

# THE BALLARDVALE GAZETTE

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NEWSLETTER OF THE BALLARDVALE HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

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Vol. 10, No. 3

BallardVale, Massachusetts

November 2010

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## Election Results

Two BallardVale residents ran for office in the recent November elections. Patricia Commane was the Democratic candidate for State Representative for the 17<sup>th</sup> Essex District and Jim Lyons was the Republican candidate for the 18<sup>th</sup> Essex District. Lyons won his bid for election, beating Democratic incumbent Barbara L'Italien, while Commane lost her race to Republican opponent Paul Adams.

"It was a great experience as a first-time candidate. It was really exciting, and even though I lost, I have no regrets," says Commane, who will resume her full-time work as a Certified Rehabilitation Counselor for the Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission.

"It's an exciting time to represent the folks in the Merrimack Valley and I'm really looking forward to it," Jim Lyons said in the November 7 issue of the Boston Globe. The state representative-elect from the 18th Essex District said he is eager to get to work delivering on his campaign promises to fight for lower spending and taxes on Beacon Hill. He will be sworn in to office in January.

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## Lead Paint

The Merrimack Valley Lead Paint Program provides financial and technical assistance to homeowners for deleading. The Program guides homeowners through the entire

process of deleading, including setting up an inspection, job specifications and scope of work, bidding, project-oversight and temporary relocation. A grant program is geared toward low-income families with children under 6 years of age. Single-family homes may qualify for up to \$20,000 and multi-family homes up to \$16,000 per unit.

Owner-occupied and investor-properties are eligible. Owner-occupants and their tenants must qualify as low-income. Applications for homeowners and tenants are available upon request. Visit

<http://www.lowellma.gov/depts/dpd/services/housing/lead> for more information and applications.

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## Tree Lighting 2010

The annual tree lighting on the BallardVale Green will be held on Sunday, December 12 at 5:00pm. Join with neighbors and friends for some holiday fun and singing. As always, Christmas carols and holiday songs will be sung by candlelight! And there will be hot chocolate and treats provided by neighbors and the BallardVale Historic District Commission. Dress warmly and bring your singing voices and holiday spirit. Dogs are welcome, but please bring them on a leash.

And don't forget to help your neighbors and the local fire department by adopting a fire hydrant! Locate the fire hydrant, or hydrants, nearest your home and remove snow from the

area with each snowfall. Clear a 3' circle around the hydrant so that all the ports are accessible. Remember to clear a path to the street for the fire hose --- the build-up of heavy icy snow from snowplows can make hydrants difficult to reach. Alternate the job of shoveling with a neighbor or join forces to make short work of it! Adopt a hydrant and keep it accessible. Help the fire department keep your home and BallardVale safe this winter.

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## Bruce S. Taylor



The BallardVale Historic District Commission mourns the loss of longtime friend, Commission member and Secretary, Bruce S. Taylor, who passed away on Friday, Oct. 29, 2010. Taylor is survived by his wife of 49 years, Charlotte (Batting); son Douglas and his wife Elisabeth of Germantown, MD; daughter Heather and her husband Anthony Porter of Nashua, NH; and grandchildren Allison, Graham, Bryce, Cole and Reid.

Taylor, a longtime resident of Andover, was raised in Weymouth. He was a graduate of Weymouth High School, Thayer Academy and the Culinary Institute of America. He served in the U.S. Navy on the USS New Jersey during the Korean War. He was employed as an agent and manager for Metropolitan Life Insurance Company. During his retirement years, he was an avid volunteer, serving as Chair of the Marshalls for the Bank of America Champions Golf Tournament and member of the Board of Directors for the Andover Historical Society. He was a member of the BallardVale Historic District Commission and served as its Secretary over a span of 8 years. His additional volunteer work for the Town of Andover included being Overseer for Pole Hill Reservation for several years, being on the BallardVale Fire Station Committee and working at the local election polls. For the Andover Senior Center, he delivered Meals on Wheels and provided transportation to medical appointments for seniors. In addition, he was a member of South Church in Andover where he served in many capacities over the years.

A Commission member remembered Bruce's great sense of humor, care and dedication with this story: "He had forgotten that we had a Commission meeting scheduled and he had gone out to dinner with his wife Charlotte. In the restaurant, he suddenly remembered the meeting and went rushing off to join us, without getting his dinner!" One neighbor remembers, "I met Bruce the day we moved into our house in BallardVale. He kept telling us how great BallardVale was... When I asked him how long he'd lived here, he replied laughing, "Oh me? I'm the new kid here. I've only been here 25 years." Bruce and Charlotte loved living in the small, friendly community of BallardVale, and lived in the same house for 46 years. Bruce's kindness, generosity, and joyful spirit will be greatly missed in our town.



HISTORIC<sup>®</sup>  
NEW ENGLAND

*Defining the past. Shaping the future.*

## Save the Date

Friday, March 4, 2011

1:30 – 4:30 pm in Haverhill, Massachusetts

Historic New England announces

Ask the Experts Old House Clinic:

“Energy Retrofits for Your Older or Historic Home”

Join Historic New England's old house energy experts for an afternoon workshop with demonstrations on how you can save energy with appropriate retrofits to your older or historic home, including weatherizing wooden windows and doors, adding insulation, and maintaining and upgrading heating and ventilation systems. Let our preservation experts answer your questions on energy retrofits that can “green” your old house!

Call Sally Zimmerman, 617 994 6644, or email  
[szimmerman@historicnewengland.org](mailto:szimmerman@historicnewengland.org) for more information

A service to celebrate Bruce's life will be held on Saturday, January 8 at 11:00am at South Church, 41 Central Street, Andover. Family and friends are invited to attend. A reception will follow the service. Memorial donations may be made to Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, 10 Brookline Place, Brookline, MA 02445; or South Church Memorial Gifts Fund, 41 Central Street, Andover, MA 01810. To sign the family guest book, please visit [www.contefuneralhomes.com](http://www.contefuneralhomes.com).

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## Halloween Parade

Approximately twenty families arrived at the BallardVale Playground for a local Halloween parade, traditionally held on the Sunday eve before Halloween at 5:30pm. While the group waited to assemble in parade formation, ghosts were seen swinging on the monkey bars, two "Dorothys" from Oz were skipping across the ball field, Scoobie Doo slid down the high slide, and bumble bees buzzed through the geodome. An estimated thirty children paraded from the playground across Andover Street and up Center Street to the Brennan home where Ellen Brennan gleefully handed out trick-or-treat goodies. The ghoulish group circled back to the playground for hot chocolate and treats before dispersing. This year's parade was organized by Donna MacLean and Ellen Loureiro, but the idea was the brainchild of BallardVale resident Janice Holden.

"Nine years ago, the idea of a "dress rehearsal" for my three children assured us that costumes would be made in time before the last minute on the night of the 31st, and would provide another opportunity for the kids to prance the sidewalks in costume. The children are a delight to see, but the parents are enthusiastic in their attire as well. Maybe next

year we'll have family themes or prizes in honor of our 10th year!" says Jan. Be sure to mark your calendars now for next year. And get to work on those costumes!



Posters to advertise the Halloween parade were made by Carolyn and Katie Holden, and Dylan and Colin MacLean, and were displayed on the BallardVale playground fence.

**BallardVale  
Historic District Commission**

*Andover Town Offices  
36 Bartlet Street  
Andover, MA 01810*

US POSTAGE  
PAID  
ANDOVER, MA  
PERMIT NO. 41

***Annual Tree Lighting! Sunday, December 12 at  
5pm! See you there...***

Visit <http://andoverma.gov/boards/agendas/bvale.pdf> for the BallardVale Historic District Commission meeting agenda and schedule changes.

**CALENDAR**

|                           |   |
|---------------------------|---|
| <b>Dec. 1 (Wednesday)</b> | <b>BallardVale Historic District Commission</b> monthly meeting<br>Town Offices – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room – 7:00 pm |
| <b>Dec. 6 (Monday)</b>    | <b>Special Town Meeting</b> at Collins Center/Andover High School<br>7:00 pm  |
| <b>Dec. 12 (Sunday)</b>   | <b>Annual Holiday Tree Lighting</b> at the BallardVale Green<br>5:00 pm   |
| <b>Jan. 5 (Wednesday)</b> | <b>BallardVale Historic District Commission</b> monthly meeting<br>Town Offices – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room – 7:00 pm |
| <b>Feb. 2 (Wednesday)</b> | <b>BallardVale Historic District Commission</b> monthly meeting<br>Town Offices – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room – 7:00 pm |
| <b>Mar. 2 (Wednesday)</b> | <b>BallardVale Historic District Commission</b> monthly meeting<br>Town Offices – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room – 7:00 pm |
| <b>Apr. 6 (Wednesday)</b> | <b>BallardVale Historic District Commission</b> monthly meeting<br>Town Offices – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room – 7:00 pm |

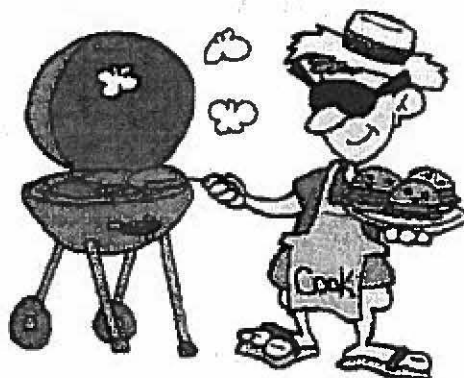


# 10th Annual



2011

## BALLARDVALE BLOCK PARTY



**DATE: SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2<sup>ND</sup> (NO RAIN DATE!)**

**TIME: 12:00 - 4:00 PM**

**PLACE: BALLARDVALE PLAYGROUND**

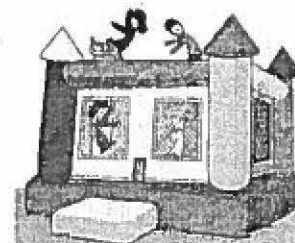
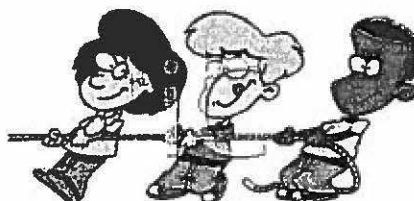
EVERYONE IS WELCOME! MARK YOUR CALENDARS & JOIN YOUR NEIGHBORS FOR AN AFTERNOON OF FOOD AND FUN! BRING LAWN CHAIRS, BLANKETS, AND PLAYGROUND TOYS.

- HAMBURGERS
- HOTDOGS
- DJ- TED TEICHERT
- MOON WALK
- CRONIN'S ICE CREAM
- SPINNERS PIZZA
- FACE PAINTING
- BALLARDVALE CAFÉ TREATS

**\* \$5 PER PERSON/\$25 FAMILY CAP \***

ADDITIONAL DONATIONS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME.

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO THE BALLARDVALE BLOCK PARTY.  
THANK YOU!



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