



Alton's

Main Street

Volume XX Number 3

Alton, New Hampshire - March, 2004

Complimentary

~BE INFORMED~ and VOTE!!

CANDIDATE'S NIGHT

Attend Candidate's Night Tuesday, March 2, at the Town Hall. If you are unable to attend, the proceedings will be videotaped and will be shown on Channel 26 prior to Elections. The event will include candidates for both School and Town offices.

ELECTION INFORMATION By Lisa Waterman, Town Clerk

Mark your calendar for Tuesday, March 9th. The Town and School elections will be held at the Alton Central Fire Station on Route 140 between the hours of 7am and 7pm. Absentee ballot applications for both elections are available at the Town Clerks Office. Only the Town ballot will be available at the Town Hall. A registered voter must complete an application before a ballot can be handed or mailed to the applicant. The Town Clerks Office will be open until 5:00 p.m. on Monday, March 8th to accept any absentee ballots. Absentee ballots will be accepted by **mail only** on the day of election.

If you are not a registered voter, you can do so at the polls with the Supervisors of the Checklist. A photo ID along with two forms of identification with a physical address (not a P.O. Box) is required to fill out a voter registration card.

The Town ballot will include 12 zoning amendments proposed by the Planning Board. Pick up a copy of these amendments at the Land Use Department or the Town Clerks office.

Tables are still available for community organizations that wish to sell products, raffle tickets, etc. Contact the Town Clerks office at 875-2101 if you wish to reserve space. The hours are 8:30 - 4:30, Monday through Friday.

SCHOOL DELIBERATIVE SESSION RESULTS By Richard Cunningham

On Saturday, January 31, 2004 over 140 Alton residents attended the annual Alton School Deliberative Session to debate and set the Annual School Budget. The five hour session was dominated by discussion over who would have the authority to set the budget for Alton and Barnstead's joint opening of the \$19.2 million Prospect Mountain High School.

A petitioned warrant article was brought before the residents which would have given the new school's Joint Budget Committee more authority in setting the annual budget. As a result of a recent Belknap County Superior Court ruling, the Joint Maintenance Agreement giving authority to the Joint School Board of the high school with the Joint Budget Committee acting as only an advisory panel was upheld.

Arguments were presented by both sides with the petitioners largely concerned that the current system allowed the school board autonomy in proposing a budget. Then school board and District officials stated that the school board ultimately is charged with the quality of education and they take that responsibility very seriously. It was also pointed out that the JMA has not yet been in place for a full budget cycle and should be tested. In a close 80 to 70 vote supporting the school board, Article 8 will ask voters to simply keep the JMA document as it is.

Residents also had considerable discussion concerning the \$9,467,274 gross school district budget. School Board Member Peter Farrell motioned to amend the budget up to \$9,622,113. The Joint Budget Committee for the High School had recommended a \$5 million Budget while the Joint School Board settled on a \$5.3 million figure. Farrell reviewed the school board's budget proposal and pointed out all the checks and balances that had been put in place in response to the public outcry heard at the two previous public hearings. School Officials reviewed the cuts in certain academic programs that would result if a budget \$300,000 below their recommendations was approved. Voters then supported the school district's proposed amendment to restore the \$300,000 and the \$9.6 million figure will be the one placed on the warrant.



Main Street

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Views expressed in Main Street reflect the opinion of the individual writer and are not necessarily the opinions of the Main Street Board. While we make every effort to publish information that is correct and accurate, we cannot verify all materials submitted.

MAIN STREET SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

If you have a story to submit to Main Street, the best way to contact us is by email. Starting immediately, Main Street has a **new email address**. Stories should be submitted to altonms@yahoo.com. Anything submitted for publication must have the name of the author and a phone number where you can be reached if we have questions. We reserve the right to edit any submissions for content and/or length. Not all stories submitted will be published; publication of articles is at the discretion of the Editor and the Main Street Board.

If email is not an option, stories and photographs may be mailed to Main Street, P.O. Box 210, Alton Bay, NH, 03810. Material can also be left at Bank of New Hampshire, in the Main Street box on the back right wall. Again, please be sure to give us a name and phone number. Photographs are welcome; if you want your photo returned, please provide a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

VNA/HOSPICE GERANIUM SALE

By Alice Calvert and Mary Ann Pollini, Co-Chairmen

Winter winds have stopped and snow and ice nearly gone. Time to think Spring. Before Mother's Day and Memorial Day, on May 8 the Sixth Annual Geranium Sale for VNA/Hospice will be held. Sunflower Gardens will again by our supplier.

An order form is below or may be obtained at the Bank of New Hampshire, the Alton Town Hall, the 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 these locations. Deadline for orders is April 10.

Plants can be picked up on the lawn of the Bank of New Hampshire in Alton on May 8 from 9 a.m. - 12 noon. Extra plants will be available to purchase at this time.

Beautify your yard and help VNA/Hospice too!

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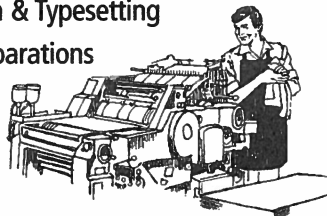
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LOCAL AUTHOR TO SPEAK By Debra Laurion

Duke Southard will be at the Agnes Thompson meeting room of the Gilman Library in Alton on Monday, March 15th at 7pm. Mr. Southard is the author of A Favor Returned, and the recently published Agent For Justice, which is a thriller set on Lake Winnepesaukee. He is a long-time resident of Tuftonboro, and is a retired English teacher who taught in the Governor Wentworth and Conway School Districts until 1998.

Mr. Southard will be giving a presentation titled "The Wat Ifs and The Whys", which looks at the process of how stories are developed including the plot, characters, and setting. Audience participation and questions are strongly encouraged.

The presentation is being sponsored by Alton's Book Chat, which will be reading A Favor Returned for their March meeting (call Debra Laurion at 875-5488 for information). After the presentation refreshments will be provided, and Mr. Southard will be available for book signings. The presentation is free of charge, and all are welcome to join us.

PTSA HAPPENINGS

By Cyndi Dame

MARCH BLOOD DRIVE

The Alton PTSA will be sponsoring a Red Cross Blood Drive on March 1, 2004, at Alton Central School. The blood drive will be in the school gymnasium from 3:45pm until 7:45pm. Refreshments will be provided. Donors must be 17 years old to donate and all donors must have a picture ID or a donor card. Babysitting will be available. Food donations are welcomed. Any questions concerning donating eligibility call the Red Cross at 1-800-262-2660. Donating blood is a simple procedure and relatively painless. The Alton Blood Drive is famous for their great food. Stop by and donate, you just might bump into an old friend. Your blood is desperately needed and you could just save a life!!

THIRD ANNUAL MOTHER/SON DINNER AND A MOVIE

Alton Central School PTSA will be holding their annual Mother/Son Dinner and a Movie on March 27, 2004 beginning at 5:00pm. Admission is \$5.00 per person and tickets must be purchased in advance from Debby Lane in the Elementary Resource Center. Dinner will consist of spaghetti and/or lasagne with a salad and drink. For the movie title please contact either Lisa Jones at 875-7515 or Lynda Goossens at 875-2653. Bring extra money as there will be some exciting raffles. Mark your calander moms and treat your son(s) to an enjoyable evening!



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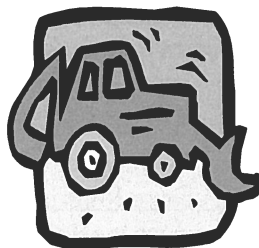
You sew your oats while I stitch your breeches!

ALTON'S BOOKCHAT
By Debra Laurion

The book that was discussed at our last meeting was At Home in Mitford by Jan Karon. This book took place in a small town and was about the daily lives of the people focused around the minister. I felt that all the main characters were talked about so that you could really get to know them and what they were like.

The next book discussed will be A Favor Returned by Duke Southard. The meeting will be on March 8th at 6:30pm in the Agnes Thompson room at the Gilman Library. All are welcome just pick up a copy of the book at the library and join us on the 8th.

HIGHWAY HAPPENINGS
By Ken Roberts
Highway Agent



Is this winter ever going to warm up? For every one warm day we have, we get a week of bitter cold!

The highway department is still out going over their routes, bucketing back roads where needed and continuing to thaw out culverts that have frozen over the roadways, as well as sanding. Please continue to call us should you see something that we have missed, we appreciate your help.

I would like to ask you that when you are plowing, or shoveling your driveways NOT to plow or throw the snow out across the roadway, the snow hardens and becomes a speed bump. It makes it very difficult to plow. It is also dangerous for vehicles when traveling. Bear in mind there is an ordinance of the town that prohibits this action, and there is a penalty for violation, it is a fine of not more than 100.00. Thank you for your cooperation during these winter storms.

E911 has numbered and named each resident of the town of Alton, to ensure their safety. The fire lanes have been renamed and the majority of the signs have been replaced. The rest of the signs need posts to be installed, we will do that as soon as the ground thaws.

Stay safe, drive safe, and be safe, and remember, public safety is our number one concern

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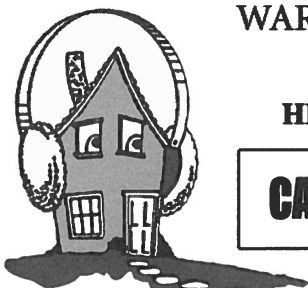
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IN Main Street FIFTEEN YEARS AGO . . .

. . . Tammy Rogers and Stephen Burke were elected Winter Carnival's Queen and King...Alton Central School was one of fifty-seven schools to receive Blue Ribbon School Achievement Awards for their volunteer program. The award recognizes exemplary cooperation between school and community. Cindy Miller, School Volunteer Coordinator accepted the award with Principal George Rogers...The VNA began a "Welcome Baby" program for first time parents in the Alton area...

TEN YEARS AGO . . .

. . . Three Alton student/athletes were honored at the Annual NH High School Women Athletes Academic Award ceremony at the State House. The three are Maureen Coots, Barbara McKenney, and Courtney Newton. The awards go to seniors with a grade point average of B plus and play at least two varsity sports. They must demonstrate good citizenship and be positive role models for their peers... The Apache Players, Alton High's Drama Club, hosted a regional Drama Festival on March 26. One act plays were presented by Alton, Franklin, Bishop Brady, Laconia, Alvirne, Nashua and Portsmouth. Top three productions advance to the State Drama Festival...

FIVE YEARS AGO . . .

. . . The Alton Volunteer Ambulance Service will end services on March 10. Lack of Qualified volunteers for daytime hours is the main problem. Emergency coverage was established and permanent plans will be forthcoming...Playground Fund raisers were continuing with more volunteer participation...Matthew Cook-Hamer wins Geography Bee at ACS...Michael Langer, a Senior at ACS, has been selected as winner of 1999 Blue Ribbon Literary contest. His award winning essay was "How Our School Volunteers Make A Difference" The contest was sponsored by New Hampshire Partners in Education.

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ALTON YOUTH LEAGUE NEWS Lisa Jones, AYL Secretary

The Alton Youth League will hold a mandatory meeting for all coaches Sunday, April 4 at 11am in the Alton Central School gym. Immediately following the meeting will be a mandatory Coaches Clinic in the gym until 1pm.

The Alton Youth League has set dates for softball, baseball, and tee-ball registrations to take place downstairs in the Gilman Library. Mark your calendars for the following dates and times: Thursday, March 4, 5-8pm, Sat., March 6, 9am-12pm, and Sun., March 7, 11am-1pm. Please do not forget a copy of the player's birth certificate.

Please note that fees for Majors and Minors will be \$30 as AYL will be paying home plate umpires \$20 per game this season for those levels.

The Alton Youth League will hold an Umpire Clinic Sunday, April 4 from 1-5pm in the Alton Central School gym. The cost is \$10 per person and is open to all. AYL will pay the \$10 fee for high school students who will be required to attend the clinic in order to be paid for umpiring behind home plate for the Alton Youth League. If you would like to attend the clinic, please pre-register by calling Ben Jones at 875-7515 or e-mail weatherdude@metrocast.net no later than March 23. Anyone interested in becoming a patched umpire may get the appropriate paper work from Jim Charland who will be running the clinic.

There is an open board position of Concession Manager. If you are interested, please call Dianna Rojek at 875-0493 for more information. Our next meeting will be held downstairs in the Gilman Library on Sunday, March 14 at 6pm. In the event of bad weather, call Dianna Rojek at 875-0493 to confirm.

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When you need some straight answers, please call...



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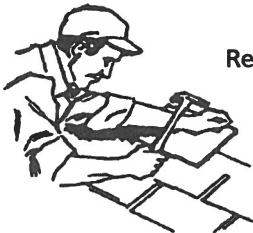
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VIDEOS AVAILABLE TO HELP IN DETERMINING HOW TO VOTE

By Bob Longabaugh

This year Alton voters may find it even more difficult than usual in figuring out how to cast their ballots at both the school and town elections on March 9 and at the town meeting the next evening. The school ballot has become more complicated due to the start up expenses for Prospect Mountain High School, which is scheduled to open this Fall, and an unusually competitive field of candidates for the two spots on the school board. The town election also has two contested offices.

Thanks to modern times and the availability of videotapes, voters can now do some homework in preparing to carry out their civic duties. The Gilman Library has several videos that may be checked out for home study. The first is the proceedings of the School Deliberative session held on January 31. This is the meeting which determined what would appear on the March 9 paper ballot. Although the tape runs almost 4 1/2 hours, there is always the "fast forward" button to shorten viewing time.

Other tapes available from the library are the February 5 Public Hearing on the Town Budget and (after March 3) the March 2 Candidates' Night. All these tapes are being shown also on Public Access Cable TV Channel 26 until March 9 with the unusual playing times in the middle of the night being intended for VCR recording and playback on the viewer's schedule. The videotapes made available at the Gilman Library are courtesy of my spouse, MaryBee.

PARENTING COURSE OFFERED

By Kristin Thomas

On Mondays, 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. Through the use of videos modeling typical situations, parents have an opportunity to learn new ways to handle conflicts. Issues discussed include, but are not limited to; discipline methods that work, the three keys to your child's self esteem, how to avoid anger, communication 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. Molly is a family therapist and parent of twelve children. The class will meet from 6:30-8:30 on Monday nights starting March 8. There is no charge and it is open to all parents. Free childcare is provided. Pre-registration is required, please call Alton Central School at 875-7500 to register.

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ALTON OUTDOORS By Jack Miller

March in New England means the maple syrup season. As the daylight gets longer and days get warmer, the sap starts to run. Spring cannot be far away. This month means the changing of the seasons.

To the outdoor person, March means an end of the hunting seasons. Hunting for fox and snowshoe hare ends March 15, raccoon and night coyote hunting ends March 31, mink and muskrat end at various times depending on the county in which you hunt. Ice fishing also ends March 31.

Since April 1st is the opening of the open water fishing season, March is the month to get ready for it. This is the month I spend tying flies and trolling streamers for salmon fishing. It's wise to also check fishing rods, reels and line. I clean and lube my reels and use armor-all to polish my rods and fly lines. If you need some new fly fishing equipment, the World Fly Fishing Expo takes place March 13-14 at the Shriners Auditorium in Wilmington, MA. The cost is \$10.00. This is the place to buy new flies, tying materials, rods, reels, lines and other goodies at bargain prices. More info may be obtained at: www.sportshows.com

If you fish from a boat, you must have a safety vest. I have had trouble wearing one while dressed in my winter jacket, rowing my canoe at ice out. This year I got an inflatable PFC. It's a compact vest that inflates within seconds by a CO2 cartridge. They can inflate automatically by wetness or manually by a pull cord, and do not interfere with upper body movement. I will wear it this year and let my wife stop worrying about me. When we took the boat safety course, we saw a demonstration that showed us just how important it is to be WEARING your PFC, not just to have it near by. Time yourself to see how long it takes to put your PFC on. Do you have that many seconds? Will your vest fly out of the boat and out of reach when the accident happens? Think about it.

Beat "cabin fever" this month by getting ready for next month's fishing season.

ART SHOW AT ALTON TOWN HALL

By: Jennifer VanCor, Art Teacher

Don't miss this year's Art Show at the Town Hall from March 8th through April 2. Student's artwork will be hung in the Selectmen's Office and displayed in the glass case.

Schools nationwide celebrate March as Youth Art Month and Alton Central School is well represented. Students in grades K- 7 have been working hard all year expanding their creative visual art skills. They have produced some exceptional works in a variety of mediums.

Please come and help us celebrate Youth Art Month by viewing this show. The Town Hall is open from 8:30am to 4:30pm, Monday through Friday.

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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."

BE PREPARED TO VOTE

Voting can be a time consuming enterprise, especially when there are lengthy articles or amendments that need to be read and understood. As a service to the voters of Alton, Main Street is reprinting the Town and School Ballots. The Town Ballot is first, with the candidates listed in the order on the ballot (and their statements added by Main Street where received), followed by the Proposed Zoning Amendments as they will appear on the ballot. The School Ballot follows, using the same guidelines.

**TOWN OF ALTON
OFFICIAL BALLOT
ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION
ALTON, NH
MARCH 9, 2004**

**SELECTMAN - 3 YEARS
(Elect Two)**

CRIS BLACKSTONE

Background: I've served as an elected official in other places we've lived, including as a School Board member, Park & Recreation Commissioner and on a Zoning Board of Appeals.

Statement: I'm civic minded, open minded and sincerely interested in doing my share to work to keep Alton's character intact, while making our Town a viable, growing community. I understand laws, budgets, budget decisions processes, and the importance of retaining and recruiting qualified, motivated employees to keep the Town running.

**SELECTMAN - 3 YEARS
(Elect Two)**

TIMOTHY KINNON

Background:

Statement: I am a candidate for the office of selectman because I feel I can be responsive to the needs of the citizens of Alton. I feel that I can be both fiscally responsible and responsive to the needs of the citizens of Alton. I will listen.

**SELECTMAN - 3 YEARS
(Elect Two)**

JAMES WASHBURN

Background: I am presently a Selectman and wish to continue serving the Town in the manner. I am retired and have the time to devote to being a selectman.

Statement: I would like to continue in the position of Selectman.

**SELECTMAN - 1 YEAR
(Elect One)**

ALAN SHERWOOD

Questionnaire not received by press time.

**TRUSTEE OF THE TRUST FUNDS - 3 YEARS
(Elect One)**

JOSEPH R. HOULE

Questionnaire not received by press time.

**LIBRARY TRUSTEE - 3 YEARS
(Elect One)**

DAVID D. BIRDSEY

Background: US Navy Veteran, owner-operator of Birdsey's Texaco station, Alton, multi-line licensed insurance adjuster for Metropolitan Property & Casualty Insurance Co. Supervisor of homeowner claims unit. Alton homeowner for 45 years.

Statement: I would look forward to serving as a Trustee of the Gilman Library and working with the present outstanding staff. Maintaining the existing standard of excellence regarding building maintenance and financial stability would be my goal.

**LIBRARY TRUSTEE - 3 YEARS
(Elect One)**

JANICE E. GRAHAM

Questionnaire not received by press time.

**FIRE WARD - 3 YEARS
(Elect One)**

RICHARD QUINDLEY

Questionnaire not received by press time.

**FIRE WARD - 2 YEARS
(Elect One)**

JOHN H. SCOTT

Questionnaire not received by press time.

**FIRE WARD - 1 YEAR
(Elect One)**

KENNETH ROBERTS

Questionnaire not received by press time.

**MODERATOR - 2 YEARS
(Elect One)**

MARK A. NORTHBRIDGE

Questionnaire not received by press time.

**CEMETERY TRUSTEE - 3 YEARS
(Elect One)**

MARK S. DIVITO

Questionnaire not received by press time.

**WATER COMMISSIONER - 3 YEARS
(Elect One)**

MALCOLM (MAL) SIMONDS

Background: I was a certified operator employee of a wastewater treatment plant in Rochester for six years. Past Water Commissioner. Director of the Solid Waste Center for 14 years, now retired.

Statement: I like the Water Department, I took a great deal of interest in it when I was on the Board before. When I make up my mind and agree to do something, I will hold to it, and not do just the opposite.

Continued next page...

BUDGET COMMITTEE – 3 YEARS

(Elect Three)

GERALD P. THEODORA

Questionnaire not received by press time.

BUDGET COMMITTEE – 2 YEARS

(Elect Three)

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

BUDGET COMMITTEE – 1 YEAR

(Elect One)

KEN GILBERT

Background: Engineer Technician, Product Development Engineer, Project Manager, Business Manager/Board Member, Engineering Consultant.

Statement: The rebounding economy demonstrates to Alton that the benefits are not widespread. Alton must continue improving while elevating or maintaining the fiscal burden on our tax paying families. My background will help strike balance between the improvements we want and the fiscal responsibility we need. Thank you for your vote!

PLANNING BOARD - 3 YEARS

(Elect Two)

THOMAS HOOPEES

Background: 21 years Conservation Commission, 18 years Alton Fire Department, 14 years Alton Cemetery Trustee, 3 years Budget Committee and Planning Board.

Statement: Alton is experiencing rapid growth and this is a time for proper planning, not reacting. Growth will come no matter what we do. How do we want the Town to grow? We need to be prepared and must work on our Planning and Zoning.

PLANNING BOARD – 3 YEARS

(Elect Two)

STEPHANIE N. VERDILE

Questionnaire not received by press time.

SUPERVISOR OF THE CHECKLIST – 6 YEARS

(Elect One)

SHIRLEY BISHOP

Questionnaire not received by press time.

PROPOSED ZONING AMENDMENTS

Question #1: Are you in favor of the adoption of **Amendment #1** as proposed by the Planning Board as follows: To amend Article 200, section 229, b. – **New Construction for Condominium Conveyance** – by changing: Construction shall not exceed five units per building to: Construction shall not exceed four units per building for all multi-family structures built after March 2004? (Recommended by the Planning Board. Majority Vote Required.)

Rationale: This housekeeping change is needed so that we will not be in conflict with the requirement of the Zoning Ordinance to only allow four units in a structure.

Question #2: Are you in favor of the adoption of **Amendment #2** as proposed by the Planning Board as follows: To amend Article 300, Section 352, a. by adding the following language: The minimum lot area shall be two acres **per dwelling unit**? (Recommended by the Planning Board. Majority Vote Required.)

Rationale: As the ordinance reads today, a structure of 4 units can be placed on a two-acre lot. This amendment would require eight (8) acres, which would be closer to the intent and character of the Rural Zone.

Question #3: Are you in favor of the adoption of **Amendment #3** as proposed by the Planning Board as follows: To amend Article 300, Zoning district Regulations, Section 352 Restriction Governing Uses, b, by changing the required frontage in the Rural Zone from 150' to 200'. The new section shall read: Each lot shall have a minimum width of ~~150~~ **200** feet frontage at the street or highway line. (Recommended by the Planning Board. Majority Vote Required.)

Rationale: This change will assist in protecting and enhancing the Master Plan's intent of promoting the rural character of the zone.

Question #4: Are you in favor of the adoption of **Amendment #4** as proposed by the Planning Board as follows: To amend Article 300, Section 301 Permitted Uses – Table of Uses by not allowing multi-family dwellings in the rural zone (RU)?

	Residential Uses	R	LR	RC	RR	RU	RS
4	Multi-family Dwelling	N	N	Y	Y	Y N	N

(Recommended by the Planning Board. Majority Vote Required.)

Rationale: This change will assist in protecting and enhancing the Master Plan's intent of promoting the rural character of the zone.

Question #5: Are you in favor of the adoption of **Amendment #5** as proposed by the Planning Board as follows: To amend Article 200 by adding to Section 240, Sign Regulations, by adding a subsection R. This new subsection will read as: **Enforcement, Notification and Removal. It shall be the duty of the Code Enforcement Officer to notify the violator and/or building owner of any violation in writing and if condition or violation is not corrected in five (5) business days from the date of notification, the Code Officer is authorized to impose a fine as specified by the Board of Selectmen?** (Recommended by the Planning Board. Majority Vote Required.)

Rationale: To promote the beautification of Alton, to protect the rural character and to make sign enforcement more effective.

Question #6: Are you in favor of the adoption of **Amendment #6** as proposed by the Planning Board as follows: To amend the Zoning Ordinance by amending Article 200 by adding to Section 240, Sign Regulations, by changing subsection M. All political signs, including posters, are considered to be temporary and shall be removed with ~~15~~ **7 (seven)** days of any general, state, and/or local elections and shall not require any permit. The candidate, candidates, or group whose name appears on any such sign shall be responsible for their removal? (Recommended by the Planning Board. Majority Vote Required.)

Rationale: To promote the beautification of Alton, to protect the rural character and to make sign enforcement more effective.

Question #7: Are you in favor of the adoption of **Amendment #7** as proposed by the Planning Board as follows: To amend the Zoning Ordinance by amending Article 300 by adding to Section 352, Restrictions Governing Uses, by adding the following subsection e. **For all lots created after March 2004, no more than 25% of the minimum lot requirement can be made up of jurisdictional Wetlands and Steep Slopes – 25% or greater?** (Recommended by the Planning Board. Majority Vote Required.)

Rationale: This addition to the Ordinance will protect ecologically-sensitive areas and reduce damage to both the natural and cultural environments caused by excessive soil erosion.

Question #8: Are you in favor of the adoption of **Amendment #8** as proposed by the Planning Board as follows: To add to Article 200, Section 235 APPEARANCE REVIEW A. Purpose: The Town finds it desirable to protect, enhance, and perpetuate areas of historical, cultural, architectural, artistic or geographic significance located within the Town

continued next page

of Alton; to protect and enhance the Town's economic base by attracting tourists, visitors and residents; to stabilize and improve property values; to foster civic pride by protecting the Town's unique cultural heritage by prohibiting the unnecessary destruction and defacement of its cultural assets; to preserve historic architectural design and integrity; **to protect significant viewsheds and vistas**, and to ensure the harmonious, orderly and efficient growth and development of the Town? (Recommended by the Planning Board. Majority Vote Required.)
Rationale: This addition to the Ordinance allows the town to address those areas of significant beauty.

Question #9: Are you in favor of the adoption of **Amendment #9** as proposed by the Planning Board as follows: To amend Article 400, Section 410 Term, Membership, Authority, and Duties, by changing the number of alternates from three to five as follows: In conformance with RSA 673:1, IV, the Board of Selectmen shall appoint a Board of Adjustment consisting of five (5) member and **five (3) (5)** alternates whose qualifications, duties and organizations shall conform to the provisions of RSA 673:3-17? (Recommended by the Planning Board. Majority Vote Required.)

Rationale: This is a housekeeping change to allow the Board to stay current with the existing state RSA.

Question #10: Are you in favor of the adoption of **Amendment #10** as proposed by the Planning Board as follows: To amend Article 200, Section 235 B, Review Process by adding the words **and subdivision** to allow the subsection to read as follows: "As part of its site review **and subdivision** process the Planning Board shall review each proposal for conformance with the intent of the ordinance. The Board shall take into account the location within the community, surrounding properties and proposed use of any proposed development in making its decision." (Recommended by the Planning Board. Majority Vote Required.)

Rationale: This will allow the Planning Board to work with the applicant on issues related to scenic views, landscape design improvements, and other issues related to aesthetics.

Question #11: Are you in favor of the adoption of **Amendment #12** as proposed by the Planning Board as follows: To amend Article 300, Section 363 Restrictions Governing Use (in the RR zone) by changing the word **family** to **dwelling unit**. This section shall read as follows: a.

The minimum lot area shall be:

1. Dwelling - 1 acre per **family dwelling unit**. No more than two (2) dwellings per lot are permitted without subdivision approval.
2. All other uses - 1 acre.

(Recommended by the Planning Board. Majority Vote Required.)

Rationale: This is a house keeping change in order to express the original intent of the ordinance.

Question #12: Are you in favor of the adoption of **Amendment #13** as proposed by the Planning Board as follows: To amend Article 500, Definitions by changing the definition of **Frontage, Street**. The new definition shall read as follows: Frontage, Street - The distance along the front lot line or right-of-way line of a ~~public or private street~~ **Class V Highway or better** measured in feet. Each lot shall meet minimum frontage requirements on the main street through which beneficial access is achieved. Also, see Frontage, Shoreland. (Recommended by the Planning Board. Majority Vote Required.)

Rationale: This is a housekeeping change in order to express the original intent of the Master Plan and the subdivision process that requires that subdivision roads be brought up to Class V standards.

YOU HAVE NOW COMPLETED VOTING

School Ballot Follows

**OFFICIAL BALLOT
ANNUAL SCHOOL DISTRICT ELECTION
ALTON, NEW HAMPSHIRE
MARCH 9, 2004**

**SCHOOL BOARD - 3 YEARS
(Elect Two)
LAURIE BOYCE**

Background: School Volunteer Coordinator sixteen years. State Representative 3 years (working on Municipal-County Government Committee).

Statement: I will try to work on the JMA contract so the residents of Alton have more of a say as to what happens, and when the high school is a line item on the budget that figure is all they spend.

**SCHOOL BOARD - 3 YEARS
(Elect Two)
ROBERT L. (LORING) CARR**

Background: I have previously served on the School Board for six years. During that time I served as the chairman for two years and represented the Board on the Budget Committee for four years. Since that time period, I was elected to serve on the Budget Committee for three years.

Statement: If elected, I intend to work towards reestablishing the School Board's credibility through factual, honest communication and also recognizing its responsibility to the public. School Board members need to take a leadership role in promoting quality educational programs at a reasonable cost.

**SCHOOL BOARD - 3 YEARS
(Elect Two)
PETER FARRELL**

Background: (condensed) I have been a resident of Alton since 1980. I served on the Alton Building Committee in 1999 and as a school board member from spring of 2000. I have participated as a committee member in teacher contract negotiations, land acquisition, building design, the JMA Agreement, bidding processes, policy development, hiring interviews, and budget preparation.

Statement: I wish to continue the work of opening PM High School while insuring that there is continued support for a strong K-8 program. In the last three years, we have accomplished an enormous amount by focusing on bringing people together and forging positive relationships based on common goals.

**SCHOOL BOARD - 3 YEARS
(Elect Two)
JOYCE HOPPER**

Background: I've been an Alton School Board member for seven years. I've served on the Executive Council of the NH School Board Association. I've also been on the negotiating team for three teacher contracts. I was instrumental in starting the Alton PTSA, of which I'm currently Vice President. I've been recognized by the NH School Administrators Association with the Regional Champion for Children Award and the NH Student Hero Award.

Statement: We've seen many positive changes in our school system. Still, more challenges await us as we prepare to open our new high school. I am deeply committed to all of our children and their futures. I'm equally dedicated to ensuring improvements continue in a positive and respectful manner.

**SCHOOL BOARD - 3 YEARS
(Elect Two)
CYDNEY S. JOHNSON**

Questionnaire not received by press time.

continued next page...

SCHOOL DISTRICT MODERATOR – 1 YEAR
(Elect One)
MARK A. NORTHRIDGE

Questionnaire not received by press time.

SCHOOL DISTRICT CLERK – 1 YEAR
(Elect One)

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

SCHOOL DISTRICT TREASURER – 1 YEAR
(Elect One)
SHIRLEY A. LANE

Questionnaire not received by press time.

ARTICLE II.

Shall the School District vote to raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriations made by Special Warrant Articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth on the budget posted with the warrant, or as amended by vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling **\$9,622,113**. Should this article be defeated, the operating budget shall be **\$9,595,355**, which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Alton School District, or by law, or the governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13 X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only. (*This warrant article (operating budget) does not include appropriations in ANY of the warrant articles.*)

ARTICLE III.

To see if the School District will vote to approve the cost items included in the collective bargaining agreement reached between the Alton School District and the Alton Teachers' Association, which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Estimated Increase</u>
2004-2005	\$108,864
2005-2006	\$104,404
2006-2007	\$102,209

and further to raise and appropriate the sum of \$108,864 for the 2004-2005 fiscal year, such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits over those of the appropriation at current staffing levels paid in the prior fiscal year. (**The Alton School Board recommends \$108,864. The Alton Budget Committee recommends \$108,864.**)

ARTICLE IV.

Shall the School District, if Article III is defeated, authorize the governing body to call one special meeting, at its option, to address Article III cost items only?

ARTICLE V.

Shall the School District vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifteen Thousand (**\$15,000**) to be added to the Expendable Trust Fund previously established in March 2000, under the provisions of RSA 198:20-c, known as the emergency general maintenance fund. (**The Alton School Board recommends \$15,000. The Alton Budget Committee recommends \$15,000.**)

ARTICLE VI.

Shall the School District vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Five Thousand (**\$25,000**) to be added to the Capital Reserve Fund

previously established in March 1998, under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for the purpose of installing a fire suppression system. (**The Alton School Board recommends \$25,000. The Alton Budget Committee recommends \$25,000.**)

ARTICLE VII.

To see if the voters of the Alton School District insist upon and support the videotaping of School Board and other official meetings of related boards (e.g., the JMA Board for one) and committees for the purpose of making their proceedings readily available on Public Access Cablevision and for library loans of videotapes to the widest possible audience of taxpayers and voters; and further to see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,600 for such purposes, such sum being unrestricted as to whether it is used for personnel expenses (including insurance) in using the District's existing video equipment, or the purchase of a new installation especially intended for the video recording of meetings with minimum human involvement. The passage of this article is intended to result in the availability of videotapes of such meetings no later than September 1, 2004. (**Submitted by Petition.**) (**The Alton School Board recommends. The Alton Budget Committee recommends.**)

ARTICLE VIII.

Shall the voters of the Alton School District vote to leave the wording of the Joint Maintenance Agreement between Alton and Barnstead in place as originally adopted by the voters of each community? (**Submitted by Petition and amended at the Deliberative Session on 1/31/04**)

ACS National Honor Society News
By: Molly Souliere, Member

The National Honor Society was very excited about their latest project, babysitting for the deliberative session. There were about fifteen to twenty children all through out the day and it went very well. We did various activities with the children, such as coloring and reading. Our next project was a penny war between the high school classes for winter carnival week. The object was to get as many pennies as you can. The twist was that any silver change or bills that were put in the jars canceled out the pennies. The proceeds went to various organizations in the high school. This took place from Monday February 16 to Friday February 20.

The NHS is planning to have a senior brunch for senior citizens in March. The date, time and location are available from Mrs. Hikel (see contact number below). Hoops for Heart (American Heart Association) will be taking place for grades 5-8 during March 26, 2004. Last but not least, the NHS will hold a March Madness, which will include an academic challenge where the students are randomly split into teams. The objective is to use teamwork to solve challenges together and demonstrate school spirit.

If there are any community projects any one would like help with the NHS is always glad to help. For any questions, comments, or concerns please contact Kristi Hikel at 875-7500 Ext. 7348.

HOLISTIC HEALTH JOURNEY Presents

"The Rest of Your Life" Workshop

New ways of *thinking* to form the future you want; i.e. *The Power of Appreciation; The Real You; and More...*

Two Parts:

Tuesday March 30th and Tuesday April 6th; 6:00-8:00PM

Location: Kwoon Karate Academy • Main Street, Alton
(Former American Legion) **Fee:** \$30.00 total

Pre Registration Suggested - Call 875-8221



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CONH04E

DOG LICENSES

By Lisa Waterman, Town Clerk

Dog licenses expire on April 30th and are now due for renewal as required by state law. Please bring an updated rabies certificate and a spayed or neutered certificate, if applicable. The fees are as follows:

Male/Female - \$10.00

Neutered/Spayed - \$7.50

1st Animal of Senior Citizen over 65 - \$2.00

You may mail your license request to Alton Town Clerk, PO Box 637, Alton, NH 03809. Please include the above information, a check in the appropriate amount made payable to the Town of Alton and a **self addressed, stamped envelope**. We will return your rabies and/or neutering certificate. If you are over 65, please send proof of age.

There will be a rabies clinic in mid April, please see the April edition of Main Street for the details.

If you **no longer have your dog** or have any questions please call the Town Clerk's office at 875-2101 from 8:30 - 4:30, Monday through Friday.

PLANT SALE UPDATE

By Jan Hooper

Soon, the Annual Plant and More Sale flyer from Belknap County Conservation District will be available. If you would like to be added to the mailing list, please call 527-5880 with either your email or regular mailing address. It will feature a wide variety of plants with conservation, food or wildlife value. Some of the new items for this year are: partridge berry, a lilac that blooms twice, pink pussy willows, hawthorn, Everest strawberries, nearly spineless raspberries, cold hardy black raspberries, red wine grape, white fleshed peach, new sweet cherry, early red plum, several perennial flowers that prefer waterfront and other moist areas, Virginia creeper, and witch hazel. We're still finalizing what will be in the shoreland, wildlife, butterfly, lilac and turkey packages. The "Wildlife Habitat Area" signs and "Outwitting Deer" book, will be available again. Please contact us soon so we can get the materials to you when they are just off the press, for this annual fundraiser.

All programs and services are offered on a non-discriminatory basis, without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, gender, disability, political belief, age, marital or familial status.

**SUPPORT THE BUSINESSES
THAT SUPPORT
MAIN STREET!!**

Clubs and Services

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 additional 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.

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: Overeaters Anonymous (OA) meets weekly on Thursdays at the Alton Bay Community Center on Route 11 from 5:30-6:30 pm. Also Tues., Cong Church Ossipee, Sat., Huggins Hospital Wolfeboro. Call 434-7578 for more information. 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.

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ORGANIZATIONS:

Alcoholics Anonymous -- Tue., 8 p.m., Alton Bay Comm. Ctr.
Alton Community Services Prog., Sat., 10 a.m. - 12 noon., 875-2273

Alton Masonic Lodge #75 -- 2nd Thu. except July & Aug., 875-7448

American Legion -- 2nd Mon., 8:30 p.m., Legion Hall, Rte 28

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

American Legion Jr. Auxiliary -- 1st Wed., 6:30 p.m., Legion Hall

American Legion Family -- 2nd Monday 7:30pm, Legion Hall

Boy Scout Troop 53 -- Wed., 7 pm, Central Fire Station

Cub Scout Pack 53 -- Last Wed., 7 p.m., Legion Hall

4-H Club, see website <www.alton4H.org>

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.

Moms In Touch -- Tue., 12:30 p.m., 875-2866

Mt. Major Snowmobile Club -- 2nd Tue., 7 p.m., Sr. Center,

875-3858 or <info@mountmajorsnowmobileclub.com>

OES, Warren-Alpha #10, Wolfeboro -- 3rd Tue, 7:30 p.m., 539-7898

Overeaters Anonymous (OA), Thursdays, 5:30, Alton Bay

Community Center. Call 434-7578

PTSA. -- 3rd Wed., Alton Central School HS Library, 7 p.m.

Senior Citizens -- 2nd Wed., 1 p.m., Pearson Road

Community Center

Sons of the American Legion, 2nd Monday, 6:30pm, Legion Hall

VFW -- 3rd Mon., 7:30 p.m., Pearson Road Community Center

CALL 875-2151 TO UPDATE THE ABOVE LISTINGS

Information Center

SCHEDULES

CHURCHES:

- Baha' i Fireside -- Thu., 7:30 p.m., Holway Residence, Old New Durham Road
- Bay Church -- 9:30am Sunday School, Church on Rand Hill Rd, 11am Worship Service, ABCCC; Weds. Prayer meeting - 6:45pm, Church on Rand Hill Rd. To confirm call 875-5211
- Community Church -- Sun. Service, 9:30am, Main Street Church Rev. Peter Bolster, Pastor; 875-5561
- First Free Will Baptist Church -- Sun. School, 9:45 am; Church, 11 am; Evening Service, 6 pm; Wed. Prayer Meeting, 7 pm; Depot St., New Durham; Pastor James Nason
- North Barnstead Congregational Church -- Sun. School and Worship Services, 10:30 am, 504 N. Barnstead Rd, Rev. Gray Fitzgerald
- St. Katharine Drexel -- Weekend Masses Sat. 4pm, Sun., 8:30 and 10:30am; weekday Masses, Mon. through Fri., 8am; Rev. George Ham; 569-2548
- Wolfeboro Bible Fellowship -- Sunday School, 9:30am; Worship Service, 10:30 am; Evening Service, 6pm; Wed. Prayer Meeting, 7 pm; Route 28; Pastor Scott Button
- GILMAN LIBRARY:** 875-2550
Tue. and Thu., 11 am - 7 pm; Wed. and Fri., 9 am - 5 pm; Sat., 9 am - 1 pm; closed Sun. and Mon.
- SENIOR MEAL SITE:** 875-7102
Mon-Fri., 10am-2pm; Pearson Rd. Community Center
- SOLID WASTE CENTER:** 875-5801
Sun., Mon., Fri., and Sat., 7am - 4:45pm.
Closed Tue., Wed., and Thu.
Rines Road Pit -- As of April 19, Sat. and Sun., 8 am - 2:45 pm.
- TOWN HALL:** 875-2161
Selectmen's Office, Tax Collector, Town Administrator, Town Clerk, and Welfare Officer, 8:30 am - 4:30 pm.
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.

BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

- BELKNAP COUNTY COUNCIL FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES**--Contact Dick Wallace, Alton Appointee, phone 875-8221
- BOARD OF SELECTMEN** -- 1st & 3rd Mondays, 6pm. (re-plays on Channel 26 later in the week), Chairman James Washburn, call 875-2161 for appointment.
- BUDGET COMMITTEE** -- 3rd Thursday (twice a week in "budget season"), 7 pm, Chairman Cydney Johnson, 875-7448.
- CEMETERY TRUSTEES** -- Meetings posted at Town Hall and Post Office, Chairman Shirley Lane, 875-5864.
- CONSERVATION COMMISSION** -- 2nd & 4th Thurs., 7 pm, Town Hall, Co-Chairs, Earl Bagley and Justine Gengras, 875-5095.
- FIRE WARDS** -- 2nd Wednesday, 7 pm, Central Fire Station, Chairman Ken Roberts, 875-6808

- GILMAN MUSEUM COMMITTEE** -- Meets on call, Chairman Kathy Currier, 875-5095.
- LAND CONSERVATION INVESTMENT PROGRAM** - Meets on call, Chairman Juliet Peverley, 875-7232.
- LEVEY PARK TRUSTEES** -- Meets 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 Thomas Hoopes, call 875-5095 for appointment.
- SCHOOL BOARD** -- 2nd & 4th Mondays, 6 pm, Chairman Lawrence Alting, 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 pm, Chairman Nancy Jordan, 875-2550.
- TRUSTEES OF TRUST FUNDS** -- Meets on call, Chairman Joseph R. Houle, 875-7321.
- WATER COMMISSION** -- 2nd & 4th Wednesday, 9:30am, Water Department Office, Chairman Buddy Peterson.
- ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT** -- 1st Thursday, 7 pm, Chairman Richard Quindley, 875-5095.
- *DENOTES A CHANGE OF INFORMATION
CALL 875-2151 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, 111 Russell Senate Office Building, Washington DC 20510; Phones: (202) 224-2841, (603) 647-7500, 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, (603) 641-9536, Fax: (202) 225-5822; web site: www.house.gov/Bradley

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

N.H. SENATE

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

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- | | |
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| <u>Janet Allen</u> , 269-6313 | <u>James Pilliod</u> , 524-3047 |
| <u>Gordon Bartlett</u> , 524-6536 | <u>David Russell</u> , 364-7449 |
| <u>Laurie Boyce</u> , 875-7371 | <u>John Thomas</u> , 528-5112 |
| <u>Charles Clark</u> , 293-9194 | <u>Mike Whalley</u> , 875-7266 |

BELKNAP COUNTY COMMISSIONER

- Christopher D. Boothby, 527-5400

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| <u>Alan Sherwood</u> 293-7041 | |

ALTON COMMUNITY YOUTH ACTIVITIES MARCH

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

- Fri 5 Youth Drop-in Center, grades 6-12, 3-6pm, CCOA
Youth Group Supper and Program, grades 6-12, 6-9 pm, CCOA
- Sun 7 Youth Sunday School Classes, 9:30am, CCOA
- Fri 12 Youth Drop-in Center, grades 6-12, 3-6pm, CCOA
Youth Group Supper and Program, grades 6-12, 6-9 pm, CCOA
Movie and Ice Cream Social, grades 5-6, 6:30-8:30 pm, PRCC, CYA
Middle School Dance, grades 6-8, 6:30-9:00pm ACS cafeteria Cost \$5 or \$4 with a canned good
- Sun 14 Youth Sunday School Classes, 9:30am, CCOA
- Fri 19 Youth Drop-in Center, grades 6-12, 3-6pm, CCOA
Youth Group Supper and Program, grades 6-12, 6-9pm, CCOA
Movie and Ice Cream Social, grades 7-8, 6:30-8:30pm, PRCC, CYA
- Sun 21 Youth Sunday School Classes, 9:30am, CCOA.
- Fri 26 Youth Drop-in Center, grades 6-12, 3-6pm, CCOA
Youth Group Supper and Program, grades 6-12, 6-9pm, CCOA
- Sat. 27 Mother/son movie, raffles, grades K-5, \$5, ACS
- Sun 28 Youth Sunday School Classes, 9:30am, CCOA
CCOA events open to all community youth.
- Legend:** ACS=Alton Central School; CCOA=Community Church of Alton on Church Street; HS=High School; CYA=Alton Community Youth Activities team; PTSA=Parent Teacher Student Association; PRCC=Pearson Road Community Center

ACS TO HOST ARTIST IN RESIDENCE

By: Pamela Mathews, Kindergarten Teacher

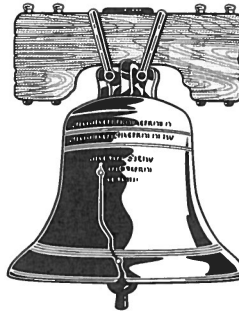
Alton Central School is proud to be hosting Artist in Residence, Jasmine Shah. Ms. Shah will present a two-week workshop on Indian culture, dance and storytelling to our elementary students.

The Artist in Residence program is a state-funded grant program to increase the awareness of the importance of the arts in education. Funding is made possible through the State Council on the Arts. Artists work with public schools throughout New Hampshire, offering in depth learning experiences throughout their individual expertise.

This year's residency will begin with an initial presentation of Indian classical dance to all elementary students. Ms. Shah will work with core groups of students in grades two and five. On March 18, 2004 at 1:15pm, these core groups will perform several short dances. Parents and members of the public will be welcomed to join us at this culminating event. Help us support this very important program.

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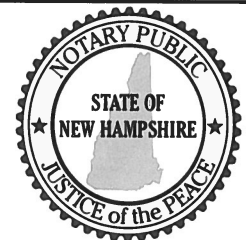


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LAKES REGION

CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S GROUP

By Karen Poor

"An Appalachian Mountain Story" will be the subject of our guest speaker Mona Radford of Nashua, NH at our March 10th meeting of the Lakes Region Christian Women's Group. From North Carolina to New Hampshire Mona will share the many peaks and valleys of her life with humor and grace. She has a valuable lesson to give to us all and we hope you will make the time to join us.

Our special feature will be Celina Boulanger of Gilmanton who will show us how to preserve our pictures and momentos in a scrapbook, "Creative Memories".

Meetings are held at Hart's Turkey Farm Restaurant on route 3 in Meredith on the second Wednesday of every month at 10am. A continental breakfast is served at a cost of \$8.00. The group is a non-denominational group of ladies and we have no formal membership or dues. We look forward to new people joining in on an informative and entertaining morning. Reservations are needed and must be honored. In the Alton area, please call Melissa 776-2224 and in the Gilford area, call Faith 293-8073. Hope to see you there.

DID YOU KNOW... that every seven years the town lines are perambulated? The first recorded perambulation occurred in 1838. The word 'perambulate' in this case indicates that every so often, usually seven years, the town fathers or their representatives walk the mutual boundaries with bordering town representatives to inspect the monuments along the lines. This determines the exact location of the proprietary tracts. Years ago it also ascertained the amount of arable land contained within the boundaries. Alton's most recent perambulation was in 1997.

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Alton Parks and Recreation Department
Creating Community Through People, Parks and Programs.

Winter Festival

The Alton Parks and Recreation Department sponsored its annual Winter Festival on Sunday, February 15, 2004 from 1:00pm-3:00pm in Alton Bay. Lake Winnepesaukee was a Winter Wonderland with over 100 planes landing on the lake, snowmobiles, families of all ages, ice fishermen, dogs and even a Clydesdale horse. Activities included the Aviation Association of NH Fly-In, Mt. Major Snow Mobile Club Radar Run, Parks and Recreation Scavenger Hunt and Great Alton Bay Bed Race and hot refreshments provided by the Alton Central School's U.S. First-Robotics Team.

It is estimated that over 1,500 people participated in the outdoor festival. Due to the blustery cold participation in the scavenger hunt was less than previous years. Five teams participated in finding the items on the list or answering questions. First Place was awarded to the Alton Bay Christian Conference Center Crusaders and Second Place to Megan.

The Great Alton Bay Bed Race saw an increase in participation this year; there were more beds in 2004 that there has been in over 10 years. Three beds came from Alton Bay and two beds from Massachusetts. A special thank you to all of the contestants. The beds were well decorated with themes from red, white and blue to Valentine's Day and of course the NE Patriots. The teams were enthusiastic and happy to be there. First Place was awarded to "The Alton Bay Christian Conference Center" who received tubing and ski passes donated by Gunstock Ski Area- team members included: Dan Mayroon, Roger Carlson, Lou D'Angelo and Robert Noreau; Second Place was the "Mill Cove Raiders" with team members: Joe Mankus, Ross Tomkins, Jay Turmel, Brody Mankus, Taylor Mankus and Anderson Mankus; Third Place was the "Sunset Snoozers": Fred Sallah, Jack Miller, Mickey Burchell, Matt DiVito and Meghan DiVito; Forth Place and also winners of the Most Creative Bed with a NE Patriots Theme was "The Brady's": Robin Rowell, Richard Rowell, Tim Rollins, Kevin Rollins and Jessica Rowell; Fifth Place was the "Fields Family" with Don Fields, Lisa Fields, Ken Stockpah, Monique Fields and Necole Fields.

The Parks and Recreation Department would like to thank the people for coming out to join in the festivities and cheer on the racers. Also thank you to the organizations that participated in the Winter Festival and the Parks and Recreation Commission volunteers that helped make the event possible: Dave Cumming, Melissa Wells and Bill Lionetta.

Play, Learn and Grow Program

The Alton Parks and Recreation Department is co-sponsoring a drop-in playgroup program with the Giggles and Grins Resource Center. This free program is open to all children newborn to 5 years of age and will be held at the Alton Bay Community Center on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:30am-11:30am beginning March 2, 2004. Come and meet new parents and children. Activities include: open play, snack time, activity or craft, reading books and free play. Parents must stay with their child during the program, please bring a snack for your child. To register or for more information please call 875-0109.

Town Beach Committee

The Town Beach Committee is actively searching for lakefront property on Lake Winnepesaukee to provide an accessible swimming area and beach for the Community. The Lake is a tremendous resource to the community and the Committee would like to offer a beach for all community members to enjoy. If you are interested in serving on the Beach Committee or would like to offer land for the purpose of a Town Beach please contact the Alton Parks and Recreation Department at 875-0109.



Winter Carnival Sign up booth and the High School "NH First Project" food booth.

Photo by Richard Cunningham

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LAKES REGION HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS PRODUCT FACILITY UPDATE

By Sarah Silk

While the weather may yet feel like winter, spring will soon be upon us and the Lakes Region Household Hazardous Product Facility (LRHHPF) will begin its second season. The facility will be open from 8:30 AM to noon the third Saturday of the month from May through October as it was in 2003. New brochures for 2004 will arrive at the Alton and Wolfeboro Town Halls and Solid Waste Facilities in April. Watch the "Week Ahead" listings in the Granite State News for reminders of collection dates. Until then, please store any hazardous household products you wish to dispose of in their original containers inside a sturdy cardboard box safe from children and pets.

For more information about which products are hazardous, visit the NH Department of Environmental Services web site (www.des.state.nh.us/factsheets/hw/hw-3.htm). For a list of alternative products, view [/hw-12.htm](http://hw-12.htm) at the same site, or type hazardous waste alternatives into Google. Other sites such as www.care2.com offer non-toxic substitutes for many commonly used hazardous products.

Prior to the seasonal opening on May 15th, please call LRHHPF site coordinator, Sarah M Silk, with any immediate questions at 569-2073 or 651-7530.

ALTON ELEMENTARY BOYS BASKETBALL WINS CHAMPIONSHIP

By Lisa Jones

The Alton Apaches Elementary boy's basketball team had a successful season under the guidance of coach Gary Steinbach. With a regular season record of 7 wins and 2 losses, the Apaches easily won the Suncook Valley League Championship with everyone on the team contributing. The end of season tournament was held Saturday, February 7 at Holy Trinity School in Laconia. The Apaches played three games in the tournament with the hardest fought against rival, #3 seed Barnstead in the semi-final. Alton was hoping to play #1 seed Chichester in the final to avenge their only two losses of the season by one point in each game. It was not to be as the #2 seed Apaches faced #4 seed Concord Christian in the final, winning 35-18. Aaron Wilkinson was named the Tournament MVP.

Back Row: Dylan Ball, Greg Tinkham, Levi Liedtke, Aaron Wilkinson, Coach Gary Steinbach, Brian Jones. Front Row: Bandon DeTamosi, Morgan Roy, Spencer Goossens, Tyler Adabahr, Jake Rochette, Danny Lang, Greg Vernal



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ALTON FIRE/RESCUE DEPARTMENT NEWS

The Alton Fire/Rescue Department wish to remind residents to clear their sidewalks and driveways of snow so that if you have an emergency, rescue personnel may get to you safely. On many emergency scenes, time is of the essence. If we encounter a problem accessing the location, this could ultimately affect the outcome of your situation. Just imagine if you had to package and secure a patient onto a stretcher and then lift and move them out of the house, down a walkway, to the Ambulance for transport to an emergency facility. Now imagine that same scenario with an icy, slippery walkway or an unclear driveway. We thank you in advance for your assistance with these seasonal hazards.

We are asking residents to post their new E-911 numbers according to the information packets mailed out. If you haven't received your E-911 number and address mailer, please call the Town Hall. It is extremely important that the new numbers be posted visibly so that in an emergency, we will be able to locate your address.

The Fire/Rescue Dept will be hosting a Spaghetti Dinner on Saturday, March 27, 2004 to raise funds for a new multi-function gas meter. This dinner will be held at the Central Fire Station, 65 Frank C. Gilman Hwy. (our new E-911 number) during the hours of 5-7pm. Dinner cost: Adults, \$6.00/pp and children (12 and under) \$3.00/pp. So come on down, bring your friends and family, and enjoy a delicious spaghetti dinner at the Central Fire Station. See you there.

Calls for service for the month of January totaled 39. These calls included 13 that were Fire related, 23 Medical Emergencies of which 6 were motor vehicle crashes, and 3 service calls to assist the public.

Reminder - Residents planning to burn brush piles should call in to the Central Fire Station at 875-0222 and advise us of your name, location, and telephone number. We will then add you to our daily list of burning locations in Town so that when someone calls thinking there is a structure fire, we will know who is burning where.

We would also like to thank Dave Turner of Dave's Repair on Main Street here in Alton for his donation to the Department from the tire raffle proceeds. We appreciate your generosity and will put these funds towards the purchase of life saving equipment.

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FROM THE PLANNER'S DESK

By Peer Kraft-Lund

Well, it is town meeting time again and the Planning Organization of your town has proposed several **amendments to the Zoning Ordinance**. The majority of the twelve proposed changes are limited in scope and could be described as housekeeping amendments. There are four amendments that need discussion.

In a previous article, I provided a written discussion on the **Vision Statement**. The Planning Board in designing the vision statement went back and reviewed comments, questionnaires, and details of master plans of the past. This statement, now approved, described a livable community, which preserves and enhances its rural character. A Master Plan Vision Statement is without teeth unless it becomes part of a town's ordinances and/or regulations.

Question #3 addresses frontage and increases the existing from 150' to 200'. Because larger frontage means fewer houses packed together, this amendment will result in less of a suburban appearance. Question #4 removes multi-family housing –up to four units in a structure – from the Rural Zone. As the present ordinance is written, there can be these massive four unit structures on a two-acre lot. That type of housing will not provide the sense of rural living. If passed, Question #7 is another step in protecting sensitive landforms such as steep slopes and wetlands.

Although the Board feels the passage of these amendments is critical, they are concerned with the cost and availability of workforce and affordable housing. A **housing subcommittee** is being considered by the Board, which will look at housing and address initiatives such as Open Space Preservation Development, enlarging and adding Village Districts, Continual Care Retirement Complexes, and Fifty-five Plus Developments.

Questions # 8 and # 10 are also written in response to the Master Plan's sensitivity in protecting the rural aspects of our town. These two amendments would allow the Board to work with the applicants on viewshed protection.

THE CHECKOUT DESK

By Holly Brown

Librarian

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. 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, 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 our 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, 1999. 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 (Alton's Book Chat) will be meeting on Monday, March 8 at 6:30pm in the Agnes Thompson Meeting Room at the library. They will be discussing A Favor Returned, by Duke Southard.

In addition, members of Alton's Book Chat will be attending a program on Monday, March 15 at 7pm that will be presented by author Duke Southard. Mr. Southard, resident of Tuftonboro, will be discussing his book which was mentioned previously. This program is sponsored by Alton's Book Chat and is open to the public. Admission is free.



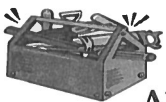
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Lahiri, Jhumpa
Michaels, Fern
Roberts, Nora

Codeword Janus
The Hornet's Nest
Elizabeth Costello
Trojan Odyssey
The Streets of Town
The Murder Room
Odd Thomas
Truth or Dare
The Namesake
Crown Jewel
Key of Knowledge

NONFICTION

Bergreen, Laurence Over the Edge of the World
Franken, Al Lies and the Lying Liars Who Tell Them
Scotti, R.A. Sudden Sea: the Great Hurricane of 1938
Rogers, Fred The World According to Mister Rogers

BIOGRAPHY

Mayes, Frances Under the Tuscan Sun
Bragg, Rick I Am A Soldier, Too

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IF NOT YOU, WHO ??? THE IMPORTANCE OF KNOWING CPR AND FIRST AID By Richard Cunningham

In a town where water is so much a part of our lives and people come to retire, where we have vast open lands to hike, climb and enjoy, and many roads and highways to travel, it is so important to have neighbors who can act in an emergency to help save lives until medical assistance arrives. It could be you who someone comes crying to for help for a child, a family member or a neighbor. It could be you who observes a crowd of disorganized people standing around a young man lying on his back, looking dazed and holding his head. A well meaning crowd, but nobody is doing anything except looking at each other. He needs help from someone. That someone could be you.

Your American Red Cross Chapter, Greater White Mountain, in Laconia, provides a continuous series of Courses in CPR (Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation) and First Aid. CPR Courses are broken down to Adult CPR and Infant/Child CPR. March and April Course Schedule is as follows:

Adult CPR- March 2nd and April 6th
Infant/Child CPR- March 10th and April 13th
First Aid-March 17th and April 20th

The classes run from 6 to 10pm and are held at the Lakes Region Community Services Council Building on Communications Drive in Laconia. The cost is \$35.00 per person with discounted rates for Blue Cross/Blue Shield members. Discounted rates are also offered if more then one course is taken.

Successful completion of the course, both in demonstration and written test will certify you for a period of one year.

The courses are very comprehensive in identifying lack of respiration due to drowning, shock or choking as well as cardiac arrest. Also covered is your protection from infectious disease and protection under the NH State Good Samaritan Law. The course also trains you on how to assume a leadership role in an emergency until medical or law enforcement personnel arrive.

Anyone who is interested in signing up can call the Greater White Mountain Chapter, American Red Cross at 524-5414 in Laconia.

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ALTON POLICE LOG FOR JANUARY 1, 2004 TO JANUARY 31, 2004

The Alton Police Department responded to 411 calls for service during the above period.

There were 7 arrests: Deborah M. Stevens of Alton was arrested for assault. Carroll L. Cutter, Jr. of Farmington was arrested on a warrant for criminal mischief. Jacob K. Nachez of Alton was arrested on a warrant for the NH Drug Task Force for the sale of a controlled drug. Richard D. Enis of Alton was arrested on a warrant for contributing to the Delinquency of a Minor. Douglas M. Gilbert of Alton was arrested for Violation of Protective Orders. Michael R. O'Keefe of Wolfeboro and Daniel M. Lopes of Wolfeboro were arrested for possession of controlled/narcotic drugs. A 15-year-old male was arrested for criminal mischief.

There were 14 accidents, including:
One resulting in a rollover into a river on Letter S Road.
One involving excessive speed that resulted in a rollover.
One involving an individual falling asleep behind the wheel.
One involving a motor vehicle hitting a dog.
One involving a motor vehicle hitting a deer.

The Police Department responded to 28 alarm calls.

There were 22 animal calls, including:
A report of a minor dog bite to an ear by a puppy. A report of animal cruelty, after investigation the report was unfounded. Assistance to Fish and Game Dept. removing a deer from the ice. A report of horses at large on Old Wolfeboro Road. The owner was located and the animals were corralled.

There were 2 assault incidents:
A report of a stabbing in Alton. An investigation found it to be self-inflicted. A report of an assault at Alton Central School.

There were 26 calls to assist other agencies, including:
Assistance to Barnstead Police searching for a juvenile. The juvenile was located. Assistance to Barnstead Police with a barricaded subject that had earlier walked away from the NH State Hospital. The subject was taken into custody. Assistance to Barnstead Police with a domestic dispute. An arrest was made. Responded to New Durham to secure a crime scene where a shooting took place.

There was one report for Breach of Peace.

There were 7 domestic complaints.

There was 1 report of fraud that involved forgery of a check.

There were 4 animal warnings issued.

There were 137 Motor Vehicle stops of which 32 were issued citations.

There were 5 incidents involving juveniles: There was a report of a female not returning home from school. It was determined to be a miscommunication because the female had permission to stay after school. There was a report of a 14-year-old female missing. She was located in Laconia and picked up by the Laconia Police. There was a report of bullying at the Alton Central School. The police assisted parents with a 15-year-old female out of control. The police assisted a 16-year-old female with personal problems.

There was 1 report of sexual assault.

There were 6 reports of theft: A report of theft of building materials from Rand Hill Road. A report of theft of a purse. The purse had been mislaid and recovered in the road by a neighbor. A report of theft of a purse from a vehicle at the Mt. Major Parking Lot. A report of theft from a classroom at Alton Central School. Investigation was handled by the School. A report of a gas drive off at Alton Circle Grocery. The subject returned and paid for the gas.

There was a report of several home vandalized on Little Barndoor Island.

There are currently nine separate criminal cases that are active and under investigation.

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DIG OUT THOSE OLD QUILTS!

Quilt owners will have a special opportunity to learn about their quilts on May 1 from 9:30am - 3:30pm, during the New Hampshire Quilt Documentation Project Phase II Documentation (NHQDPPII) Day.

Quilts will be measured, photographed, examined and documented by the NHQDPPII team, assisted by knowledgeable volunteers. They will analyze and record information including date of work, fabrics, patterns and condition. A detailed history of information pertaining to the quilt will be recorded. Participants are encouraged to bring any photographs, documents or other materials relevant to the quilt maker and the quilt.

NHQDPPII welcomes all quilts, quilt tops, quilt blocks, quilted clothing and unfinished pieces made up to, and including, 1976. Each participant will receive a record of the documented information including a photograph, plus information on care and storage of their quilted works.

NHQDPPII is a non-profit organization dedicated to the identification and preservation of historic quilts and quilted textiles in New Hampshire. It is the Projects goal to increase public awareness and appreciation of the significance of quilts in the lives of their makers, and as part of our cultural and artistic heritage.

All quilts will be documented free of charge. If an owner requests a copy of the documentation and a photograph, the fee for this service will be \$5.00. Quilt appraisals are also available. This event will take place at the Bear Paw Furniture and Quilt Gallery, Main Street.

ROBERTS FAMILY HISTORY 1771 to 1776

By Jean Roberts

Taken from the EPHRAIM ROBERTS -- MEMORANDUM BOOK 1771-1776 in the possession of the New Hampshire Historical Society and printed with their permission.

Ephraim Roberts was fifteen years old when he came with his father, Joseph Roberts of Dover to start a farm in what is now the town of Alton. Ephraim kept a memorandum book or brief diary of its progress. The Roberts house may have been the first frame house in Alton. It antedates the Bennett dwelling by a year. The land overlooked the Merrymeeting River in New Durham gore, later the town of Alton.

The diary was given to the Society by Mrs. Agnes W. Moore of Andover, MA in 1953. It is four inches square with a stiff paper cover on which Ephraim practiced writing his name. The measurements of the diary are 4" by 4", folded and sewn, containing about 60 pages, some of them blank.

Page 2: Dover, September 21, 1771; father and I set out for goor in N. Durham with 3 hired hands to see the land and clear it if he liked which he did.

January 1772; hauled up brick for his chimney

July 1772; father raised his house at the Goor

January 1773; father sold his house and farm in Dover and moved to the Goor.

May 19th 1773; this day father caught 60 odd of fish

May 1773; we broke up new ground and fencing and May 21 we finished planting.

August 1773; We had 12 load of hay in our hovel.

September 1773; a small crop of 14 loads of corn. We have cleared upward of thirty acres.

The diary continues with various events and news of neighbors.

April 14, 1774; This day was kept as a fast throughout this Province of New Hampshire.

The last entry; men living in the Gore; Commissioned Officers; Joseph Roberts, Capt.; Ephraim Chamberlain, F. Lt.; John Glidden Second Lt.; Timothy Davis, Ens. non commissioned; Four Serjeants; Twelve privates; No drumr., no fiffer. A True Return 1776 July 5th. N.B. spelling is as written.

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**MAKE A DIFFERENCE
AND MAKE IT YEAR 'ROUND!
By Purr Whalley**

You know that "warm fuzzy" feeling you got when you donated your canned goods or money for one of the many wonderful projects in Alton during the holidays? Well, the good news is you can keep that great feeling going throughout the whole year!

Under the direction of Dorothye Wentworth and a very dedicated group of volunteers, the Alton Community Services Program opens its doors every Saturday from 10-12pm. Located in the back of The Village Place on Main Street, its shelves are stocked with food donated by local churches, individuals in the community and service organizations such as the Boy Scouts. With fifteen families as weekly clients as well as other folks in town whose cupboards simply run low from time to time, the Food Pantry offers food and friendship to those who visit.

The Food Pantry's shelves are always well stocked during the holidays but by the first of the year, those same shelves can look a bit empty. We all seem to remember those in need during November and December, but, come January, perhaps we tend to forget that those same individuals and families continue to our assistance all year round.

Year round giving is simple and it makes you feel good. All you need to do is to make up your mind to do it! Next time you go to the store, please think about picking up an extra box of Cheerios, macaroni and cheese or a can of Chef Boyardee ravioli for the Food Pantry. It doesn't have to be an extravagant purchase. Maybe you could let the kids pick out something that they can donate every week. Make it a family project. Make it part of your routine.

Food donations may be dropped off at the Town Hall in the Welfare Office (Alton Social Services) any time. The Community Church of Alton, located on Church Street, will also accept your items.

For more information about Alton Community Services, please call 875-CARE.



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MACHINE QUILTERS EXPOSITION

Machine Quilters Exposition returns to the Winnepesaukee Exposition Center (48 Elm Street, Laconia) March 12-14 after an unprecedented debut in 2003. The expanded show and conference now has additional capacity for vendors and quilt exhibits as well as quilt show categories and prize money. Partners Janet-Lee Santeusano and Mary Schilke are also back after having achieved national recognition and sponsorships from major machine quilting manufacturers and suppliers in the industry.

Teachers for 2004 include Karen McTavish, Mary Eddy, Sally Terry, Debbie Trevino, Sue Motas, Brian Tjelta, Russ Moline, Donita Reeve and Nichole Webb. Classes start Thursday, March 11 and will include hands-on session with all class sizes kept small for individualized attention.

Forecasted to have in excess of 200 quilts exhibited, quilt show entries are now being accepted for Art/Pictorial, Custom/Heirloom, Edge-to-Edge, Men Only, Wall Hanging and Wholecloth categories. Ribbons and prize money will be awarded to winners in all categories including best of show, rookie of the year, and viewers choice.

For more information (schedule, directions, and registration form, as well as pictures of last years winning quilts), visit www.machinequiltersexpo.com

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