

Brentwood NEWSLETTER



Volume XXXV No. 2

Brentwood, New Hampshire

February 2011

Candidates for Town and School Offices

The following filings for Town and School Offices were made during the required period from Jan. 19 – Jan. 28:

Office	<u>Selectmen</u>	Office	<u>School Board – Brentwood Dist.</u>
Positions Available	2 for 3 years	Positions Available	2 for 3 years
Candidate(s)	Andrew Artimovich Michael Hubbard Allan Knowles Robert Mantegari	Candidate(s)	Charles Gargaly, Jr. Amy Mitchell
Office	<u>Cemetery Trustees</u>	* Office	<u>Cooperative School District Board</u>
Position Available	1 for 3 years	Positions Available	1 from each town for 3 years
Candidate(s)	Albert Belanger	Candidate(s)	<u>East Kingston</u> David Miller <u>Exeter</u> Kate Segal <u>Kensington</u> Joni Reynolds (2 years only) <u>Stratham</u> Mark Portu
Office	<u>Library Trustees</u>		
Positions Available	2 for 3 years		
Candidate(s)	Douglas Mansfield Don Petterson Marc Wilson		
Office	<u>Municipal Budget Committee</u>	* Office	<u>ERCSD Budget Advisory Comm.</u>
Positions Available	1 for 3 years	Positions Available	1 from each town for 3 years
Candidate(s)	Robert Mantegari Krista Steger	Candidate (s)	<u>Brentwood</u> Elyse Gallo Seeley <u>Exeter</u> Roy Morrisette <u>Kensington</u> Janice Miller
Office	<u>Planning Board</u>		
Positions Available	2 for 3 years 1 for 1 year		
Candidate(s)	Robert Magnusson (for 3 years) Robert Wofchuck (for 3 years)		
Office	<u>Supervisors of the Checklist</u>	* Office	<u>Co-op. School Dist. Moderator</u>
Position Available	1 for 5 years	Position Available	1 for 1 year
Candidate(s)	Charles Williamson	Candidate(s)	Charles F. Tucker
Office	<u>Trustees of the Trust Funds</u>		
Position Available	1 for 3 years		
Candidate(s)	No one filed		

* Note: voters from all towns in the District may vote for these candidates.

Candidates' Night, sponsored by the *Newsletter*, will be in the Cross Room at the Town Offices on Wednesday, February 16, starting at 7:30 p.m. We hope many of you will come to meet, hear and talk to the candidates.

TOWN OF BRENTWOOD On the Web: www.brentwoodnh.gov**TOWN CLERK and TAX COLLECTOR:**

Phone: 642-6400 X 14
 Mon., Wed., Thurs. 9:00-4:30
 Tuesday 9:00-8:00
 Friday 8:30-4:00
 Saturday 9:00-12:00

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

Phone: 642-6400 X 10 Fax: 642-6310
 Monday–Thursday 8:00-4:30
 Friday 9:00-1:00

MARY E. BARTLETT LIBRARY

Phone: 642-3355 E-mail: bartlettlibrary@comcast.net
 On the Web: www.brentwoodlibrary.org
 Monday 2-7 Thursday 9-5
 Tuesday 9-5 Friday 9-1
 Wednesday 9-5 Saturday 9-1
 Story Hours: Tuesday 10:30 and 2:00 Wednesday 10:30

SWASEY CENTRAL SCHOOL

Phone: 642-3487
 Swasey on the Web: <http://scs.sau16.org>
 SAU 16 on the Web: <http://www.sau16.org>

February Recycling Pick-Up Dates

February 1 & 2
 February 15 & 16

Budget Committee Public Hearing

The Brentwood Budget Committee will hold a Public Hearing pursuant to RSA32:5 for the Brentwood Town Budget and the Swasey School Budget.

Date: **Monday, February 7, 2011**

Time: **7:00 p.m.**

(Snow Date: Friday, February 11, 2011)

Place: **Swasey Central School Gymnasium**

Purpose: Present the Town of Brentwood Budget for fiscal year 2011 and the Swasey School Budget for the school year 2011-2012 as recommended by the Budget Committee.

The public may ask questions and make recommendations. The Budget Committee may make adjustments to the proposed budgets based on information collected at the public hearing. It cannot add items not mentioned in recommended budgets.

The public is invited to attend.

Elyse Seeley, Chairman

Notes from the Town Clerk / Tax Collector

From the Tax Collector's office:

- Partial payments of your taxes are acceptable.

From the Town Clerk's Office:

- Boat registrations can be done here.
- Dog licenses for 2011 are ready.
- If you are **transferring plates** to another vehicle, you **must bring in the old registration.**
- You always need **two checks or cash** to complete an auto registration: one for the State and one for the Town.

Phyllis Thompson

Supervisors of the Checklist

The Supervisors of the Checklist for the Town of Brentwood, NH will be in session at the Brentwood Town Office on Saturday, February 26, 2011, 11:00am --- 12:00noon, to make corrections to the Voter Checklist.

This is the last day to accept voter registration applications. No additions or corrections shall be made to the checklist after this session until Town Election Day.

Supervisors of the Checklist

Mary Clancey

Martha Clark

Charles Williamson

THE BRENTWOOD NEWSLETTER

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Linda Rousseau, Editor 772-4534

Marion Arkell, Treasurer, 772-6314

Ann Chamberlain, 642-8758

Jim Clark, 580-1012

Brad Stevens

Business Card Directory: \$20 per insertion, available in April, September & December issues.

Business Article: \$100 half page, \$200 full page, available in any issue.

Deadline for March Issue: Friday, Feb. 19

Mail or bring your articles to Linda Rousseau, 90 Prescott Road, Brentwood, NH 03833,
 or e-mail to lindarou@comcast.net

Your 2011-12 Budget, prepared by the Brentwood Budget Committee: Part I

We are deep into Budget Committee business as this issue goes to print. As I go back and read what I wrote last year for the Budget Committee *Newsletter* submission, I read one innocent, almost off-hand remark about anticipated tax changes: *"the current property valuation is \$520,591,437.00, anticipated to decrease by 10% due to decreased market valuations. This will likely result in an increase in our tax rate for next year, a number unknown until the tax rate setting in November."*

Brentwood's tax rate hike, decreased town revenues and school rate increases from Swasey and the Coop have caused a collective shriek amongst our townspeople, propelling this committee and our Selectmen into stringent budgeting for next year. We are preparing for the impact on our Exeter Coop District school rate, the highest percentage in the district this year. We have no regrets about supporting the construction of our newest building, but we need to prepare our budgets for the tax impact of the fire station bond. (No, it has not even hit yet, contrary to the erroneous belief that this was the cause of the recent tax bill hike.) Additionally, the town is now obligated to pick up costs associated with a 30% reduction in the state contribution to employee retirement. And beginning in July 2011, Brentwood will lose a portion of its current adequacy aid and of its special education catastrophic aid.

Though the economy shows signs of stabilizing, many of us have not felt the relief of recovery in our own salaries or bank accounts. There are three times as many distressed properties (bank-owned or foreclosed) in town this year compared to last. And so we prepare by tightening our belts for the coming year. We're hoping this may start a trend in state and federal government practice!

- ✓ The town's valuation is now \$477,250,896, a **decrease of \$43,340,541 or 8.3%** from last year. Because of this, the tax rate was adjusted upwards to make up the difference. There was significant tax impact from the Coop and Swasey School budget increases, 1.3% and 2.8% respectively, approved by the Brentwood voters last March.
- ✓ As of this date, the town's proposed budget is \$ 2,725,340.00 and is **exactly the same as last year even though it now includes the Fire Station debt payments**. That means there is no tax impact from the town's operating budget and the Fire Station bond on the 2011 warrant. This recommended town operating budget represents much deliberation over needs versus wants, and no increases in any town employee's salary (the second year of no increase for most).

- ✓ In order to offset some of Brentwood's pending tax impact from the Cooperative School District and to recover from the current year Swasey tax impact, Budget Committee is proposing a Swasey School operating budget of \$5,058,448, a **decrease of \$132,593.00 or 2.55 %** from the current year budget. The reductions were a joint effort, half made by the School Board initially, and half by the Budget Committee finally. The decreases are intended to reduce the proposed budget by a position in Administration, the Principal's salary increase, proposed step increases to teaching and support staff and a new Management Services line. This budget aligns non-union school employee increases with those of the rest of Brentwood's employees this year.

Although the Exeter Regional Coop budget also affects our taxes, our town's municipal budget committee has no authority over its preparation. Your Coop School Board and Budget Advisory Committee oversee that budget (see this issue's separate article reviewing the Coop budget and recommendations). But our deliberations are not completed: Budget Committee is still considering the town's warrant articles, the Swasey School warrant articles, as well as the Swasey School teachers' union contract. Look for recommendations on these in the March issue of the *Brentwood Newsletter*.

Please remember that the purpose of the Budget Committee is "to assist voters in the prudent appropriation of public funds" (RSA 32:1), and this year found us backpedaling to regain lost ground. We hope that economic recovery will soon allow us some relief from this reduction mentality: it can't come fast enough. Assuming you have neither the time nor the inclination to do all the homework, this Board prepares a recommended budget for you. But it is your responsibility and right to authorize it with your votes by attending our Town Meeting on Saturday, March 12 at 9:00 AM and School District Meeting on March 19 at 9:00 AM, both at Swasey School. If you do not attend, you have no say over your taxes. If you vote against our recommendations, be prepared to pay again next year. Urge your neighbors to come to these two important, once-a-year meetings and vote!

For a complete line-by-line 2011 town budget and to view the Swasey School teacher contract and step increase schedule, please go to <http://www.brentwoodnh.gov/budget.php>.

If you have any questions or need clarification about this budget, please call me at 778-9411.

Elyse Seeley, Chair

Exeter Regional Cooperative School District Budget Advisory Committee

**From your Representative:
Info for your ballot vote at town elections on
Tuesday, March 8.**

The elected Exeter Regional Coop Budget Advisory Committee works in conjunction with the SAU 16 Business Office to develop Exeter High and Cooperative Middle School budgets and appropriations. Along with the ERCSD School Board, our Committee's recommendations on these budgets will be on the March school ballot for all the voters in the six towns of SAU16. I am elected by and represent all six towns, and was particularly concerned this year about how our residents could manage another tax hike. I believe I was active in bringing Brentwood's interests to the table during this budget process.

I'll summarize the voting items on the 2011 Exeter Regional Coop School ballot:

1. Operating Budget: A \$250,000 insurance rate hike immediately brought up our planned initial budget. Three new positions were recommended by the School Administration (50% CMS Guidance, 50% HS Technician and 100% Alumni Development), and not without good rationale. Revenues are stable, albeit tenuous, with less income from interest earned. The end result was that we voted to approve a default budget, which includes no increases except the contractual ones. This recommended \$48,922,530 budget will appear on the warrant at town elections on March 8 and represents an increase of 0.75% over last year's operating budget. Due to Brentwood's enrollment percentage at the Middle and High Schools, these operating costs will impact our town with an estimated increase of \$0.19 cents per \$1000.00 valuation. Our Committee voted to recommend this operating budget to the voters.

2. Collective Bargaining Union Contract: Last year, voters of the six towns voted against authorizing a teachers' contract (three-year) asking for increases of 0% / 3% / 3.5% as well as step increases. Though our Budget Committee asked the negotiating team to consider a one-year contract, the teachers' contract that will come before voters this year is again a three year contract with respective and cumulative increases of 1.75% / 2% / 2.15% as well as step increases. If you authorize this contract, it binds the taxpayers to the three-year costs. In year one, this translates to \$0.15 cents per \$1000 valuation for Brentwood voters (then \$0.16 & \$0.19); however the total estimated increase for our town for three years is about \$0.96 cents per \$1000.00 valuation. This does not even include the costs of step increases.

Our Committee voted to not recommend this three year teachers' contract to the voters.

3. Expendable Trust Fund Warrant Article: We voted \$40,000 into the Maintenance Trust Fund. This costs Brentwood an estimated increase of about \$0.01cent per \$1000.00 valuation. Our Committee voted to recommend this Trust Fund Warrant Article to the voters.

My three-year term happens to be up this year. You may have heard that our Coop Business Manager, Nate Lunney, is moving over to the Hampton District to help them get on their feet in forming an independent SAU. Our Committee wishes him well and can't imagine who will replace him – he's invaluable. He is a tremendous guide through a very complex process, and has always been forthcoming with information that I've needed for accurate decision making, both on this Committee and on our local Budget Committee. I feel compelled to help our core group and the new hire during the transition, so I am putting my name in for another three years. It'll be on the ballot. Feel free to run against me- please.

Do contact me with any specific questions about this budget, or access the Exeter Coop Budget Advisory Committee minutes on line at <http://www.sau16.org/index.php/school-boards/exeter-region-coop/subcommittee-minutes/352-2010-2011-subcommittee-minutes-a-agendas>.

It is truly my privilege to be of service in this small but great community.

Ellyse Seeley -- 778-9411

Swasey School Parent Faculty Group

Next Meeting: Tuesday, February 15 at 6:30 p.m.

All meetings are held in the Swasey School Library. We hope to see you there!

Thank You "Action Kids Athletics" for holding another successful "Brentwood Night."

Clip Those Box Tops from hundreds of participating products (for a complete listing see <http://www.boxtops4education.com/earn/clip/Default.aspx>). Box Tops are the coupons you find right on the outside of many product packages that you already use! They are worth 10¢ each when our school redeems them from Box Tops for Education. Just think – every 10 Box Tops you send in earns \$1.00 for Swasey!! Every classroom at Swasey has a Box Tops collection box. Please, clip 'em, trim 'em and send 'em in with your child! There are also collection boxes at our Bartlett Library and Brentwood Town Hall.

Pam Carr

Mary E. Bartlett Memorial Library

Does anyone else feel the same way about February as I do? It is, without question, my least favorite month of the year. There is a solution for these winter doldrums, a pretty good one at that. Come to your library, take out a good book, a CD book, or one of the latest DVDs and go home and enjoy.

If you care to brave the weather, we have a number of good programs at the library. On Thursday evening, **February 10 at 7:00 pm**, we will be sharing a New Hampshire Humanities' Council program, "**Crosscut**," in partnership with the Brentwood Historical Society. Our favorite presenter, **Rebecca Rule**, will be telling the story of logging, the Berlin Mills, and life in the Androscoggin Valley from the beginnings of the logging industry in the 1800's through the boom years and on to the demolition of the stacks in 2007, marking the end of an era.

The **Friday night Flick for February 11** at 6:30 pm is "**Shrek Forever**," rated PG.

On Thursday, **February 17 at 7:00 pm** the **Ladies Night** Movie is "**You Again**," starring Jamie Lee Curtis, Kristen Bell and Sigourney Weaver.

We have a real treat on Friday evening, February 18 at 7:00 p.m. Brentwood's own Kyle Glowacky, will be screening two of his recent films, a silent hand-painted film to open, and followed by IOKA, a portrait film about the historic 1915 theater in Exeter.

On **Friday evening February 25 at 6:30 pm**, "**The Karate Kid**," rated PG, with Jaden Smith is the flick for the night.

The **Brentwood Bookers** will be meeting on Monday, **February 28** at 7 pm to discuss "The Tipping Point" by Malcolm Gladwell, a fascinating look at why major changes in our society so often happen suddenly and unexpectedly.

As I was looking through the new books that arrived this morning, there was a new epic by author, Dewey Lambdin. I knew just the person who would have liked to read it, Millie Ladd, an avid reader to the very end. Millie passed away on December 14, 2010 at age 86 and will be much missed. Every other week she would call and ask us to pick out several books for her. Trying to please Millie kept us on our toes. Mildred Ladd was an active Library Trustee for years, a good Friend of the Library, a school board member and an historical society member. She was one of the four people responsible for Brentwood's one history, Brentwood's 225 Years, 1742-1976.

We have another local author, historian Albert Edward Belanger, who has written a book *On the Oregon Trail in 1851 (Canaries, Buffalo-Chips, and Elephants)*. Mr. Belanger is a retired seventh grade history teacher and an active member of the Brentwood Historical Society. He developed an interest in writing

this account when he discovered that his wife, Sandra's grandfather, Eldon Crawford Blanchard, was the grandson of two of the 1851 Oregon Trail emigrants, Joshua Pettingill Blanchard and his wife, Rebecca Jane (Race). We already have requests for this book, so get in line.

This is for our younger readers. We have purchased all of the Newbery, Caldecott and other award winning books for 2010 from the Harriet Gove Memorial Fund. I think Mrs. Gove would be absolutely amazed as well as immensely pleased if she knew how much reading the children are enjoying.

Looking forward to March, the United States Air Force Band of Liberty's Bay State Winds clarinet quartet will honor us with their presence on Friday, March 11 at 7:00 pm.

The public is welcome at all of these events.

Many, many thanks to Wayne Robinson and the Highway Department for doing a great job of snow plowing these last few weeks. We'd be lost without you. The same goes for Joyce Keegal who has assured that all necessary snow shoveling is done for safe and easy library access. Thank you!

Marilyn Morehead, Library Director

Friends of the Library

Already into February. Wow, this year is flying faster than the last. I do hope you are able to take part in some of the things the Library has to offer. From special events, to book discussions to passes – there is certainly something for everyone!

January brought our first night meeting in quite a few years. We hope that changing the meeting time and day will enable more of you to get involved with our group. Meetings will be the third Monday of every month, at 7 pm. Our plan this year is to alternate each month with meetings and community programs. For example, **Monday, February 21** will be a community night and we have decided to cut stars for The Pease Greeters. Hmm, what does that mean? Well, the Pease Greeters cut the stars out of retired flags, and give those stars to soldiers and veterans whom we may meet. This simple gesture is something that means quite a lot to those we have given them to. The Pease Greeters have even had Generals request for stars for their units. If you have a retired flag that you would like to donate for this purpose, please bring it to the Library prior to the February meeting date.

Donations to our annual **Membership Drive** continue to stream in. As you know we were able to **Beat the Benefactor** again. Niki is working hard to plan

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interesting programs for this year, many of which will be thanks to our generous Benefactor.

For example, there are two events scheduled for February vacation, which are being sponsored by our Benefactor. On **Wednesday, March 2**, we will offer **Kindermusik** for the little ones. On **Thursday, March 3, Mad Science** will have a program for Grades 1 through 6. Sign-ups will be required for Mad Science, please visit the library to put your name – or your child's name – on the list.

Please keep in mind, as you are planning your Cabin-fever escapes, that there are passes available at the Library, to several locations around New Hampshire, Massachusetts and Maine. Please come in and take a look at what we have to offer. It's always nice to visit a new place, and save some money while doing it!

If you would like to receive an email reminder about upcoming meetings, please send an email to marybartlett76@yahoo.com and we will add you to our email list.

Michelle Siudut, Publicity

Brentwood Seniors

The January meeting of the Seniors had to be cancelled because of snow. Therefore the February meeting will be twice as interesting! On **Wednesday, February 23** the group will arrive between 11 and 11:30 am for appetizers. The business meeting will begin at 11:30, after which a **potluck luncheon buffet** will be ready for serving.

In addition to bringing a dish for the luncheon, members are reminded to bring an item wrapped or in a bag for the **Pound Auction**, which will take place after lunch. Besides providing a lot of laughs, it is an important fund raiser for the Seniors' treasury. Following the auction the guest speaker Joanne Dodge will be introduced. Her program will be an amusing talk on "Senior Moments."

Before the monthly meeting, however, members should mark their calendars to attend the first **Seniors Activity Days on Tuesday, February 8 and Tuesday, February 22 from 10 am–1pm** at the Community Center. **All Brentwood senior citizens** are welcome at these events, so anyone may come with a senior friend or neighbor. Refreshments will be available each time.

For other information please call Gene Orcutt, president, at 642-4597.

*Linda Rousseau
for the Seniors*

Passes Available at the Library

The Friends of the Library would like to remind you that there are several passes available to our residents, for reduced or free admission to a variety of locations through New Hampshire, Massachusetts and Maine! Make it a point to stop by the Library and take a look at all of the pass offerings. Passes are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Passes Sponsored by the Friends of the Library

- **Children's Museum of Maine** (Portland, ME) \$4.00 per person for up to four people.
www.childrensmuseumofme.org
- **Children's Museum of NH** (Dover, NH) \$2.00 per person for up to four people.
www.childrens-museum.org/cmnh
- **Currier Museum of Art** (Manchester, NH) Free admission for 2 Adults; Kids Always Free. www.currier.org
- **McAuliffe Shephard Discovery** (Concord, NH) Free for up to four people. \$3.00 charge for the planetarium show. www.starhop.com
- **Museum of Fine Arts** (Boston, MA) \$5.00 admission each for up to two people. www.mfa.org
- **Museum of Science** (Boston, MA) \$5.00 admission each for up to four people. www.mos.org
- **Peabody Essex Museum** (Salem, MA) Admits 2 adults at \$5 each. Special exhibits not included. www.pem.org
- **SEE Science Center** (Manchester, NH) Free admission. www.see-sciencecenter.org
- **Strawbery Banke** (Portsmouth, NH) Free admission for two adults and up to four children. www.strawberybanke.org
- **York's Wild Animal Kingdom** (York, ME) Discounted passes. www.yorkzoo.com

Sponsored by the Ruth & Warren Brown Memorial Fund

- **American Independence Museum** (Exeter, NH) Free admission for two adults & their children under 18. www.independencemuseum.org
- **Canterbury Shaker Village** (Canterbury, NH) \$6.00 per adult and \$3.00 per child. www.shakers.org
- **The Fells** (Newbury, NH) Free admission for 2 adults and accompanying children under 18. www.thefells.org
- **Historic New England** (Boston, MA) Free Admission. www.historicnewengland.org
- **NH Historical Museum** (Concord, NH) Free admission for 4 adults, or 2 adults with children. www.nhhistory.org

Michelle Siudut, Publicity

Brentwood Recreation News

Soccer Pictures – If you ordered Soccer photos on picture day in October and have not yet picked them up, they are available in the Recreation office. (See the Town Clerk's office, if the Recreation office is closed)

Attention Seniors!

February 8 starts our bimonthly Seniors' Activity day at the Brentwood Community Center. We will meet the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month. Seniors are welcome to come and enjoy different activities, games, health screening, walking (in the spring) and much more. You can even come try your hand at our Wii video games! Come join us as we build this program for our Senior residents. Refreshments will be served. **Starts Tuesday, February 8, 10am-1:00pm.**

Baseball/Softball Sign-Ups

Baseball and Softball registration have started. The deadline for sign-ups will be February 22. Forms will be available at the Recreation office or on our website.

T-Ball 5 & 6 yr. (Must be 5yr. by 9/30/10) **\$30**
Farm 7yr. (Must be 7 by 4/30/11) **\$40**
AAA 8 & 9 yr. (Must be 8yr. by 4/30/11) **\$40**
U10, U12 & U14 Softball **\$65**
 (Must be 8yr. by 1/1/2011)

Little League and Babe Ruth registration will be through EJBL and Exeter Babe Ruth www.leaguelineup.com/ejbl.

Late registrations will be accepted only as roster space allows.

Coaches Meeting will be Tuesday, March 8, 6:30pm.

Rock Climbing and Hockey, Together??

Yes! The Manchester Monarchs and Vertical Dreams Indoor Climbing Gym have partnered to offer a package for families that we are making available through our Recreation Department. This fun-filled package includes a day beginning with indoor climbing at **Vertical Dreams from 11:00am until 2:00pm** followed by the Manchester **Monarchs 3:00pm game** against Worcester.

The date is Sunday, March 20 and the cost is \$23.00/person. Sign-up information will be available at the Recreation office or on our website.

Have someone in your group who doesn't want to climb? That's ok! Tickets for just the Monarchs game are \$11/child (12 and under) and \$15/adult.

Try Your Luck at Foxwoods!

Our next trip to **Foxwoods Resort Casino** will be **March 21, 2011. Cost: \$35 per person.**

Trip includes: coffee/doughnuts on the way down and water/snack on the way back; free \$15 bet; free buffet lunch. Bus leaves the Brentwood Recreation Area at

7:30am and returns approx. 7:30pm. Please mail in your contact information with check, or contact the Recreation office to sign up.

The Coyote Club is Returning to Brentwood!

Coyote Club Wilderness Education Class

Coyote Club is designed to introduce children to nature-based studies, native crafts and environmental stewardship. The program includes survival skills, wilderness awareness, navigation/mapping, animal signs and much more! The program is designed for kids grade K-5. The six week course runs Wednesday afternoons from 3:20-4:30pm **March 16 – April 20.**

Cost is \$65. Space is limited. Registration forms are available at the Recreation office. See www.nhecology.com for more detail.

New Fitness Class!

PiYo™ Class

PiYo is the perfect blend of many disciplines: sports training, core conditioning, dance, stretch, and athletic drills that will help kick up the calorie burn and build muscle! The dynamic blend of movement fuses yoga and Pilates practices to increase strength, core stability, and agility. Set to fun music, this class will relax your mind yet challenge your body. Expect to use everything from your own body weight, to light medicine balls, resistance bands and even swords! Prepare to lose weight, transform your body, and look and feel great! Appropriate for all fitness levels!

Tuesday evenings at 6:30pm at the Brentwood Community Center. **First Class began January 25** but drop-ins are always welcome.

Cost: \$48.00/six week class.

Drop-ins welcome - \$10/class

Please bring a water bottle and a yoga mat, if you have one, and dress in comfortable clothing.

Men's Over 30 Baseball

Over 30 Men's Baseball Team Forming in Brentwood.

A team from Brentwood will be competing in the Granite State Baseball League (GSBL), a well established, competitive, wooden bat league which starts their 18 game regular season schedule in April. Games are typically played on Sunday mornings, 10 AM starts. Interested players may email Scott Bleakley at nightowls96@yahoo.com.

Zumba Classes

Current class started Wednesday, January 19 but drop-ins are welcome.

Wednesday Evenings:

6:30-7:15pm

7:15-8:00pm

Zumba

Zumba Toning

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Cost: Single class \$35/six weeks
Zumba & Toning class (6:30-8:00pm) only \$48/six weeks

Zumba® is a Latin-inspired dance-fitness cardio-based workout that with incorporated sculpting exercises tones the entire body top to bottom. This class takes the original Zumba dance fitness program to the next level utilizing an innovative muscle training protocol and the addition of lightweight toning sticks or dumbbells. This combination of cardio and dynamic resistance exercises is an effective use of progressive light weight training to improve overall performance. You'll have so much fun listening to the music, doing the steps and moving your body you will forget you are exercising!

Please wear comfortable clothing and sneakers (older worn sneakers work best). Bring water! Toning sticks provided by instructor or bring your own dumbbells (please no more than 3lbs each)

Drop-in welcome! (\$10.00)

Next session will begin March 9.

Korean Martial Arts Tang Soo Do Classes

Tang Soo Do is a Korean Martial Art is a true Martial Art comprised of both hard and soft techniques. It emphasizes whole body self defense and physical training Tang Soo Do is beneficial for self discipline, self defense and health.

Classes are taught by Retired Law Enforcement office Bob Meegan. He is currently a 3rd degree Black Belt with the World Tang Soo Do Association.

Classes are available **Monday and Friday** at the Brentwood Community Center, **6:30-8:00pm**
Enrollment is continual, so you may begin at any point.

Cost: \$50/single per month
\$90/family per month (2 or more)

For more information contact instructor Bob Meegan at 742-3565 or contact the Recreation office.

Looking Ahead to Summer...

- **Soccer Camp** with *Challenger Sports August 22-26.*
Challenger Soccer will be running a soccer skills camp for us again this summer. Registration has already begun online at www.challengersports.com or sign-up in the recreation office.
- **MultiSport Camps** with *U.S. Sports Institute July 25-29.*

Multi Sport Camp -- Give your child the unique opportunity to experience 15 different sports from around the world. Children can learn how to bowl a Cricket ball, score a try in Rugby, shoot hoops and score plenty of goals in a variety of sports from around the world. All activities and games take place in a positive low pressure educational environment under the guidance of

our qualified coaches who are chosen for their ability to inspire, motivate and encourage campers.

- **Sports Squirts Camp** -- This is a great way to introduce children ages 3 to 5 to a variety of sports such as Soccer, T-Ball, Basketball, Hockey and Lacrosse. Sessions take place in a safe, structured environment and sports are played through a series of games and activities designed to ensure learning and most importantly fun, fun, fun.
- **Archery Course**
- **Babysitter Training Course**
- **Discounted Water Country Tickets**
- **Baseball Camp** with *Granite State Baseball* -- date TBA
- **Adult Coed Softball League**
- **Kuiper Twin Challenge 5K and Half Marathon Road Race** – July 31.

Facilities Rental

Consider having your meeting, birthday party, shower, or other events at our facility. Brentwood residents receive a 50% discount off the rental rates! See our website for pictures of the Center and rental application or pick up an application at the Recreation office.

Check out the Recreation pages on the town website, www.brentwoodnh.gov. Forms are there to be downloaded for your convenience, as well as other important information about current programs and events.

Margaret Dullea, Recreation Director

(603) 642-6400 ext. 20 recreation@brentwoodnh.gov
Office hours: Mon. Tues. & Thurs. 8:30am-3:30pm.
Commission meetings 4th Tuesday of the month at 6:30pm.

Brentwood Historical Society

The January meeting of the Historical Society was cancelled because of snow conditions. Members are looking forward to the next meeting on **Thursday, February 10 at 7:00 pm at the Bartlett Library.** In a joint program with the Friends of the Library, all in attendance will welcome Rebecca Rule, who will present a new program called "Crosscut: A Spoken Documentary," the story of logging from the 1800s to 2007 in Berlin, NH and the Androscoggin Valley. Using oral histories and new and vintage photos, she will recreate the voices of North Country people and a picture of a rich culture, centering on the Berlin Mills and life in the Androscoggin Valley. Audience members will be invited to share their own stories and discuss the logging and paper industries north of the notches. The program is presented through a grant from the New Hampshire Council for the Humanities. For more information call Alma Vahey, President, 679-8635.

Linda Rousseau, Program Chair

Report from Your State Representative

The 2011 session of the General Court kicked off on January 5th. We are officially underway at the State House. And, it certainly wasn't an opening week devoid of press coverage and punditry.

On the day before the session opened, the Joint Legislative Facilities Committee, now under Republican control, reversed the ban on the carrying of personal firearms in the State House, a ban the Democrats had put in place in December 2009 by committee rule, after having failed to enact such a ban via the legislative process at a time when they held the majority in both houses of the legislature and the governor's office.

Naturally, when news broke of the tragic shootings in Tucson, some questioned the wisdom of our actions, arguing that we should be doing more to restrict the rights of the citizenry to carry arms in public places, instead of expanding such rights.

I reject that notion without apology. Crazy and evil are not things that can be legislated out of existence. I steadfastly refuse to allow the unlawful, crazed actions of the few to strip the many of their rights and liberties.

One former state lawmaker from Manchester went so far as to suggest that future school field trips to the State House be cancelled, or that schools start requiring parental notification slips to inform parents that there may be armed citizens present in the building.

Frankly, they might as well start advising parents to stop bringing their children to Wal-Mart, the bank, the supermarket, the park, or to used car dealerships. At any given time, the percentage of people lawfully carrying personal side arms in those places in New Hampshire won't be that different than the percentage carrying arms in the halls of the State House.

Another talking point going around is that the recent decisions made in defense of the Second Amendment rights of the citizenry in New Hampshire somehow distracted us from tackling the pressing fiscal issues facing the state.

In response to these accusations, I'll reiterate that the reversal of the State House gun ban was not a matter of legislation requiring the attention of all 424 state legislators. It was a committee rule reversed by a small committee, which had convened the day before the General Court had even begun the 2011 session.

Likewise, the rule change allowing House members to carry lawfully concealed weapons on the House floor was put in place, appropriately, at the very beginning of the new session, when House Rules are voted on. This measure did not take any time away from any budgetary discussions or hearings.

Speaking of fiscal and budgetary issues, the Republican leadership held a press conference recently at which they outlined the legislative agenda we will be

tackling this session. To the chagrin of some, and the relief of others, it was made clear that our state's economy, job market, and business climate will be our top priorities, and not social issues, most notably, of course, same-sex marriage.

This is what we were elected to do. I've spoken out against those who say we received no mandate from the voters, as well as those who claim that the Republicans have been given a mandate to pursue far-right, conservative social issues.

The election returns simply don't back up either of those suppositions. We witnessed a major shift in party control of the legislature, made possible by a large number of unenrolled, independent voters voting Republican - the same voters who gave the Democrats their chance at the wheel back in 2006.

The Republican Party in New Hampshire most definitely did receive a mandate from the voters. And that's to reduce the size of government, rein in reckless spending and make New Hampshire an attractive place in which businesses can open, expand and thrive.

Committee hearings are underway in Concord, addressing proposed legislation covering a wide variety of subject matter, including, but certainly not limited to, education standards, landlords' rights, liquor licensing, opposition to federal health care legislation, and the sale of stove polish.

As these bills make their way out of committee, I will be writing about them here, as well as at the Brentwood Citizens Forum (<http://brentwoodforum.wordpress.com>). Your comments are always welcome. Also, my House e-mail address is up and running. You can reach me there at bruce.macmahon@leg.state.nh.us.

Bruce

Hon. Bruce A. MacMahon
New Hampshire State Representative
Rockingham County, District 10 – Brentwood
<http://brentwoodforum.wordpress.com/>

Mailing Crew for December

Many thanks to the December mailing crew from the Fire Department, whose names were not listed in the January issue but who deserve our appreciation for dealing with the hefty December *Newsletter*: John Isabel, Mike Kilrain, Brenda Knight, Jeff Mangarpan, Alan Prina, Gary Raymond, Wayne Raymond, and Brian West.

Linda Rousseau, Editor

The Green Fairy on Today's Hygiene

Ah! 'Tis the season! For colds and flu that is. You can see the bottles of hand sanitizer popping up all over like mushrooms after the rain. At the dollar store a few days ago, the cashier asked, "Would you like to purchase a bottle of hand sanitizer with that?" She could have been saying, "Would you like fries with that?" Funny thing is, you are more likely to catch these things from walking by, or spending time in the same room as, someone who is coughing and sneezing with cold or flu. Respiratory diseases are passed from person to person simply by breathing in droplets suspended in the air after coughing and sneezing. Cold viruses can only live outside their preferred environment for about two minutes. You see, germs are just like us; they like a nice cushy environment that meets all their needs. They are pretty unhappy on a cold hard table or doorknob. Shopping carts, after they sit around in the cold parking lot, are pretty much sanitized. Plain soap and water is adequate for hand washing. What it does is prevent the bacteria on your hands from forming into film and sticking there; you wash and you rinse them away. Hand sanitizers are alcohol in a gel form. They can be very drying to the skin, and cause eczema in some people. If you rinse after using, the dead germs are removed from your hands. If not, they just stay there.

We have, right now, a big problem with our immune systems. Almost everyone from the age of 30-something on down has some kind of allergy. There is an idea called the hygiene hypothesis, which says that we are too clean. We are designed to be exposed to bacteria in soil and nature and the rest of our environment, some of which are harmless, some not. This trains our immune systems to distinguish between harmless and harmful. Millions of friendly bacteria live on our skin. They are one of the defenses the body has to ward off harmful bacteria. Using disinfecting soaps and putting antibiotics on every little scratch prevents the body from reacting properly to a wound. The redness around a wound is the body sending immune cells to the tissue there to kill off anything foreign and to wall the area off from the rest of the body so nothing can get in. Antibiotic ointments suppress this. Infection produces puss and odor and pain. Add this to all the vaccinations children get, and you get an immune system that is out of practice and jumps at things like peanuts or milk or wheat.

One Thursday, on NPR, there was an entire program about our bored immune systems. There is a doctor who infects people with pinworms, an intestinal parasite, to give their immune systems a challenge. He claims he has cured certain autoimmune diseases, such as MS, celiac disease and rheumatoid arthritis simply by giving the immune system a real threat to think about. So for \$5000 you can go to Switzerland for this treatment at his clinic. This is for real.

We build immunity by getting sick. The cells responsible for protecting us have a memory. They

make antibodies specific to everything they consider a threat. If they never encounter any threats they react to substances that should not be harmful. Time was, when someone in the neighborhood had chickenpox, you ran over with your kids to expose them so they'd get it, because chickenpox is dangerous in adults. That probably doesn't happen now. Everyone is vaccinated. Vaccination confers immunity, but that immunity, known as passive immunity, is not as effective as having had a disease, which gives us what is called active immunity. Active immunity lasts longer because it activates the specific part of our immune system that deals with that particular problem, and it remembers. Passive immunity doesn't work that way, and later in life, maybe the memory is not so good, so you are left exposed and vulnerable. That's what the booster shot is all about.

The general idea is that we should not be afraid of all those germs we see floating around and crawling on everything in the TV commercials. Germs out of their environments don't live all that long for the most part. While it is good to wash your hands, sanitizing everything in sight causes more trouble than good in the long run. This doesn't mean we should all neglect our health. All the advertisements are simply ploys to part you from your hard-earned money and add manufactured chemicals to your environment. Being super clean is simply not green. Advertisers see the green of money, not the green world.

Bonnie Gunther, aka the Green Fairy

Sympathy

Deep sympathy and friendship are extended to the family of Mildred K. Ladd, 87, of Mill Road, who died at her home on December 14, 2010. She moved to Brentwood with her husband Gardner shortly after their marriage in 1945. For years she was very active in the groups and functions of the town. She belonged to the Grange when it was very active. She held several offices in the Historical Society, including president, and made lasting contributions as a founder of the Historical Society Museum. She served the Town as a member of the School Board, the Cemetery Trustees, Supervisor of the Checklist, the Library Committee and Library Trustees. She was a co-author of the first town history, "Brentwood's 225 Years, 1742-1967." There will be a graveside memorial service at the Ladd-Fellows Cemetery on Route 107, Brentwood, on Saturday, May 21, 2011.

Mailing Crew for January

Thanks on behalf of the community to those who came to the Rousseaus' to assemble the January issue of the *Newsletter* for mailing: Ellen and Ken Christiansen, Joanne Davis, Thirza Lausier, Jim McGean, Lois Northrup, Roger Rousseau, and Norman Wilson.

Linda Rousseau, Editor

Brentwood's 10th Annual After-Christmas Tree Limo Fundraiser

We worried about the weather, as an overnight storm was predicted for January 7, but lucky for us it was only media hysteria. Instead of snow, the Christmas Tree Limo drivers Jim Austin, Craig Seeley, Richie Downing, Matt Eaton and Verne Rines found trees ready and waiting at the bottom of driveways, topped by \$860 dollars in total donations! They also appreciated the cookies and refreshments offered by several of our residents who, though wanting the tree removed, were still unwilling to let go of the holiday spirit. There were New Year's greetings, and some catching up with neighbors, some of whom hadn't been visited with since baseball season. These are the exchanges and small celebrations that keep us coming back year after year.

Since our drivers donate their time and vehicles, each receives a free car wash courtesy of the new Exeter One Stop on Portsmouth Avenue in Exeter. The Tree Limo incurs no expenses, and all proceeds are held in an account as a Brentwood community grant.

If you are a Brentwood community organization or service and need short funds for a specific project, you can apply for this grant and use it to enhance your organization and our community. You DO NOT need to be a 501(c)(3) organization, but if you are, you may be eligible for matching grants as well.

Grant applications are now available at the Brentwood Town Offices and at the library. You can also e-mail treelimo@comcast.net with the word "Application" in the subject line to print an application.

The **grant's criteria are simple:**

- Targeted use of funds exclusively for Brentwood community or a Brentwood-based organization
- Imminent need for funds (within one year)
- Financial hardship
- Restricted resources

There is a **March 1 deadline**, and award notification is June 1.

Elyse Seeley

Public Invitation

The public is cordially invited to **meet and greet the two candidates** for the principal's position at the Cooperative Middle School. The event will take place in the **Exeter High School Cafeteria Tuesday, February 15, from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m.**

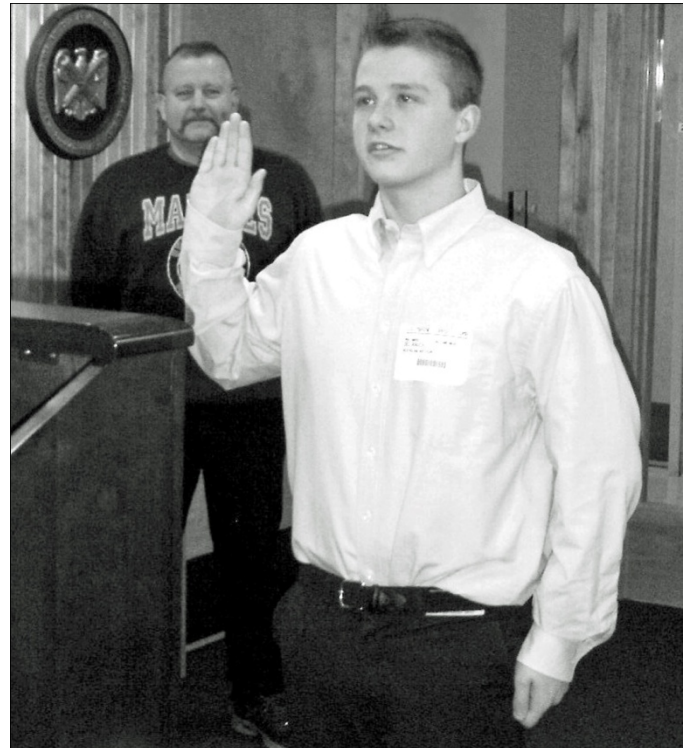
Beginning at 6:15 the School Board will conduct a **public interview with each candidate** in the Roy Morrisette Alumni Room.

6:15 Mr. Christopher Andriski

7:30 Mr. William Furbush

. The goal is to have a new principal selected before the end of February 2011, with a starting date of July 1, 2011.

Sworn to Service in the U.S. Marine Corps



Nicholas Arthur Belanger of Crawley Falls Road has entered United States Marine Corps recruit training. The swearing-in event took place in Portland, Maine, where his proud father, Stephen, and wife, Karrie, were present to witness the taking of the oath required of each recruit. Nicholas, grandson of Albert and Sandra Belanger of Middle Road, is a 2010 graduate of Exeter Area High School and will become one of "the Few and the Proud" at Parris Island, in South Carolina when he graduates on April 1.

Valentine Buffet

Pilgrim Church's Annual Valentine Buffet will be held on **Saturday, February 12 from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m.** (continuous seating). This delightful event will feature fresh carved ham, turkey and roast beef, a salad bar, and much more, including a variety of Homemade Desserts. All of this makes the **Valentine Buffet** a great midwinter event. Tickets will only be sold at the door and are \$12 per person. The Church is located on Route 111A (Middle Road) in Brentwood.

Gene Orcutt

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Feb. 7 **Public Hearing for Brentwood Town and School Budgets**
7:00 pm, Swasey School Gym.
- Feb. 8 **Senior Activity morning at the Community Center** – 10:00 am – 1:00 pm.
Selectmen's meeting – 7:00 pm, Cross Room, Town Office Building.
- Feb. 9 Conservation Commission – 7:00 pm, Cross Room, Town Office Building.
- Feb. 10 **Rebecca Rule presenting "Crosscut"** – Bartlett Library, 7:00 pm, sponsored by Historical Society and Friends of the Library, with a grant from the NH Humanities Council.
- Feb. 11 **Friday Night Flick** at the Library – 6:30 pm, "Shrek Forever."
- Feb. 12 **Valentine Buffet at the Pilgrim Church, Middle Road – 5:30-7:00 pm. Tickets at the door.**
- Feb. 14 School Board meeting – 6:15 pm, Swasey School.
- Feb. 15 **Meet & Greet candidates for principal of Coop. Middle School – 5:00-6:00pm, Exeter HS Cafeteria.**
Public interviews beginning 6:15, Roy Morrisette Alumni Room.
Parent Faculty Group – 6:30 pm, Swasey School Library.
Selectmen's meeting – 7:00 p.m., Cross Room, Town Office Building.
- Feb. 16 **Candidates Night – 7:30 p.m., Cross Room, Town Office Building.**
- Feb. 17 Planning Board – 7:00 p.m., Cross Room, Town Office Building.
Ladies Night at the Movies – 7:00 pm, Bartlett Library. "You Again."
- Feb. 21 Friends of the Library – 7:00 pm, Bartlett Library.
Library Trustees – 6:30 pm, Bartlett Library.
- Feb. 22 **Senior Activity morning at the Community Center** – 10:00 am – 1:00 pm.
Recreation Commission – 6:30 pm, Sanborn Room, Town Office Building.
Selectmen's meeting – 7:00 p.m., Cross Room, Town Office.
- Feb. 23 Brentwood Seniors – 11:30 a.m., Community Center. Pound Auction & "Senior Moments" program.
- Feb. 25 **Friday Night Flick at the Library** – 6:30 p.m. "The Karate Kid."
- Feb. 26 Supervisors of the Check List in session – 11am-12 noon, Town Office Building.
- Feb. 28 Brentwood Bookers – 7:00 pm, Bartlett Library.
- Mar. 1 Selectmen's meeting – 7:00 p.m., Cross Room, Town Office Building.
- Mar. 2 Cemetery Trustees – 7:00 pm, Town Office Building.
- Mar. 3 Planning Board meeting – 7:00 pm, Cross Room, Town Office Building.

The public is welcome at all above events

The Brentwood Newsletter
c/o Linda Rousseau, Editor
90 Prescott Road
Brentwood, NH 03833-6501

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