



Alton's Main Street

Volume XIX Number 7

Alton, New Hampshire - July, 2003

Complimentary

Fund Drive for new Band Uniforms Reaches Goal!

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See Story Page 3





Main Street

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Correction

As many of you noticed, the cover of June's Main Street erroneously identified Nancy Bentley's winning photo as 'Morning Dew - Coffee Brook', when in fact, the brook is Coffin Brook. Main Street apologizes for the error.

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LOCAL VIDEOS AT THE LIBRARY

Recent issues of **Main Street** have noted more and more videos of local events that are available for check out at the Gilman Library. Recently added to the collection is "An Evening of Yankee Humor" by independent scholar and writer, Rebecca Rule. This very entertaining presentation was made before the June 17 joint meeting of the Alton Historical Society and the Friends of the Gilman Library. It has just completed its first run on LRPA-TV's cable channel 25.

Already in the Gilman's collection are "Bear Behavior and Ecology" by naturalist Ben Kilham, "Styles Bridges, Yankee Senator," by author James J. Kiepper, and Congressman Jeb Bradley's public forum held in Alton on May 27. These joined earlier tapes "Quilting in Alton" and "Alton Remembrances" with Dick Downing, Rawland Dore, and Irving Roberts.

All of the above videotapes were produced by Alton resident Bob Longabaugh and donated to the Gilman Library by his spouse, MaryBee.

MIKE BURKE MEMORIAL BLOOD DRIVE

The 9th Annual Mike Burke Memorial Blood Drive will be held Monday July 14th at a new location, the Bay View Pavillion from 2pm to 7pm. It is co-sponsored by Carl and Darryl Hoitt, owners of the Bay View Pavillion.

Regular and new donors are encouraged to donate. Free Red Cross beach towels will be given to all presenting donors. As usual volunteers and local businesses will provide a well stocked canteen table.

Most healthy adults can give blood. You meet the basic eligibility requirements if you are:

- at least 17 years old
- weigh at least 110 pounds
- are in good health on the day of donation
- have no history of exposure to hepatitis or AIDS
- your last blood donation was at least 56 days (8 weeks) ago.

For more information or if you would like to volunteer, please contact Ann Norman-Burke or the Red Cross at 1-800-262-2660. Join us on Monday, July 14th from 2-7pm at the Bay View Pavillion.



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BAND UNIFORM DRIVE REACHES GOAL
by Ray Nadeau
American Legion Post 72 Commander

We have reached our goal to raise twelve thousand dollars to purchase band uniforms for the Prospect Mountain High School marching band. The thermometer is at 100%. Pictured on the cover are (left) Warren Leary, Finance Officer and (right) Ray Nadeau, Commander of Alton Post 72 American Legion.

Our total stands at \$12,079.00. This includes a \$425 donation that will soon be received from Wal-Mart Corporation.

An effort of this magnitude obviously involved many people and I will not attempt to name all of them but I would be remiss if I didn't name a few.

I start with Linda MacDonald, a terminally ill Auxiliary member who has since died. Linda insisted on preparing the artwork and painting the thermometer sign. She was very proud of this effort but no prouder than we are of her contribution.

Lisa Rojek who served as chairperson for the drive. Lisa spent a good deal of time concentrating on Corporate contributions and has learned a lot about jumping through hoops. Millie Pierce distributed the canister jars and collected the moneys donated each week from local locations.

Warren Leary and Brian Schofield worked almost every single Sunday breakfast from 6:00AM to cleanup at 1:00 PM for ten months. Incidentally, the breakfasts provided in excess of \$4,000 toward the drive.

The Alton Legion family, the Legion, Auxiliary, Sons of the Legion and Jr. Auxiliary raised more than \$7,000 of the \$12,079. This was accomplished through breakfasts, raffles, fund-raisers, individual donations and contributions from the general fund.

Alton and nearby residents were also very generous - all donations were gratefully accepted and I must mention the \$2,000 contribution given anonymously by an Alton resident. This allowed us to reach our goal two months ahead of schedule.

Some of the local businesses also participated for which we are also grateful. The last donation was from Alton Sign Smith of Alton.

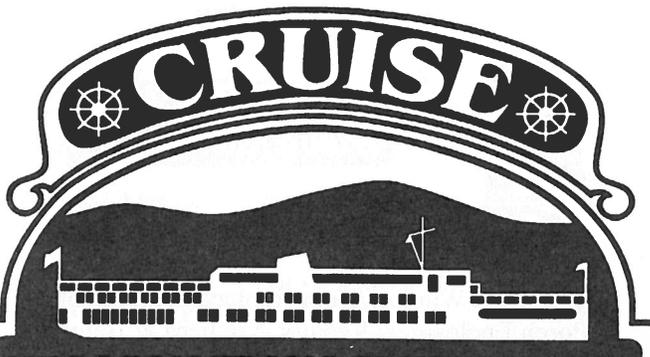
For the record, Legion family members paid ALL administrative expenses related to the fund drive. No fund contributions were used. 100% of the moneys donated are sitting in a band uniform account at the Bank of NH in Alton.

As of this date it is my understanding that school administration has yet to decide on school colors, logos, etc.. for the new High School.

We desire to play no role in uniform selection and have notified school authorities to select and order uniforms of their choosing, limited, of course, to existing funds. When

they are prepared to do so, the money will be withdrawn and transferred to the band uniform supplier.

The Legion family, as part of our ongoing community support, has enjoyed working on the Band Uniform fund drive and once more thanks all who have contributed to its success. I am sure the entire community will be looking forward to seeing our high school band in their new uniforms.



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HIKER SAFETY AND COMMON SENSE

With the hiking season in full swing everyone is looking for that perfect trail or peak, so it's important to be properly prepared even for a short day hike like Mount Major. Here are a few common sense tips to help make that day hike an enjoyable one.

First, get a good quality trail guide or map and plan your route, and plan an alternative route in case of emergencies such as bad weather or darkness. And don't forget a compass. Familiarize yourself with its' use before starting out, even on a short trip.

Check the weather and trail conditions in advance. Summer weather in the Northeast mountains can change in an instant. Be prepared to turn back if the weather suddenly changes.

Leave an itinerary with family or friends. Always let someone know where you're going, the trails you will be hiking on, how long you plan to be gone, and when you expect to return.

When hiking in a group, stay together, don't get separated, and pace your hike to the slowest person.

Always bring adequate clothing, footwear, and food and water for the worst conditions you may encounter. Those few extra pounds that a fleece pullover or waterproof wind-breaker and an extra bottle or two of water weigh will be well worth the trouble if you encounter unexpected rain, wind, cold, or thirst. Don't forget the power bars - they're a great snack and energy booster to have in your pack.

Make sure you have adequate footwear. Get a good pair of hiking shoes or boots that afford comfort, traction, and ankle support.

Carry a first aid kit and learn how to use it.

Never assume a cell phone is the only safety equipment you'll need. But if it becomes necessary to use it, know where you are at all times - it will help the rescue team find you much quicker in case of an emergency.

Other essential items include waterproof matches, whistle, knife, flashlight or headlamp with extra batteries, sunscreen and insect repellent, sunglasses, and a hat for protection from the sun and severe weather. And don't forget - leave no trace. A trash bag is essential to carry out everything you carry in, and they make great rain gear in a pinch!

With a little common sense and the right equipment, any hike, whether a short day hike or an extended mountain climb, can be a safe and enjoyable experience.

**Do You Enjoy Main Street?
Join Us!**

Main Street is always looking for volunteers who want to join us. If you're interested in writing stories, are willing to make phone calls, or if you have computer experience that you're willing to share, call Alice Calvert at 875-2151 and join the Main Street team!

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ALTON OUTDOORS
By Jack Miller

July is Summer, one of the best times to be in Alton's outdoors. Even though June has longer daylight, July has warmer temperatures.

Fishing for warm water species is best this month. Bass, perch, pickerel, sunfish, crappie and horned pout (bull-heads) are the species sought now. Look for bass and pickerel in the 15-20 foot range in cooler waters. White and yellow perch will be found a little deeper in still cooler waters of 20+ feet. Sunfish will be in the warmer shallows.

The lowly horned pout will be found on the bottom at almost any depth, and bite best near or after dark. Horned pout are found in almost all bodies of water and will bite readily on a "gob" of night crawler fished on the bottom.

If you fish from a boat you can chum to attract "pout" since they have a good system of scent detection. Punch holes in a can of cat food, tie a string to it, lower it in the water and shake it every once in a while to disperse the smell. This will enhance your chances of catching some tasty pout.

Shore fishermen can use to simple throw line which is a long line with a heavy weight attached at the end, and 1 or 2 hooks attached 12 to 24 inches above the weight. Bait with a worm, make a nice circle of line loops on the ground or dock, swing in a vertical circle and let it go. (Make sure to keep hold of it, or attach the end of the line on shore.) Take up the slack and wait for a bite.

My father used to take me "pouting", and "throw lines" were our main tackle. We would sit with the line over our pointy finger to detect a bite and set the hook. My father made up some bell alarms that we would attach to the line so the ringing bell would alert us to a bite when fishing after dark. Although pout are difficult to skin and clean, they are very tasty fish with nice, white, flaky meat. They are well worth the effort.

July is also a good month to take a hike or a mountain bike ride. There are many trails throughout the Alton area where you can get some exercise. There are miles of snow machine and hiking trails that will take you to the far reaches of Alton's woods. Bring plenty of water, NEVER drink from local streams or ground water. A water born parasite contained in beaver feces attacks the human digestive system and will make you very sick. Beaver travel by following waterways, so any water could be affected. Drink water safely when enjoying Alton's outdoors.

Get out and enjoy this month.

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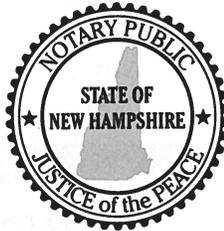
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Generally, it takes a week or so to get an interlibrary loan item for you. They must be returned on time to keep using this privilege.

We wish to thank everyone who took part in the Town-Wide Yard Sale. We appreciate the donations, the support and the sale tables, and those who stopped by to purchase goods. Without the support of our community and 'Friends' we would not be able to participate in events such as this.

Canvas book bags, donated by the Alton Village 5 & 10, are still available for purchase. In addition, you can still purchase books through our regular book sale.

The Gilman Library has received a grant from the New Hampshire Humanities Council to sponsor a program entitled "Bringing Home the Last of Her Breed." Presented by David Switzer, professor of History at Plymouth State College, this slide presentation explores the era of American maritime history known as the great age of sail. Join us on Tuesday, July 8 at 7pm. Refreshments will be provided by the Friends of the Gilman Library.

The Book Discussion Group will be meeting on Monday, July 14 at 6:30pm to discuss 'Seabiscuit' by Laura Hillenbrand. New members are always welcome.

The Summer Reading Program, 'Reading Rocks the Granite State', begins July 9 and ends August 6. We have many exciting events planned.

For more information about any of these programs, stop by the circulation desk or call 875-2550.

MIDDLE SCHOOL FANCY DANCE COURT NAMED

By: ACS Middle School Team

The Middle School Fancy Dance was held at the Alton Bay Pavilion on June 7, 2003. The Prince and Princess this year were Kristopher Callahan and Jennifer Boucher. Members of the Court included: Ryan Hussey, Marc Roy, Bryce St. Cyr, Steven Waterman, Erin Donnelly, Kim Hannafin, Jane Farrell, and Caila Kantar.

We would like to sincerely thank Mr. and Mrs. Hoyt (owners of the Pavilion), Mr. and Mrs. Hawkins, Ms. Best, Mrs. Perry, all the parents and definitely Mrs. Ballentine! Very special thanks go out to Susan Houghton who prepared an unbelievable dinner. Hats off to Mrs. Houghton!

ACS MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS RECEIVE PRESTIGIOUS AWARD

By: ACS Middle School Team

Jane Farrell and Jeffrey St. Cyr, 8th grade students at Alton Central School, were recently honored Middle Level Scholar Leaders at a Banquet on June 5, 2003 at the Center of New Hampshire in Manchester, NH. The students were presented with an award. The criteria included demonstrating academic initiative and scholarship, providing service to classmates and school, exemplifying positive attitudes and demonstrating leadership in the classroom and school activities.

Nearly 325 students, educators, and parents attended this Banquet to celebrate the achievements of the middle level students who are representative of the many fine young adolescents in all middle level schools in the State of New Hampshire. 78 eighth grade students from 39 schools were honored at the Annual Middle Level Scholar Awards Banquet.

The event was organized by the New Hampshire Association for Middle Level Education (NHAMLE) and the New England League of Middle School (NELMS) with supporting sponsorship from Lifetouch National School Studios.



HIGHWAY HAPPENINGS
By Ken Roberts
Highway Agent

Well the snow is finally gone and the flies are here, the black ones (and the mosquitoes), so keep that bug spray handy.

The highway crew is on four 10 hour days. The secretary will be in the office Monday through Friday 7:30 am to 3:30 pm

We are painting the cross walks and the parking lines throughout the town for the up coming summer season.

We are grading roads and cleaning ditches. Please check your driveway culverts for any debris that has piled up through winter.

We are also out cold patching,

We have hired a new truck driver to fill the opening that we had at the highway, **Welcome aboard Mel!**

Alton Mountain Road & Old Wolfeboro Road construction is scheduled at the end of June, so please expect delays. We appreciate your patience and understanding.

Once again we appreciate any calls of concern regarding anything we may have missed - 875-6808.

Have a great July 4th and please be safe.

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Alton Central School Awards Scholarships by: ACS Guidance Department

American Legion Auxiliary Scholarships: *Kimberly Russell and Terese Hopper; Kimberly Russell* for the Jr. Auxiliary Book Scholarship. American Legion Post #72 Awards and Scholarships: William Heidke Votech Scholarship - *Terese Hopper, Amanda Jones*; American Legion Post #72 Scholarship - *Erin Wood, Scott Baumgartner, Kristin (Emily) Murray*. Richard Kardinal Scholarship - *Katie Brooks*. Ruth Shurrock-farrell Scholarship - *Kimberly Russell*. Son's of the American Legion Scholarship - *Tiffany Desmarais*. Recipient for Scholastic Achievement - *Terese Hopper*. Recipients for Sportsmanship - *David Snell, Hilary Ballentine*. Summer People's Scholarship - *Kimberly Russell*. Main Street's Bob and Catherine Calvert Journalism Award - *Amanda Tharpe*. Karla A. Merfeld Memorial Scholarship - *Amanda Jones*. Walmart Scholarship - *Katie Brooks*. U.S. Army Reserve Scholar Athlete Awards - *Terese Hopper, David Snell*. East Alton Fire Association Scholarship - *Amanda Jones and Kimberly Russell*. Alton-New Durham Lions Scholarship - *Amanda Jones*. Maxfield Real Estate Scholarship - *Erin Wood*. Alton Police Association Kelly Brown Scholarship - *Katie Brooks*. PTSA Scholarships - *Kimberly Russell, Terese Hopper*. Alton School Board Scholarship - *Stephanie Hillsgrove*. Alton Teachers Association Scholarship - *Kelly Scanlon*. Jean Roberts Alton Teachers for Education - *David Snell*. William B. Messer Scholarship - *Hilary Ballentine, Scott Baumgartner, Katie Brooks*. D.A.K. Financial Scholarship - *Tiffany Desmarais*. Norwich Barbershoppers Scholarship - *Marissa Peterson*. Merrymeeting Grange #155 - *Marissa Peterson*. Happy Hobby Doll Club Scholarship - *Tiffany Desmarais*. DAR Good Citizen Award - *Norman Gilbert*. The Bausch and Lomb Honorary Science Award - *Scott Baumgartner*. Kenneth W. Chamberlain, Jr. Science Award - *Terese Hopper*. Kenneth W. Chamberlain, Sr. Athletic Scholarship - *Hilary Ballentine*. Ruth S. and Willard D. Rollins Scholarship - *Scott Baumgartner*. David Steven Smith Scholarship - *Kendra Brown, David Snell*. The Dr. Deane M. Chamberlain Medical Scholarship - *Kristin Murray*. Ralph Jardine Scholarship - *Dennis Callahan*. William A. Anderson Scholarship - *David Snell*. Barton M. Griffin Memorial Scholarship - *Sarah Harper*. The Perkins Award - *Dennis Callahan*. Bonnie Simpson Scholarship - *Tiffany Desmarais*. Walter Kirkpatrick Memorial Award - *Sarah Harper*. Major William Hayes Award - *Scott Baumgartner*. The Phyllis Chamberlain Music Scholarship - *Amanda Jones*. Agnes M. Thompson Scholarship - *Zachary Shea*. The Anna Ulrich Chamberlain Art Scholarship - *Zachary Shea*. President's Education Awards: For Outstanding Academic Excellence - *Katie Brooks, Scott Baumgartner, Terese Hopper*; For Outstanding Academic Achievement - *Erin Wood*.

Alton High School Class of 2003 College Plans By: Marilyn St. Cyr, Guidance Director

The Guidance Office is pleased to announce the post-secondary education plans for the class of 2003. The graduates have chosen a variety of colleges and universities.

Terese Hopper will be attending Dartmouth College in Hanover, N.H. and Hilary Ballentine will be enrolling at Colby Sawyer College in New London, N.H. Zach Shea, Sarah Harper, and Mike Friedman will be heading to New England College in Henniker, N.H. Southern New Hampshire University has been chosen by three of our graduates: Lindsay Sleeper, Siobhan Kivlehan, and Tiffany Simone. David Snell will be studying at the University of New Hampshire in Durham.

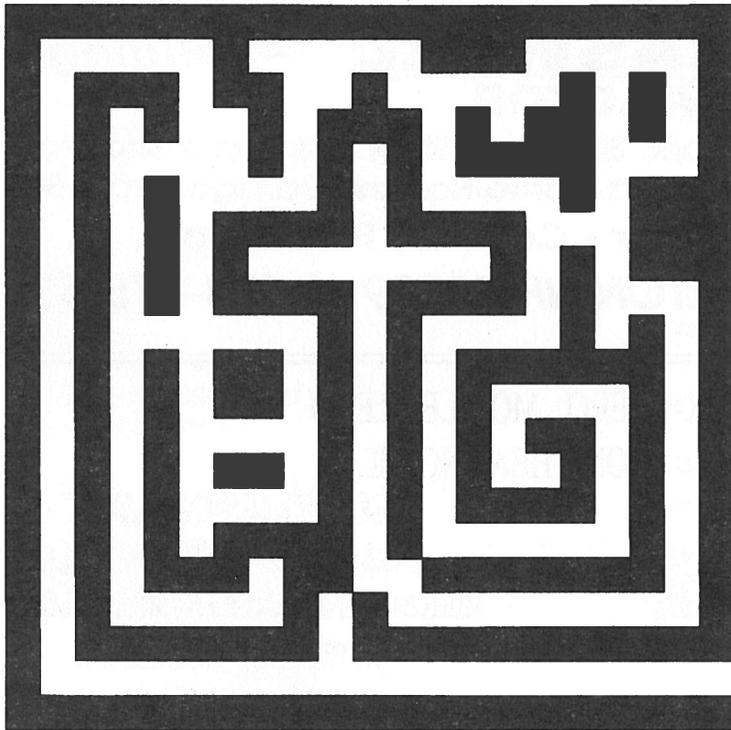
Many graduates have selected out-of-state colleges. Scott Baumgartner will be attending Trinity College in Hartford, Connecticut, while Erin Wood will be enrolling at Johnson & Wales University in Providence, Rhode Island. Katie Brooks will be matriculating at Mt. Holyoke College in South Hadley, Massachusetts and Dennis Callahan will be registering at Northeastern University in Boston. Two graduates will be going to colleges in the State of Maine; Amanda Jones at the University of New England in Biddeford and Emily (Kristin) Murray at the University of Southern Maine in Gorham. Tom Ryan has decided to attend Johnson State

College in Johnson, Vermont.

Three of our graduates will be a long way from their home in Alton. Amanda Tharpe will be going to the Spartan School of Aeronautics in Oklahoma. Justine Houghton will be in Yellow Springs, Ohio at Antioch College. Johnson & Wales in Denver, Colorado is the college choice of Rachel Harrell.

Several other seniors chose to attend college in New Hampshire. Kim Russell and Rick DeFlumeri will be continuing their studies at the N.H. Community Technical College in Laconia, N.H. and Millicent Cochran will be registering at the N.H. Community Technical College in Stratham. The New Hampshire Technical Institute in Concord, N.H. has again been a popular choice for our graduates. We have ten seniors planning to enroll there; Jaime Coigley, Kelly Jalbert, Rebecca Ray, Stephanie Hills Grove, Kelly Scanlon, Stephanie Lannon, Adam Ames, David Bailey, Mathew Cook-Hamer, and Norman Gilbert. Tiffeny Desmarais will be attending Continental Academy in Manchester and Sarah LaMothe will be attending Hesser College in Manchester, N.H.

We are pleased to note that other seniors are finalizing their career/college plans at this time and are pursuing employment opportunities. We would like to congratulate all of the 2003 graduates and we wish them well in their college plans and future endeavors. We are proud of all of our graduates.



Seek and ye shall find.

*If you're feeling lost
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FOR THE FUN OF IT
By Kellie Troendle, CPRP
Parks and Recreation Director

SUMMER PROGRAMS

The Alton Parks and Recreation Department offers programs and special events for people of all ages. Please check out our web site at: altonparksandrecreation.com or pick up a 2003 Summer Schedule to see what we are doing and the programs you would like to participate in. Programs are open to everyone. Please contact us if you need more information on any of our programs: 875-0109, altonparks@metrocast.net.

Summer Programs

Please pick up our brochure for more information on our special events and programs. Programs include:

Pre-School Programs, ages 3-5 years old: Fantasyland, Winter Holidays in July, and Sporties for Shorties on July 2, 9, and 16 from 9:00am-10:30am at the Alton Bay Community Center. Program fee is \$4.00 per day.

Youth Activities, full day, ages 7-12: Art Adventure Day, It's Your Birthday- Wet and Wild Style on July 1 and 15, 9:00am-3:00pm at the Alton Bay Community Center, program fee is \$10.00 per day.

Afternoon Youth Activities, ages 8-12: Kid's Cooking Creations, Splash n' Fun Party, Become a Mad Scientist, Christmas in July on July 2, 16, 23, and 30 from 1:00pm-3:00pm at the Alton Bay Community Center, \$5.00 per day.

Life Sports-Youth Programs

Swimming Lessons, ages 4-16- Session A: July 21-25 or Session B: July 28-August 1, Alton Swim Dock, 12.00 per session. 45 minutes class for five days. Beginner to advanced programs available. Space is limited, sign up early.

Recreation Soccer League, Grades 1-6: Register by August 1, 2003, \$20.00 registration fee. Late registration fee is \$45.00 if space is available.

Senior Citizens Programs

Country Line Dancing Lessons- Thursdays at the Alton Bay Community Center, 1:30-3:30pm, \$3.00 for summer season.

Senior Bingo- July 11- "Christmas in July" at the Pearson Road Community Center from 1:00pm-3:30pm, free, prizes and refreshments.

Walking/Be Fit- July 7, 14, 21, and 28. Registration required, free. Warm up, strengthening exercises and go at your own pace walk. A.V.A.S. Public Park, 9:00am-9:45am.

Alton Hiking and Biking Club- short hikes and bike trails in the area, various dates.

Adult Programs

Mike Burke Volleyball Tournament- July 27, 9:00am, \$15.00.

Walking/Be Fit Club- see description above.

Alton Hiking and Biking Club- see description above.

Special Events: Portland Sea Dogs Game on July 17, Old Home Days are August 9 and 10.

...continued page 11

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Parks and Rec continued from page 10

Thank You

The Parks and Recreation Department would like to recognize and thank the Garden Club volunteers for planting beautiful flowers in Alton Bay and also Bill Crocker for donating the hanging flower baskets on the Alton Bay Bandstand. Thank you for your contribution to the beautification of Alton Bay.

Liberty Tree Project Award

The Parks and Recreation Department presented Ben King with an award for work he completed at Liberty Tree Park as part of his Eagle Scout Project. Mr. King was presented with a plaque which commended him for his demonstration of value-based leadership, responsibility, citizenship, outdoor skills and fitness and for making a positive contribution through the establishment of a passive recreational area and an accessible trail to Liberty Tree Park for the community to value and enjoy.

Jones Field Recreational Area

If you have been to Jones Field recently you have noticed the great job the Highway Department did in expanding the parking area on Jones Field Road. Due to an increase in participation in the Town sports programs the additional parking was needed to accommodate the many park users. Thank you Ken Roberts for designing the parking area and also the Highway Crew for adding the additional parking spaces, it looks great.

**Route 11-D Association Annual Meeting
by Claire Kinnen**

The annual meeting of the Route 11-D Association will be held on Saturday, July 12, at 9:30 in the Gilman Library. The association was formed in 1995, and meets once a year to discuss any issues that affect 11D, and to assist with the maintenance of the island entrances.

We will be electing new officers. It is strongly suggested that members give serious thought to nominating new names for this years election.

An information day/cleanup day is scheduled for Saturday, July 26, from 9am to 12 noon. Participants should meet at the island closest to Alton Bay at 9am. Plastic gloves and bags will be provided and we ask each resident to clean the roadway around their property. Rain date will be August 2. Please plan on helping out.

Again we ask for donations for the plants, mulch, and flowers that adorn each island. We have a faithful group that has planted, watered, and weeded these islands for the last few years. They deserve a great deal of credit, but more than that, they deserve some help. Volunteers are needed to take a turn weeding and watering.

New members are always welcome, and we invite the many new faces along Route 11-D to sign up.

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Clubs and Services

Bereavement Support Group: Community Health & Hospice offers a Bereavement Support Group at Community Health & Hospice, 780 North Main Street, Laconia. Call Carolyn Stevenson, 524-8444, ext. 321 for more information.

Overeaters Anonymous: Starting July 10, Overeaters Anonymous (OA) will meet weekly on Thursdays at the Alton Bay Community Center on Route 11 from 5:30-6:30 pm. Contact person: Nancy - 875-5875. All are welcome.

Young Family Program: the Community Health & Hospice is offering a free Ages and Stages Questionnaire (ASQ) to parents of children ages four months through five years. The ASQ is a parent-completed screening system to help identify children who should be referred for a comprehensive assessment for medical, special education, early childhood education, mental health, and social services. For more information or to request a questionnaire, call Carol at 524-4339, ext. 346.

Blood Pressure Clinics: Blood Pressure Clinics are held in the following locations: Belknap Mall on the second Tuesday of the month from 10:00 am - noon, near Shaw's Supermarket and Belmont Senior Center on the third Wednesday of the month from 12:30 - 2:00 pm.

American Red Cross Blood Services: Red blood cells have a shelf life of only forty-two days, so new reserves must be added to hospital inventories every day. If you would like information about becoming a regular blood donor, contact the American Red Cross Blood Services - New England Region at 1-800-843-3500, or go to www.newenglandblood.org/nh for a list of blood drives.

Newborn/Maternal Home Visits: Community Health & Hospice Young Family Program nurses provide free home visits for pregnant women who are Medicaid-eligible and also offer a free visit by a Registered Nurse to any parent of a newborn in the greater Lakes Region. The program teaches infant care, what to expect in their child's growth and development, and parenting skills. For more information, contact the Young Family Program at Community Health & Hospice at (603) 524-8444.

Shots For Tots, Teens, and In-Betweens: provides immunizations for children to age 19. For dates and location, contact the Young Family Program at Community Health & Hospice at (603) 524-8444.

"Caring Caregivers" Support Group: a support group for caregivers of the memory-impaired and others in long term caregiving situations. The day group generally meets on the first and third Monday of the month from 10:00 to 11:30am. The evening group meets on the first Tuesday of each month from 6:30 to 8pm. Regular meetings are held at Community Health & Hospice, 780 North Main Street, Laconia. Please contact Pat Marceau at CH&H (524-8444, ext. 343) for information.

Community Health & Hospice welcomes volunteers and provides training in all programs. For more information on volunteer opportunities please contact Bev Nelson, Volunteer Coordinator, at Community Health & Hospice, 780 N. Main Street, Laconia, NH 03246 or call (603) 524-4339, ext. 348 or (toll-free) (800) 244-8549 in New Hampshire.

Alcoholics Anonymous: meets Tuesdays at 8 pm, Alton Bay Community Center

Alton Community Services Program: Saturdays 10 am - noon, call 875-2273

Alton Masonic Lodge #75: meets on the second Thursday of the month except July and August. Route 28 just south of the traffic circle. 875-7448.

American Legion: meets the second Monday of the month, 7:30pm at the Legion Hall on Route 28 just north of the traffic circle.

American Legion Auxiliary: meets the second Monday of the month, 6:30pm at the Legion Hall on Route 28 just north of the traffic circle.

American Legion Junior Auxiliary: meets the first Tuesday of the month, 6pm at the Legion Hall on Route 28 just north of the traffic circle.

Boy Scout Troop 53: meets Wednesdays at 6:30pm at the Central Fire Station on Route 140.

Cub Scout Pack 53: meets the last Wednesday of the month, 7pm, at the Legion Hall on Route 28 just north of the traffic circle.

4-H Club, see website www.alton4h.org.

Flying Club: meets the second Wednesday of the month, 6:30pm, call 859-7900.

Friends of the Gilman Library: meets the second Tuesday of the month (in season) at the Gilman Library, Main Street.

Garden Club: meets the fourth Tuesday of the month (in season) at the Congregational Meeting House

Happy Hobby Doll Club: meets the fourth Friday of the month, 7pm, call 364-7413 for directions.

Knights of Columbus: meets the first Wednesday of the month, 7:30pm, Pearson Road Community Center.

Lions Club: meets the first and third Thursday of the month, 6:30pm, at the Legion Hall on Route 28 just north of the traffic circle.

Moms in Touch: meets Tuesdays, 12:30pm, call 875-2866.

Mt. Major Snowmobile Club: meets the second Tuesday of the month, 7pm, JP China, Alton Bay. Call 875-3858.

OES, Warren-Alpha #10: meets the third Tuesday of the month, 7:30pm, call 539-7898.

PTSA: meets the third Wednesday of the month, 7pm, Alton Central School HS Library, Alton Central School, School Street.

Senior Citizens: meets the second Wednesday of the month, 1pm, Pearson Road Community Center.

VFW: meets the third Monday of the month, 7:30pm, Pearson Road Community Center.

Call Alice Calvert at 875-2151 to update the above listings, or email your updates to Judith Pellowe at jtc@metrocast.net

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JULY EVENTS

- Thurs.3 Fireworks, 9:30 pm, Alton Bay
Fox Brothers, Concert, 8:00-9:30 pm, ABB
- Sat. 5 Singspiration, ABCCC, immed. after fireworks
East Bay Jazz Ensemble, Concert, 7-9 pm, ABB
Karen Coke, Concert, 7:30 pm, ABCCC
Community Church Fair, 9 am to 1 pm
Annual Flea Market, Merrymeeting Campground, Route 11 East, 9 am to 1 pm.
- Sun. 6 Breakfast, American Legion, 8 am - 12 noon
Speaker Clint Tabor, 10:30 am and 6 pm, ABCCC
- Tues. 8 Presentation, Gilman Library, 7pm. See p. 6 for details
- Thu. 10 Blood Pressure Clinic, Pearson Road Community Center, 10:30 am - 12 noon
- Fri. 11 Only By Grace, Concert, 8 pm, ABCCC
- Sat. 12 Pony Express, Country/Western Concert, 7-9 pm, ABB
Plummer Family, Concert, 7:30 pm, ABCCC
- Sun. 13 Breakfast, American Legion, 8 am - 12 noon
Speaker Dwight Dean, 10:30 am and 6 pm, ABCCC
- Mon.14 Ninth Annual Mike Burke Mem. Blood Drive, 2-7pm, Bay View Pavilion
Gilman Library Book Discussion group, 6:30 pm.
- Thurs.17 Parks & Rec trip to Portland Sea Dogs
- Sat. 19 Rough Edges, Concert, 7-9 pm, ABB
The Jacobs Brothers, Concert, 7:30 pm, ABCCC
- Sun. 20 Breakfast, American Legion, 8 am - 12 noon
Speaker David Ross, 10:30 am and 6 pm, ABCCC
- Sat. 26 Deuces Wild, Concert, 7-9 pm, ABB
Lenny Seidel, Concert, 7:30 pm, ABCCC
- Sun. 27 Breakfast, American Legion, 8 am - 12 noon
Mike Burke Volleyball Tournament, 9 am
Speaker Chris Adsit, 10:30 am and 6 pm, ABCCC
- Thu. 31 Assemble Main Street, American Legion Hall, 6:30 pm

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.**

Main Street wishes everyone a safe and happy July Fourth!



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Carl Dickson to Attend St. Paul's Advanced Studies Program By Marilyn St. Cyr, Guidance Director

Carl Dickson, who will be a senior this fall at Alton Central High School, is currently attending the Advanced Studies Program at St. Paul's School in Concord, NH. The Advanced Studies Program was founded in 1957 to provide talented New Hampshire high school students with challenging educational opportunities otherwise unavailable to them.

Carl is one of 260 students from high schools all over New Hampshire attending this intensive five week program this summer. While in the program each student concentrates on a major subject and takes a Writing Workshop. There were approximately 550 applicants this year. Students apply in the fall of their junior year for attendance in the summer before their senior year of high school.

Three Alton Central School Students Win Essay Contest By Marilyn St. Cyr - Guidance Director ACS

Tonya Prescott, Carl Dickson, and Elizabeth Biddle, juniors at Alton Central School, were chosen to represent the New Hampshire Electric Co-op and the State of New Hampshire at the 2003 National Rural Electric Cooperative Association's Annual Youth Tour to Washington D.C. in June. The winners were selected based on essays and personal interviews and will enjoy a week sightseeing and socializing in Washington D.C. with more than 1400 students representing electric co-op's from 46 states.

The students will visit many sites in Washington including the Smithsonian Institute, the Lincoln Memorial, the Holocaust Museum, the National Air and Space Museum, and the war memorials. The students will also meet with members of New Hampshire's congressional delegation.

The Co-op's Youth Tour Essay Contest is open to all 11th graders whose home or school is served by the New Hampshire Electric Co-op. Congratulations Tonya, Carl and Liz!

Community Church News

Summer Day Camp begins July 8th from 8:00am-5:00pm and will be held on Tuesdays this summer. Summer Day Camp consists of outings, arts and crafts, food, and fun. The cost is \$10 per camper. All children grades K-5 are welcome.

The Community Church of Alton Church Fair will be held Saturday July 5th from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. There will be food, crafts, yard sale items, plants, and more.

Summer Worship will be at 9:00 am at the Main Street Church.

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 Greeley, Andrew M. Second Spring
 Hillerman, Tony The Sinister Pig
 Kaplow, Robert The Cat who Killed
 Lilian Jackson Braun
 Kincade, Thomas A Gathering Place
 Lehane, Dennis Shutter Island
 Lipman, Elinor The Dearly Departed
 McMurty, Larry The Wandering Hill
 Quick, Amanda Late for the Wedding
 Roberts, Nora Engaging the Enemy
 Sandford, John Naked Prey
 Walters, Minette Fox Evil
 Wesberger, Lauren The Devil Wers Prada
 White, Kate A Body to Die For

NONFICTION

Browne, Sylvia Sylvia Browne's....Dreams
 Bryson, Bill A Short History of Nearly Everything
 Durant, Michael J In the Company of Heroes
 Queen Noor Leap of Faith
 O'Connor, Sandra Day The Majesty of the Law
 Randall, Willard S. Alexander Hamilton: A Life
 Sontag, Susan Regarding the Pain of Others

CHILDREN

Avi Crispin: The Cross of Lead
 Howitt, Mary B. The Spider & the Fly
 Karon, Jan The Trellis & the Seed
 Landry, Leo Oh Baby! A Celebration of Babies
 Lichtenheld, Tom What Are You So Grumpy About?
 Pinkney, Jerry Noah's Ark
 Stewart, Sarah The Gardner
 Thompson, Kay Kay Thompson's Eloise Takes a Bath
 Yolen, Jane How Do Dinosaurs Get Well Soon

YOUNG ADULTS

Cooney, Carline B. Goddess of Yesterday
 Rennison, Louise Knocked Out by my Nunga-Nungas:
 Further, Further Confessions of
 Georgia Nicolson

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SENIOR CITIZENS CORNER

by Nancy Mooney Hebert

We're firing up the "barbies"
 And marinating steaks
 Hoping that July
 Will give us sunny breaks-
 With patriotic fervor
 We'll celebrate the Fourth
 And pray that every citizen
 Will prove our country's worth!

Twenty members attended our June meeting. Acting president John Brooks appointed Dom Giluiano to continue his traditional role of nominating committee chairperson. Jeanette Barton and Judy Carmel will assist him in preparing a slate of officers to present at the July meeting. Anyone who wishes to run for an office should call the senior center at 875-7102 and submit his or her name.

The senior yard sale on June 7 was a big success, and we extend a hearty thanks to Jeanette Barton, John Brooks, Claire Fitzgerald, Paul Gamache, Georgiana Nason, Liz Roberts, and Jean Sheusi for their hard work at the sale.

You still have time to sign up for the musical FOOT-LOOSE at Meredith Playhouse on July 11 with dinner at Hart's Turkey Farm. The cost is \$40.00. Call 875-7102 for information. A trip to Foster's Clambake is in the works for August..see the sign up sheet at the center.

Many thanks to the Alton Parks and Recreation Dept. for sponsoring the great "patriotic" bingo afternoon on June 13. Kelly Troendle and Meghan St. Cyr were great callers and we appreciated all the nice prizes. We had about 40 people, a record number!

Our prayers and best wishes go out to member Doris Selfridge, who is seriously ill.

We are very pleased to welcome two new members, Richard David and Louise Jones. We hope they enjoy their association with us!

We thank Louise Vick for providing refreshments for our June meeting. Helen Stanford won the attendance raffle.

Our next meeting is Wednesday, July 11 at 1 p.m. We will elect officers for the year 2003-2004, and we hope to see more members there!



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ALTON BAY CAMPMEETING ASSOCIATION CELEBRATES 140TH ANNIVERSARY

By David Bohy and Janet Michael

The founding fathers of the Alton Bay Campmeeting Association (now known as the Alton Bay Christian Conference Center, or ABCCC) were three Advent Christian elders: James G. Smith, Zachariah Boody, and Charles H. Willey. The first meeting was announced as follows in the August 4, 1863 edition of the World's Crisis, a former periodical of the Advent Christian denomination: "Providence permitting, there will be a campmeeting at Alton Bay, New Hampshire to commence September 7 and hold over to the following Sunday. Come, ye servants of the living God to the New Hampshire campmeeting, to feed the flock of Jesus Christ and save souls from the 'second death.' Further particulars herewith."

During the campmeeting of 1863, the congregation averaged 1,500 daily with 5,000 to 6,000 people in attendance for the final Sunday.

The land upon which the campmeeting was held was initially leased and later purchased from the Boston & Maine Railroad. The railroad had been extended from Dover to Alton Bay in 1851 and the railroad was happy to promote attendance at the campmeeting by providing half-fare passage for campmeeting attendees who came from throughout New England. Lake Winnepesaukee steamboats and numerous horse-drawn wagons brought hundreds more.

Conditions at the 1863 campmeeting were primitive, with tents for sleeping, straw-filled ticking for beds, and kerosene lanterns. Services were conducted outdoors with primitive wooden benches for those who wanted to sit. Nevertheless, by all accounts the campmeeting was a great success. The preaching was described as good while the singing and prayer meetings were described as excellent.

Arrangements were made to have the campmeeting at the same location the next year. There were 10,000 people in attendance on the last Sunday.

From 1866 through 1880, there were always at least 20,000 people in attendance by the final Sunday of campmeeting. The 1872 meeting was the largest ever. The Boston Journal estimated 50,000 people in attendance but other sources estimated only 35,000. It was reported that 6,500 people came on trains, 4,000 on the steamboats Mount Washington and Lady of the Lake, and that 1,115 teams of horses helped bring the rest.

In the years that followed, the number of attendees gradually declined. The campground village grew to have 600 buildings crowded together on a mere twenty-nine acres of land.

Just over a week after the end of World War II, in August of 1945, a fire swept through the campground and destroyed nearly half the buildings. There were no deaths or injuries as a result of this tragic event, but it changed the face of the campground forever.

RICHARD GREMLITZ, ALTONS INTERIM PRINCIPAL

Richard F. Gremlitz has been selected by the Alton School Board to serve as interim K-12 principal for the 2003-2004 school year. The School Board selected Mr. Gremlitz after interviewing several candidates for the position.

Richard Gremlitz will be retiring at the end of this school year as Principal of Portsmouth High School where he served for the past six years. Mr. Gremlitz has spent his whole career in education in the Portsmouth City School.

He started his career as a teacher of speech and drama, became Director of Drama, Director of the Arts, and finished his career as high school principal. He is also the Director of Music at the First Parish Congregational Church in Dover. He is an accomplished director and organist.

He received a Bachelor of Arts in Drama with a minor in Music from the University of NH and a Master's Degree in Educational Administration from the University of NH.

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

By the time you read this article the 2002-2003 school year will have come to a close. It has been a very productive and memorable school year. A groundbreaking ceremony was held to start the construction of Prospect Mountain High School. A new program to insure student success in grades 7 & 8 has had a successful year. Changes will be made for the 2003-2004 school year to make it even better.

The 2003-2004 school year will open with nine new teachers and an interim K-12 Principal, Richard Gremlitz. (See Bio above). The 2003-2004 school year will be the last year that Alton Central School will be a K-12 school. In 2004-2005, the 9-12 student population will be attending Prospect Mountain High School.

The 2003-2004 school year will also see another leased modular, which was installed on June 16, 2003. It is located perpendicular to the other modular located adjacent to the gymnasium in the back parking lot behind the cafeteria and kitchen. This modular will only be leased for one year. The Alton School Board has also agreed to accept nine students from Barnstead. These students are all 9th graders. Barnstead will pay Alton \$11,487.85 per student for the year. The students will be placed in three different academic levels, thus not overloading one particular level.

Over the summer, a new boiler will be installed in the elementary section of the school. New drop ceilings will be installed in the Elementary Resource Center, several classrooms and the hallway leading from the courtyard entrance to the elementary wing. The Elementary Resource Center carpet will be removed and a new vinyl tile floor installed. School will open for students on Monday, August 25, 2003.

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MONDAY NIGHT HOOPS REBORN OUTSIDE
by Jacob Swain

When the town hall bell rings six times on Monday nights in the summer, the orange sun hangs in the sky before dropping into the horizon. At six pm, behind the fire station, Alton Alumnus Eric "Wig" Morrill launches a basketball from three-point land. It goes in. The game goes on.

The legacy of Monday Night Hoops continues. Monday Night Hoops has been a tradition in Alton for decades, showcasing the talent of generations of players. I first started attending as a freshman in high school 11 years ago.

Back then there were players who had graduated during the 60's. I called them "the old guys." Mental toughness and team play were just a couple of things the old guys taught me.

Throughout the 90's the bouncing of basketballs was consistently heard on Monday Nights. But then at the close of the century Monday Night Hoop was nearly silenced. However, last summer a group of players decided to take the game outside.

Ballplayers known as Tharp-e, Beef, and Locke play 5-on-5 games alongside Wig, as Monday Night Hoop is resurrected on the pavement every week. All are welcome to join, especially "the old guys" (you know who you are), in continuing the tradition. Just listen for the six bells.

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If you are a new resident in Alton who is not receiving a copy of Main Street in your rural delivery mail box or a household who for some other reason is being deprived of Alton's monthly newsmagazine, call us at 875-2151. We will need to have your name and address to add to our list.

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ALTON SCHOOL FRIENDSHIP PROJECT

First Annual Friendship Awards

By Susan Houghton, Project Chairman

We Can Change Our World One Child at a Time

The first annual Friendship Awards Banquet was held at Alton Central School on Wednesday, June 4. Students and families were invited to share pizza and ice cream with us as we presented awards to the winners of the Spring Creative Competition, and to winners of the Friendship Awards for caring and community service.

Winners of the Creative Competition used their creativity to portray some original aspect of friendship, tolerance, understanding and/or community service. Winning entries identified a problem in our community or our world, and proposed a workable solution. The Spring Creative Competition winners are:

High School: Richard Deflumeri (writing), Kendra Brown (multimedia), Dave Snell (multimedia honorable mention).

Middle School: Jeff St. Cyr (art), Carmen Niquette (writing).

Grade 4 to 5: Mary Margaret Houghton & Jacqueline LeBlanc (art), Sara Fraser (writing), Kelsey Meyerhoff (writing honorable mention).

Grade 2 to 3: Alyssa St. Laurent (art), Samantha Hillis (multimedia), Renae Brunelle (art honorable mention), Martha Rasbridge (art honorable mention).

K to 1: Emily Gubitose (art), Renee Coppolo (art honorable mention), Riley Carpenter (writing).

Friendship Awards were given to Alton Central School Students who are recognized by members of our school community as being kind and caring, and having gone above and beyond expectations in demonstrating friendship and/or service to others. The 2003 Friendship Award winners are: Cortney Carrol (Grade 2-3), Brittney Weitowitz (Grade 4-5), Jane Farrell (Middle School) and Katie Brooks (High School). Honorable Mention went to middle school students Kim Grant, Megan Farrell, Danielle Sheehen, Stephanie Roy and Carmen Niquette. High school students Rob Gallentine, Tiffeny Desmarais, Norman Gilbert, David Bailey and Brian Roy also received Honorable Mention.

Established by a very generous anonymous donor, the *Helen Keller Teamwork Award* goes to honor a team of students from across grade levels who work together with their teacher/mentor to produce a winning entry in the Creative Competition. The winning entry was selected because it best expresses the triumph and the teamwork achieved by student Helen Keller and her teacher Annie Sullivan, as well as the mission of the Alton School Friendship Project.

Winners of the 2003 *Helen Keller Teamwork Award* are 7th graders Megan DiVito, Kelsie Whitney, Dan Hopper, Alisa Price, Emily Folan and Erin Brackley; High School Seniors Scott Baumgartner and Lindsay Sleeper; and Teacher Mentor Mrs. Jean Kemp, Multimedia Production teacher.

Their winning entry is a video entitled "*In Remembrance of Jessica Wilcox*". Mrs. Kemp mentored the team of students and edited the project. The video was produced in memory of Jessica Wilcox, an Alton Central School middle school student who died tragically in a house fire this past January. The purpose of the video was to provide a way to let Jessica's family know more about her school family, as well as provide the students with a way to express their feelings at the loss of Jessica. The video portrays the heart of Alton Central School and provides a permanent record of our school community.

In addition to student winners, teacher/mentor awards were also announced. The 2003 Teacher Mentor awards winners are: Mrs. Kemp (Multimedia), Mrs. Quinn (5), Mrs. Walker-Brown (High School English), Mrs. Onufry (7&8), Ms. Burns (Middle & High School Art), and Grade 2 teachers Miss Bolduc and Ms. Malone. Mrs. Sue Quinn was also named the 2003 Teacher Champion for championing the goals and programs of the Friendship Project with her students and other faculty members, and for mentoring more than 20 students to produce entries in the Creative Competition.

All of the 2003 Alton School Friendship Project winners should be very proud of their accomplishments!

Thank you all for your support of the Friendship Project this school year, bringing together our community and our school to celebrate friendship and community service. We look forward to the 2003-2004 school year – have a great summer!

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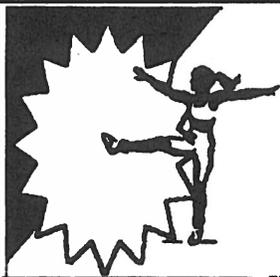
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Recently, we read "The English Patient" Michael Ondaatje. It takes place, for the most part, in a devastated Italian villa, San Girolimo, located in the hill country north of Florence around the end of World War II. The villa is inhabited, due to the circumstances of war, by a nurse, Hana, and a badly burned pilot who doesn't know who he is. Later they are joined by Caravaggio and finally by Kirpal Singh.

Caravaggio is a professional thief, employed by the allies. Kirpal, "Kip" is a sapper or soldier trained to dismantle unexploded bombs.

Hana is supposedly somewhat shell shocked. The pilot, who is anesthetized with morphine, reveals a wealth of knowledge about the desert: "But in the emptiness of deserts you are always surrounded by lost history," he says.

Essentially, the book is composed of the accounts of these four individuals and their developing relationships. It was entertaining and, I think, timely reading. This month we will be meeting on Monday, July 14, 2003 at 6:30 PM in the Agnes Thompson Meeting Room at the Gilman Library to discuss *Seabiscuit* by Laura Hillenbrand.

FREEDOM IS NOT FREE

I watched the flag pass by one day, it fluttered in the breeze. A young Marine saluted it and then he stood at ease. I looked at him in uniform, so young, so tall, so proud, with hair cut square and eyes alert, he'd stand out in any crowd.

I thought how many men like him had fallen through the years. How many died on foreign soil? How many mothers' tears? How many pilots' planes shot down? How many died at sea? How many foxholes were soldiers' graves? No, freedom is not free.

I heard the sound of taps one night, when everything was still.

I listened to the bugler play and felt a sudden chill. I wondered just how many times that taps had meant "Amen", when a flag had draped a coffin of a brother or a friend.

I thought of all the children, of the mothers and the wives, of fathers, sons and husbands with interrupted lives.

I thought about a graveyard at the bottom of the sea, of unmarked graves in Arlington, NO, Freedom is not free.

Written by Cadet Major Kelly Strong
Air Force Junior ROTC
Homestead Senior High School
Homestead, FL., 1988

Submitted by Ray Nadeau, American Legion Post #72

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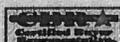
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**Fox Brothers
Pastor Bob Hett**



You are invited to celebrate the Red, White and Blue with the Fox Brothers at the Alton Bay Bandstand on Thursday, July 3, at 8:00 p.m., just prior to the annual fireworks display. Direct from Music City, U.S.A., the Fox Brothers have been awarded the Christian Country Music Association's "Entertainer of the Year" award for several years in a row and Roy Fox has been recognized as the Christian Gospel Music Association's "Comedian of the Year."

Featuring both Gospel and Patriotic Music, the Fox Brothers have appeared on TNN, Nashville Now, TBN, CBN, PBS, and Country Music's most coveted stage, the Grand Ole Opry. They travel over 150,000 miles a year, entertaining at fairs, conventions, and concerts. They were featured performers at the Deerfield Fair in the fall of 2001.

The following songs have soared to the top of the Christian Country music charts: "Red, White and Blue", "He Broke the Law", "Backslider's Prayer", "Yours", and "Time for Love", their first chart topper. Whether at a small town country-fair or performing before a national television audience, these Brothers bring audiences to their feet with a style all their own.

Blood "Brothers" Lynn, Randy, and Roy Fox started singing together as children and continued singing together at churches, revivals, and community events. Their first recording, "He Touched Me", was produced on a Missions record label in 1967.

This group's main goal is to make people happy, even if it is just for an hour at a time. The message of their music is a pure one presented in a positive way. Don't miss these entertaining, humorous, and gifted artists at the Alton Bay Bandstand before the fireworks, July 3. In case of rain, the concert will be held in the Tabernacle at the Alton Bay Conference Center.

Sponsors of this special event include the Town of Alton Recreation Department, the Alton Bay Christian Conference Center, the Bay Church, the Community Church of Alton, the new St. Katharine-Drexel Parish of Alton and Wolfboro, The Alton American Legion Post # 72, Davis Oil Company of Eliot, Maine, Alton Home and Lumber Center, Alton True Value Hardware, Mr. And Mrs. Robert Gedney, and Mr. And Mrs. Edward Headley.

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Alton and Her Neighbors

Ever wonder how Alton compares with neighboring towns? The following comparison between Alton, New Durham, Barnstead, and Wolfeboro provides a glimpse into our place in the region.

Between 1990 and 2000, Alton grew more than any of her neighbors, by 37%, compared to 26.5% for Wolfeboro, 25.4% for Barnstead, and a mere 12.5% for New Durham.

Alton is also the largest town, with 63.9 square miles of land and 19.3 square miles of water. Wolfeboro comes in second with 48.3 square miles of land and 10.1 square miles of water. New Durham and Barnstead are almost equal with 41.4 (New Durham) and 42.9 (Barnstead) square miles of land and 2.4 (New Durham) and 2.0 (Barnstead) square miles of water.

Interestingly, with all this wealth of land and water, Alton comes in last in median four-person household income. Wolfeboro is at \$53,269.00, New Durham comes in second at \$52,941.00, Barnstead is at \$49,404.00 and Alton is at \$46,467.00. Not suprisingly, then, Alton also has the highest percentage of families below the poverty level, at 5.4%, followed by New Durham, with a poverty level 2/3s of Alton's at 3.7%. Wolfeboro, long considered a wealthy neighbor, weighs in at 3.7%, and Barnstead has the lowest percentage of poor families at 2.8%.

Despite the need, Alton comes in last in State licensed

child care. Wolfeboro has 6 licensed day care facilities with a capacity of 304 children. In Wolfeboro, the percentage of residents under the age of twenty is 23.95, the lowest of the four towns. In Barnstead, 28.51% of the population is under 20, and there are four licensed facilities with 77 children. New Durham has 29.1% of its' population under twenty, and has 3 licensed facilities and 48 children. Alton's under-twenty population is 25.77%, but has only one licensed facility and 40 children.

With respect to education of its' residents, Alton is second to last. For residents over the age of 25, the percentage of people who have received their high school diploma is 87.9% in Alton, compared to 90.7% in Wolfeboro and 90% in New Durham. In Barnstead the number is 86%. Residents who have achieved a Bachelors Degree or better also leaves Alton in third place. In Wolfeboro it's 34.1%, in New Durham 24.9%, in Alton 21.5%, and in Barnstead 17.8%.

If you're looking to rent, go to Wolfeboro. The median gross monthly rent there is \$606.00 per month, compared with \$621.00 for Alton, \$719.00 for Barnstead, and \$733.00 for New Durham.

*Information for this story comes from the State of New Hampshire, Employment Security, Economic and Labor Market Information Bureau. Used with permission. Website accessed June 21, 2003. For further information, visit <http://www.nhes.state.nh.us/elmi/communpro.htm>



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**ALTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY
TO VISIT SHAKER VILLAGE**

The Alton Historical Society will visit Canterbury Shaker Village in Canterbury, NH on July 15. The guided tour starts at 10 am, with luncheon at the Creamery Restaurant at 11:30 am.

The luncheon and tour costs \$28, and the menu includes: Organic Mixed Green Salad, Pan-seared Haddock with lemon butter and saffron rice, and Cheesecake with Raspberry Syrup.

Reservations must be received by July 9 in order for us to make the proper arrangements with Canterbury Shaker Village.

The group will meet at the parking lot of the Gilman Library at 9 am and proceed to Canterbury as a group. If you have any questions, please call 875-3535.

A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

By Judith Pellowe

I will be attempting to fill the shoes of Bob and MaryBee Longabaugh, who were the editors of Main Street for six years. John Duffek was the original editor, beginning in 1985 at the papers inception. Both editors worked hard and made Main Street a staple in our community.

Main Street always has been, and will continue to be, Alton's paper. The goal of the Board of Directors is to serve you. To that end, I want to encourage everyone to help keep Main Street the paper that you turn to for information and for entertainment.

We are always happy to get feedback from the community. What do you like about Main Street? What don't you like? Who and what in the community needs to be recognized? If you have ideas, suggestions, kudos or complaints, please let us know. You can reach me by email jtc@metrocast.net. Phone calls should be directed to Publisher Alice Calvert at 875-2151. Written communication can be placed in the Main Street mailbox located inside the Bank of New Hampshire on Main Street, or sent via postal mail to Main Street, PO Box 210, Alton Bay, NH, 03810, attention editor.

I look forward to serving the community as editor of Main Street.

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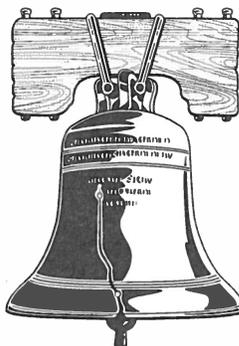
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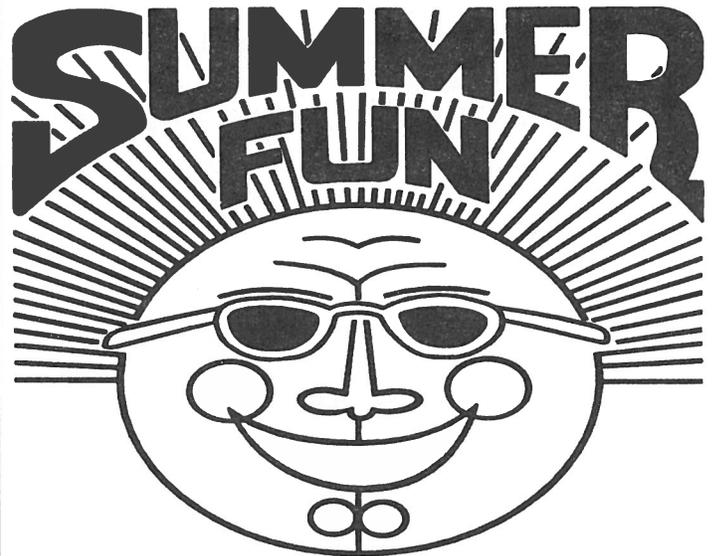
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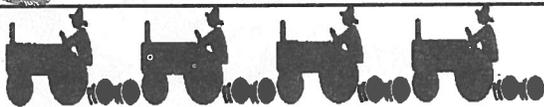


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