

Brentwood NEWSLETTER



Volume XLI No. 2

Brentwood, New Hampshire

February 2017

Candidates for Town and School Offices

The following filings for Town and School Offices were made during the required period from Jan. 25 – Feb. 3.

Office	<u>Selectmen</u>	Office	<u>Cooperative School District Board</u>
Positions Available	2 for 3 years	Positions Available	1 for each listed position
Candidate(s)	Andrew Artimovich Robert Mantegari	Candidate(s)	<u>Brentwood</u> Position is filled
Office	<u>Cemetery Trustees</u>		<u>East Kingston (for 3 years)</u> Deborah Hobson
Position Available	1 for 3 years		<u>Exeter (for 3 years)</u> David Slifka
Candidate(s)	Albert Edward Belanger		<u>Stratham (for 3 years)</u> Travis Thompson
Office	<u>Library Trustees</u>		<u>ERCSD Budget Advisory Comm.</u>
Positions Available	2 for 3 years	* Office	1 from each town
Candidate(s)	Brian Daniel Duffy Donald Petterson Marc Wilson	Positions Available	<u>Brentwood</u> No one filed
Office	<u>Municipal Budget Committee</u>	Candidate (s)	<u>Exeter</u> Roy Morrisette
Positions Available	1 for 3 years		<u>Kensington</u> No one filed
Candidate(s)	Krista Steger		<u>Newfields</u> No one filed
Office	<u>Planning Board</u>		<u>Co-op. School Dist. Moderator</u>
Positions Available	2 for 3 years	* Office	1 for 1 year
Candidate(s)	Matthew Bergeron Jonathan T. Morgan 1 for 2 years Kevin Johnston	Position Available	Katherine B. Miller
Office	<u>Trustees of the Trust Funds</u>	Candidate(s)	
Position Available	1 for 3 years		
Candidate(s)	Nicholas Wrighton		
Office	<u>School Board – Brentwood Dist.</u>		
Positions Available	2 for 3 years		
Candidate(s)	Allison Higgins Elza Silva		

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

**Candidates' Night will be at the Mary E. Bartlett Library on Wednesday, February 15 at 7:00 p.m.
Please come to meet, hear, and talk to the candidates.**

Don't forget these important forthcoming events:

Monday, February 13	7:00 p.m.	Public Hearing for Brentwood Town and School Budgets at Brentwood Town Offices
Alternate date: Thursday, February 16	7:00 p.m.	Brentwood School District Meeting at Swasey School
Friday, March 10	6:00 p.m.	Brentwood Town Elections at the Community Center
Tuesday, March 14	8:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.	Town Meeting at Swasey School
Saturday, March 18	9:00 a.m.	

Brentwood NEWSLETTER

TOWN OF BRENTWOOD
www.brentwoodnh.gov

TOWN CLERK AND TAX COLLECTOR

Phone: 642-6400 X 14
Mon., Wed., Thurs. 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Tuesday 9 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Friday 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.

MARY E. BARTLETT LIBRARY

Phone: 642-3355
E-mail: bartlettlibrary@comcast.net
www.brentwoodlibrary.org
Monday 2-7 p.m.
Tues. & Weds. 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Thursday 9 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Friday & Saturday 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Story Hours

Tuesday 10:30 a.m. and 2 p.m.
Wednesday 10:30 a.m.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

Phone: 642-6400 X 10 Fax: 642-6310
Monday–Thursday 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Friday 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

PLANNING BOARD ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY

Phone: 642-6400 X 16
Monday–Thursday 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Planning Board meets the 1st and 3rd Thursday of
the month at 7 p.m.

SWASEY CENTRAL SCHOOL

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

BRENTWOOD POLICE

Emergency: 911
Non-emergency: 642-8817

BRENTWOOD FIRE

Emergency: 911
Non-emergency: 642-8132

THE BRENTWOOD NEWSLETTER

Published 11 times a year by the Brentwood
Newsletter Committee, Brentwood, NH

Editor C. Ralph Adler	Treasurer Marion Arkell
Editor Emerita Linda Rousseau	Distribution Brad Stevens
Associate Editor Jim Clark	Contributors Alisha Neubert And the many other valued citizens of Brent- wood who make the Brentwood Newsletter possible.
Graphic Design Michael Neubert	

Recycling Pickup Dates

February 7 & 8 and February 21 & 22

Waste Tonnage Figures	November	December
Tons, mixed solid waste	126.71	124.50
Tons, recycled goods	40.02 (24%)	42.92 (26%)

Karen Clement, Town Administrator

Town Clerk's notes

The office will be open until 5 p.m. February 3 for anyone wishing to run for office.

Partial payments of your taxes are acceptable.

Boat, hunting, fishing, and ATV licenses can be acquired at the Town' Clerk's office.

Dog licenses for 2017 are now available and must be done by April 30. If your dog was registered last year, new registration can be done online.

If you are transferring plates to another car in the same name, you must bring in the old registration.

You always need two checks or cash to complete registrations.

The office will be closed February 20 for President's Day.

Phyllis Thompson – Town Clerk – Town of Brentwood

Urgent from the Town Clerk: no car registrations February 17 and 21
On Friday, February 17 and Tuesday, February 21, the state MAAP system will be down and the Town Clerk's office will be unable to do car registrations.

Thank you to our mailing crew for January

Many thanks on behalf of the community to the members of the Conservation Commission who assembled the January issue of the Newsletter for mailing: Doug Cowie, Jeff Donald, Kate Donald, Heather Dudley-Tatman, Heather Gilbert, Emily Schmalzer, and Rob Wofchuck.

Linda Rousseau on behalf of the Newsletter Committee

Newsletter deadlines

As of February, the deadline for submission of articles for the Brentwood Newsletter changed from the 20th of each month to the 15th of each month. Deadline for the March issue is February 15. Send your news to:
newsletterbrentwood@gmail.com or carlralphadler@gmail.com.

Looking ahead: Deadline for March issue, February 15
Deadline for April issue, March 15
Deadline for May issue, April 15

Town Budget Committee Public Meeting Monday, February 13, 2017

The Budget Committee has been hard at work evaluating various town departmental budgets as well as the Swasey School operating budget. Our final scheduled meeting is January 23, 2017 to review town and school warrant articles.

We will present our recommendations for all town and school operating budgets and warrant articles at a public hearing on Monday, February 13, 2017 at 7 p.m. at the Brentwood Town Offices. The snow date is Thursday, February 16, 2017 at 7 p.m. at the Brentwood Town Offices. The public is encouraged to attend. This will be an informational session in which questions will be answered and feedback welcomed.

A full summary article will appear in the March Brentwood Newsletter reviewing all Budget Committee recommendations for town and Swasey School operating budgets and warrant articles including tax impacts.

Please feel free to contact me at KSteger@brentwoodnh.gov if you have questions or comments.

*Krista Steger, Chair
On behalf of the Brentwood Budget Committee*

Swasey School budget information for 2017-18

As many of you know, it is the aim of the current Swasey School Board to keep residents informed about the school budget process and expenditures. We work very hard to provide the best possible resources for our students at the least possible burden to our taxpayers.

Swasey has consistently been the school with the lowest cost per pupil of all six of the elementary schools in SAU16. We are very proud of our work and invite you to our meetings any time. Meetings are usually held on the first Monday of the month at 6:30 p.m. in the school library.

Our current 2016-2017 budget is on-track and the financials look very good. However, one big snowstorm or special education need could change this. Our 2017-2018 budget is being developed and was unanimously approved by both the School Board and the Budget Committee. Despite our full-day kindergarten, and additions to the maintenance line for necessary roof repairs, the increase in the proposed budget is less than 1% (.92% to be exact). This is true despite the fact

that our health insurance is going up 10.5% and the district's share of New Hampshire retirement is going up 10.78% (from 15.67% to 17.36% for teachers and 11.17% to 11.38% for other staff members). Because of few claims, both our Workers' Compensation and Property and Liability Insurance are both down slightly.

The School Board will also be bringing forth three warrant articles which, if approved, will all be funded from unreserved fund balance (monies, already raised, left over at the end of this year, not from new taxation). We propose to add \$10,000 to the Special Education Trust Fund (currently around \$64,000), \$10,000 to the Maintenance Trust Fund (currently around \$82,000), and \$10,000 to the Safety and Security Fund (currently about \$20,000).

The Public Hearing for the town and school budgets (citizens may speak) is Monday, February 13. The Brentwood School District Meeting (when the budget and warrant articles, which can be amended, are voted on) is March 10 at 6 p.m. at Swasey School and the Town elections for board positions is March 14 all day.

Elizabeth Faria for the School Board

New animal control officer hired

Bill Faria has been hired as the Town's Animal Control Officer. Anyone who may encounter an issue such as a missing pet, a dog nuisance, or wildlife issue and it is not an emergency may contact the Brentwood Police Department at 603-642-8817. In an emergency, dial 9-1-1.

Please remember to register your canine with the town. This will ensure your canine is legally registered as required by law. The tag when placed on your pet's collar will aid in assisting authorities locating his or her owner in instances when a canine becomes lost. It is also helpful to place an identifying tag on your canine's collar.

Canine registration fees:

Male or female: \$9.00

Spayed or neutered: \$6.50

Seniors citizens (65 or older) regardless if canine is spayed or neutered: \$2.00

Penalties will be assessed after June 1.

In the past several months, there have been several sightings of bears, moose, bobcats, coyotes, fisher cats, foxes, weasels, and birds of prey. Should you have any questions please contact Bill Faria through the Brentwood Police Department 603-642-8817.

Christine Belanger, Brentwood Police Department

Conservation Commission looking for new members

We are looking for a couple of new members who want to get involved in helping the town protect its natural resources, preserve open space, help manage the town properties, and provide opportunities for residents to get out and enjoy the outdoors. We meet on the second Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Town Offices. Please come to a meeting or get in touch with us at conservation@brentwoodnh.gov. Thank you.

Rob Wofchuck for the Conservation Commission

Brentwood Police Benevolent Association to raise funds to continue K-9 unit

The Brentwood Police Benevolent Association will be conducting a fundraising campaign to raise funds for the continuation of the Brentwood Police Department's K-9 unit. At no time will businesses or residents receive phone calls soliciting for funds. There will be a letter sent out to businesses and individuals. For more information, log on to www.brentwoodnh.gov

I and the members of the Brentwood Police Department, all of whom are members of the Association, thank members of the community for your continued support.

Chief Wayne Robinson

Fire Department asks residents to mark mailboxes with 3 inch numbers

The Brentwood Fire Department would like to remind our residents and businesses to have their addresses clearly marked with 3" numbers on both sides of their mailboxes. This will facilitate emergency personnel to find your house in a timely fashion during an emergency situation. For anyone needing assistance, we have numbers available at the station. We would be happy to come and install the numbers for you. Please call the Brentwood Fire Department at 642-8132 for assistance.

Chief Wayne Robinson

Brentwood Solar Generator project planned at the Fire Station

At the upcoming town meeting, there will be two warrant articles related to the installation of solar panels on the land between the fire station and Route 125. These warrant articles will be put forth by the Selectmen with the full support of the Selectmen, Library

Trustees, Conservation Commission, Fire Chief, Town Building Inspector, and, hopefully the other town boards once we have had a chance to meet with them. This article will give you the background and rationale for moving forward with solar panels for the town at this time.

After reading this article, you are likely to have questions and comments. Two informational sessions will be held to review this proposal and the warrant articles. The first session will be held on February 23 at 7 p.m. at the Mary E. Bartlett Library located at 22 Dalton Road. The second meeting will be on March 8 at 7 p.m. at the Town Offices at 1 Dalton Road. Specific questions can be emailed to conservation@brentwoodnh.gov.

An ad-hoc committee consisting of the undersigned was formed following the 2016 town meeting to research the economic feasibility of the town installing solar panels to generate electricity to offset the power usage by all the municipal buildings excluding Swasey School. The goal was to determine if the town could save tax money by installing a solar generator and, if so, how could the town minimize its power bills at the least cost to the taxpayers?

We first had to get educated. We met and spoke with other towns and local businesses that have solar installations like Exeter, East Kingston, and Swampscott Soda to get a sense of their experience with solar. We met with Eversource, the town's electric utility to understand the finer points of how solar panels could offset the town's power usage and how it works with multiple building locations. We decided that based on the positive feedback from everyone we spoke to that it would be worthwhile sending out a request for proposal so we could get actual designs and figures for the town's specific needs.

In September, the Board of Selectmen approved a request for proposal which requested two different scenarios for solar panel locations and two different ownership options. Scenario 1 was for all the panels to be ground-mounted at the fire station and scenario 2 was roughly half the panels ground-mounted at the fire station and the other half roof-mounted at the town office. The two ownership options were for the town to own the panels from the start and finance the purchase with a 20-year bond and the second was a power purchase agreement with the option for the town to purchase the panels at a later date.

Three proposals were received and all three vendors were invited to present to the committee in November. It became clear from the proposals that over the useful life of the solar panels, the town could save substantial money through the installation and ownership of solar panels. Furthermore, all vendors conveyed that the optimal cost effective location was a large ground-mounted solar array at the fire station in the field between the fire station and Route 125.

While all were worthy, Revision Energy, a local Brentwood

business located on Route 125, was selected. Revision came in with the lowest cost solution for ownership in addition to many other factors including their staff. Revision has more than 40 employees located in their Brentwood office, a staff of licensed engineers, and 13 industry-certified professionals. Some of their customers include Colby Sawyer College, Town of Durham, Town of Windham, Town of Hopkinton, Appalachian Mountain Club, The Nature Conservancy, Maine Audubon, Throwback Brewery, and Eastman's Corner.

The system proposed is a 99 kilowatt system sized to generate roughly 100% of the power that the municipal buildings in town currently use on an annual basis. There will be 388 solar panels with inverters, optimizers, and an online monitoring system that Revision Energy, the town, and taxpayers will have access to in order to see how much power is being generated through an internet application. The panels have a 25-year warranty and may last as long as 40 years.

Over a recent 12-month period, the town (excluding Swasey School) used 156,104 kilowatt hours (kWh) of energy for a total cost of \$26,728. Of this amount, roughly 75% or \$20,000 annually is recoverable through the solar generation as the remaining 25% must be paid and represents the cost of transmission, distribution, and peak demand penalties. The proposed system is estimated to produce 164,816 kWh of energy the first year with a 0.5% reduction anticipated each year thereafter. All live electrical parts of the system will be enclosed to prevent shock or injury.

The cost for the town to buy the system outright is \$283,356 with a possible state rebate of \$62,010 for a net purchase price of \$221,346. **Financing the purchase with a bond over 20 years would result in a payback period of 11 years with a 20-year saving of \$238,756 and 40-year savings of \$941,014.**

The Power Purchase Agreement (PPA), assuming the town decides to buy the system after six years, was the lower cost option and had other benefits. Under the PPA, Revision Energy would purchase, install, and own the solar generator at the fire station. The town would sign a 20-year agreement with Revision to purchase all the power generated from the solar system at a rate that is sharply discounted from today's current rates. Specifically, the contract for years 1 and 2 would be at \$0.08 per kWh versus the \$0.129 per kWh rate the town currently pays to Eversource for an immediate estimated 38% reduction in electric power costs. There is a price escalator of 2% a year in year 3 and after.

The town will have the option to purchase the system after year 6 for a price of \$102,062 or just 36% of the original total project cost. The savings in years 1 to 6 are estimated at \$48,737 with projected savings in year 7 of \$20,000 per year assuming the town exercises its option to purchase the system. **Under this scenario, the payback period is nine years with projected**

savings over 20 years of \$301,738 and savings over 40 years of \$1,003,987. The PPA also has the added benefits that Revision Energy does the installation, gets the system up and running, and covers all the maintenance for the years that they own it. If the town purchases the system, the town would then be required to cover maintenance costs which is estimated at \$1,500 per year and insurance which is estimated to be \$800 per year.

The first warrant article will ask for your approval to authorize the Selectman to enter into the Power Purchase Agreement with Revision Energy as described above.

The second warrant article will ask for you to create a reserve account for the purchase of the solar panel system at the end of year 6 and fund it with 1/6 of the purchase amount per year or roughly \$17,000. Since the town will be saving roughly \$7,000 per year under the PPA, the net cost of this warrant article is actually more like \$10,000.

Why should the town do this now? Now is the right time for many reasons. First, there is currently room under the state limit on the amount and size of solar power installations. Second, there are beneficial reimbursement rates from the utility guaranteed for the next 20 years. Third, installation prices have come down dramatically and the panels are more efficient. Fourth, we received a very attractive proposal from a local Brentwood business. Lastly, the sooner we start the sooner we start saving tax dollars.

*Malcolm Allison, Budget Committee
Jane Byrne, former Selectwoman
Emily Schmalzer, Conservation Commission
Robert Wofchuck, Conservation Commission*

Cooperative Middle School renewal project update

As many of you have heard, the Exeter Regional Cooperative School Board (ERCSB) is putting forth a warrant article of approximately \$22 million to support the CMS renewal project – the expansion and renovation of the Cooperative Middle School.

The renewal project was initiated in the fall of 2015 with the establishment of the Cooperative Middle School Building Committee composed of individuals from all six towns that includes parents, residents with no children in the school system, seniors, teachers, and administrators. The goal of the committee was to identify the needs of the middle school, evaluate a variety of solutions, and ultimately to develop a detailed recommendation for a path forward.

The Building Committee presented their findings and recommendations to the ERCSB in the fall of 2016. This

recommendation includes the expansion and renovation of CMS. The estimated cost of the proposed project is \$21,985,485. The proposal includes: two new pods which includes 10 classrooms, additional cafeteria space, additional gymnasium and multi-purpose room, additional administrative space, and additional music space.

New square footage: 50,830
Renovated square footage: 24,780

I'm sure many of you question why we need to expand CMS if we have a stable enrollment of approximately 1,300 children. In fact, the major needs at CMS are driven by changes to programming since the school opened in 1998 which have changed the types of spaces needed as well as required the addition of 36 adult staff members. As a member of the Building Committee, I would like to communicate that needs were honestly evaluated, enrollment critically assessed, and a variety of solutions examined. Due to the large impact of this initiative and in an effort to be fully transparent, the Building Committee created a CMS Renewal Project website that details all our considerations, findings, and recommendations – www.cmsrenewal.com.

Should the warrant article pass in March of 2017, a \$21,900,000 bond will be secured in June 2017 to fund the expansion and renovation of CMS. Detailed below are the bond rate information we obtained in November of 2016 as well as the estimated tax impacts for Brentwood residents.

Length of Bond	Interest Rate*	Amount Borrowed	Total Cost w/Interest
10 year bond	2.499%	\$21,900,000	\$24,958,396
15 year bond	2.999%	\$21,900,000	\$27,212,575
20 year bond	3.250%	\$21,900,000	\$29,434,665

Length of Bond	Brentwood Tax Impact 1st Year (¢/\$1000)**	First Year Increase for \$350,000 home	Brentwood Tax Impact 2nd Year (¢/\$1000)	Second Year Increase for \$350,000 home
10 year bond	0.09	\$31.50	0.79	\$276.50
15 year bond	0.11	\$38.50	0.61	\$213.50
20 year bond	0.12	\$42.00	0.52	\$182.00

* Interest rates provided by the NH Bond Bank in Nov. 2016. The final bond rate is not set until the bond is secured.

** Tax impacts are estimates based on Nov. 2016 bond rates. The first year is a partial payment and thus the impact much lower than the second-year tax impact.

A \$21,900,000 bond will have significant impacts on your taxes. I encourage you to visit our website, attend the upcoming ERCSD Deliberative Session on Thursday, February 9 at 7:00 p.m. at the Exeter High School, or contact me with any questions you may have. To see a video of the CMS Renewal Project panel discussion: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rRw5kL4SPa8>.

Krista Steger, Brentwood Representative, CMS Building Committee

Letters to the community

Selectmen answer residents' questions about Prescott Road project

The Board of Selectmen met with several residents in November for a site walk on Prescott Road. During the walk, several concerns were brought up regarding the current design and the scope of the work being proposed. Some items the residents would like more information on are the following:

- options on culverts, i.e., arch culverts,
- rustic guardrails,
- stake and flag proposed roadway limits,
- wells and foundation monitoring due to blasting.

We have followed up with Scott Bourcier, Dubois and King (D&K), to discuss the feasibility of some of these items.

Options on culverts, i.e., arch culverts: alternatives to a box or three-sided structure would consist of challenges to meet NHDES stream crossing regulations. A large arch/pipe configuration would raise the roadway profile significantly to create the necessary opening to pass the 100-year storm event. Raising the roadway profile will require an increase in sloped fill area to match existing contours. Our goal was to create a low-profile structure that met the State requirement and minimize fill and sloped area. One or multiple arch/pipe configuration would not only not be permissible by NHDES, it would be more vulnerable to damming effect that would result in up-stream flooding and eventually failure (washout) of the stream crossing structure. This would also require a new wetlands permit application.

What will the stream bed be made of? Conservation commission would recommend it resemble the same sort of stream bed as that which is upriver of the culvert. The project currently proposes a natural stream bottom through the new pre-cast box bridges; please see Sheets 29 and 31 of the plan set. The natural bottom is proposed to consist of 24-inches of course sand to 12-inch diameter cobbles.

Rustic guardrails: Is this a possibility? They do not want shiny silver guardrails. Weathering steel (also known as corten) that motorists used to see in the White Mountains are no longer available. Studies have shown that the corten guardrail service life is significantly less than galvanized guardrail. (<https://www.nh.gov/dot/org/projectdevelopment/materials/research/documents/2003-2news.pdf>). The alternative option to achieve a non-galvanized look is to paint the guardrail. If the guardrail is simply painted, the Town would be required to paint every year as the paint will flake off within a year. An alternative to simple paint is to powder coat, but the cost is three times more than standard the galvanized guardrail cost. For this project that

would be an additional \$140,000.

Stake and flag proposed roadway limits: Is this a possibility so that the residents can get a better understanding of where the proposed road is? D&K could stake the new right-of-way limits at 50 or 100-foot intervals. The cost to complete this task would be \$3,500.

Wells and foundation monitoring due to blasting: Concerns of water maintaining water quality with blasting that may need to be done at the North Road intersection. NHDOT and NHDES have regulations about blasting, preblast survey, and groundwater protection. Any blasting that will take place will be in accordance with state regulations.

And lastly, the trees: It is D&K's experience that the root systems of the trees regardless of maturity will not survive a construction project of this magnitude. Even if the road bed were to stay in its current position, the reclamation of the asphalt will disrupt the root system to the extent that they would not survive more than a year or two. It will be more costly to the town to remove them one by one as they perish than to complete the project at one time.

While we understand all of the residents' concerns, after reviewing all of this information the board has determined that it will be in the best interest of the Town to continue to pursue the current design as proposed.

We will be having a public hearing on the bond to be issued to fund this project in February. The date is yet to be determined but will be posted in the Carriage Towne News and on the website. We hope that we can gain your support!

Brentwood Board of Selectmen

Prescott Road defines rural character of Brentwood

If you have not been down Prescott Road lately, you may want to do that before town meeting in March.

Please note that the speed limit is 25 mph.

There is the very real possibility that once town meeting occurs, our Selectmen will propose funding 1.4 million dollars to demolish and reconstruct Prescott Road, which is all of one and half miles long. The justification, according to the Selectmen, is that it is a substandard road. \$80,000 dollars was allocated and spent on engineering fees to determine a construction proposal.

Where there is now a tree-lined road with trees that have been in existence for more than 80 years, they are proposing a 2,500 foot guard rail that will take the place of the trees and widen the road from 20 to 24 feet with four additional footage for shoulders.

The widening of the road is going to encroach on one of the resident's right-of-way by 25 feet without their knowledge that this was ever being proposed. The culverts will be reconfigured at both ends at a significant cost.

In addition, significant blasting will occur to take out the Y at the North Road end of Prescott Road as well as blasting other areas of the road to widen and straighten. Wells and foundations may be compromised.

There has not been a project of this magnitude with the requested funding before in our town. We are at a loss as taxpayers trying to understand how the cost of this project can be justified.

There have been no documented safety issues, no significant flooding that has been detrimental, and the esthetics of the town will be forever changed. There are several families on the road that have been here for three or four generations. Those generations have walked that road, pushed baby carriages, walked their dogs, taught their children to drive down it, for all those generations, without issues.

We have met with the selectman on two occasions, once at a Selectman's meeting with the engineer present and once with a few Selectman where they walked the road with us. There was no compromise other than putting up a road sign that now indicates a 25 mph speed limit.

On December 6, 2016, the residents of the Prescott received a letter from the Selectman stating that despite the residents' concerns about the cost to the taxpayers and concerns about the integrity of the road that defines the small town nature of Brentwood, they have determined that it will be in the best interest of the town to continue to pursue the 1.4 million project to reconstruct the road.

It is up to the taxpayers/residents to determine what is in the best interest of the town. Inform yourself before the cost of this project gets added to your tax bill!

Elaine Deschambeault and family



Appreciation for Prescott Road

We value the character of New England and love where we live here in Brentwood. Our beautiful Prescott Road has hills, curves, woods to the west, and meadows to the east, bordered by stately old trees that provide a canopy of serenity in every season. We who are fortunate to live on Prescott are not alone in our appreciation for the road. Many come from across town and from other towns as well to walk, run, or cycle here, yet the Brentwood Selectmen are intent on widening, flattening, and straightening Prescott. The beautiful old trees on the northeastern half will be cut down and replaced by a 2,500 foot guardrail, and the charm of the road, regarded by many as a treasure of the town, will be lost.

Please don't let this happen by supporting the petition to designate Prescott as a Scenic Road at the town meeting March 18.

Although there are improvements that need to be made, such as the North Road intersection, and repaving, the Selectmen's warrant article for the amount of \$1.4 million to be paid by the taxpayers represents an unprecedented expenditure for a road project in the town and the financial burden of this sum will be placed on every Brentwood homeowner. The result of taking out hills, widening, and straightening will effectively turn our road into a dragway by encouraging more traffic and creating a situation that only invites greater speed, endangering all who travel on the road and, especially, those who enjoy the road on foot or bicycle.

Despite numerous efforts to arrive at a compromise situation with the Selectmen, they are resubmitting the same plan that was rejected by the voters last March, so we are asking you to please vote no to defeat the warrant article proposed by the Selectmen and please vote yes in support of the petition to designate Prescott as a Scenic Road at the town meeting, Saturday, March 18.

Peter and Rebecca Foster

Project would destroy road's character, increase danger

We are concerned about the town plan to re-route, straighten, widen, and flatten a major section of Prescott Road at a large cost. These are the same plans that were in Warrant Article 1 at the March 12, 2016 Town Meeting. Not only would these plans destroy the character of the road, but it will also become more dangerous for the runners, walkers, and bicyclists who also use the road.

At the March, 2016 town meeting, an amendment to Article 1 was submitted by John Tibbetts which read: "That no roadside

trees are to be cut and/or removed other than at the proposed tee at the North Road intersection and further amend said Warrant Article that the North and Dudley Brook Bridge not be straightened, but follow the existing road contour." This amendment was passed with a hand vote of 101 for and 45 against, to keep Prescott Road a neighborhood and not a thruway.

On September 20, 2016, the selectmen held a public meeting to discuss the reconstruction of Prescott Road. An engineer presented the same plan that includes removing trees, moving the roadbed, widening, straightening, and flattening the road, and installing more than 2,000 feet of guard rail. This has an expected expense of \$1.4 million. Several residents of the road expressed concern about the expense and disregard that this is a residential neighborhood, a town road, and that the road will have the look and feel of a highway. There is also concern with potential blasting of bedrock and impact on wells in the immediate area. While we agree that a safer intersection is needed at North Road and improvements need to be made, this project is over-designed.

In an effort to find a compromise, several Prescott Road residents invited selectmen to walk the north section of the road on November 19. Several options and ideas were discussed, yet Prescott Road residents received a letter from the Selectmen stating: "While we understand all of the residents' concerns, after reviewing all of this information the board has determined that it will be in the best interest of the own to continue to pursue the current design as proposed." We do not agree. We feel it is in the best interest of the town to drop this road design and work to develop a less costly design which maintains the character of this town road.

Susan Cox and Peter Goodrich

Compromise needed in Prescott Road project

Every dollar we spend on something we don't need is a dollar we won't have to spend on something we do need. The Prescott Road warrant article to spend 1.3 million dollars to widen the road and take out the north road Y intersection, and change the two culverts to box culverts represents spending money Brentwood residents don't need to spend. Many residents of the town have participated in multiple meetings to look at the four main areas of concern addressed by the warrant article. While the road is in fact in desperate need of repaving, the other changes are truly not needed. Compromises which would address the safety issue at the Prescott and North Road intersection have been suggested, yet the selectmen are insisting on pursuing the entire warrant article.

As a resident of Prescott Road for nearly 50 years, my family has not had any issues related to the structure of the road. Floods in 2004 did wash out the culverts for a few days, and required some repair.

There is really no reason to widen the road or to straighten the road as this will only result in increased speeds and potentially could be more hazardous to the residents who live and enjoy recreation along on the road.

The proposed new box culverts would require a purchase of frontage from us, the Field family, and nobody from the town has approached us about this. This would add to the cost of the project. We do not want to see the road changed.

Significant time and effort have been invested in the requirements to make the road a scenic road. Let's vote to do that. Make the road a scenic road, reduce the speed limit, and save the millions of taxpayers' dollars for something the town really needs and its people actually want.

We don't need a speedway from Middle Road to North Road. Let's make Prescott road a scenic road, limit the speed to 25, and save 1.3 million dollars. Pavement yes, speedway no. We hope Brentwood residents will come out Match 18 and vote to keep taxes down and vote no on the Prescott Road expansion warrant article.

Ted and Cheri Field

Special rural character should not be lost

At Town Meeting on March 18, the Board of Selectmen will attempt to pass a warrant article for about \$1.4 million to do work on Prescott Road. The proposal is to widen it, straighten it, flatten it, and cut down all the trees at the northeastern section of the road, in effect creating a throughway. If this article passes, Brentwood will lose a beautiful country road and a precious scenic byway that is part of what makes this town special.

This warrant article is an attempt to solve a problem that does not exist. Arguments will be made that the work will make the road safer. My family has lived on Prescott Road for more than 20 years, and we have witnessed at least three accidents in that time, none of which had to do with the width of the road. They all were caused by excessive speed. Widening, straightening, and flattening the road will only lead to more traffic, higher speeds, and more accidents. The proposal actually will decrease the safety of the road.

My family would support converting the “Y” intersection at the northern end of the road to a safer “T” intersection, which would decrease the risk of accidents for motorists turning left off North Road onto Prescott. We also would support fully repaving the road, since it hasn’t been done in several years. Such work is estimated to cost about half what is currently being proposed.

Passing the proposed throughway would diminish Brentwood’s special rural character in a way that would be lost forever. Please plan to vote against this measure and to support the proposed alternative. It will be one step to maintain Brentwood’s charm.

Andrew McClure

Sympathy

Deep sympathy and friendship are extended to the family of Roy Stephen Braley, 50, of Deer Hill Road, who passed away at his home on January 8, 2017 after a well-fought battle with cancer. Born in Colorado Springs, CO, he was raised primarily in West Canaan, NH. After settling in Brentwood, he devoted much time to his church family at St. Joseph Parish in Epping and to other ministries such as Knights of Columbus, visitations to Rockingham County Nursing Home, and prison ministries. He was an avid hunter and fisherman and enjoyed raising backyard chickens and maple sugaring. He is survived by a large and loving family and many close and caring friends.



Swasey Central School News



Hello from Swasey Central School:

Thanks for taking a moment to catch up on our school activities. As this school year continues, we start making plans for next school year. I would like to be able to help the community with any questions they may have about our school, the upcoming School District Meeting on Friday, March 10, or about registering students for next school year. We are here to help and enjoy sharing our school with you all.

Swasey Central School Kindergarten

If you have a child who will be five years old by September 30, 2017, and you will be sending him/her to Swasey School Kindergarten, please call Mrs. Rowe at Swasey School (642-3487) to give her your child’s name, address, place, and date of birth. We will also need parent’s name, cell number, and e-mail address.

Swasey Central School First Grade

If you have a child who will be six years old by September 30, 2017, and has not been attending Swasey School Kindergarten, but will be coming to first grade in the fall, please call the Swasey School Office (642-3487) and give them your child’s name, address, place, and date of birth. We will also need parent’s name, cell number, and e-mail address.

Grade 1

The first grade has been doing lots of measuring in math with non-standard units of measuring. We have been using dimes, nickels, and pennies to play money games to learn the value of each coin and to be able to identify each coin. We will be starting a new math unit using place value and comparing numbers using greater than and less than math symbols.

In social studies, we have been doing a mapping unit. We have learned about what a map key, compass rose, and title are on a map. We have learned to read a map and identify the symbols on a map. We have spent time designing maps of our bedrooms, houses, and neighborhoods.

We have started a new unit of writing called “How to” writing. We are learning to write about something that we know a lot about

Join the sponsors of the 275th anniversary Town History book

By this time most people know that the Historical Society is working on a new, updated town history book as its gift to the town for the 275th anniversary next year. It will be fairly large, 8 1/2" x 11," with glossy pages and a glossy cover, full of pictures, in color wherever possible. The title being considered is Brentwood, New Hampshire Through the Years, 1742-2017. So much information and so many photos are being added to the Historical Society's files that the book is becoming an exciting project.

In all books of this nature, it is tradition to have a Sponsors section, listing businesses, families, and individuals who show their support and interest by contributing toward the expense of the book. It is also tradition to have an In Memoriam section where, for a modest donation, you may list the names of families or individuals, who have passed on but are remembered for being very much a part of the life of this town.

These two types of lists become even more interesting and valuable as time goes on. Town histories always go to the Library of Congress, outlets such as Amazon.com, genealogy and history websites, libraries, etc. There they remain, for research of all kinds. Your name on our Sponsor list will always be there as evidence that you were an interested, supporting citizen of Brentwood, or a company doing business with Brentwood citizens, when this book was published.

The Sponsor list is open to anyone or any business, in Brentwood or elsewhere. A combination Sponsor and In Memoriam registration form is available at the Town Clerk's office, the Brentwood library, and the Brentwood Country Store. You may also request a copy online at lindarou@comcast.net. The registration deadline is March 1, 2017.

Linda Rousseau, Program Chair, Brentwood Historical Society

New year, new classes at Grace Ministries

Everyone starts the new year the same way, with thoughts of changing the things in their lives they no longer like, or need or want towards the better, the healthier, the more hopeful!

Grace Ministries is a local interdenominational church that has been in Brentwood for more than 30 years. In 2016, Grace launched a new program to inspire community locals to get involved in classes that would benefit and bring about positive changes in their lives – LIFE Classes. These classes are free and open to the public.

A new year has brought with it two new class offerings. LIFE

Classes begin on Sunday, February 19, for eight weeks.

Mastering Life, taught by Pastor Allen Cook will be offered from 8:30–9:30 a.m. Who am I? Why am I here? Why can't I seem to get ahead in life? Who are my real friends? Should I be doing this job? Why can't my family be different? Come and discover the answers to some of life's tough questions and see what transformation awaits in just eight short weeks.

Boundaries, by Pastor Lucie Cook will be from 12:30 – 1:30 p.m. We all have them, but do we apply them? Or do they get crossed, climbed over, and disrespected? Boundaries has a lot to do with you – and how you think about and view yourself. This will be a great class. Everyone is welcome.

Advance registrations can be made by simply calling the church office Monday–Thursday, 9 a.m. to noon and letting us know you'd like to sign up. Call 603-642-7848 or visit us on the web at www.gracemi.org.

Paula Sargent for Grace Ministries

Monthly community breakfast at Pilgrim United

Pilgrim United Church of Christ, 197 Middle Road, will feature its monthly community breakfast on Sunday, February 12, from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. All the wonderful foods of a hearty New England breakfast will be shared -- fresh eggs, homemade breads, breakfast meats, pancakes, and corned beef hash. There will also be lots of juices, fruit, hot coffee, tea, and wonderful visiting time. Our fabulous breakfast crew is gearing up--hope to see you there!

Lynda Snyder for Pilgrim United Church

Mary E. Bartlett Memorial Library to host Meet the Candidates Night

Happy New Year, Brentwood! This year's Summer Reading theme is "**Building a Better World**," but we want to focus on that idea all year long. We have some great events planned for 2017 and look forward to sharing them with you.

We're starting this month with something sweet – **Cooking with Chocolate** on Thursday, **February 9** at 7 p.m. Join Chef Liz Barbour as she uses chocolate as the main ingredient in recipes that are not just for dessert. Enjoy a cooking demonstration of two delicious recipes and samples. Please register for this event

so we may provide enough samples for everyone! Call 642-3355 or stop by the library front desk to register - thanks!

Meet the Candidates Night will be held on Wednesday, **February 15** at 7 p.m. Sponsored by the Brentwood Newsletter, this event will be moderated by Dick Chamberlain. Here's your chance to meet those running for the March 14 Election!

Ladies & Gents Night Movie will be held on Thursday, **February 16** at 7 p.m. We will show *Food Fight: Inside the Battle for Market Basket*, a documentary depicting the power of ordinary, passionate people to rewrite corporate history.

A presentation of the **Brentwood Solar Effort** will take place on Thursday, **February 23** at 7 p.m. All citizens are welcome to attend and learn more about this important project.

The **Brentwood Bookers** meet on **February 27** at 7 p.m. Please be sure to check the library website for the next title on their list.

Wednesday @ One Cinema will feature classic romance films this month. February 1 – *Casablanca*, February 8 – *An Affair to Remember*, and February 15 – *When Harry Met Sally*. No movie on February 23.

The **Library Trustees** will meet at 6 p.m. on Monday, **February 13**. As always, the public is welcome to attend.

Preschool Story Times will continue this winter on **Tuesdays and Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m.**, and also **Tuesdays at 2 p.m.**

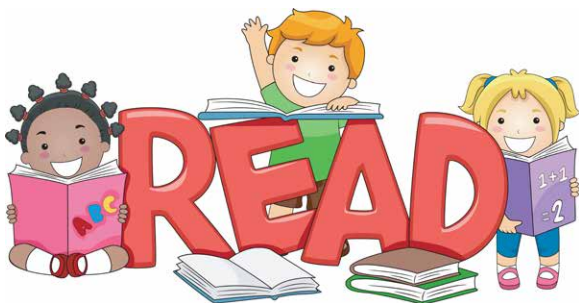
The **Knitting Group** continues to gather each Tuesday from **1–3 p.m.** They will also meet at **7 p.m.** on two **Thursdays: February 9 and February 23**. New members (and crocheters!) are always welcome—no experience required.

Please note the library will be closed on Monday, **February 20** in honor of **Presidents' Day**.

For the latest library news and events, including inclement weather closings, be sure to check our website at www.brentwoodlibrary.org.

We wish all of you the very best for the New Year.

Betsy Solon, Library Director



Brentwood Recreation News

New office hours for Brentwood Recreation are Monday-Thursday, 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Circuit Training

Looking to get a healthy start for the New Year? Join us at the Brentwood Community Center, on Wednesdays, from 6-7 p.m., starting in January 2017. No weights or experience required. This class is run by Arianna Plunkett. Arianna has been a personal trainer for five years and received a bachelor's degree in premedical health sciences from MCPHS in Boston. She is CPR certified, and holds an ACE personal training certification. First class is FREE! \$10/drop-ins, or \$40/5 classes.

Mommy & Me Fitness Class

Wednesdays, 9:30-10:30 a.m., Community Center, starting in February. Babies are to be ages 3 and younger. This class is designed for mothers who want to work out, but would like to still interact with their baby. Or, they simply have no one to watch their children. This class will incorporate strength and cardio exercises that involve you and your child. Exercises can be adjusted for all levels of fitness and of course depending on what your baby will feel most comfortable with as well. First class is free. Drop in rate is \$10 per class. If you buy five classes in advance your fifth one is free.

Ski/Snowboard Club

Dates, prices, destinations available on Facebook, "Brentwood Ski Club," and on our website. Contact the Recreation Department if you would like more information. Deadline for Cranmore trip (1/7) is Thursday, January 5. Additional trips: Pat's Peak (1/22) deadline is 1/17, Gunstock (2/11) deadline is 2/7, and King Pine (2/28) deadline is 2/21. Thank you to all our Ski Club Committee members!

Ice Skate Rink

Thank you to our current sponsors: Rick Schlager, Blue Water Mortgage, Stratham Tire, Telly's Restaurant, Brentwood Fence, Seacoast Mills, and ConvenientMD Urgent Care. Thank you to our Ice Rink Committee members and everyone who has helped out with this project. The rink has been opened since the start of January and is getting lots of use. Be safe, be respectful, and have fun!

Seniors

Our next senior luncheon will be held at the community center on Wednesday, February 22, at 11:30 a.m. We will have an informative presentation by Marilenin Vasquez, public affairs specialists, from the Bureau of Elderly and Adult Services. Marilenin will speak on topics such as: Medicare, Medicare part-D, online services, and social security. Please come with any questions you may have on these subjects. Foxwoods Casino trip has been scheduled for Monday, April 10.

Youth Volleyball

The Recreation Department will be reinstating Youth Volleyball for girls in grades 4 and 5. Starting March 8, Youth Volleyball will be offered at the Swasey gymnasium, on Wednesday nights, from 6-7 p.m. This program will run six weeks, with the last session on April 12. Visit our website or give us a call to register your children. Fee: \$10/child. 12 participants maximum, 6 participants minimum.

Spring Baseball & Softball Youth Baseball and Softball

registration is now open. The deadline for sign-ups will be February 23. Forms will be available at the Recreation office, on our website, or you can register online. Coaches' meeting is on Thursday, March 9, 7 p.m. at the town offices. Spring field clean-up is scheduled for Saturday, April 8, at noon (April 9 is the rain date). Little League and Babe Ruth registration will be through EJBL and Exeter Babe Ruth. www.leaguelineup.com/ejbl

Men's 30+ Basketball

Our Men's 30+ Pick-up Basketball program continues through Thursday, February 16th, 7:30-9:00 p.m., at the YMCA in Exeter. Fee: \$80 or \$10/drop-in.

Foxwoods Casino Trip

Spring casino trip to Foxwoods in Connecticut is scheduled for Monday, April 10. The bus will depart from the Community Center parking lot at 7:30 a.m. sharp, and will return to the community center around 7:30 p.m. \$35/person. Register online or in person at the town offices. Please call the Recreation Department to reserve your seat(s)!

Youth Field Hockey

Thanks to a grant from USA Field Hockey, the Recreation Department will be offering Spring Field Hockey. This program will be designed to demonstrate the fundamentals of field hockey. Equipment will be provided by the Rec. Dept. and practices will be held at the Brentwood Recreation Complex, once the warmer weather returns (dates TBA). If you would like more information, or to join this new and growing program, please contact the Recreation Office.

Brentwood Summer Day Camp

The Recreation Department is currently in the process of forming a 7-week 2017 Summer Day Camp for students entering grades 1-7. This camp will be held at the Brentwood Recreation Complex and run Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. with before and after care (additional fee). Stay tuned for more details!

ONGOING RECREATION EVENTS/ACTIVITIES

LITTLE PEOPLE PLAYGROUP

Thursday mornings, 9-11 a.m. Located at the Brentwood Community Center, this is a playgroup for young children and their parents.

ADULT YOGA CLASS

Brentwood Community Center. Tuesday evenings, 6:30-7:45 p.m. Join Cheryl Rossman RYT500, to relax and rejuvenate. \$64/eight week session or \$10/class. For more information: www.letsgetmovin.com

YOGA MOVEMENT FOR SENIORS. Free. Brentwood Community Center. First and third Tuesdays of the month at 10 a.m., second and fourth Tuesdays at 9 a.m.

MONDAY MORNING SENIOR SOCIAL. Free. Brentwood Community Center, second Monday of each month, 9:30-11:30 a.m. Enjoy board/card games, Wii sports, and socializing with friends. Refreshments will be available. This is a great time to come together and talk about future trips, luncheons, and programs. NOTE: No Monday Morning Social on January 9.

TANG SOO DO CLASSES. Mondays and Fridays. Brentwood Community Center, 6:30-8 p.m. Classes are taught by Retired Law Enforcement officer Bob Meegan. He is currently a third degree Black Belt with the World Tang Soo Do Association.

Want to be a sponsor? Sponsors help us create and offer affordable, quality programs. If you or your business would like to become a sponsor for the Brentwood Recreation Department, please contact the Recreation Director for more information.

Community Center rental. The Brentwood Community Center is available to rent for parties, receptions, meetings, and more. Brentwood residents receive a discounted rental rate. See our website for pictures of the center and rental application, or pick up an application at the recreation office. For more information and to check availability, please contact the Recreation Department.

Have a good idea for a new program? The Recreation Department is always looking for new instructors/programs to implement. If you believe your program/event idea would be beneficial to our community, please, contact the Recreation Department. It is simple to get a program started, all you need to do is let us know!

For information regarding programs, field rentals, or building rentals, please contact the Recreation Office at 642-6400, ext. 20.

David Tovey, Brentwood Recreation Director



Calendar of Events

- Feb. 6 **School Board**, 6:30 p.m., Swasey School Library
Trails Committee, 7 p.m., Town Offices
Last day to submit Warrant Articles—at Selectmen’s Office
- Feb. 7 **Selectmen’s meeting**, 6 p.m., Cross Room, Town Offices
- Feb. 8 **Conservation Commission**, 7 p.m., Cross Room, Town Offices
- Feb. 9 **Friends of the Library**, 12:30 p.m., Brentwood Library
Coop School Deliberative Session, 7 p.m., Exeter High School
- Feb. 11 **Book Lovers’ Bash**, 10 a.m.-12 noon, Brentwood Library
- Feb. 12 **Community Breakfast**, 8:30-9:30 a.m., Pilgrim United Church of Christ, 197 Middle Road
- Feb. 13 **Monday Morning Senior Social**, 9:30-11:30 a.m., Community Center
Library Trustees, 6 p.m., Brentwood Library
Public Hearing for Brentwood Town and School Budgets, 7 p.m., Cross Room, Town Offices
(Snow date Feb. 16, 7 p.m.)
- Feb. 14 **Selectmen’s meeting**, 7 p.m., Cross Room, Town Offices
- Feb. 15 **Meet the Candidates Night**, 7 p.m., Brentwood Library
- Feb. 16 **Planning Board**, 7 p.m., Cross Room, Town Offices
Ladies & Gents Night Movie, 7 p.m., Brentwood Library. “Food Fight: Inside the Battle for Market Basket”
- Feb. 21 **Selectmen’s meeting**, 7 p.m., Cross Room, Town Offices
Parent Faculty Group, 6:30 p.m., Swasey School Library
Brentwood Gardeners, 7 p.m., Fellowship Room, Pilgrim Church
- Feb. 23 **Information session on Solar Generator Project**, 7 p.m., Brentwood Library
- Feb. 27 **Brentwood Bookers**, 7 p.m., Brentwood Library
- Feb. 28 **Selectmen’s meeting**, 7 p.m., Cross Room, Town Offices
Recreation Commission, 7 p.m., Sanborn Room, Town Offices
- Mar. 2 **Cemetery Trustees**, 5 p.m., Town Offices
Planning Board, 7 p.m., Cross Room, Town Offices
- Mar. 6 **Trails Committee**, 7 p.m., Town Offices
- Mar. 7 **Selectmen’s meeting**, 7 p.m., Cross Room, Town Offices

Wednesdays @ One Cinema, Brentwood Library

Feb. 1, 8, 15. No movie Feb. 23

Knitters, Tuesdays 1-3 p.m., Library

Thursdays, Feb. 9 and 23, 7 p.m., Library

Yoga Movement for Seniors, Free, Community Center

1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month, 10 a.m.

2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month, 9 a.m.

Brentwood residents and their guests are warmly welcome at all of these events.

Brentwood
NEWSLETTER

The Brentwood Newsletter
90 Prescott Road
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