
From researching its past, studying what it looked like out of the water, and acquiring blueprints, preparing to build a ship is an involved process. Then the building begins. Constructing the hull, staining, placing planks, deck props, and sails can take one to two years. His reward is a beautiful ship. Ed's collection includes the Mystiques (shown left), Benjamin Latham, Coast Guard Cutter, Bluenose, and within

a year or two will include the USS Constitution (shown below). He has given a precious few to family in order to allow room for future creations.

When asked which was his favorite to build, Ed paused. "It's hard to say. I have loved building so many of them. Although the Mystiques, and currently the Constitution, have been the most enjoyable, all of the ships are wonderful to see completed."

Though he has never done this as a business, Ed says that if the right person came along, he might consider selling a model. As to why he hasn't sold one to date, that answer came from the heart. "It's not really about the money. They are such a part of my life because of the time and patience I put into them. They are more a piece of me than a simple completion."

I had the very real pleasure of working with Ed as an apprentice some time ago. Seeing the endless hours and thought he puts into every part of each ship is extraordinary. His gift is readily evident to anyone who sees his works of art.



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ALTON COMMUNITY YOUTH ACTIVITIES FEBRUARY

This calendar is a service provided by the Alton Community Youth Activities (CYA) committee. Call 875-8221 for information, suggestions, and corrections.

- Sun 2 Jr/Sr HS Youth Group, 4-6 p.m., CCOA Youth Center
Youth Sun. School Classes, 9:30 a.m., CCOA
Sun. School, grades 6-8, 9:30 a.m., Bay Church, Rand Hill Rd.
Sun. School, grades 9-12, 9:30 a.m., ABCCC, AB Lounge
- Mon 3 Global Education, grade 6, 3-5 p.m., ACS
Cheerleading Practice, grades 4-8, 3-5 p.m., ACS
(Adult help needed)
- Thu 6 Mock Trial Rehearsal, grade 8, 3-5 p.m., ACS
Global Education Conference, grades 5-6, 3-4 p.m., ACS
Cheerleading Rehearsal, grades 4-8, 3-5 p.m., ACS
39th Army National Bank Concert, 7:30 p.m., ACS Gym,
(Donations welcome; support ACS band trip to NYC)
- Fri 7 Mock Trial Rehearsal, grades 5-7, 3-4:30 p.m., ACS
Youth Center, Drop In grades 6-12, 3-9 p.m., CCOA, open
to all community youth
- Sat 8 Red Cross Babysitting Course, ages 11 and up, 9 a.m.-
2:30 p.m., ACS (fee \$40, BO lunch, sign up with
Mrs. Dwyer)
- Sun 9 Jr/Sr HS Youth Group, 4-6 p.m., CCOA Youth Center
Youth Sun. School Classes, 9:30 a.m., CCOA
Sun. School, grades 6-8, 9:30 a.m., Bay Church, Rand Hill Rd.
Sun. School, grades 9-12, 9:30 a.m., ABCCC, AB Lounge
- Mon 10 Cheerleading Practice, grades 4-8, 3-5 p.m., ACS
- Thu 13 Mock Trial Rehearsal, grade 8, 3-5 p.m., ACS
Cheerleading Rehearsal, grades 4-8, 3-5 p.m., ACS
- Fri 14 Ice Fishing, grade 4, 8 a.m.-2 p.m., ACS
Mock Trial Rehearsal, grades 5-7, 3-4:30 p.m., ACS
Middle School Valentine Dance, 6:30-9 p.m., ACS by PTSA
Youth Center, Drop In grades 6-12, 3-9 p.m., CCOA, open
to all community youth
- Sat 15 Jr. Aux. Sweetheart Dance, ages 12-15, 7 p.m., Amer.
Legion
Father/Daughter Dance, grades k-5, 6-9 p.m., ACS by
PTSA
- Sun 16 Jr/Sr HS Youth Group, 4-6 p.m., CCOA Youth Center
Youth Sun. School Classes, 9:30 a.m., CCOA
Sun. School, grades 6-8, 9:30 a.m., Bay Church, Rand Hill Rd.
Sun. School, grades 9-12, 9:30 a.m., ABCCC, AB Lounge
Winter Festival, 1-3 p.m., Alton Bay, see story
- Mon 17 Cheerleading Practice, grades 4-8, 3-5 p.m., ACS
- Thu 20 Mock Trial Rehearsal, grade 8, 3-5 p.m., ACS
Cheerleading Practice, grades 4-8, 3-5 p.m., ACS
- Fri 21 Mock Trial Rehearsal, 5-7, 3-4:30 p.m., ACS
Youth Center, Drop In grades 6-12, 3-9 p.m., CCOA, open
to all community youth
- Sun 23 Jr/Sr HS Youth Group, 4-6 p.m., CCOA Youth Center
Youth Sun. School Classes, 9:30 a.m., CCOA
Sun. School, grades 6-8, 9:30 a.m., Bay Church, Rand Hill Rd.
Sun. School, grades 9-12, 9:30 a.m., ABCCC, AB Lounge

NOTE: School Vacation Week, Feb. 24-28, No scheduled youth activities.

Legend: AB=Administration Building; ABCCC=Alton Bay Christian Conference Center; ACS=Alton Central School; CCOA=Community Church of Alton on Church Street; EM=Enrichment Module; HS=High School.

CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S LUNCHEON

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

"What's so Special about the Honeybee?" is the Special Feature with B. J. Chadwick of Alton. The Special Speaker is a Mystery Speaker who will present "What's so Special about YOU?"

Reservations for the lunch and the available complimentary nursery may be made by calling: in Alton, Melissa at 776-2224 or Karen at 875-8144; in Gilford, Faith at 293-8073.

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

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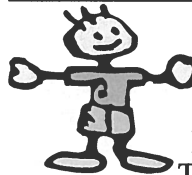
After moving out of the former Grange Hall into a new building which provided more space, the Alton Village 5 & 10 at the traffic circle is now once again expanding by adding on an addition to their present location.

PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING COMMITTEE

By Richard Cunningham, Committee Member

A review and advisory committee appointed by the Board of Selectmen for the purpose of reviewing the buildings and other facilities currently being used by the Alton Police and Fire and Rescue Departments held its first official meeting Wednesday, January 15. The committee is composed of Chuck Westen, Chairman, Alan Sherwood, Vice Chairman, Nina Chambers, Secretary, Pat Fuller, Selectmen's Representative, Jay Meehan, Richard Cunningham, Fire Chief Russ Sample, and Police Chief Kevin Iwans. The meetings are open to the public with the next one scheduled for Wednesday, February 19 at 7 p.m. in the Hiedke Room at Town Hall.

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



EXERCISE AND FUN...

The Parks and Recreation Department phone number is 875-0109. Please call to register for courses or if you have need for further information.

Country Line Dancing Lessons

This activity is for adults of all ages. These lessons take place on Thursdays at the Alton Bay Community Center from 1:30 - 3:30 p.m., weather permitting. Beginners are welcome. Please bring a water bottle and your dancing shoes. Registration fee is \$3 for the winter season. This program is a great way to meet new people, improve your coordination and balance, and get a little exercise.

Thank You To All Who Helped

As of this writing in mid-January, we are trying to build an ice rink area at Liberty Tree Park for an Old-Fashioned Ice Skating Party on January 25. In the March issue we will include a report on the party. I would like to thank the Alton Highway Agent, Ken Roberts, and the department for their creative ideas and assistance with the construction of the rink. Thanks also go to the Water Department and Fire Department for sharing their hoses and nozzle. Volunteers are an important part of the success of the programs in town, and I want to recognize and thank all of you who help with our events. Your support and contributions are sincerely appreciated.

Life Guards

Are you interested in being a life guard this summer? Contact Parks and Recreation for information.

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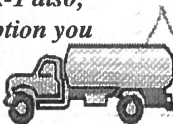


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2001-5000	\$.96/gal



Discounts on pre-buy Oil and K-1 also; prices vary depending on the option you choose and the supplier. Oil from \$1.04 to \$1.11~ '02-'03'.



Due to the uncertain political climate we expect fuel amounts and prices to be very uncertain next year - Call early!

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Luke Powell, Gilmanton, NH

www.otnrgy.org

OTEC is a non-profit organization. No cost to join and receive monthly newsletter, low annual membership fee to receive discounts.

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.**

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1997 FORD CONTOUR, black, 4 cyl., 4-door, AM/FM cassette, A/C, cruise control, power locks, mirrors, \$2,975. 875-0033.

GARAGE DOORS, 2, overhead, insulated, 7' x 9', white raised panel with windows, \$775. 875-0033.

PIPES, 1 each, CAO Turkish Meerschaum MarkTwain with case, brand new, \$150; Savinellis with saddle bits, round and square billiard, \$75/each. 875-5544.

WHIRLPOOL GAS DRYER, large capacity, good condition, \$25. 875-5488.

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.

February 3 - 7: Mon., BBQ Riblet; Tue., Fish Filet/Lemon Slice; Wed., Grilled Chicken/Gravy; Thu., Veal Parmesan/Sauce; Fri., Creamed Chipped Beef.

February 10 - 14: Mon., Beef Stew; Tue., Chicken Primavera; Wed., American Chop Suey; Thu., Baked Ham or Chicken/Gravy; Fri., Meat Loaf/Brown Gravy.

February 17 - 21: Mon., President's Day — Closed; Tue., Batter Dipped Fish; Wed., Salisbury Steak/Gravy; Thu., Macaroni & Cheese; Fri., Chicken Filet.

February 24 - 28: Mon., Stuffed Peppers; Tue., Pork Cutlet/Brown Gravy; Wed., Fish & Cheese Filet; Thu., Shepherd's Pie; Fri., Spinach Lasagna.

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CONGRATULATIONS

The staff of Main Street wish to offer congratulations to Tammy Murtagh on her engagement. Tammy was the recipient of Main Street's Bob and Catherine Calvert Journalism Award, as well as a member of the newsmagazine's staff while at Alton Central School.

Carol and Thomas Murtagh of Alton have announced the engagement of their daughter, Tammy Lee Murtagh, to Michael Paul Ouimet, son of Paul and Lucille Ouimet of the Albany, New York, area.

Miss Murtagh was graduated in 1998 from Alton Central School and is currently attending Albany College of Pharmacy in Albany with an expected graduation in May 2004.

Mr. Ouimet was graduated in 1998 from Cohoes High School in Cohoes, New York, and The College of Saint Rose, Albany, in May 2002. He is currently employed by the Lansingburgh Central School District as a science teacher.

A July 2004 wedding is being planned.

CARD OF THANKS

The American Legion Post 72 would like to thank Santa for coming to visit with the children of Alton and the surrounding community on December 14. It was once again a successful day with 70 - 75 children bringing their wish list with them. They each received a gift and a bag of treats.

Thanks also go to the Legion family, the Masons, and citizens for their generous donations to make our Christmas projects a rewarding endeavor.

/s/ American Legion Post Family

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

. . . Pam Andrade was named Alton's new Town Administrator . . . the Alton Lioness Club distributed special identification tags to children in kindergarten through grade 4 in Alton and New Durham . . . students were preparing for "Winter Wonderland," the 53rd Annual Carnival Ball . . . Main Street . . . was sponsoring "Meet the Candidates Night" at the Alton Town Hall . . . a snow sculpture contest was announced by the Chamber of Commerce.

TEN YEARS AGO . . .

. . . The Alton 2000 Association was established for the purpose of encouraging a positive vision for the future of the community . . . Bonnie Simpson was awarded the title of New Hampshire Home Economics Teacher of the Year . . . Heather Swabowicz and Keri Pelletier, seniors at Alton Central School, were honored with flowers, commemorative plaques, and game balls after each of them had scored 1000 points in her basketball career.

FIVE YEARS AGO . . .

. . . Alton residents were still recovering from the January storm of the century which saw freezing rain fall from Wednesday, January 7, to Friday evening the 9th . . . everyone was looking forward to Winter Carnival . . . Alton's U14 Soccer Team brought home the Connor Cup . . . Alton Central School's grade 7 students celebrated international day by displaying their geography research projects.

A BANNER FOR PROSPECT MOUNTAIN HIGH SCHOOL




Photo by Travis Hopper, Alton Central School Student

Members of Cindy Mitchell's Clothing and Textile Class at Alton Central School had their final exam in January. As a group they had to come up with a completed project on which everyone had input and hands-on experience. "Showing excitement for the new high school," the students created the banner shown in the picture above. From left to right are: Mrs. Mitchell, teacher; Aimee Terravechia, Heather Hammes, Tiffeny Desmarais, Millicent Cochran, Johanna Dickson, Jill Feger, Kelley Scanlon, Keith Waterman, and Ricky Meuse. It is a banner to encompass all the seasons.

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