



Main Street

A Monthly Newsmagazine

Volume XIX Number 3

Alton, New Hampshire - March, 2003

Complimentary



WINTER FESTIVAL 2003 A SUCCESS

By Kellie Troendle, Parks and Recreation Director

The Parks and Recreation Department (PRD) sponsored its annual Winter Festival February 16 at the bandstand on Lake Winnepesaukee. Over 1,000 attended. PRD had a family scavenger hunt with over ten teams participating. Prizes were awarded to the top five teams: 1st place, Alton Bay Christian Conference Center; 2nd, Davies family; 3rd, Gleaton family; 4th, Megan and family; and 5th, Shelby Newsted. Participants received great prizes of Gunstock tubing passes, coolers, cookbooks, fleece blankets, towels, and more.

The Great Alton Bay Bed Race was very competitive this year. The Alton Bay Christian Conference Center (shown above) won by approximately one foot over their competition, Pop's Clam Shell. Gunstock Ski Area in Gilford donated five tubing passes to the winners of the bed race. Other activities included disc jockey music, the Mt. Major Snowmobile Club Radar Run, and the Aviation Association of NH Fly-In.

PRD thanks the participants who took part in our events and the spectators who cheered us on. We especially thank Melissa Wells for volunteering to help run activities. Thanks for a wonderful event. We look forward to next year.

CANDIDATES NIGHT CANCELED

Candidates Night, scheduled for Tuesday, March 4, 7:30 p.m. at Alton Central School cafeteria, has been canceled. There were only three contested races, and some of the people running would not be available for the event. The staff of Main Street decided to cancel and look forward to next year when, perhaps, more people would choose to run and debate on why they should be given your vote on election day. The Candidates Statements are on pages 11 and 12 of this issue.

TWO DAYS OF TOWN MEETING

By Bob Longabaugh, Main Street Co-Editor

As is customary, the citizens of Alton are invited (summoned?) to participate in two days of civic duty on March 11 and 12. On Tuesday, the 11th, they are urged to cast their written ballot on town and school matters, and on Wednesday at 7 p.m. they are able to take part in the traditional New England town meeting on town matters only.

The paper ballot voting takes care of the school district issues as mandated under what has become known as "S.B. 2." There are ten articles on the school ballot with nine of them dealing with money matters. The "granddaddy" is Article X, the operating budget, where the school board is seeking approval of \$8,941,154 for FY 2003-2004. The details on the school articles will be contained in the school district's newsletter to be mailed out to all addresses within ZIPs 03809 and 03810 before election day. (If you are an Alton voter without a 03809 or 03810 mailing address, call S.A.U. 72 to find out how you may obtain a copy of the newsletter.)

The written ballot for the town election is almost as complicated because it contains nine amendments to the zoning ordinance as proposed by the town's planning board. There is a handout available at town hall that describes these.

The two ballots voters will face also have the candidates running for town or school offices. See page 11 of this issue of Main Street for a listing of all the offices to be filled and the statements of many of the persons vying for these offices.

Town meeting on Wednesday night, March 12, will see voters settling 22 questions by a show of cards.

Here is the briefest of briefs on what they are: Article 2, \$144,332 for a new water well; Article 3, \$32,000 to replace a police 4x4 patrol vehicle; Article 4, \$24,500 for an emergency generator supplying the police department building; and Article 5, \$10,000 to be placed in a capital reserve fund for a sand shed at the highway department.

Article 6 would appropriate \$2,800 for the purpose of videocasting Selectmen and other official town meetings; Article 7 is for \$340,000 toward purchasing a new fire pumper truck; Article 8 adds \$157,478 to the fire department's equipment capital reserve fund; Article 9 places \$13,000 in an account to be used for installing the elevator in the Gilman Library; and Article 10 creates and puts \$10,000 in a capital reserve account for recreation and grounds maintenance equipment.

Article 11 puts \$10,000 towards a public safety complex to house the police and fire/rescue departments; Article 12, \$10,000 to complete the reconfiguration of traffic around the school; Article 13, \$750,000 to the highway reconstruction fund; Article 14, \$87,742 to the highway equipment reserve; and Article 15 (by petition), to spend "approximately" \$2,000 to construct a sidewalk from the Congregational Church to an existing crosswalk on Church Street.

Article 16 places \$25,000 in a fund to pay for benefits accrued by town employees; Article 17 is quite involved with

Continued on page 2



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Continued from page 1

the cost items in a collective bargaining agreement; and Article 18 is the so-called "sweep article" that covers the town's operating budget — it is proposed at \$4,344,781 by the Selectmen while the Budget Committee recommends \$4,297,509.

Article 19 adds \$20,000 to the Solid Waste Center equipment reserve; Article 20, \$75,000 for closing the septage lagoons on Rines Road; and Article 21, \$55,200 in support of ten community organizations. Article 22 is a petition resolution submitted by Health Care New Hampshire dealing with affordable basic health care.



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

THE BIDS ARE IN

At the Barnstead Town Hall on February 6 the long-awaited bids for the construction of Prospect Mountain High School were opened. Three of the five pre-selected general contractors submitted bids and they were as follows:

- Harvey Construction....\$16,148,000
- Eckman Construction...\$16,190,000
- North Branch.....\$16,469,000

Bonnette, Page & Stone, and Wrenn Construction did not bid.

As part of the bid process there were alternates that the bidders were asked to submit; the major alternates were as follows: 1) wood truss as opposed to steel truss; 2) deduct air conditioning in the auditorium; 3) split block versus decorative block under and over windows, as well as other elevations; 4) deduct parking lot for future athletic fields; 5) replace base track finish of rubberized asphalt with polyurethane type material; 6) deduct one soccer field; 7) more expensive brick than high quality one bid; 8) Marvin-Pella windows versus aluminum frame windows.

Architect Chip Krause of C.M.K. Architects, P.A., of Manchester is in the process of analyzing the bids. At its February 18 meeting the JMA Board was scheduled to make decisions on what alternates it will take and make an award.* After this meeting Attorney John Teague will work with the awarded company to draw up a contract. Construction will not start until permits are received from the NH Department of Environmental Services and the NH Department of Transportation.

The search for the new principal at Prospect Mountain High School is moving along on schedule. The Screening Committee will be interviewing six to seven candidates in the first week of March. There were 31 applicants for the position.

**Editors' note: At the February 18 meeting the Board awarded the contract to the firm of Harvey Construction for a total of \$16,154,880 which took into account the alternates that the board chose. Details will be reported in the next issue of Main Street.*

ALTON YOUTH LEAGUE NEWS

By Lisa Jones, AYL Secretary

The Alton Youth League (AYL) will be starting another fun season of softball and baseball.

Registration

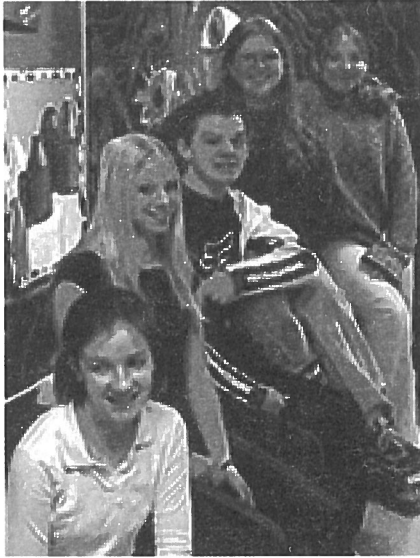
All registrations will take place in the Alton Central School lobby. The dates are as follows: Tuesday, March 11, 5 - 8 p.m.; Saturday, March 15, 9 a.m. - 12 noon; and Sunday, March 16, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. The registration fee is \$20 per athlete. Please bring a copy of the youth's birth certificate. The AYL board would like to meet all parents so there will be no mail-in registrations this year.

Thank You Gary!

AYL wishes to thank Gary Dudman for his many years of dedication to the Alton Youth League. He has served as the league's president for the last four years, as well as holding a place on the Board for the Suncook Valley Association. Gary will be continuing to serve as the Secretary for the Suncook Board. He has logged many volunteer hours on both of these boards, and his commitment, encouragement, and support to the children will always be greatly appreciated.



Main Street's Inside Front Page



ACS ART STUDENTS ON TOP, AGAIN

By Joan Burns, ACS Art Teacher

Once again this year Alton Central School (ACS) art students have excelled in the very prestigious NH Scholastic Art Competition. The following students have made us proud: Kelly Main, Grade 8 (HS Art I), Gold Key; Jane Farrell, Grade 8, Silver Key (for her artwork produced in Grade 7); Travis Wiley, Grade 10 (HS Art I), Silver Key; Stephanie Hillsgrove, Grade 12 (HS Art 4), Silver Key; Rebecca Golden, Grade 9 (HS Art I), Honorable Mention; and Jane Farrell, Grade 8 (HS Art I), Honorable Mention.

The winners are shown in the photo, above. They are, left to right: Jane Farrell, Kelly Main, Travis Wiley, Stephanie Hillsgrove, and Rebecca Golden.

Since 1923 the Scholastic Art Awards have offered millions of students the opportunity to display their art works for regional and national recognition. Their objective is to foster the confidence of young artists and to invite students to broaden their horizons while winning national recognition. The Scholastic Art and Writing Awards are the largest and longest running programs of their kind in the country.

This year there were 2, 203 entries from New Hampshire schools. From these 75 Gold Key awards were given, 242 Silver Keys, and 315 Honorable Mention in two categories: Group I/grades 7 - 9 and Group II/grades 10 - 12.

All state Gold Key works are sent to New York City for national judging. Gold Key winners from this competition will have their work on exhibit at the Corcoran Gallery of Art in Washington D.C. The ACS High School Art Department has had three national winners to date.

FUND TO HELP IN FIRE TRAGEDY

All of Alton was saddened on January 23 to learn that a house fire on Old Wolfeboro Road during the night had claimed the life of 12-year-old Jessica Anne Wilcox. To help the family over this extremely difficult time, a fund has been set up at the Bank of New Hampshire branch on Main Street where contributions may be made. If the bank's business hours are not convenient, donations may also be left off at Alton Video across from Town Hall.

BONNER'S FISH TAKES DERBY

Ryan Bonner of Alton was the big winner in Meredith's 24th annual Great Rotary Fishing Derby held at the beginning of February. Bonner's rainbow trout, weighing 3.95 pounds and measuring 20.75 inches, took the grand prize. This enabled Bonner to tow home a 18-foot Princecraft Super Pro 188 DLX fishing boat equipped with a 115 horsepower Mercury outboard motor valued at almost \$23,000.

Now that's bringing home the bacon, or is it fish?

LAST SHOWING OF DELIBERATIVE SESSION

The School District Deliberative Session, held on February 1, was videotaped and has been showing intermittently since that time on LRPA-TV's cable Channel 26. A VHS tape is also available for checkout at the Gilman Library so that all Alton voters may become better informed about the issues on the school ballot they will face on March 11.

The last showing of the Deliberative Session will be played on cable Channel 26 on the eve of Election Day. Check the program listings shown on Channels 24 and 26 for the exact time to tune in to Channel 26 on March 10.

MAIN STREET PHOTO CONTEST UPDATE

By Joe Harris, Main Street Photo Editor

It's a photo finish! The entries are in for the 2nd Annual Main Street Photo Contest and will soon be on display for all to enjoy. The staff of Main Street wishes to extend their thanks and congratulations to all participating talented photographers.

Beginning on Tuesday, March 4, the Gilman Library will host the display in the lower lobby. Everyone is invited to drop by to view and admire the entries and cast votes for their favorite photos, the "People's Choice" awards.


Judging will be done the month of March, with the winners being announced in the April edition of Main Street. Ribbons will be awarded to first, second, and third place winners, and all other entries will receive a ribbon and certificate for participating. The winners will be put on display in the lobby showcase of the Town Hall beginning on Tuesday, April 7, and will remain on display until May 1.

Entry forms and labels will still be available at the Bank of New Hampshire, Alton, during the month of March for anyone wishing to submit a photo during the display period. Special thanks go out to Holly Brown and her staff at the Gilman Library for once again hosting our contest and to Lisa Waterman for offering the use of the Town Hall's display case. Their generosity for the use of the facilities, along with all who participated this year, have made Main Street's 2nd Annual Photo Contest a great success.

BELKNAP COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Just a reminder — did you get your order form from the Belknap County Conservation District (BCCD) for their annual fund-raising event? They have trees, shrubs, berries, shoreland or wildlife & conservation packages, and much more. The orders need to be received by March 6, but you can contact them at 527-5880.

Also they offer programs covering many different interests. Get on their mailing list, and you will get the newsletter and other reminders of upcoming programs.



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SELECTMEN NO LONGER ON TV?

By Bob Longabaugh, Early TV Volunteer

The subject is only one that will matter to "political junkies" and persons who are hyper-active in Alton town affairs. Since October, 1999, most of the meetings of the Alton Selectmen have been videotaped and shown later in the week on the local public access cable channel, LRPA-TV. After completing their run on LRPA-TV the videotapes are deposited in the Gilman Library so that they may be checked out by residents who do not have cable TV or persons who might have goofed up on recording a meeting that they wanted to watch at a more convenient time.

The actual video recording of the meetings has been undertaken mostly by volunteers until this past year. (Full disclosure dictates that this reporter must communicate to readers that he was the initiator of this activity and has been a leading proponent ever since.) For more than two years volunteers were sufficient to keep it going, but in 2002 there was so much "burn-out" that a motion was made at Town Meeting (again, by me) to pay for persons to show up on a regular basis and make sure that the resulting videotape got to Laconia for telecasting on schedule.

However, the "amender" of the budget at Town Meeting was not clever enough to include monies for insurance in the revised appropriation to expend town funds for videotaping services. It wasn't long before this omission had its effect and the videotaping had to shift from private individuals in "the open market" (who did not have workmens' compensation) to high school students who were presumably covered under the school's "work/study" program.

Which brings us to the present where it has been discovered that the school district's insurance does not cover work/study students who are being paid for their services. From this point on whether Selectmen's meetings are being videotaped or not depends upon either a volunteer doing the "full production," or somebody else at least setting the town's videocamera in position and then turning it on at the beginning of the meeting and off when the chairman declares the meeting adjourned.

Article 6 on the March 12 Town Meeting agenda addresses the future of whether or not Selectmen's and other official meetings will be videotaped and shown on LRPA-TV.

OLD-FASHIONED ICE SKATING PARTY

A BIG SUCCESS AND LOTS OF FUN

By Kellie Troendle, Director, Parks and Recreation

The Community Youth Activities Committee sponsored its first Old-Fashioned Ice Skating Party on Saturday, January 25, on a homemade rink at Liberty Tree Park. Over 200 people attended the festive community event. The committee hosted two skating rinks, great music, a bonfire, and refreshments through the cooperative efforts of Louis DiVito, Ken Roberts, Peter Farrell, David Shaw, Dick and Carol Wallace, Alton PTSA (Parent Teacher Student Association), and the Alton Parks and Recreation Department. A special thank you to the ice rink monitors, parking attendant, and volunteers who made the event possible. The committee is looking forward to having the event again next year.

MACHINE QUILTERS EXPO

This event will take place on March 14 - 16 at the Winnepesaukee Exposition Center on Elm Street in Laconia. Quilters and people interested in learning about the field will gather for classes and forums on Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. and Sunday, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Call (802) 757-2200 for more information.

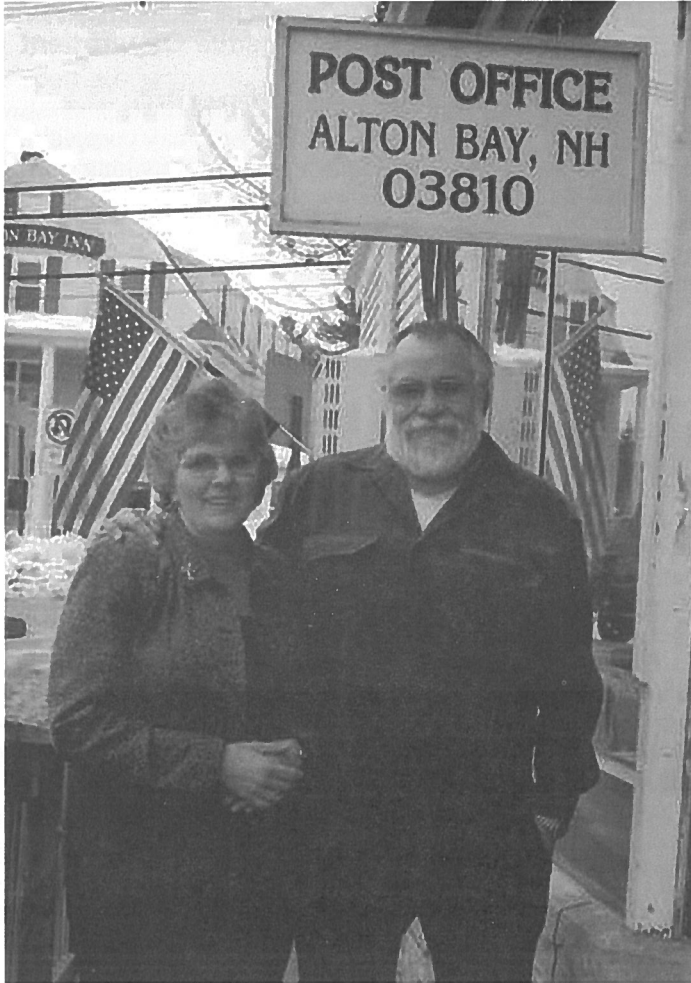


Photo by Denise Laurion

AN ERA CLOSES

By Bob Longabaugh, Main Street Co-Editor

On Friday, January 31, of this year most of the postal patrons in Alton Bay were not aware that an era in local U.S. mail history was coming to a close. That was the day that Donna Laurion, Postmaster in Alton Bay (ZIP 03810), chose to join her husband Ed — the previously retired Postmaster for ZIP 03809 — in mutual retirement from the work-a-day world. Donna did not publicize her intentions, so most regular customers arriving at the Bay post office the following week were more than a little surprised not to be greeted by Donna.

The two retired Postmasters, shown above, bring together a tremendous amount of local history within the context of delivering the mail “whether in sleet or snow” and all the rest that the New Hampshire environment provides. Both were born in Rochester, but their paths did not cross until many years later when they found themselves working side-by-side in the Rochester post office. Ed did duty in Rochester for 16 years before becoming Postmaster in Alton in 1979, retiring on June 23, 2000. After a stint in the Gilmanton Iron Works post office, Donna became Alton Bay’s Postmaster in 1985 and performed in that capacity for 18 years before saying “farewell” to the postal service.

Donna’s and Ed’s plans are now centered on their seven grandchildren and a bit of traveling, especially in their camper which has already seen a lot of use.

Main Street, having used the services of 03809 and 03810 very intensively over almost all the Laurions’ years at those two locations, bids both Donna and Ed a long, healthy, and happy retirement.

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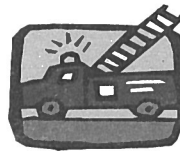
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ABOUT BEING PREPARED

Wow, winter! Though one may complain, we are enjoying the weather as it was in seasons long past. You would think, however, that lessons learned from those events would indelibly mark in our minds the wisdom of preparing for things in life — like bad weather. Perhaps even for disaster readiness.

The past weeks have significantly affected life in the department and community. The temperature has been cruel in its impact on emergency activities. Additionally, the amount of snowfall has impeded the ability of Alton's police and fire equipment to move readily in some private ways in our community. Apparatus responding to a recent chimney fire, which turned out to be a building fire involved at its onset, encountered a parked car in the roadway that had been narrowed by snow and ice. The vehicle prevented the passage of any vehicles either way on the road. Fortunately, we were able to bring our equipment to bear on the fire without having to get past the blocking vehicle.

The town's Highway Department cannot be viewed as the villain — private roads are just that, private. Join with your neighbors and associations to maintain effective winter maintenance by your private contractors. Continue the patent roadway for all who need to pass, emergency or not.

In another recent case the alert by an operable smoke detector summoned the department to extinguish a fire in a remote area of town. If it had not been for early detection, the property owner would not have been able to use the building that night after securing the burned wall and roof area. Alton residents need not be without a smoke detector. They are available to those in need through a donation of detectors and batteries by Bill and Lisa Finethy of Gilford Home Center. The detectors will be available at the Central Fire Station on Route 140.

The above important points being said, we must next stop for a minute and consider the numbers of men and women leaving even our little town to join forces preparing to meet a need in the War on Terrorism. We, who remain in Alton, may be far from a possible terrorist strike for we have what the city lacks, peace and relative safety. That does not relieve us, however, of being mindful of what will need to be done if, or when, our seasonal population might return in a rush. We must be prepared with three or more days supply of food and many of the things listed on the news each day. The best prevention is a pound of planning ahead.

As Alton's Emergency Management Director I must report that although New Hampshire may not be a focal point for terror, it could be the recipient of refugees from an affected area. Please heed suggestions as they are provided in the media and as you may see fit.

Remember, we still have several weeks of winter weather ahead and the possibility of interruption in utilities exists.

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.

ARTWORK SHOWCASE

By Jennifer Vancor, Art Teacher, ACS

Alton Central School (ACS) is proud to showcase student artwork at Alton Town Hall from March 10 through April 4 to celebrate Youth AA Month. Schools nationwide recognize the importance of art education and the achievements of students during this month every year.

In Alton grades K - 7 will be represented by students who have produced paintings, collages, drawings, architecture, sculpture, and other art forms. We are excited about this art show. It is colorful, imaginative, and well crafted. Students have worked hard to achieve success in the visual arts, and examples are well displayed in this show.

Please come and view their artwork and support our local talent. The show will be on display at the Alton Town Hall in the Heidke Conference Room and glass case in the hallway. Town Hall is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. through 4:30 p.m.

SUMMERTIME DOLL SHOW AND SALE

By Maureen Parker, Publicity, Happy Hobby Doll Club

Mark your calendars if you are a collector of dolls and accessories. The show and sale will be held on Sunday, June 29, at the Alton Central School. There will be door prizes, ample parking, and lunch available. If you have questions, call Ruth Messier, 875-6750. More information will be in the June issue of Main Street.

ALTON'S FRIENDSHIP SCHOLARSHIP PROJECT

By Susan Houghton, Project Chairman

A new, exciting, community project is about to be born here in Alton. The Alton Friendship Scholarship Project focuses on the youth of Alton by bringing to Alton Central School (ACS) a vehicle for the promotion of friendship and community service. We are sub-titling the program "We Can Change Our World One Child At A Time."

The project's mission is to "promote friendship, tolerance, and understanding through helping others and to develop in our children and teens the habit of community service." We will achieve our mission through practical programs that will encourage ACS students to demonstrate the values of friendship and tolerance and to act on those values through giving back to the community. Programs planned for the coming months will focus on awareness, fund-raising, reward and recognition, and developing community service opportunities for students. The project is being run under the auspices of the Alton Parent Teacher Student Association.

A key component of the Friendship Project is the Reward and Recognition program. Scholarship rewards will be presented to students who create writing, art, music, or

Continued on Page 12



Weddings A Specialty

Mary Jane Dascoli

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

**ALTON HAS A
 VICTIM/WITNESS ADVOCATE**

The Alton Police Department (A.P.D.) has recently filled a position for a Victim/Witness Advocate. This is a fairly new service of which many of our citizens may not be aware. Alton's Victim/Witness Advocate is Kathy Currier.

Some background is in order: Police departments nationwide have begun to alter their philosophy on policing techniques, service, and philosophy. As part of the ever changing world of community policing, it became apparent that it was very important to have someone available to assist victims and witnesses of crimes. Most victims of serious crimes are victims for the first time. They more than likely are not familiar with the criminal justice system, investigatory protocol, and other legal matters. The Victim/Witness Advocate is there to guide the victims and witnesses through the sometimes long, confusing and arduous court process. They can also assist in providing moral support, counsel, and resource contacts to victims of sexual assault, domestic violence, and other crimes.

Mrs. Currier said that providing services to victims of crimes is not all that she does. Sometimes people call her because they are experiencing a tragedy or significant trial in life, and they just want to be able to find some other community resource. Kathy has a wealth of contact information for someone in need. It could be something as simple as "being there" with a grieving family, making phone calls to friends and family and being generally helpful. "It may not involve the police at all," she said.

Kathy Currier may be reached by calling the A.P.D. at 875-0757 during normal business hours.

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*Shopping BILLS
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LEAVE THE DUCKS ALONE, PLEASE

By Dick Cunningham, Main Street VP

Most of us from time to time have observed a few misguided individuals harassing birds, animals, and reptiles, mainly with vehicles such as snowmobiles, boats, and motor vehicles. Such practices are not only cruel, but they are illegal. The overwhelming majority of people who use these vehicles are appalled by the actions of a few individuals who give their sport a bad name. Such has been the case of operators chasing ducks, sea gulls, and wild animals, severely injuring or killing them. It doesn't make any difference if they are a loon or a crow. They are all protected.

What brings this matter up at this time is that an Alton Bay resident who walks his dog along the waterfront had been enjoying three ducks who seemed to be "wintering" in the open water around the town's swimming pier. On February 10, however, he could not help but notice that two of the ducks were nowhere in evidence and the third duck was prostrate on the ice which was blood-smeared.

Captain Tim Acerno of the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department advises that if you see anyone acting in an irresponsible manner, your first step should be to advise them to stop. Then report the facts to your local police. They will take action, and if they need assistance, they will involve the NH Fish and Game Department which has responsibility for all fish and wildlife, as well as OHRV's. In the event the acts were committed by boat, the police will involve the Marine Patrol. Just don't ignore the situation. Birds and wildlife need everyone's help.

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STUDENTS PREPARE LUNCHEON

by Cindy Mitchell, Teacher, ACS

A buffet luncheon was served in January to invited guests by the Foods and Nutrition class taught by me at Alton Central School.

For two weeks previous to the date, students looked over recipes, finally agreeing on their choice for a menu. Preparation began a few days ahead in class, using their skills taught to them previously through the year. It was great to see the students waiting on and joking with the guests with ease. It was a good experience for them all.

I try to stress the importance of homemade food, following recipes rather than purchasing quick, out-of-the-package convenience foods. Homemade meals are much healthier for you and they also cost less. The students enjoy the "homey" touch of the class. (Shown above are Brian Roy and Molly Souliere preparing the potatoes.)

The menu was: Appetizer: Vegetable Soup; Main Course: a choice of Marinated Steak Tips, Rice Pilaf, Caesar Salad or Marinated Chicken Tenders, Twice Baked Potato, Broccoli with Cheese Sauce; Dessert: Congo Bars or Angel Cake with Strawberry Sauce; and Beverages: Tea, Coffee, Punch. Anyone feeling hungry about now?

WHITING ACHIEVES DEAN'S LIST

Eastern University in St. Davids, Pennsylvania, announces that Shannon Whiting, daughter of Rev. Bruce and Barbara Whiting of Alton Bay, has made the Dean's List for the fall semester 2002. Whiting, a graduate of Laconia Christian School, is a freshman, majoring in English writing and is a staff writer for the campus newspaper, *Waltonian*.

CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S LUNCHEON

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

"Designs 'n Hats" is the Special Feature with Stephanie Lewis from Elliott, Maine. The Special Speaker, Lovedy Alexander from Limerick, Maine, will present "A Success Story Confronting Self-Doubt and Anger."

Reservations for the lunch and the available complimentary nursery may be made by calling: in Alton, Melissa, 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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Main Street's Information Center

MARCH EVENTS

- Sun. 2 BREAKFAST, American Legion, 8 a.m. - 12 noon
 Mon. 3 BLOOD DRIVE, Alton Central School, 3:45 - 7:45 p.m.
 ACTIVE PARENTING SERIES begins, see story
 Tue. 4 AMBASSADOR OF PEACE TEA, 7 p.m., ACS, see story
 Sat. 8 GIRL SCOUT COOKIE SALE, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., see story
 Sun. 9 BREAKFAST, American Legion, 8 a.m. - 12 noon
 Mon. 10 ARTWORK SHOWCASE begins, Town Hall, see story
 BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP, Library, 6:30 p.m., see
 Checkout
 Tue. 11 TOWN BALLOT ELECTION, Central Fire Station,
 Route 140. 7 a.m. - 7 p.m., see story
 REGISTRATION, Alton Youth League, see story
 Wed. 12 CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S LUNCHEON, ABCCC,
 11:30 a.m., see story
 ALTON TOWN MEETING, Alton Central School, 7 p.m.
 Thu. 13 BLOOD PRESSURE CLINIC, Pearson Road Community
 Center, 10:30 a.m. - 12 noon
 Sat. 15 REGISTRATION, Alton Youth League, see story
 CUT-A-THON, see story
 ST. PATRICK'S PARTY, 7 p.m., see Legion article
 Sun. 16 BREAKFAST, American Legion, 8 a.m. - 12 noon
 REGISTRATION, Alton Youth League, see story
 Mon. 17 ST. PATRICK'S DAY
 Thu. 20 VERNAL EQUINOX, 8 p.m. EST, Spring Is Here!!!
 Sun. 23 BREAKFAST, American Legion, 8 a.m. - 12 noon
 Thu. 27 ASSEMBLE Main Street, American Legion Hall, 6:30 p.m.
 Sun. 30 BREAKFAST, American Legion, 8 a.m. - 12 noon

ABCCC=Alton Bay Christian Conference Center; 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.

PARENTING COURSE OFFERED

On Mondays, beginning March 3, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m., the popular Active Parenting Series will be offered at Alton Central School. It is a six-week series developed to aid in the difficult task of raising children.

Parenting is one of the hardest jobs in the world. It does not have to be a constant battle between the parent and child. Among many items to be discussed are discipline methods that work, the three keys to your child's self esteem, how to avoid anger, communications skills that win cooperation, teaching your child responsibility, and how to teach your child to respect you.

Molly Connelly, M.Ed., will lead the series. The program is open to all parents; free childcare is provided. Pre-registration is required; call Alton Central School, 875-7500. If you have questions about the program, call Kristin Thomas, 224-8777.

COULD THIS BE YOUR CUPOF TEA?

The VNA/Hospice of Southern Carroll County is developing a volunteer program to meet the needs of the home health patients. These patients are quite often unable to get out of the house due to health restrictions and may be isolated from their friends and family. The days are long when one has few outside contacts. Wouldn't it be nice to have someone come by for a cup of tea or a card game or just a nice friendly visit? Perhaps you are that person who could make a difference in someone's life. A brief orientation will be held on Wednesday, March 12, 9 - 10:30 a.m. at the VNA/Hospice in Wolfeboro. Call Betty John, Volunteer Coordinator at 569-2729 for more information or to register.

TOWN ELECTION

Voting for town officials, zoning amendments, school officials, and school articles will be on Tuesday, March 11, at the Alton Central Fire Station on Route 140 from 7 a.m. - 7 p.m. Two separate ballots will be issued. Voting on the town warrant articles will be on Wednesday, March 12, beginning at 7 p.m. in the Alton Central School gymnasium.

Table space is still available for any non-profit organization to sell products during the town election on Tuesday at the fire station. Please call the Town Clerk's office at 875-2101 to reserve a table.

For a list of the candidates see the Candidates' Statements on pages 11 and 12.

GIRL SCOUT COOKIES

By Glenna Heath-Roberts, Assistant Leader

Girl Scout Brownie Group #475 will be selling cookies at the Alton Circle Grocery on Saturday, March 8, from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Cookies are \$3.50 per box. A portion of the proceeds goes towards the group to support their community-based activities, and another smaller portion goes directly to the girls to use towards going to summer camp.

Please stop by and support your local Girl Scout Brownie Group. If you have questions, call me at 859-6466.

MOTOR VEHICLE REMINDER

When renewing your motor vehicle, trailer, or motorcycle, you MUST bring in your current registration or the renewal letter you receive in the mail to the Town Clerk's Office. The current registration is also REQUIRED when transferring from one vehicle to another, as we are required to send the registration to Concord. Thank you for your assistance.

DOG LICENSE REMINDER

Your current dog license will expire on April 30. License fees are as follows:

Male/Female - \$10

Neutered/Spayed - \$7.50

First dog of senior citizen over 65 - \$2

Please call the Town Clerk's Office if you no longer have your dog or if you have any questions. The number is 875-2101. Thank you!

LOW AND MODERATE INCOME

HOMEOWNERS PROPERTY TAX RELIEF

This bill became effective in July 2002. The NH Department of Revenue Administration will be accepting claims from May 1 - June 30, 2003. You must be a New Hampshire property owner who meets the eligibility criteria.

Claim forms and instructions (Form DP-8) will be available no later than April 15 at all municipal offices, on the website <www.state.nh.us/revenue>, or by calling (603) 271-2192. Do not contact the department before that date.

Property owners eligible for relief must meet the following:

- 1) own a "homestead," or an interest in a "homestead," subject to the education property tax;
- 2) have resided in such homestead on April 1 of the year for which the claim is made;
- 3) had total "household income" of: \$20,00 or less if single or \$40,000 or less if married or head of a New Hampshire household.

For any questions call (603) 271-6000 or (603) 271-2186.

CANDIDATES' STATEMENTS

When the candidates filed to run for office in the school and town elections, they were given a questionnaire and asked to return it to Main Street by a specified date. The form called for information on the candidate's background (training and/or experience) and a position statement — no more than 50 words — on "Why are you seeking this office?"

The information contained in the questionnaires that were returned by the deadline is reproduced below. When the candidate's position statement exceeded 50 words, in order to provide a level playing field, neutral editors reduced the statements to meet the specified maximum. Statements edited to meet the 50-word maximum are designated "condensed."

SELECTMAN - 3 YEARS

(Elect One)

STEPHAN MCMAHON

Background: ZBA; Selectman, 3 years, presently Chair; Police Alliance; Local business owner, 7 years.

Statement: (Condensed) Have worked to make our government more efficient yet keep cost low. Alton is a wonderful community due to volunteers. I hope to keep working with all the caring people and will continue to do my homework on the issues. Let me continue to take care of our community.

SCOTT NATHAN SWEZEY

Background: Studied Architectural Engineering at NH Technical Institute; General Studies at Northern Essex Community College; work for Freudenberg NOK on Product Engineering team going on seven years; served six years on the Alton Budget Committee; currently serving on the nominating committee for the Alton Bay Christian Conference Center.

Statement: Small town appeal and low taxes make Alton a desirable place to live and raise a family. Our challenge lies in the balance between reasonable growth and the desirable characteristics that define us. I am enthusiastic about addressing these challenges and would appreciate your vote on March 11.

TOWN CLERK - 3 YEARS

(Elect One)

LISA WATERMAN (875-5699)

Statement: It has been a pleasure serving the citizens of Alton and am looking forward to being your Town Clerk for another three years.

TAX COLLECTOR - 3 YEARS

ANNE M. KROEGER

Questionnaire not received by press time.

TREASURER - 3 YEARS

(Elect One)

PATRICIA PALMER

Questionnaire not received by press time.

TRUSTEE OF TRUST FUNDS - 3 YEARS

(Elect One)

MURIEL V. STINSON

Questionnaire not received by press time.

HIGHWAY AGENT - 3 YEARS

(Elect One)

JOSEPH BRENNAN

Background: (Condensed) Have worked in the municipal service setting for six years doing all aspects of work, including backhoe, loader, and dump truck operation, municipal water and sewer systems repair, road drainage, snow removal, and preventive maintenance on highway, fire, and police vehicles, including a separate maintenance budget for each department.

Statement: (Condensed) I am seeking this position because I believe it is time for a change. I have served this community in the past, employed four years as a firefighter, almost four years for the Highway Department, and also as an auxiliary police officer. I would like to continue serving the community.

KENNETH G. ROBERTS

Background: For the Future of Alton I am an experienced professional; Alton Highway Agent nine years; Master Road Scholar; Assistant Emergency Management Director; Member of NH Road Agents Association; Veteran USMC; demonstrated leadership abilities, efficiency, cooperation, knowledge of the job and the duties it holds.

Statement: (Condensed) My goals have been to improve departmental productivity, road conditions, equipment maintenance, and spend tax dollars wisely. I saved Alton over \$1,000,000 by obtaining grants, Bridge Aid Program, and the new excavation project. I have proven myself to have the management skills necessary and the determination to do the job.

LIBRARY TRUSTEE - 3 YEARS

(Elect One)

ROBERT H. DEROCHE

Questionnaire not received by press time.

NANCY D. JORDAN (875-3841)

Background: As a patron and a volunteer at the Gilman Library for many years and a Trustee for the past three years, I have been instrumental in completing the inventory of materials and beginning the process of computerizing the library.

Statement: I feel that my experience as a patron, a volunteer, and a Trustee will continue to make me a productive member of the Board of Trustees. I would like to continue in the quest for making the Gilman Library "the best that it can be."

FIRE WARD - 3 YEARS

(Elect One)

No candidate listed on ballot. *Write-ins will decide this office.*

One write-in candidate responded prior to press time:

RUSSELL SAMPLE

Background: 28 years of fire service, including serving as line officer for 22 years, training officer for 16 years, as well as sitting on state level boards developing fire service certification training curriculum and fire fighter safety.

Statement: (Condensed) Thanks to those who have supported me with their vote for my representation as a fire ward for several terms, as a fire officer along with then Fire Ward Chief Jones. These positions have been held by fire fighters for almost 50 years. Please cast your write-in vote for me.

FIRE WARD - 1 YEAR

(Elect One)

GEORGE W. MURPHY (859-5004)

Background: My wife, Diana, and I have lived in Alton approximately two years but have been coming to the area for seven years. I worked the past 25 years as a Coating Technician/Supervisor of interference filters. I ran many departments, and I know that will help in the position for which I am running.

Statement: I will do my best as Fireward in making decisions regarding the safety, health, and welfare of this community.

CEMETERY TRUSTEE - 3 YEARS

(Elect One)

SHIRLEYA. LANE

Questionnaire not received by press time.

WATER COMMISSIONER - 3 YEARS

(Elect One)

EDWARD "BUDDY" PETERSON

Questionnaire not received by press time.

BUDGET COMMITTEE - 3 YEARS

(Elect Three)

No candidates listed on ballot. *Write-ins will decide this office.*

BUDGET COMMITTEE - 2 YEARS

(Elect Two)

GREGORY FULLER

Questionnaire not received by press time.

BUDGET COMMITTEE - 1 YEAR

(Elect One)

CYDNEY JOHNSON

Questionnaire not received by press time.

PLANNING BOARD - 3 YEARS

(Elect Two)

DONN BROCK

Background: Currently Vice-Chairman; member since 1999; six years on ZBA; five years on CIP.

Statement: I look forward to another term. The board's on-going work, other than hearing cases, of upgrading the town's Zoning Ordinances and Master Plan is the key to Alton's growth and future on a planned basis.

THOMAS W. VARNEY

Questionnaire not received by press time.

Continued on Next Page

Continued from Previous Page
SUPERVISOR OF THE CHECKLIST -1 YEAR
SHIRLEYA. BISHOP (875-2065)

Background: Appointed to position in December. Treasurer of Friends of the Gilman Library and volunteer at Alton Central School.

Statement: I wish to help continue the effort to improve and update the voter registration information. Once 911 is in place all addresses will have to be confirmed and/or amended, and I would like to assist in that endeavor.

SCHOOL BOARD - 3 YEARS
(Elect Two)

WAYNE FRASER (875-3327)

Background: I have served or am currently serving in the following capacities: Chair, Alton School Building Committee; Chair, Alton Site Acquisition and Building Committee; Chair, Alton School Board; Chair, JMA School Board. I am seeking my third term on the School Board and am familiar with board policies and procedures.

Statement: As we open a new high school in 2004, there are many challenges and opportunities facing the district. With so many positive developments having occurred in the district in the past several years, I look forward to being able to work with the administration in continuing this momentum.

TERRIA. NOYES

Questionnaire not received by press time.

SCHOOL BOARD - 1 YEAR
(Elect One)

JOYCE HOPPER

Questionnaire not received by press time.

SCHOOL MODERATOR - 1 YEAR
(Elect One)

No candidate listed on ballot. *Write-ins will decide this office.*

SCHOOL TREASURER - 1 YEAR
(Elect One)

No candidate listed on ballot. *Write-ins will decide this office.*

SCHOOL BOARD CLERK - 1 YEAR
(Elect One)

No candidate listed on ballot. *Write-ins will decide this office.*

Continued from Page 7
 multimedia work that expresses our mission. Winning pieces will be selected that communicate, advocate, and focus on action toward a change for the better. The emphasis of the scholarship program — and of all of our programs — is on ACTION.

While many people think of scholarships as being of value only to college-bound high school seniors, the Friendship Project takes a broader and more inclusive view. Contests and scholarship opportunities will be open to all ACS students from kindergarten through high school. A student may apply scholarship funds to a variety of self-development uses, including college tuition, summer classes, tutoring, enrichment experiences and art, music and multimedia supplies, and instruction. The objective is to begin reinforcing and rewarding the values of friendship and community service at the earliest school ages and to continue this positive reinforcement throughout a student's career at ACS.

This spring the Creative Competition will be the kickoff activity for the year. Beginning in early April all students grades K - 12 may submit original creative entries in the categories of writing, art, music and multimedia. The rules and guidelines for the contest have been developed through a collaborative process with more than 20 Alton educators in the language arts, music, art, multimedia, and social sciences subjects. Look for posters around the school and community and notices coming home with your children for more information.

Other upcoming events for this school year include the first annual ACS Friendship Awards and a spring spaghetti supper. The date and location will be announced in the next Main Street; continue to check future issues for information on other upcoming events and volunteer opportunities.

If you are interested in more information about programs or volunteer opportunities with the Friendship Project, please contact me at 875-5780 or by e-mail to <sfh@worldpath.net>.



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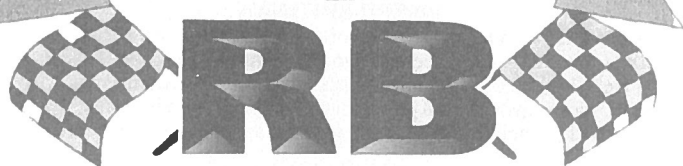
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Main Street's Information Center

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., Congregational Meeting House, Church Street, Sun. School, 9:30 a.m., 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

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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

John E. Sununu, US Senate

Washington DC 20515; 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

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Mike Whalley, 875-7266

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Christopher D. Boothby, 527-5400

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Photo by Fran Bonfanti



HIGHWAY HAPPENINGS Alton Highway Department

THINK SPRING!

Congratulations to George Drew, shown above, on his successful completion of the probationary employment. George, a native of Alton, lives on Coffin Brook Road; his father, Dick Drew, was a Highway Agent for Alton. George has some outstanding knowledge and is a benefit to the town.

Snow started early this year. It has impacted the department budget to the point that instead of being at 35 percent at this time, we have used 50 percent. There is still all of March to go. The budget also covers the upcoming October - December. Let's hope Mother Nature will be kind to Alton for the rest of the year. For now concentrate on getting through the 10° - 20° below zero with a wind chill of 30° below. On a positive note, spring is right around the corner. With spring comes the mud season; please be careful.

In the meantime the Highway Department is out there pushing back wind drifts, sanding, and maintaining the roadway for safe travel.

As always thank you for your assistance in calling the department for anything we have overlooked.

BLUE RIBBON AWARD

By Laurie Boyce, ACS School Volunteer Coordinator

Once again the school volunteers did a fantastic job last year and won the Blue Ribbon Award from New Hampshire's Partners in Education. To receive this award, the volunteers have to record over four volunteer hours per number of students that year and show an improvement over the last year's program. We easily came up with the number of hours because we did over 6,000 and only needed a little over 3,000. The volunteers did a great job in all activities and came up with several new areas in which to help the students. Again, thanks to all the volunteers from last year, and we are working well towards getting the award again this year.

CUT-A-THON ON MARCH 15

By Joanna DeCesare, Organizer

From 9 a.m. - 12 midnight on Saturday, March 15, The Hair Factory, 55 Gilford East Drive, Gilford, will be hosting a cut-a-thon with 100 percent of the proceeds to benefit Hospice. Hairdressers from salons in the Lakes Region will join the staff of the Hair Factory to donate their time and talent. All haircuts will be reduced to just \$10 and will be on a walk-in basis. Area businesses have donated items for a raffle. All proceeds from the raffle will be added to the haircut total. This is the third year for this event. Previous monies have gone to the Hole in the Wall Gang Camp and the Make-a-Wish Foundation. For more information call 527-1005.

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YOUTH DIVERSITY CONFERENCE HELD

By Katie Pellowe, ACS Student

On January 31 and February 1 the Unitarian Universalist Church in Manchester hosted a Youth Diversity Conference. The conference was for New Hampshire teens and featured discussion on topics such as discrimination and diversity.

When I was told about the conference, I was excited, but when my friend, Jen McAllister, and I arrived on Friday night, we were nervous. We signed in and went upstairs to look around and put our bags away. We joined a circle of people and started to relax and talk to some of the teens, but then I made a fool of myself. I had attempted to catch the "sacred koosh ball" but, instead, got hit in the elbow. I tried to keep to myself for a while after that.

When everyone had arrived, we tossed around the koosh. Whoever got it had to say their name, school, and then add an adjective about themselves starting with the first letter of their name, which is quite hard with a "k."

Everyone next headed downstairs for open mike night. A group of actors calling themselves "voices" performed several skits about teenage life today and how hard it is for some kids to grow up in certain situations. Next a band called "Sentenced to Die" played songs with lyrics about refusing drugs and banning guns. The rest of the night included bands, singing, rap, poetry, juggling, and one teen actually balanced a chair in his mouth.

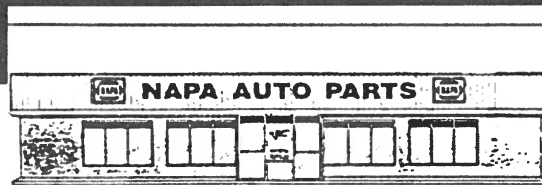
By 11 p.m. everyone had gotten into their pajamas and gathered in the lounge to talk. I was surprised at how well we all got along. Some people told Jen and I that the poem we read together was very moving. Everyone there liked each other and seemed to know everyone else.

On Saturday everyone went to workshops on a variety of topics, such as discrimination against American Indians, discrimination against Muslims, economic oppression, and how to lobby. Each workshop had plenty of time for discussion.

Luc Schuster, a Youth Coordinator, says he got involved because "my job is to work with high schools and colleges about social justice. Some friends and I came up with the idea for the conference about a year ago and put it into action last November." "We're aiming to create a network of people to join together and represent their ideas," he continued. "This is happening because the youth wanted it, and they made it happen."

Attendee Andrew Holtsworth said that he had never been to anything like this and was nervous. His expectation was "for kids to work together." Jen McAllister wanted "to meet a lot of diverse people." Neither of the two were disappointed. Jen said that the conference exceeded her expectations. Both Jen and Andrew would like to attend next year.

All in all I thought that the conference was an awesome idea. Everyone was nice, and the kids were very open and accepting. I would definitely like to go next year to see what has changed and progressed.



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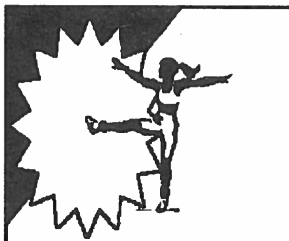
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PTSA HAPPENINGS

By Lisa Jones, Alton PTSA Secretary

The Alton Parent Teacher Student Association (PTSA) has some events scheduled for March.

Blood Drive

The Alton PTSA will be sponsoring a Red Cross Blood Drive on Monday, March 3. This will take place in the Alton Central School gym from 3:45 - 7:45 p.m. On site child care is available. Any questions concerning eligibility for donating, call the Red Cross at 1-800-262-2660. Donating blood is 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 fold friends. Your blood is desperately needed, and you could save a life!

Mother/Son Dinner and a Movie

The Alton PTSA will be sponsoring their Second Annual Mother/Son Dinner and Movie for boys in K - grade 5 on Saturday, March 22. Dinner will be served starting at 5 p.m. in the Alton Central School cafeteria with the movie, *The Rookie*, immediately following dinner. Dinner will consist of spaghetti and/or homemade lasagna, salad, drink, and dessert. Tickets are \$5 per person and may be purchased in the ERC (elementary library) from Mrs. Lane. Bring extra money as there will be some exciting raffles. Mark your calendar, moms, and treat your son(s) to an enjoyable evening!

Middle School Dance Dedication

On February 14, the Alton PTSA sponsored a Middle School Dance dedicated to Jessica Wilcox. Jessica was an ACS 7th grader tragically lost in a hour fire in January. The proceeds from the dance went to the Wilcox family. Coca Cola of Laconia generously donated soda and water for the dance and the money from the sale of the drinks also went to the Wilcoxes. The Alton PTSA wishes to thank Coca Cola for their generosity.

NEW AT THE GILMAN LIBRARY

FICTION

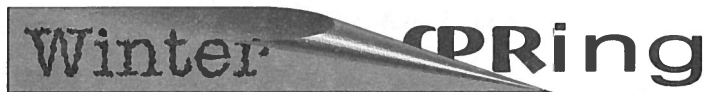
- Bradbury, Ray
- Donaldson, Stephen R.
- Fairstein, Linda A.
- Freemantle, Brian Ice Age
- Koontz, Dean R.
- Krentz, Jayne Ann
- Martini, Steve
- Let's All Kill Constance
- A Man Rides Through (Mordant's Need, Vol. II)
- The Bone Vault
- By the Light of the Moon
- Light in Shadow
- The Arraignment

CHILDREN

- Doyle, Eugenia
- Berg, Elizabeth
- Braun, Lilian Jackson
- Evanovich, Janet
- Grafton, Sue
- Hoag, Tami
- King, Stephen
- Krentz, Jayne Ann
- Lovell J. & Kluger, J.
- Palmer, Diana
- Robards, Karen
- Wiggs, Susan
- Willett, Marica
- Stray Voltage
- Talk Before Sleep
- The Cat Who Saw Red
- Hard Eight
- P is for Peril
- Dark Horse
- LT's Theory of Pets
- Smoke in Mirrors
- Apollo 13
- Lord of the Desert
- Ghost Moon
- The Horsemaster's Daughter
- A Week in Winter



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UNION LEADER HONORS ALTON LEADERS

Two Alton celebrities have received increased time in the spotlight lately. Most recently the Manchester *Union Leader* held its annual Parade of Champions Awards Dinner on February 9. One person singled out for honors was Alton's long-time resident David Smith, shown here. At the honors dinner Smith received the Walter A. Smith Coaches Award.



Smith, a 1963 graduate of Alton High School, was a teacher, guidance counselor, and basketball coach at Alton Central School (ACS) for 13 years. For the past 23 years he has been Headmaster at Coe-Brown Academy in Northwood, and he continues to coach boys' varsity basketball. His wife, Maureen, has been on the faculty at ACS for 30 years where she currently teaches the fourth grade.

Holden Also Honored

The *Union Leader* also sponsors a "40 Under Forty" recognition program each year. This honor is awarded to high achievers in the state who have not yet reached 40 years of age. On January 27 it was announced that ACS Principal Russell E. Holden was one of the 40 winners of the 2003 award.

Main Street is pleased to congratulate both Smith and Holden for doing so well.

THE LATEST FROM ALTON'S LEGION POST

By Ray Nadeau, Post Commander

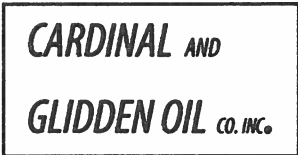
The High School Band Uniform Fund continues to grow. The Legion family is pleased to report that at the end of February it topped \$6,800. This is possible through the efforts of the entire American Legion family, plus individual and group donations combined with fund raisers and contributions from residents and businesses in the community. We would like to recognize the Barnstead Country Store for their donation this month. Thanks also go to two anonymous donors. In addition, we would like to thank the Blackstone family for their generous donation and share a comment from their letter, which said "We wanted to contribute an amount that would completely outfit one child, so we could imagine seeing our contribution in future parades." Now that's real community spirit!

Contributions for the High School Band Uniform account may be made at the Alton Bank of New Hampshire or mailed to American Legion Post 72, P. O. Box 814, Alton 03809.

Our Sunday morning breakfasts are still going strong. We want to thank community residents for your support and encourage you to reserve a Sunday for a breakfast sponsored by YOUR group or organization. We are currently booked up until June for breakfast sponsors.

The American Legion family is planning a meat raffle to be held on Saturdays from 2 to 4 p.m. for members and guests. The first raffle will be held on Saturday, March 8. Stop by and check it out. Also, we are 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 are on sale now at the Legion. Join us on the 15th and celebrate your Irish!

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(see Information Center for worship times)



THE CHECKOUT DESK
By Holly Brown
Librarian

KEEP ON READING . . .

We wish to express our most sincere thanks to everyone who helped us to "celebrate our love of books" by taking part in our book sale in February, either by donating plastic bags and books or purchasing books. Special thanks go to the Alton Village 5 & 10 for donating canvas bags for our sale. As always, your generosity and support of the library is greatly appreciated. Proceeds go toward the purchase of new books for the Gilman Library.

If you regret not having made it to this special sale, you may be glad to read that books are still available for purchase through our year-round sale. For more information please call or stop in during library hours.

If you wish to donate used books to the library, please keep in mind that due to a lack of storage space, we can only accept books in good condition which have been stored in a dry, smoke-free place and have been published after January 1, 1998. In addition, we ask that you please call ahead to let us know you are interested in making a donation. Thank you again for your continued support.

The Book Discussion Group will be meeting on Monday, March 10, at 6:30 p.m. in the Agnes Thompson Meeting Room at the library. They will be discussing *Angela's Ashes* by Frank McCourt. New members are always welcome. Remember, parking is at the rear of the building, and please use the back entrance. If you have any questions regarding joining the group and/or are in need of a copy of the book, please call or stop in at the circulation desk.

BIG LAKE HALF MARATHON
By Keith Jordan, Race Director

Mark your calendar for the Second Annual Big Lake Half Marathon to take place on May 3. Last year this marathon was the largest first-year race in New Hampshire history with more than 1,200 entrants. This year the race will be even better and bigger.

We need volunteers to make sure this event continues to succeed. There will be a competition once again for the best aid station, the winning one getting \$250, but all groups participating will receive a \$200 donation for their favorite charity or fundraiser. We are also looking for entertainment on the course, so if you are a musician, let me know. Contact me at 293-8353 if you wish to volunteer.

The full details of the event will be in the April issue of Main Street.

HOWARD SANBORN DEPLOYED

SPC Howard Sanborn III moved out of Fort Bragg and is now stationed in Kuwait in a place where there are no amenities. If anyone reading this knows him, he would really appreciate getting a letter or card from you.

SPC Sanborn, Howard III
5th Corps, F Co., 51st, 519th MI BN
APO, A.E. 09303.

In keeping with Main Street policy, a complimentary subscription is being sent to him while he is deployed overseas.

The board and staff of Main Street would like to do the same for any Alton resident in the military while he/she is on active duty overseas. Please contact us by phone or mail with the name and address and a little background so we can provide the same service others are getting.



MARCH HERALDS SPRING

This is the month ending the winter outdoor season. Small game hunting for fox, raccoons, snowshoe hare, crows, and night hunting for coyote all end March 31. (Coyotes may still be hunted during regular daylight hunting hours after the 31st.)

Ice fishing season ends on the 31st also. The fishing can be good this month as the days get longer and warmer. As of this writing (mid-February) the ice thickness was fine, having 22" - 28" on most parts of the Big Lake. One should always check ice depth and be careful when ice fishing. Remember all bob houses must be off all lakes and ponds by April 1. They should never be left on someone's private property without permission.

With everything ending this month, what is one to do? Get ready for the fishing season that opens April 1! Clean or renew fishing lines; clean and lube the drag on reels; clean and shine your lures. Armor All will slick up a fly line and shine up a fishing rod. One might also refinish oars or paddles this month.

Just get ready to get out there!

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).

HOW TO SURVIVE IF YOU FALL THRU ICE

By Richard Cunningham, Main Street VP

Here are some handy tips to follow if you should happen to be on thin ice and fall in.

1) Use your elbows to lift yourself up onto the edge of the hole facing the direction from which you came. Let as much water as possible drain from your clothing.

2) Reach out onto the solid ice as far as possible. Try two additional acts. If it is below freezing and you have gloves on, place your palms down on the ice for a few seconds. Your gloves will freeze to the ice. Or, if you have keys or some metal instrument, use them to help your grip.

3) Kick your feet as though you were swimming and pull yourself up.

4) Once on the ice surface, stay flat and roll away from the hole.

As soon as you are safe, find a place where you can get out of your wet clothing.

ALTON/NEW DURHAM LIONS CLUB

District Governor Gary Rogers and three other members of the Hudson Lions joined 20 members of the Alton/New Durham Lions at their February meeting. Governor Gary filled everyone in on the activities Lions sponsor, such as the sight and hearing foundations, Kids Sight, and our own Camp Pride in New Durham.

The meeting proceeded with plans for participation in the Alton Winter Festival. Members volunteered to turn a section of frozen Alton Bay into a challenging "Cro-Pucky" course. The cookbook fundraiser received more recipes, but don't let that stop you from sending in your favorites. If you are interested in joining this community organization, or if you have a recipe, please contact Lion Steve at 875-3117.



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SUPPORT ALTON'S AMBASSADOR OF PEACE

By Sally Casoni, Parent

Last month's Main Street reported (page 4) that Joshua Casoni, a freshman at Alton Central School (ACS), had been selected as one of New Hampshire's 40 Student Ambassadors to represent the United States in Europe this July.

Please join us in supporting Joshua as he moves ahead with this exciting endeavor. On Tuesday, March 4, at 7 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, you also will be able to meet a past Student Ambassador from Alton.

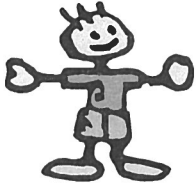
It will be an evening to remember. Bring a neighbor, bring a friend, or bring a grandparent or an aunt/uncle, but come and enjoy a wonderful evening out while helping Joshua. Tickets are \$5. For more information or for tickets call me at 875-1401.

ALTON COMMUNITY YOUTH ACTIVITIES MARCH

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, Live Conference in Connecticut
PTSA Blood Drive for Alton, 3:45-7:45 p.m., ACS
- Tue 4 Mock Trial, Team B, grades 5-8, 2:45-4:30 p.m., ACS
- Wed 5 Mock Trial, Team A, grade 8, 2:45-4:30 p.m., ACS
- Thu 6 Mock Trial, Team A, 3-5 p.m., ACS
- Fri 7 Mock Trial Team B, 3-5 p.m., ACS
Youth Center, Drop In grades 6-12, 3-9 p.m., CCOA, open to all community youth
- Sat 8 Movie & Ice Cream Social, grades 9-12, 6:30-9:30 p.m., by PRD and CYA at PRCC
- 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 Mock Trial, grades 5-8, 2:45-4:30 p.m., ACS
- Tue 11 Mock Trial, Team A, 2:45-4:30 p.m., ACS
- Wed 12 Mock Trial, Team A, 3-5 p.m., ACS
- Thu 13 Mock Trial, Team B, 3-5 p.m., ACS
- Fri 14 Youth Center, Drop In grades 6-12, 3-9 p.m., CCOA, open to all community youth
Middle School Dance, 6:30-9 p.m., ACS by PTSA
- Sat 15 DI Competition, 8:30 a.m.-4: p.m., Portsmouth HS
- 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
- Wed 19 "Dr. Thank Man of Imagination," 9 a.m., Gym, ACS
- Thu 20 Mock Trial Rehearsal, grade 8, 3-5 p.m., ACS
- Fri 21 Mock Trial Competition, grades 5-8, 8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m., Laconia Court House
Youth Center, Drop In grades 6-12, 3-9 p.m., CCOA, open to all community youth
- Sat 22 Mother/Son Dinner/Movie, grades K-5, 5:30 p.m., PTSA, ACS
- 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
- Fri 28 Rainforest Presentation, 2 p.m., ACS; 5-6 p.m., Gym, ACS

Legend: AB=Administration Building; ABCCC=Alton Bay Christian Conference Center; ACS=Alton Central School; BC=Bay Church; CCOA=Community Church of Alton on Church Street; CYA=Community Youth Activities; EM=Enrichment Module; HS=High School; PRCC=Pearson Road Community Center; PRD=Parks and Recreation Department;



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

MARCH FUN

The Parks and Recreation Department can be reached at 875-0109 if you have any questions or suggestions.

Country Line Dancing Lessons

For adults of all ages the Alton Parks and Recreation Department is sponsoring Line Dancing Lessons on Thursdays at the Alton Bay Community Center from 1:30 - 3:30 p.m. The registration fee for the winter season is \$3. Beginners are welcome.

"Pot of Gold"

Also known as Senior Bingo, Parks and Recreation is sponsoring its "Pot of Gold" Bingo on Friday, March 14, at the Pearson Road Community Center at 1 p.m. All Alton seniors are invited to attend this free event. Prizes will be awarded and refreshments will be served. Join in the fun as we celebrate leprechauns and wearing green for the day.

Thank You to American Legion

The American Legion sponsored a Bingo in December for the Alton seniors. Prizes were donated, including over \$200 in cash prizes, gift wrap supplies, and holiday door prizes. Thank you, American Legion, for a wonderful Bingo game; your donation was greatly appreciated.

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

1996 BUICK CENTURY WAGON, 6 cyl. auto AC, all power, excellent condition, minor body damage, \$1,300. 875-3988.

1990 TOYOTA CORROLLA, new tires, new battery, new CU shafts, runs great, inspected, \$700. 776-8714.

WANTED

NON-FOLDING FLAT SPRING COT BED, for cottage, no larger than 36" across. 875-2151 or 569-2629.

HELP WANTED

MAINTENANCE LABORER
Anticipated Opening With
Department of Parks and Recreation
Grounds and Maintenance

Full-time year-round position with benefits. Duties include: mowing, landscaping, building and part maintenance, shoveling, plowing, and rubbish removal. Electrical, plumbing, and carpentry experience preferred. Valid NH Driver's License and background check required. EOE. Applications available at A.V.A.S. Public Park, 875-0109.

HELP WANTED
Director/Teacher

The Community Church of Alton is seeking a director/teacher to run the Christian Pre-School Program for the 2003-2004 school year.

Starting salary is \$16,000 per year. Minimum requirements: an Associates Degree in Early Childhood Education.

Please forward a resume to: Alton Community Church, c/o Board of Christian Education, Church Street, Alton, New Hampshire 03809

IN Main Street
FIFTEEN YEARS AGO . . .

. . . Gladys Howe resigned as Town Treasurer after 19 years of service . . . Carolann Simpson and Daniel LaCroix were crowned Queen and King of the Winter Carnival Ball . . . John Conboy and John Irving were appointed chairmen of the Old Home Week Committee . . . the Happy Hobby Doll Club featured Irish dolls at their monthly meeting . . . 33 candidates were running for a variety of school and town posts, 7 of them for Highway Agent.

TEN YEARS AGO . . .

. . . The Bicentennial Committee started work on the big celebration to be held in June, 1996, (did you know that the present Town Hall was built and dedicated at the Centennial Celebration in 1896 for a cost of about \$15,000?) . . . The Knights of Columbus hosted their annual St. Patrick's Day Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner . . . the Apache Players presented an evening of Shakespeare, several one-act plays based on the Bard's works . . . Town Meeting addressed 26 warrant articles and 17 school and town offices were filled on Election Day.

FIVE YEARS AGO . . .

. . . Pat Merrill retired from her final position of Assistant Librarian at the Gilman Library . . . there were measures announced to aid residents in the clean up from the January ice storm and the distinction of being without power for the longest went to Robert G. Eddy and family, 210 hours . . . Vanessa Lampman, Alton Central School grade 6, won the local competition with her international peace poster . . . two Alton student made the Junior Olympic Volleyball Team, Korin Eagles and Tonya Alden.

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875-6059

CARNEY DRUG
10-1 Wednesdays
Rochester
332-2132

FREE HOME VISITS - FREE HEARING TESTS

VNA/HOSPICE GERANIUM SALE

By Alice Calvert and Mary Ann Pollini, Co-Chairmen

The snow is disappearing now, so why not think spring? On May 10 before Mother's Day and Memorial Day the Fifth Annual Geranium Sale for VNA/Hospice will be held. Sunflower Gardens will again be our supplier.

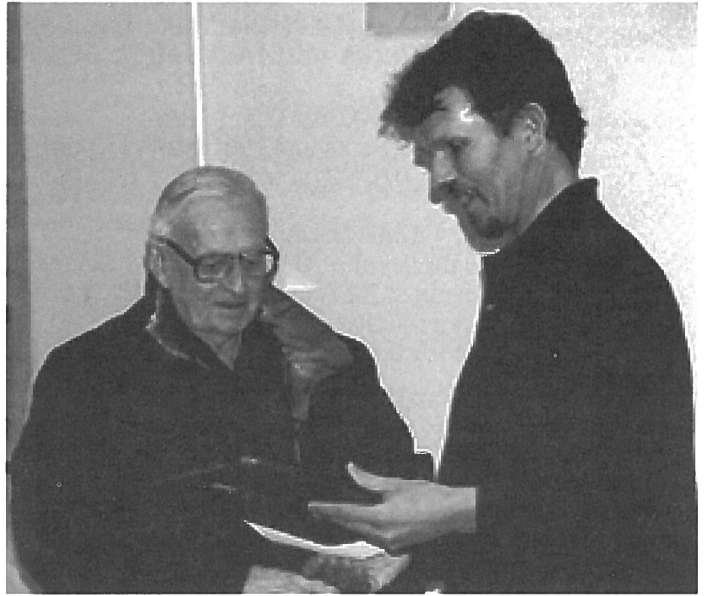
An order form is below or may be obtained at the Bank of New Hampshire, Alton Town Hall, Gilman Library, Alton Bay Lakeview Market, or from Alice Calvert at 875-2151. Plant orders should be prepaid. Forms and payment may be left at any of those locations. Deadline for orders is April 12.

Plants can be picked up on the lawn of the Bank of New Hampshire in Alton on May 10 from 9 a.m. - 12 noon. Extra plants will be available to purchase at this time.

Beautify your yard and help VNA/Hospice too!

VNA/Hospice Geraniums	
Name _____	Phone# _____
Address _____	Zip _____
# of Red Geraniums ___ @ \$3.50	\$ _____
# of Pink Geraniums ___ @ \$3.50	\$ _____
TOTAL.....\$ _____	
Make checks payable to VNA/Hospice of SCC	

HOULE RECEIVES CITATION



At the February 3 meeting of the Alton Selectmen, Joseph Houle, on the left, was presented with a placque by Board Chairman Stephan McMahon. The placque cites Houle for his service as a Trustee of the town's Trust Funds since 1984, almost all of which has been, and continues to be, as chairman.



Alton Home & Lumber Center

Rte. 11, Alton NH - Open 7 days
 Mon-Sat 7:30am-5:00pm, Sun 8:30am-4:00pm
 603-875-3900

Potting Goods, Bark mulch, Loam, Sand, Gravel,
 Crushed Stone, Blocks, Wood Trusses, Mouldings
 Glidden Paints, Cabot's Stains, Kilndried, Sheetrock
 Finish Pine, Plywood, IKO Shingles, Hardware,
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