

Brentwood NEWSLETTER



Volume XXXV No. 1

Brentwood, New Hampshire

January 2011

FILING DATES FOR TOWN AND SCHOOL OFFICES

The Town and School District governing bodies need citizens who are willing to file for and serve in various positions. Those who intend to file for office, or are thinking about it, need to know that **the ten day filing period begins on Wednesday, January 19, 2011 and ends on Friday, January 28, 2011 at 5 p.m.**

To file for Town Office: Candidates must file with Town Clerk Phyllis Thompson during her regular office hours. These positions are open:

Selectmen	2 for 3 years
Cemetery Trustees	1 for 3 years
Library Trustees	2 for 3 years
Municipal Budget Committee	1 for 3 years
Planning Board	2 for 3 years 1 for 1 year
Supervisors of the Checklist	1 for 5 years
Trustees of the Trust Funds	1 for 3 years

Note: open positions do not imply that the incumbents are leaving; it simply means their terms are up, and they must be re-elected.

To file for School Office: Candidates must file during the same ten day period. Town and School Clerk Phyllis Thompson will accept these filings during her regular office hours. These positions are open:

Brentwood School District Officers

School Board	2 for 3 years
Treasurer (School)	1 for 1 year

Cooperative School District Officers

School Board (from Brentwood)	Filled
From Other Towns	3 for 3 years 1 each from Exeter, East Kingston and Stratham.
Kensington	1 for 2 years
All towns may vote for these candidates.	

Moderator	1 for 1 year
Budget Advisory Committee	3 for 3 years 1 each from Brentwood, Exeter and Kensington.
All towns may vote for these candidates.	

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETINGS: EVERYONE IS INVITED AND URGED TO ATTEND

Thursday, January 13	7:00 p.m.	Public Hearing for Cooperative School Budget at Exeter High School
Monday, February 7	7:00 p.m.	Public Hearing for Brentwood Town and School Budgets at Swasey School
Alternate date: Friday, February 11 7:00 p.m.		
Thursday, February 10	7:00 p.m.	Cooperative School Deliberative Session at Exeter High School
Tuesday, March 8	8:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.	Brentwood Town Elections at the Community Center
Saturday, March 12	9:00 a.m.	Town Meeting at Swasey School
Saturday, March 19	9:00 a.m.	Brentwood School District Meeting at Swasey School

TO SUBMIT WARRANT ARTICLES:

An article may be submitted by petition with the signatures of at least 25 registered voters. **The last filing date for Warrant Articles is Tuesday, February 1, 2011.**

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>

January Recycling Pick-Up Dates

January 4 & 5
 January 18 & 19

Notes from the Town Clerk

- ▶ A reminder that residents may register their boats at the Town Clerk's office.
- ▶ **Regarding Auto Registration Renewals --**
 - If you are **transferring plates** to another vehicle, you **must bring in the old registration**.
 - If you are simply renewing the registration on your current vehicle, you **must bring in the old registration or the letter that we mailed to you**.
 - You always need **two checks** to complete an auto registration: one for the State and one for the Town.

*Phyllis Thompson,
 Town Clerk and Tax Collector*

Waste Tonnage Figures

	<u>October</u>	<u>November</u>
Tons, Mixed Solid Waste	107.62	126.36
Tons, Recycled Goods	23.91(18.2%)	24.08 (16%)

Willow Pond Community Farm

This spring, Willow Pond Community Farm will be starting its eighth season of growing vegetables on land across from Swasey School in Brentwood. Operating on the CSA (Community Supported Agriculture) Model, members purchase a weekly "share" of vegetables for the 20-week season from June-October.

Our farmer, Maggie Donovan, will be returning for her third season. We will have some spaces open for membership this year, so if you are interested in learning more about the farm, or being on our waiting list, please call Joanie Pratt, 778-8881.

Joanie Pratt

"AFTER CHRISTMAS" Tree Limo Service

Saturday, January 8, 2011

Phone 778-9411 or e-mail your tree's reservation to treelimo@comcast.net before Friday, January 7 and provide your name, phone number and street address. Place your unadorned Christmas tree at the end of your driveway so it is accessible for our drivers. Please remove all tinsel, as trees will be mulched. On the morning of January 8 attach a donation of \$10.00 (or more!) to the treetop in a weather-proof bag. Checks can be made payable to the Brentwood Tree Limo Fund.

THE BRENTWOOD NEWSLETTER

Published 11 times a year by the Brentwood Newsletter Committee,
 Brentwood, New Hampshire. Circulation 1208

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 February Issue: Friday, Jan. 21

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

Fire Station Misconceptions

We are writing to clarify a few misconceptions regarding the new Fire Station. Based on news articles circulating in area papers and folks reading some of the Selectmen's minutes but not following through with others, it has been rumored that the Selectmen have approved of overspending the Fire Department construction warrant article by \$300,000. This is not the case, nor would it be allowed.

Here are the facts: Back in June, Ricci Construction proposed to the Fire Chief and Deputy Chief that the generator be upgraded to accommodate the existing sprinkler system. The Chief and Deputy chose not to proceed with the upgrade as they believed the power supply in that location to be reliable, as has been the case with other commercial buildings along the Rte. 125 corridor. Later in the summer, a representative of the State Fire Marshall's Office was invited to the new Fire Station by the Deputy Chief and he informed the Fire Department that they not only need to have the sprinkler system tied into the generator, but if the Emergency Operation Center was going to be located in the building, they needed to be "Code 708"-compliant as well.

National Electric Code 708, which went into effect in July of 2008, deals with Critical Operations Power Systems and would involve many additional requirements including creating a complete and independent emergency power system. Neither Ricci Construction nor our Deputy Chief of Fire Prevention was aware of this code. If it was determined that the new station would indeed house the EOC, the costs associated with being Code 708-compliant were estimated at about \$300,000. The Selectmen voted to hire a professional fire prevention consultant to look into the matter and make recommendations. The result was a proposal, which the Selectmen have approved, to have duplicate EOCs, one at the Fire Station and a second one at the Police Department, at little to no additional expense.

As far as having the sprinkler system tied into the generator, we are moving forward with that and it will not involve any additional bond money and will not exceed our budget. The expense will be covered by moving some money within the operating budget, reducing the amount spent on furniture, utilizing "contingency" money remaining from the bond proceeds and a contribution from Ricci Construction.

In conclusion, we will not be returning to the taxpayers at the March 2011 Town Meeting asking for additional funds nor will we be overspending the approved \$1,657,700 in bond proceeds approved for the construction of a new Fire Station. We will be happy to

present to the Town, by the end of 2010, a completed facility for our Fire Department.

Brentwood Board of Selectmen

From the Supervisors of the Checklist

Tuesday, January 18, 2011, 7:00-8:00pm, Brentwood Town Office –

Supervisors will hold a session for correction of the checklist. Change in party registration can be accepted.

Saturday, February 26, 2011, 11:00am-12:00noon, Brentwood Town Office –

Session of Supervisors for corrections to the checklist. Last day to accept voter registration applications prior to March Election Day, March 8.

New voter registrations will be accepted on Election Day. New voters must bring a picture ID (driver's license). If a new resident has not yet changed his/her driver license, a proof of residency (car registration, tax bill, light bill, cable bill, etc.) is required.

Thank You from the Food Pantry

Dear Friends,

I write to thank you for your generous gifts to the Brentwood Food Pantry, housed at Pilgrim Church. Your concern for your neighbors is heartwarming. The need is great, but you have made it possible for us to continue to respond. You are making a difference! Thank you!

*Rev. Kim McKerley
Pilgrim United Church of Christ
Brentwood-Kingston*

Mary E. Bartlett Memorial Library

All of us at the Library extend our best wishes for a happy and healthy 2011. We hope you will take the time to visit us this year and discover all that is available here for your enjoyment.

Are you interested in genealogy? We will be offering Ancestry Plus for your family research in the very near future. This happens to be my favorite database, so if you have an interest in your family's history, try it!

Don't forget the Downloadable Audio Book Program, which has now been extended to include e-books for your downloading pleasure.

The **Friday night flick for January 7 at 6:30** is *Despicable Me*, which is rated PG and is really very funny. *Nanny McPhee Returns*, rated PG, and also very amusing, is scheduled for **January 21**. Yes, I do go to children's movies on a regular basis, and I give both of these movies a four star rating ... well, maybe 3 1/2 stars.

The **Ladies' Night movie for Thursday, January 13 at 7:00** is *Eat, Pray, Love*, starring Julia Roberts, James Franco, Billy Crudup and Javier Bardem. Based on the bestselling book by Elizabeth Gilbert, it is rated PG-13.

Dr. Marc Mitchell, local veterinarian and author of *Hoofprints in the Sand*, will be telling us about the adventures, thrills and challenges of life on his family's farm, working with race horses and his vocation. Join us on **Thursday, January 27 at 7:00**.

The Brentwood Bookers will be meeting on Monday, January 31 at 7:00 to discuss *The Help* by Kathryn Stockett. Join us for a book well worth discussing.

Charles Pratt will be reading from his new book of poems *From the Box Marked Some Are Missing* on **Wednesday, February 3 at 7:00**, as well as **Becky Sakellariou** with her book *Earth Listening*. Everyone is invited for poetry and goodies.

... And ...

Can you guess who's coming, not to dinner but to make us laugh, on **Thursday, February 10th at 7:00**? It's our all time, absolute most favorite guest **Rebecca Rule**. If you have the winter doldrums, she is just the lady to drive them right out of your system.

Marilyn Morehead, Library Director

Friends of the Library

Happy New Year, everyone! We hope the holidays were enjoyable, peaceful and relaxing for you!

Thanks to all who came to visit Santa Claus at the Mary Bartlett Library. It is certainly one of my favorite events, seeing the children all dressed up and wide-eyed at the prospect of seeing Santa. A special thanks to the elves who helped throughout the morning.

The Library was very successful in collecting your donations for local food banks, needing to make more than one delivery to different locations! We appreciate the generosity of our patrons who are fortunate enough to be able to remember those who are less fortunate, especially at this time of year.

A great big thank you to the crafters who participated in the **Christmas Craft Fair** and those who made purchases. The Friends have been providing this local shopping opportunity for several years and it has proven successful for both crafters and customers. The Friends will be using the money raised from this fair to add to the collection of fiction, young adult and children's books.

Congratulations to Sue Mitchell, winner of the **Treasure Basket Raffle** finely hand-crafted by Dave Gibson. Dave has donated one of his beautiful baskets for, oh, no one seems to remember how many years – but it has been many! His commitment is commendable and his talent unparalleled! Thank you, Dave, for your generosity and thanks to those who supported our raffle this year.

We appreciate all the donations we have received from our annual **Membership Drive**. As you know, we were able to "Beat the Benefactor" again. I have to confess that this does not *surprise* me – our residents are so incredibly generous I knew they would come through again! But because so many people have been affected with job loss and financial struggles it does *impress* me. So this year more than ever we thank each of you for every dollar you have given. We look forward to the opportunity to provide you with some great programming in 2011, due to your donations.

I would like to reiterate our thanks to all those who supported The Brentwood Gathering this year. In fact, let me thank you for supporting it for the last 10 years! Our 2010 event was, by far, our most profitable and successful one. So it is with mixed feelings that I report to you, the Friends have decided our 10th event will be our last. It takes a tremendous amount of work to organize, advertise, prepare for, put on and clean up after an event of this size. The Friends have decided to look for new fundraising ideas, which we hope will be a little less demanding on our time.

The meetings listed on page 1 and repeated in the table below are important! At some meetings monetary decisions which impact taxes are made by the votes of those present. If you do not participate, you are giving up your rights and denying others the benefit of your thoughts.

Taken together, these sessions determine not only what taxes will be, but also set initiatives which will define Brentwood's future character and infrastructure. We say it every year: please be a part of this important process.

Date and Time	Location	Event	What Happens
Thursday, January 13 7:00 p.m.	Exeter High School	Public Hearing for Cooperative School Budget	Information session. Questions are encouraged and welcomed.
Monday, February 7 7:00 p.m.	Swasey Central School	Public Hearing for Brentwood Town and School Budgets	Information session. Questions are encouraged and welcomed.
Thursday, February 10 7:00 p.m.	Exeter High School	Deliberative Session	Budget for Cooperative District is made final in preparation for the ballot vote on March 8. Changes can be made.
Tuesday, March 8 8:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.	Brentwood Community Center	Brentwood Town Elections	Voting for various town, Cooperative School District and Swasey School District positions. Vote on Cooperative School District budget. Vote on all zoning changes.
Saturday, March 12 9:00 a.m.	Swasey Central School	Town Meeting	Discuss and vote on the various articles of the town warrant. Changes can be made. Swearing in of new town officials.
Saturday, March 19 9:00 a.m.	Swasey Central School	School District Meeting	Discuss and vote on Swasey budget. Changes can be made.

Continued from page 4

As colder days creep in, please consider the Pass Programs offered through the Friends. Next time you are at the Library, take a look at all of the pass offerings. Be sure to check out the holiday activities offered at **Strawbery Banke Museum**, (www.strawberybanke.org), **Children's Museum of Maine** (www.childrensmuseumofme.org), **Historic New England** (www.historicnewengland.org) and **The Fells** (www.thefells.org). Or perhaps you'd like to travel to Boston to visit the **Museum of Science** (www.mos.org) or the **Children's Museum of Boston** (www.bostonkids.org), **Peabody Essex Museum** (www.pem.org), **SEE Science Center** (seesciencecenter.org), **McAuliffe Shepard Discovery** (www.starhop.com), **American Independence Museum** (independencemuseum.org). Look for additional pass information at the Library.

This month the Friends of the Library will move their **monthly meeting** date to a new day and time. Meetings will now take place on the 3rd Monday evening of the month. This month's meeting will be one week later due to Martin Luther King Day - **Monday, January 24 at 7 pm**. We hope that moving meetings to evenings will allow more of you to get involved with our group. Our plan is to alternate business meetings with community projects every other month. For instance, in February, we will be cutting out stars for the Pease Greeters. If you are not familiar with the Pease Greeters, you can

learn more about them at www.peasegreeters.org. If you would like to receive an email reminder about upcoming meetings, please send an email to marybartlett76@yahoo.com and I will gladly include you on our email list.

Michelle Siudut, Publicity

Brentwood Gardeners

The Gardeners gathered at the comfortable, attractive home of Merrill Dwyer for their annual December party. After an hour of delicious hors d'oeuvres, desserts, good wine and good conversation, they settled down for the popular Yankee Swap. All the surprise gifts were garden related in some way. Finally it was time to say goodbye, and everyone went home with the satisfied feeling of having had a nice evening with good friends.

The next meeting will be **Wednesday, January 26, 7:00 pm at the Community Center**. This will be the annual Chili Night – again great food – but the group will then focus on pine cones, discovering ways to use or decorate with nature's bounteous supply of them. This would be a fine time for Brentwood residents and friends to come over and join in. New faces are always most welcome at the Gardeners' meetings. For more information please call Diantha Wade, president, at 772-5217.

Linda Rousseau for the Gardeners

Brentwood Recreation News

Attention Parents — 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).

Dust Off Those Skates!

We now have a skating rink at the BRC. Weather permitting, it's available for everyone to use. Maintaining it will be a community effort, so please bring a shovel if it snows and help us keep it cleared for use.

Attention Seniors!

In February, we will be starting our bimonthly Seniors' Activity day at the Brentwood Community Center. On the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month, Seniors are welcome to come and enjoy 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 from 10am-1:00pm.**

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' 3:00 pm 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.

Youth Basketball

Our season will begin **Saturday, December 4 for our K-2 teams and December 11 for our 3-6 traveling teams.** All schedules are posted on our website.

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 begins January 25! 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.

Zumba Classes

Next Class starts Wednesday, January 12.

Wednesday Evenings:

6:30-7:15pm

Zumba

7:15-8:00pm

Zumba Toning

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-ins welcome! (\$10.00). Sign-up through the Recreation office or that evening at class.

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 officer 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.

Brentwood Recreation continued

Baseball/Softball Sign-Ups

Even though winter is still very much with us, we're looking ahead to Spring already! Baseball and Softball registration will begin on January 17. 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 (Must be 10yr. by 1/1/2011) **\$65**

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 at 6:30 pm.**

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.

Sympathy

Sincerest sympathy is extended to the family of JoAnn Allison of Peabody Drive, who passed away at her home on December 11, 2010. Born and raised in the Chicago area, she earned an advanced degree in nursing and devoted her career, as well as her retirement years, to the health care field. Her positions over the years included hospital nursing, teaching as a Professor of Nursing at NH Community Technical College and the University of New Hampshire, director of quality assurance at the VNA of Manchester and Southern New Hampshire, and nurse for individual practices within CORE Physicians in Exeter. She also served as a Supervisor of the Checklist in Brentwood from 2003-2010.

Brentwood Seniors

The Brentwood Seniors had an excellent turnout on December 15 for their annual Christmas luncheon. The tables at the Community Center were beautifully set and decorated. Kudos to Sandy Thorsell, program chair, for seeing to that. The program of Christmas music by the Swasey School second graders unfortunately had to be cancelled because of a family emergency for their director. However, Sandy was prepared with a group of seasonal games that required only paper, pencil, a little brainwork and plenty of chatter. There were prizes for the various winning tables, as well as seasonal door prizes.

The next meeting will be **Wednesday, January 26 beginning at 10:00 am. Please note the different starting time.** Coffee and refreshments will be offered, and the group will have their third annual Pound Party, a lively auction to raise money for the Seniors fund. Each member is asked to bring a "mystery gift" wrapped or hidden in a bag and be prepared to have some fun.

For more information about the Seniors, call Gene Orcutt, president, at 642-4597.

Linda Rousseau for the Seniors

Swasey Parent Faculty Group

The next meeting is **Tuesday, January 18 at 6:30 pm** in the Swasey School Library. Come and join us!

Also, remember to Clip those Boxtops! Check out our website for lots of fun new ways to collect boxtops. Have everyone you know clip their box tops and send them in. Visit the website for more information – <http://swaseypfg.pbworks.com>.

Pam Carr

Mailing Team for December

Many, many thanks on behalf of the community to the members of the Brentwood Fire Department who prepared the December issue of the *Newsletter* for mailing. The writer regrets not having their names for this note but will try to publish them in the next issue.

Linda Rousseau, Editor

Historical Society

The Christmas Open House at the Historical Society Museum had to be postponed for a week because of heating problems. The new date brought both heat for the building and much better weather than the previous Sunday. A very pleasant number of visitors made their way to the museum to view the exhibits and the newly arrived Abel Hutchins grandfather clock, to chat and enjoy the wonderful refreshments. In the midst of everything children decorated some gingerbread "people" and took them home.

The next regular meeting of the society, a business and planning meeting, will be Thursday, **January 13, at 7:00 pm.**

The February event will be a joint program with the Friends of the Library – the popular speaker and author, Rebecca Rule, with a new program entitled "Crosscut: A Spoken Documentary." Using new and vintage photos and individual stories, she will cover the story of logging, the Berlin Mills, and life in the Andros-coggin Valley from the 1800s to the demolition of the mill stacks in 2007. This program will take place **Thursday, February 10, at 7:00 pm at the Mary E. Bartlett Library.**

Military Exhibit Planned for Armed Forces Day

The Historical Society is planning an exhibit of military uniforms, medals, personal equipment, letters and diaries, photos, souvenirs and other memorabilia, in observance of Armed Forces Day, May 15, 2011. The exhibit will run from May 14 through July 4.

All Brentwood residents are invited to loan items for this important exhibit. Items from any era of our history will be of great interest. The Society is grateful that the loans of some items have already been offered. We urge you to think of what you or your family might lend, and contact one of the following with your information: Alma Vahey, president, 679-8635; Maureen Menter, curator, 679-4353; or Linda Rousseau, program chair, 772-4534.

*Linda Rousseau
for the Historical Society*

Electronics Recycling

Residents are encouraged to recycle their old computers, televisions, VCRs and other electronics on **Saturday, January 8 from 9 am – 3 pm** at the **Exeter Town Hall**. Volunteers for the Exeter High School Project Prom/Graduation have organized the recycling drive.

Parent volunteers will help unload your items. The cost to recycle ranges from \$5.00 to \$25.00 depending on size. All donations are tax deductible.

Brentwood Republican Committee Update

The New Year is upon us and all our newly elected officials have by now taken their Oath of Office, and are working for all of us. Those of us on the Brentwood Republican Committee would like to congratulate all who were elected, especially Bruce MacMahon, our new State Representative.

The start of a new year holds many opportunities. According to the Brentwood Republican Committee Bylaws, we are required to hold elections in the month of January following a biennial election to seat a new Executive Board. The meeting will be held on **Wednesday, January 12, beginning at 7:00 pm**, in the Hilton Auditorium at the Rockingham County Complex on North Road. The elections are for Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer. We will open the floor to nominations for each office, followed by the voting. I invite all current Brentwood residents who are registered Republicans or undeclared Republicans to attend our January meeting, and to consider getting involved and joining a great group of people. If you've never thought you could get involved in the political process, or weren't sure how to, participating in our town committee is a great start. With the 2012 election cycle already starting, now is a great time to check us out.

Some of the activities that we will tackle this year include working with the state and county committees on various issues, helping the town on Community Service projects, and monitoring the efforts of our elected officials. We believe it is our responsibility as citizens to "hold their feet to the fire" so to speak, getting together to discuss pending legislation and current events and letting them know how we feel about the issues. We expect to hold regular town hall forums where each of these Representatives will have the opportunity to speak in person and respond to their constituents.

For more information on the Committee, please feel free to e-mail us at info@brentwoodnhgop.org, or you can call (603) 773-9739.

*Mike Silverwood, Chair Bob Mantegari, Treas.
Matt Casey, Vice-Chair Bruce MacMahon, Sec.*

Tax Rates—2010

Local tax rates for the six towns within SAU 16 were set recently. The 2010 rates (per \$1,000 of assessed property valuation) are as follows:

Brentwood--\$23.86 (Increase of \$3.33)--Revaluation
East Kingston--\$23.33 (Increase of \$.22)
Exeter--\$24.67 (Increase of \$2.06)--Revaluation
Kensington--\$18.87 (No change)
Newfields--\$22.19 (Increase of \$.99)
Stratham--\$18.73 (Increase of \$.67)

SAU 16 Supt's. Report, November 2010

Report from Your State Representative

With the whirlwind of the Christmas/New Year season upon us, I was thinking this would be a brief write-up, just a couple paragraphs maybe, to let you know what's been going on up in Concord, and how my first month as your new state representative has gone down. But, brevity has never been my number one attribute, so bear with me.

Orientation for incoming freshmen representatives was held in mid-November. This is when all the newly-elected reps assemble at the State House to learn all the important aspects of being a state lawmaker -- where to hang your coat, where to get your shiny new nametags, where you can plug in your smartphone/laptop, where to get your coffee, where to drink your coffee, etc.

It was an informative two-day session that introduced us to the inner workings of state government and of the State House facilities. This was immediately followed by the first meeting of the House Republican Caucus, at which we made our nomination for the next Speaker of the House. I was proud to have supported our new speaker Bill O'Brien in his campaign for Speaker. He shares many of my core beliefs -- those of limited government, individual liberty, and fiscal responsibility -- and is just the kind of fresh leadership we need at this moment in our state's history. Anyone interested in reading more about Bill and his vision for the future of New Hampshire can check out his website here: <http://obrienforspeaker.com>.

December 1 was the big day - the official swearing-in ceremony for the 162nd General Court. For those of you outside my immediate family who want to see the video of me taking my oath of office, I posted it on my YouTube channel, the link for which can be found on my campaign website: <http://www.bruceforstaterep.com>.

After being sworn in, our first official course of action was to elect our new speaker. Contrary to any speculative punditry you may have read leading up to the vote, the Republican caucus remained united behind its nominee and Bill O'Brien was elected speaker. A couple more points to make on that event:

I want to acknowledge the grace with which our outgoing speaker Terie Norelli relinquished her position as Speaker of the House. She thanked her supporters in the Democrat caucus for their nomination of her for the position, but gracefully and respectfully declined the nomination, ceding her post to the incoming speaker with class and dignity.

On the flip side of the coin, I must also acknowledge and apologize for the utter lack of respect put on by a nameless member of the Republican caucus (someone on the far side of the chamber from where I was seated) who actually booed as Speaker Norelli was stepping down from the rostrum, having gracefully acknowledged the end of her tenure. It was the kind of disrespectful and childish gesture that has no place in our public discourse (unless the Yankees are at Fenway, of course, and you're in the bleachers), and one for which I offer again my apologies. We're better than that.

Well, the next big news prior to the convening of the 2011 House session on January 5 was the announcement of committee assignments. I will be serving on the Science, Technology and Energy Committee this coming session. Though it was my second choice (after State-Federal Relations and Veterans Affairs), I look forward to serving on this committee as we tackle some issues that will greatly affect the efficiency of our state government, as well as our state's economic competitiveness in the region.

For more up-to-date information on pending legislation, as well as other news about what's going on in Concord, be sure to check out the Brentwood Citizens Forum, a blog-style website I set up to act as a sounding board of sorts, both for myself and for the People of Brentwood. You can find it here: <http://brentwoodforum.wordpress.com/>

These monthly updates in the Newsletter are great, and I fully plan on carrying on what's become a tradition with regards to the duties of my office, but I've spoken with several people who told me they'd like to have a more effective way of keeping in touch with their elected officials in a more real-time environment. It is my hope that this website will create this kind of two-way communication as part of my pledge to help create a more open and transparent state government.

In closing, I want to wish you all a safe and joyous Christmas holiday, and I hope the New Year finds you in good spirits, good company, and in good health. Above all, be safe. Cheers.

- Bruce

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

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Jan. 7 **Friday Night Flick** – 6:30 pm, Bartlett Library, “Despicable Me”
- Jan. 8 **“After Christmas Tree Limo”** pickup
- Jan. 10 Brentwood School Board – 6:15 pm, Swasey School
- Jan. 11 Selectmen’s meeting – 7:00 pm, Cross Room Town Office Building
- Jan. 12 Brentwood Republican Committee – 7:00 pm, Hilton Auditorium, County Complex
- Jan. 13 **Public Hearing, Cooperative District Budget – 7:00 pm, Exeter High School, off Rte.27**
 Historical Society – 7:00 pm, Historical Society Museum
Ladies Night at the Movies – 7:00 pm, Bartlett Library, “Eat, Pray, Love”
- Jan. 18 Parent Faculty Group – 6:30 pm, Swasey School Library
 Selectmen’s meeting – 7:00 pm, Cross Room, Town Office Building
 Supervisors of the Checklist in session – 7:00 to 8:00 pm, Town Office Building
- Jan. 19 **Filing period begins for town and school offices**
- Jan. 20 Brentwood Planning Board – 7:00 pm, Cross Room, Town Office Building
- Jan. 21 **Friday Night Flick** – 6:30 pm, Bartlett Library, “Nanny McPhee Returns”
- Jan. 25 Recreation Commission – 6:30 pm, Sanborn Room, Town Office Building
 Selectmen’s meeting – 7:00 pm, Cross Room, Town Office Building
- Jan. 26 Brentwood Seniors – **10:00 am**, Community Center. Fund-raising auction, “Pound Party.”
 Brentwood Gardeners – 7:00 pm, Community Center. Working with pine cones.
- Jan. 27 **Dr. Marc Mitchell, speaker** – 7:00 pm, Bartlett Library. Life on a race horse farm.
- Jan. 28 **Filing period ends, 5:00 pm – Town Clerk’s office**
- Feb. 1 **Last day to file Warrant Articles, at Selectmen’s Office.**
 Selectmen’s meeting – 7:00 pm, Cross Room, Town Office Building.
- Feb. 2 Cemetery Trustees – 7:00 pm, Town Office Building
- Feb. 4 Planning Board – 7:00 pm, Cross Room, Town Office Building
Charles Pratt and Becky Sakellariou reading from their books – 7:00 pm, Bartlett Library
- Feb. 7 **Public Hearing, Brentwood Town and School budgets – 7:00 pm, Swasey School gym.**
 Trails Committee – 7:00 pm, Town Office Building
 Firemen’s Association – 7:30 pm, Fire House
- Feb. 8 **Seniors Activity morning – 10:00-1:00, Community Center.** Sponsored by the Rec. Commission.

The public is welcome at all above events

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