

# Brentwood NEWSLETTER



Volume XXXIX No. 1

Brentwood, New Hampshire

January 2015

## 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 for all open positions runs from **Wednesday, January 21, 2015** through **Friday, January 30, 2015 at 5:00 pm.**

**To file for Town Office: Candidates must file with the Town Clerk 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	2 for 3 years
	1 for 2 years
Planning Board	2 for 3 years
	2 for 2 years
	1 for 1 year
Supervisors of the Checklist	1 for 5 years
Town Clerk/Tax Collector	1 for 3 years
Trustees of the Trust Funds	1 for 3 years
	1 for 2 years

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

**Candidates for Brentwood School District Officers must file with the Town Clerk. Filings for Cooperative School District positions are accepted at SAU 16, 30 Linden Street: Door C.**

**These positions are open:**

### Brentwood School District Officers

School Board	2 for 3 years
Moderator	1 for 3 years
Treasurer	1 for 3 years
School Clerk	1 for 3 years

### Cooperative School District Officers

School Board (from Brentwood)	Filled
From Other Towns	3 for 3 years
	2 for 2 years
3 years:	1 each from Exeter, Newfields and Stratham
2 years:	1 each from Exeter and Kensington
<i>All towns may vote for these candidates.</i>	
Moderator	1 for 1 year
Budget Advisory Committee	3 for 3 years
	1 each from East Kingston, Exeter and Stratham
<i>All towns may vote for these candidates.</i>	

## 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 3, 2015.**

## Annual Business Meetings: Everyone is invited and urged to attend.

Thursday, January 15	7:00 pm	Public Hearing for Cooperative School Budget at Exeter High School
Thursday, February 5	7:00 pm	Cooperative School Deliberative Session at Exeter High School
Monday, February 9	7:30 pm	Public Hearing for Brentwood Town and School
Snow date: Thursday, Feb. 12	7:30 pm	Budgets at Brentwood Town Offices
Friday, March 6 <b>NEW DAY &amp; TIME!</b>	6:00 pm	Brentwood School District Meeting at Swasey School
Tuesday, March 10	8:00 am-7:00 pm	Brentwood Town Elections at the Community Center
Saturday, March 14	9:00 am	Town Meeting at Swasey School

# Brentwood NEWSLETTER

TOWN OF BRENTWOOD  
www.brentwoodnh.gov

## TOWN CLERK and TAX COLLECTOR

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

## MARY E. BARTLETT LIBRARY

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

## TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

Phone: 642-6400 X 10 Fax: 642-6310  
Monday–Thursday 8:00 am-4:00 pm  
Friday 9:00 am-12:00 pm

## PLANNING BOARD

Phone: 642-6400 X 16  
Monday-Thursday 8:00 am-4:30 pm

## SWASEY CENTRAL SCHOOL

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

## THE BRENTWOOD NEWSLETTER

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

Marion Arkell      Linda Rousseau  
Jim Clark          Anne Schultz  
Beverly Hodsdon      Krista Steger  
Ellen Kelly          Brad Stevens  
Erin Merrill

## January Recycling Dates

January 13 & 14  
January 27 & 28  
*Trash collection will not be affected by  
Martin Luther King holiday.*

## Thanks to All 2014 Newsletter Contributors

It is the residents of the town who make the *Brentwood Newsletter* what it is. Through the years they have learned to automatically think of the *Newsletter* when they have something to announce or share with the town. What a difference this makes in the way we live in this special community! In my annual count of the individuals who wrote or contributed information in 2014, I found the greatest number ever – 99 people. Some wrote frequently for their organizations (but for this purpose we count them only once), while others wrote just one time, or called with one item of information. Thanks to all of them from all of us!

*Linda Rousseau*

## Not Getting the Newsletter?

Every resident and/or landowner in Brentwood is eligible to receive the *Newsletter*. If you or someone you know is not getting it, there are sign-up cards at the Bartlett Library and the Town Clerk's office, or you may e-mail the name and address to [newsletterbrentwood@gmail.com](mailto:newsletterbrentwood@gmail.com).

The *Newsletter* is also available online at the town website, [www.brentwoodnh.org](http://www.brentwoodnh.org). Recent *Newsletters* can be found within the right sidebar of the Home Page.

## Waste Tonnage Figures

	<u>October</u>	<u>November</u>
Tons, mixed solid waste	141.24	109.69
Tons, recycled goods	24.86 (14.9%)	31.02 (22%)

## Deadline for February Issue: Friday, January 16, 2015

E-mail your articles to [newsletterbrentwood@gmail.com](mailto:newsletterbrentwood@gmail.com)  
or mail to Brentwood Newsletter,  
18 Mohawk Lane, Brentwood, NH 03833

## Business Card Directory

\$20 per insertion, available in April, September & December issues.

## Business Article

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

**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 forfeiting 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 15 7:00 p.m.	Exeter High School	Public Hearing for Cooperative School Budget	Information session. Questions are encouraged and welcomed.
Thursday, February 5 7:00 p.m.	Exeter High School	Deliberative Session	Budget for Cooperative District is made final in preparation for the ballot vote on March 10. <b>Changes can be made.</b>
Monday, February 9 7:30 p.m.	Brentwood Town Offices	Public Hearing for Brentwood Town and School Budgets	Information session. Questions are encouraged and welcomed.
Friday, March 6 6:00 p.m.	Swasey Central School	School District Meeting	Discuss and vote on Swasey budget. <b>Changes can be made.</b>
Tuesday, March 10 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 14 9:00 a.m.	Swasey Central School	Town Meeting	Discuss and vote on the various articles of the town warrant. <b>Changes can be made.</b> Swearing in of new town officials.

**Sympathy**

Sincere sympathy and friendship are extended to the family of **Barbara L. Townsend**, 95, who was living at the Rockingham County Nursing Home and died December 20 at Exeter Hospital. Born and raised in Lynn, MA, she married Ernest C. Townsend and lived in this area for many years. She worked as a Licensed Practical Nurse at Danvers State Hospital and the Nursing Home. She later volunteered for 23 years at the Nursing Home. She was very active in Brentwood at the Pilgrim Church. She was a charter member of the Brentwood Seniors, the Exeter chapter of the DAR, and the Exeter Walking Club.

**Karen Elizabeth Josephson Baker**, who lived on Old Gordon Rd. for many years, lost her second battle with cancer on December 22, 2014 at home in Montgomery, VT. Her loving husband, family and friends surrounded her in her last days. A full obituary can be found online at [www.spearsfuneralhome.com](http://www.spearsfuneralhome.com). Contributions in Karen’s memory may be made to: Northeast Kingdom Human Services - Children’s Department, P.O. Box 724, Newport, VT 05855.

# The Mary E. Bartlett Memorial Library

## Happy New Year Brentwood!

We have some great events planned for 2015 and look forward to sharing them with you.

To start the year off, we invite you to learn about NH Winter Birds. Due to popular demand, we are offering a daytime educational program for adults this month. Please join us on Friday, January 9 at 10 am when NH author **Eric Masterson** speaks about the hearty birds who winter in our state instead of flying south to escape the New Hampshire winter. Eric is a land protection specialist and author of *Birdwatching in New Hampshire*. He was recently featured on NH Public Radio. If the weather does not cooperate, the snow date is January 16 at 10 am.

To celebrate the refurbishing of our library telescope, we will be holding a family **Skywatch** event on Thursday, January 15 at 7 pm. Members of the NH Astronomical Society will arrive before sunset, set up their equipment in the ball field, and choose some celestial targets. We'll start by watching a slide presentation inside the library, then all grab some hot chocolate and our warm winter gear for some time outside at the telescopes. Please sign up for this program on our library website or by calling the library—we want to ensure that we have enough telescopes for everyone! Also, we will be keeping the parking lot very dark that night to improve our star gazing options, so please be very careful as you make your way into the library. If the weather does not cooperate for January 15, we have two backup dates: January 29 and 30. And don't forget: the library telescope is available to check out for one week at a time all year round!

**Preschool Story Times** will continue this winter on Tuesdays and Wednesdays at 10:30 am, and also on Tuesdays at 2:00 pm.

**Ladies & Gents Night Movie** will be held on Thursday, January 22 at 7 pm. Treat yourself to a night out and enjoy 2014's suspenseful "*Gone Girl*," [R] based on Gillian Flynn's novel by the same name.

**Wednesday @ One Cinema** will feature some newer DVD releases this month: January 7 brings "*Magic in the Moonlight*," starring Colin Firth and Emma Stone. January 14 will feature Richard Linklater's story of a young man: "*Boyhood*," filmed over the course of 12 years. January 21 brings "*Maleficent*," starring Angelina Jolie, and on January 28 we'll begin season 5 of "*Downton Abbey*"!

**The Brentwood Bookers** will discuss *Palisades Park* by Alan Brennert on January 5 at 7 pm. Please be sure to check the library website for the next title on their list.

The **Trustees** will be meeting at 6:30 pm on Monday, January 12. As always, the public is welcome to attend.

The **Knitting Group** continues to gather each Tuesday from 1 pm - 3 pm. They will also meet at 7 pm on two Thursdays: January 8 and January 22. New members (and crocheters!) are always welcome – no experience required.

**Please note the library will be closed on January 19 in honor of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.**

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

*Betsy Solon, Library Director*

## Friends of the Library

The Friends want to thank everyone who came out to see Santa this year. The kids all looked like they had a great time, talking to Santa and making crafts. We also want to thank the high school and middle school helpers. They were fantastic helpers who worked with the kids on some new crafts. Santa's visit is always an event that we look forward to. Many special memories are made for families.

We also want to express our gratitude for your donations to our annual fund drive. We are very fortunate to live in such a generous and supportive community. Part of your donations help fund the many passes the library has to offer. One such pass is for the beautiful Peabody Essex Museum, in Salem, MA. The museum dates back to 1799, as a place where sea captains could display their finds. Today it is home to nearly two million artifacts from all over the world. It also hosts many exhibits. Please check out their website for what is currently showing: <http://www.pem.org/exhibitions/>.

Your access to these wonderful events could not take place without the dedicated work of the Friends. We are always looking for more volunteers to help us out. Would you please consider joining this hard working group to help keep these special events going? We meet the second Wednesday of each month at 12:30 pm at the Mary E. Bartlett Library. If you are interested in receiving email reminders about upcoming events simply email us at [marybartlett76@yahoo.com](mailto:marybartlett76@yahoo.com) and we would be happy to add you to our list. We do not share this information with anyone else.

*Cheryl Scott*

## Brentwood Historical Society

The Historical Society had two grand events in December. On December 9, in spite of the fact that we had a strong nor'easter, Michael Tougias brought us his riveting slide presentation based on his new book *The Finest Hours*, about an incredible Coast Guard sea rescue during a huge storm off Cape Cod in 1952, in which two oil tankers split in half just 20 miles from each other. Almost all the crews from both ships were saved. The Disney Corporation is currently making a movie based on the book. This program was co-sponsored by the Friends of the Library and took place at the Bartlett Library. In spite of the weather just about every chair available was pressed into service for the audience.

On Sunday, December 14 the Historical Society Museum welcomed a roomful of visitors at the annual Christmas Open House. The old tall case clock was chiming, a vintage phonograph was playing Christmas music on LP 33's, and many scrapbooks were open to bring back the days of not so long ago. The visitors were in no hurry to leave but stayed to sit and chat with holiday sweets and the famous eggnog in hand.

There will be no program in January or February. However, the museum is always available to be opened by appointment. The Historical Society website is available at [www.brentwoodnhhistory.org](http://www.brentwoodnhhistory.org). January is also membership dues month. A mailing is planned to remind members to send their renewals and to invite others to join our growing membership. For other information please call Alma Vahey, president, at 679-8635.

*Linda Rousseau for the Historical Society*



*Jessica Paul counted up revenue which benefits Friends of the Library projects during the Christmas Craft Sale.*

## Letter of Thanks

I serve on a multi-town committee whose members often ask “how do we reach out and educate our community about important issues”? In Brentwood we are blessed to have that means – the *Brentwood Newsletter*.

On behalf of the new *Brentwood Newsletter* Committee I would like to take this opportunity to express our many thanks and our gratitude to Linda Rousseau for her 38 years of tireless efforts in creating and publishing the *Brentwood Newsletter*. In the December 2014 issue of the *Newsletter* Linda detailed the bringing to life of the Brentwood Newsletter in 1977. While over a dozen town members collaborate to produce each issue, it is her tenacity that brought this wonderful asset to our town and developed it into what it is today. For that we are indebted.

Over the years Linda has reminded us of where Brentwood came from, who we are today and what sets our town apart. She has brought us up-to-date on the latest town happenings, promoted community support of local businesses and educated us on local government and current issues. For many Brentwood residents her efforts bring the town alive and make them feel like a member of the Brentwood community every month.

While stepping down as Editor, we look forward to her continued support as a committee member, and through reports from various town groups such as the Gardeners, Seniors and Historical Society as well as informative articles about Brentwood both past and present. We'd like to dedicate this issue of the *Newsletter* to Linda.

*Krista Steger*

*On behalf of the new Brentwood Committee*



*Nancy Maynard Jacqueline Wilson, library staff instructor, working of the Knitting Group's December project.*

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# Swasey Central School

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Dear Brentwood Community,

*Hello readers! Thanks for taking a moment to read over some of the exciting things occurring at Swasey Central School. We appreciate the community support of quality education and send out a Happy New Year 2015 to all of you!*

## Grade 3

Students have finished up their personal narratives and have begun writing informational pieces. They are working on reading informational text through their study of Native Americans. A field trip is planned to the Kearsarge Native American Museum so that we can see some artifacts and learn more about the history of Native Americans who lived in this region.

## Grade 4

For community service last month, the fourth grade held a coat drive from December 1-15. They also participated in the worldwide Hour of Code on December 8 and Innovation Day on December 19. These activities help foster their imaginations and see how technology and engineering play an important role in the world around them.

## Grade 5

In November and December, Grade 5 worked on world geography, map skills, and ancient South American civilizations, comparing and contrasting all different types of maps, historical, political, relief maps, etc. They enjoyed an exciting trip to the Boston Museum of Science to explore their Mayan exhibit. This will lead us to begin our Age of Exploration studies. Our math time is filled with analyzing data, place value and multiplying and dividing whole numbers and decimals. Determining importance will be our focus in reading as we move to research and note taking in preparation for many upcoming projects.

## Learning in the Library

Thanks to everyone who visited the Fall Book Fair, it was a great success. Students picked out over 25 books to add to our library, and we will be using funds raised to host author Marty Kelley for a week in February! K, 1, and 2 students just voted for their favorite 2014 Ladybug Book. SCS overwhelmingly choose *If I Built A House* by Chris VanDusen. The state award winner will be revealed at the end of December.

## December curriculum and projects:

Grades 1 & 2 Information (nonfiction) books and resources

Grade 3 Battle of the genres - Biographies; Destiny online catalog

Grade 4 US National Parks Travel Agency (using Google presentations and our online encyclopedia)

Grade 5 Explorer resource lists and Digital Passport

## WE MOVE IN PE

Looking into the New Year brings fitness, rhythms and drumming! Students will use Fitnessgram as an assessment of their fitness level and fifth graders are going to design a fitness plan to address ways to use physical activity to enhance fitness.

As always,  
**Ron W. Kew**  
Principal

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## Swasey Parent Faculty Group



The Parent Faculty Group would like to wish everyone a Happy 2015.

May your fire be warm, and may your family and friends be close by. Next meeting is Tuesday, January 20, 2015.

**Sheila S. Lane**



# Brentwood Recreation

## WEST COAST SWING DANCE CLASSES

We're offering another 4 week session of our West Coast Swing dance class.

Whether you're a beginner or amateur dancer, this dance is a dance that will fit you! It's not as strenuous as the other ballroom dances but gives you the same fun and enjoyment that they offer. It's an offshoot of another swing style dance called the Lindy. It can be enjoyed in small spaces because of its 'slotted' nature. (The lady dances forward and backward along a single straight line on the floor while her partner stays in one place)

*Instructor Karen Graham is a professional member of the World Swing Dance Council and Fast Dance Association. Karen has been dancing West Coast Swing since 1996, and has been teaching West Coast 101 patterns in many areas of Vermont and New Hampshire.*

**Wednesdays January 7, 14, 21, 28**  
**6:30 pm-7:30 pm**

No partner required to take the lesson.

Session Cost: \$40/each \$75/couple  
Drop-ins are welcome at \$15/class  
Sign-up through the Recreation Office or online through our website.

Join us for a West Coast Dance!  
Friday, February 6 • 8:00 pm.  
Come early at 7:00 pm and learn some of  
the dance patterns. \$10 at the door.

## YOUTH BASKETBALL

All schedules will be available on the Recreation website.

## YOGA CLASS

Tuesday Evenings 6:30 pm at the Brentwood Community Center

Come try out our class! If you decide to register for the session, your first class is **FREE**.

\$64/ eight weeks  
Drop-ins always welcome at \$10/class

## SPRING BASEBALL/SOFTBALL

Baseball and Softball registration will begin on January 26. The deadline for sign-ups will be Tuesday, February 24. Forms will be available at the Recreation Office, on our website or you can register online.

Little League and Babe Ruth, registration will be through EJBL and Exeter Babe Ruth [www.leaguelineup.com/ejtbl](http://www.leaguelineup.com/ejtbl).

## YOGA MOVEMENT CLASS FOR SENIORS

Join us at the Brentwood Community Center Tuesday mornings for this **FREE** class.

This gentle movement class helps seniors improve range of motion, flexibility, and balance and will help relieve your aches and pains. No experience necessary.

Classes on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month are at 10:00 am.

Classes on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays are at 9:00 am.

## COMMUNITY CENTER AND PLAYING FIELD 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 information regarding field rentals, please contact the recreation office.

Check out the Recreation pages on the town website, [recreation@brentwoodnh.gov](mailto:recreation@brentwoodnh.gov). You'll find information on programs and events as well as forms to download for your convenience.

**Margaret Dullea**, Director  
(603) 642-6400 ext. 20.

Office hours: Mon. Tues. & Thurs. 8:30 am-3:30 pm



[www.brentwoodnh.gov/recreation](http://www.brentwoodnh.gov/recreation)

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## Brentwood Gardeners

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The Gardeners gathered on December 15 at the home of Diantha Wade for their annual Christmas party and Yankee Swap. Anne Dillon came early to help Diantha get everything in order. The members outdid themselves in the colorful variety of appetizers, salads, and desserts they added to the buffet. Everyone welcomed Joanne Davis back who was having a rare night out after being at home for almost six weeks with a severely broken ankle. It was a great evening of fun and laughter that will be remembered by all. It will be especially remembered by Co-President Linda Rousseau, who was totally surprised at the end of the evening with an armload of gifts from the Gardeners in recognition of her many years as Editor of the Brentwood Newsletter.

The January meeting will take place Tuesday, January 20, at 7:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall of the Pilgrim Church on Middle Road. This is a much-anticipated evening as it is our annual Chili Night, perfect for a mid-winter meeting. The program subject will be, "How to have a Beautiful Terrarium", also appropriate for this time of year. January is also annual dues month. Members should plan to bring their dues of \$15 to Treasurer Gladys Ray. New members are welcome any time. If you know someone who is thinking about joining the Gardeners, what better night to introduce them to us than the January Chili Night?

For more information, call Co-Presidents Torie Freeman, (603) 778-3748, or Linda Rousseau, (603) 580-2358.

*Linda Rousseau for the Gardeners*

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### Come Say Goodbye to Rev. Kim McKerley on January 31

After 18 years of serving as the pastor of Pilgrim United Church of Christ Brentwood-Kingston, our minister, Rev. Kim McKerley, is leaving to accept a new position in Vermont. Her last day at Pilgrim Church will be Sunday, February 1.

We know that Kim has many connections in the community, so we hope that all will accept our invitation to come to the Fellowship Room at the church and bid her farewell on Saturday, January 31 between 2:00 and 4:00 in the afternoon. Do drop in to wish her well!

Pilgrim Church is located at 197 Middle Road.  
Phone 778-3189.

**Richard K. Chamberlain**  
Moderator, Pilgrim Church

## Brentwood Seniors

The Brentwood Seniors gathered at the Community Center on December 17 for their Holiday/Christmas luncheon. The food was delicious as usual. The business meeting was conducted by Sandy Thorsell in the absence of President, Alma Vahey. The highlight of the afternoon was the annual visit from the second grade classes of Swasey Central School. They presented a delightful program of winter holiday songs and poems led by their music teacher Juliette Gavin. Many thanks also to the class teachers who helped prepare their students for this excellent program.

The January meeting will take place at the Community Center on Wednesday, January 28. Members should arrive between 11:00-11:30 for appetizers and social hour. Lunch will be a potluck buffet with members bringing a casserole or other dish of their choosing. After lunch there will be a "Pound Party/Auction." Bring a white elephant-type item for the sale gift-wrapped or hidden in a bag. The old-fashioned Pound Party is always fun as well as a great way to add to the group's treasury.

Membership dues of \$7.00 per person are due in January. Marion Arkell, treasurer, will be collecting dues at the meeting. New members are always welcome at the Brentwood Seniors meetings. You do not have to be a resident of Brentwood in order to become a member. For more information call Alma Vahey, President, (603) 679-8635.

*Linda Rousseau for the Seniors*

# thank you!

### Mailing Crew for December

Many thanks on behalf of the community to those in the Pickpocket Road neighborhood who assembled the December issue of the Newsletter: Helen Calvert, Kris Johnson, Joan Pratt, Jane Storm, Diane Wade and Diantha Wade.

*Linda Rousseau*

# Report from our State Representative

Hello Brentwood Residents,

Well, it has been anything but dull at the State House since my election. As you have already heard, Bill O'Brien, chosen by the majority party (Republican), was unseated by Shawn Jasper for Speaker of the House. This was an education in and of itself in the political process. Speaking to you from a personal position, my thoughts about this situation are as follows:

In reality it was not about the politics of the Republicans or the Democrats, it was all about personnel conflicts that were unresolved going back before my and many newly elected Representatives' time. This conclusion comes from personal time spent asking those who have been there for several years as Representatives, (Democrat and Republican) what was really going on.

I told my Democratic friend I was seated by during the grueling process of the day long event, "I was not sent here by the good people of my district to engage in settling old scores (wounded egos) with political positioning and posturing". What should have been a really fun and exciting day for all of us turned into a grueling and long process of the exposure of simmering wounds inflamed again by bad strategy on both sides. It was evident that we were not being led for the common good of all.

Perhaps as legislators we all need to be reminded that we are public servants and in that role, humility and deference to others is as important as winning a position of perceived power. Using your influence to boss on one hand and polarize to past wounds on the other, can only lead to a weakened role of leadership when what we need now more than ever is strength. The lesson learned here, whether in politics or any other organization, is when our leaders make choices that are inwardly focused on their personal agendas, and use the process and procedure of government to enact their will, we all suffer. This is true in Washington as well as Concord. I of course will support the decision of the House and give one hundred percent to Speaker Jasper as he seeks to lead us these next two years. Hopefully, we can get ahead instead of spending our time and energy getting even.

We have a lot of work ahead of us. We have committed to be a House of Representatives who tackles the hard issues, i.e.; balancing the budget, taking care of the frightening deficit in the state pension fund, the ever looming financial burden that Obama Care is producing and will produce for the middle class and small business. Our energy cost is skyrocketing and new and innovative ways must be implemented to tackle and lower the cost of energy here in the Granite State. We must maintain

a higher level of education than simply conforming to Common Core. These are just a few of the major issues that must be solved and soon.

I requested to be placed on the Education Committee and I am thankful that I have been placed there. As a new Representative, you must request three committees you would like to serve on, naming the most desired one first, your next preference second, and finally your last choice third. You are told you may not get on any of these committees but will be assigned where the speaker deems best. I am thankful I got my first choice! I am yet to be assigned to a committee for the Rockingham County Delegation.

This role primarily involves making sure the budget for the county is adhered to. I will keep you posted on what is happening in regards to the bills that come before the House and especially the ones I think will directly impact you.

I have two goals for the month of January 2015.

1. To touch base with every business owner in the Town either by phone or personal face to face contact.

2. To solicit students from Exeter High School to be involved in the Page program sponsored by the State. This program offers students (minimum age 15) to see how our democracy works by joining us at the State for a day of session.

In February, I will begin going door to door and cover as much of the town as possible this year. I am here to represent you and I am looking forward to meeting you personally.

Finally, please take the opportunity to speak with me on January 10th, in the Town Hall (CROSS ROOM), from 9:00 to 10:30 am. I am interested in what concerns you have in regards to legislation.

Thank you in advance for your input and support as we seek to make New Hampshire the best place to live, work, and raise a family in New England.

*Allen Cook, State Representative*

I can be reached at:

EMAIL: [Allen.Cook@leg.state.nh.us](mailto:Allen.Cook@leg.state.nh.us)

CELL PHONE: 603-770-5788

EXCELSIOR! (ever upward)

## Calendar of Events

- Jan. 9 **NH Winter Birds – Eric Masterson, author.** 10 am, Bartlett Library. For adults. (Snow date Jan. 16)
- Jan. 10 NH Rep. Allen Cook – 9:00-10:30 am, Cross Room, Town office Building
- Jan. 12 Library Trustees – 6:30 pm, Mary Bartlett Library  
Budget Committee meeting – 7:00 pm, Cross Room, Town Office Building
- Jan. 13 Selectmen’s meeting – 6:00 pm, Cross Room, Town Office Building
- Jan. 14 Friends of the Library - 12:30 pm, Bartlett Library  
**Wed. @ One Cinema** – 1 pm, Library: “*Boyhood*”  
Conservation Commission – 7:00 pm, Cross Room, Town Office Building
- Jan. 15 Planning Board – 7:00 pm, Cross Room, Town Office Building  
**SAU Coop District PUBLIC HEARING on Budget- 7:00-7:30 pm, Morrisette Alumni Room, High School**
- Jan. 19 Budget Committee meeting – 7:00 pm, Cross Room, Town Office Building
- Jan. 20 Selectmen’s meeting – 6:00 pm, Cross Room, Town Office Building  
Parent-Faculty Group – 6:30 pm, Swasey School Library  
Brentwood Gardeners – 7:00 pm, Fellowship Hall, Pilgrim Church. Chili Night, “Terrariums”
- Jan. 21 Filing period begins for town and school offices.  
**Wed. @ One Cinema** – 1:00 pm, Library: “*Maleficent*”
- Jan. 22 **Ladies & Gents Night Movie** – 7:00 pm, Bartlett Library: “*Gone Girl*”
- Jan. 26 Budget Committee meeting – 7:00 pm, Cross Room, Town Office Building
- Jan. 27 Selectmen’s meeting – 6:00 pm, Cross Room, Town Office Building  
Recreation Commission – 6:30 pm, Sanborn Room, Town Office Building
- Jan. 28 Brentwood Seniors – 11:00 am, Community Center. Pound Party  
**Wed. @ One Cinema** – 1:00 pm, Library: Season 5, “*Downton Abbey*”
- Jan. 30 **Filing period ends, 4:00 pm – Town Clerk’s office.**
- Jan. 31 Farewell Reception for Rev. Kim McKerley - 2:00-4:00 pm, Fellowship Room, Pilgrim Church
- Feb. 2 School Board – 6:00 pm, Swasey School Library  
Budget Committee meeting – 7:00 pm, Cross Room, Town Office Building  
Trails Committee – 7:00 pm, Town Office Building
- Feb. 3 Selectmen’s meeting – 6:00 pm, Cross Room, Town Office Building  
**Last day to submit Warrant Articles, at Selectmen’s office**
- Feb. 5 Cemetery Trustees – 5:00 pm, Town Office Building  
Planning Board – 7:00 pm, Cross Room, Town Office Building  
**Coop. Board DELIBERATIVE SESSION – 7:00 pm, Exeter High School auditorium**

~ *The public is welcome at all above events* ~

### Continuing Events

**Preschool Story Hours at the Library:**  
Tuesdays and Wednesdays at 10:30 am,  
Tuesdays at 2:00 pm

**Knitting Group at the Library:**  
Tuesdays 1:00–3:00 pm;  
Thursdays at 7:00 pm - Jan. 8 and Jan. 22.

## Brentwood NEWSLETTER

c/o Linda Rousseau  
PO Box 282  
Exeter, NH 03833

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