

# BRIGHT IDEAS

**BELD**  
Braintree Electric  
Light Department  
and  
BELD Broadband

A monthly newsletter for Braintree, June 2006



## Town meeting gives resounding endorsement to BELD's plan to build power plant

*"On behalf of Braintree Electric Light Department (BELD), I would like to thank Braintree's Town Meeting Members and the many town committees that approved our plan to construct a new power plant at our Potter Road facility.*

*The new plant will help protect our customers from anticipated increases in the cost of electricity during the coming years. While other towns will be subjected to market forces and have little recourse as energy prices rise, BELD and the residents of Braintree will have moved ahead with a proactive decision to build this new plant.*

*We will continue to update you over the coming months as we proceed with the*

*permitting and construction process. Later this year we will demolish the retired Potter I generating station to make room for the new power plant, and next year we will select the Engineering, Procurement, and Construction (EPC) Contractor, who will begin the detailed engineering required to build the plant.*

*Our plant project team anticipates a challenging couple of years ahead and looks forward to commercial operation of the new plant prior to the summer of 2009."*

William G. Bottiggi, BELD General Manager

## BELD is honored with national award presented by the American Public Power Association

Braintree Electric Light Department is one of 64 of the nation's 2,000+ public power utilities to earn the Reliable Public Power Provider™ recognition from the American Public Power Association (APPA).

Offered for the first time this year, the award recognizes utilities for providing consumers with the highest degree of reliable and safe electric service. BELD was awarded the Platinum designation for successfully meeting more than 90 percent of the defined criteria.

"Receiving an RP3 designation demonstrates a utility's commitment to its employees, its customers, and its community," said John Humphries, general manager of Princeton, Kentucky Electric Plant Board and chair of

APPA's RP3 Review Panel. "This is certainly an achievement of which to be proud."

The Reliable Public Power Provider recognizes public power utilities that demonstrate proficiency in four key disciplines: reliability, safety, training, and system improvement. Criteria within each category are based on sound business practices and represent a utility-wide commitment to safe and reliable delivery of electricity.

"We're pleased to be recognized with this national award," said Bill Bottiggi, BELD General Manager. "Our mission is to provide safe, reliable, low-cost electric power, and we are proud to be acknowledged for serving our community."

## JIM REGAN ELECTED TO MUNICIPAL LIGHT BOARD



James P. Regan was elected to the Municipal Light Board in April's election, replacing long-time board member Guy Luke.

A 28-year resident of the Town of Braintree and a 1978 graduate of Braintree High School, Regan's civic involvement includes Town Meeting Member (Precinct 2), Troop 22 Assistant Scoutmaster, member of Elks Lodge 2622, and President of the Braintree Men's Club.

A plumber by trade, Regan and his wife Donna have three sons.

The Light Board would like to thank Guy Luke for his many contributions during 24 years of service on the board.

## **BELD Broadband system upgrades are paving the way for BELD telephone service**

Many of our broadband subscribers have expressed interest in obtaining telephone service from BELD. **After much consideration, we've developed a telephone product that is reliable enough to replace traditional telephone service while delivering considerable cost reduction to subscribers.**

Because voice services are more sensitive to network delays and interference than standard Internet browsing, many upgrades are needed in the field and at our headend to make our telephone service as reliable as possible.

In the field, technicians are changing our signal levels to more optimum ranges while

working to eliminate inbound noise. We are also changing our modulation methods to accommodate greater guaranteed upstream bandwidth. In the headend, we are installing dedicated circuits connecting subscribers to the Publicly Switched Telephone Network without using the Internet, so we can manage the quality of service end to end.

**We expect to complete the upgrade project this fall, and voice service will be available as we certify that each area is ready for trouble-free operation. Subscribers to this new service will save as much as 50% over their current monthly phone bill while also receiving BELD's renowned customer service and support.**

## **COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD**

### **Your support of the Braintree Fourth of July Celebration is critical!**

The celebration committee—now known as Braintree Friends of the 4<sup>th</sup> Inc.—needs your support more than ever! We are trying to raise \$35,000 (the entire budget for this event), and your contributions will help us reach that goal.

The event will take place **Saturday, July 1**, at Braintree High School field, featuring a flea market at 9 a.m., carnival rides all day, a live entertainment show at night, and fireworks at 10 p.m. **Please help offset the cost of this long-time tradition by mailing your contribution in the enclosed envelope which has been pre-addressed to the Braintree Friends of the 4<sup>th</sup> Inc. Thank you for your support!**

### **Time Capsule Inspection Ceremony**

Bring your family and friends to the Town Hall Mall on **Tuesday, July 4**, 9:30-10:30 a.m., for the Time Capsule Inspection Ceremony, a meaningful occasion for remembering our past and looking ahead to our future. We hope to see you there.

### **What's Buzzin' at Your Library?**

Thayer Public Library invites Braintree kids and their families to find out *What's Buzzin' at Your Library?* this summer by taking part in the 2006 summer reading program.

The program will have kids buzzin' about great books, fun activities, and special events at the library—including T-shirt silk screening, family movie nights, craft programs, and weekly performers. Pick up a Summer Reading Flyer at the library or visit our website at [www.thayerpubliclibrary.org](http://www.thayerpubliclibrary.org).

### **More Park Department trips**

**Sunday, August 13:** Clambake at Boothbay Harbor's Cabbage Island, day trip (\$99/person)

**Sunday, August 27:** Connecticut River Cruise & Steam Train Ride + luncheon (\$89/person)

**Saturday, September 9:** Squam Lake & Golden Pond, New Hampshire + luncheon, day trip (\$79/person)

**Thursday-Sunday, September 21-24:** Boston Red Sox vs. Toronto Blue Jays at Toronto's Rogers Center Skydome & Niagara Falls stay—2 ball games and much more (\$399/person, double occupancy)

**Sunday, September 24:** Bourne Scallop Festival, includes Cape Cod Canal cruise and visit to Christmas Tree Shop (\$69/person)

Itineraries for trips are available at the Braintree Park Department, 249 Union Street. If you'd like more information about any upcoming trips, please call the Park Department at 781/794-8901.

### **Free evening legal clinics at Quincy District Court**

Do you have a legal question or concern? As a service to the community, the Bar Association of Norfolk County is sponsoring free legal clinics at the Quincy District Court on **Tuesday, July 18** and **Tuesday, August 15, 6-8 p.m.**

Area residents seeking legal advice will have the opportunity to meet with an attorney in a private, confidential, one-on-one consultation. The clinics are operated on a walk-in basis—"first come, first served," depending on the legal issue. They are free of charge. For more information, please call Adrienne Clarke, Executive Director, Bar Association of Norfolk County, at 617/471-9693.

# **BELD**

[www.beld.com](http://www.beld.com)  
150 Potter Road  
Braintree, MA 02184  
781/348-BELD (2353)

**Bright Ideas Editor/Designer**  
Joan Marson  
[jmarson@beld.com](mailto:jmarson@beld.com)

### **PAYMENT LOCATIONS**

#### **150 Potter Road**

Our office is open from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Customer Service is open until 7 p.m. on Thursday.

#### **Drop boxes**

Top of Potter Road & Town Hall.

#### **Braintree Cooperative Bank**

1010 Washington St.

372 Washington St.

#### **Direct Payment**

Call BELD at 781/348-2353.

#### **Online payments**

[www.beld.com](http://www.beld.com)

### **BROADBAND HELP DESK**

Mon-Fri: 8 a.m.-10 p.m.

Sat-Sun: 8 a.m.-8 p.m.

### **COMMISSION MEETINGS**

Public Meetings are usually held monthly. Call 781/348-2353 or check [www.beld.com](http://www.beld.com) to confirm time and date.

### **COMMISSIONERS**

Thomas Reynolds, Chair  
Anthony Agnitti, Vice Chair  
James Regan, Secretary

### **HOLIDAY CLOSING**

Tuesday, July 4

Independence Day



**BELD's 2005  
Annual Report  
is available at  
[www.beld.com](http://www.beld.com)**

**Our 2005 Annual  
Report, "A Higher  
Standard of Service,"  
has been posted on  
our website.**

**We invite you to take  
a look by visiting  
[www.beld.com](http://www.beld.com) and  
clicking on the "About  
BELD" tab.**