



Whitefield News

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by Sue McKeen

Whitefield Day Update

We're moving ahead with plans for Whitefield Community Day, September 14th.

Craftsmen, vendors, flea market items: If you're interested in having space for arts, crafts, treasures or talents, please contact Judy Maldovan at 549-5664 or at jmandjam@aol.com.

Call to all artists: If you would like to exhibit your work, please contact Mabeline Small at 549-5009. We are counting on your participation to make this a real success.

Antiques Road Show: It's not too early to start thinking about those treasures in your barn or attic. Bring them to the Antiques Road Show at 11:00 am under the tent.

A complete schedule of events will be published next month. For more info call Sue McKeen at 446-7473 or email at smckeen66@gmail.com.

Maintaining the Tibbetts Farm Tradition



by Tony Marple

Barry Tibbetts, a long time dairy farmer in Whitefield has retired, while Elaine Tibbetts continues to work part time as a speech therapist. Barry's father bought the farm in 1947. The Tibbetts have been active and highly respected in town for years. Barry has seen dairy farms become larger and more efficient over the years, but thinks smaller farms can still "make a go of it" in specialized areas like organic milk. In addition to milking with the new owners once a day, Barry

is restoring a '71 Corvette and his father's '49 John Deere. The Tibbetts' children are interested in the farm, but were reluctant to take on the 24/7 commitment. They have chosen professional careers ranging from teaching to nuclear engineering. The Tibbetts are looking to buy a camp in part to entertain their three grandchildren. Barry's brother still operates a dairy farm in Windsor.

Barry and Elaine are delighted that the new owners of the farm, Mike Moody and Annie Watson, are maintaining the organic dairy tradition. Mike grew up in Lincolnville and worked as a farm hand to save up for a farm of his own. Annie studied theatre at Brown and works as an

event planner in addition to helping on the farm. When he and Annie saw the Tibbetts' farm, they knew it was "meant to be". They are milking 50 cows while also maintaining a herd of 70 heifers and dry cows. Mike and Annie love Whitefield and appreciate the hospitality that has included numerous pie deliveries.

Barry says cheerfully, "I think they're making a go of it".



Broadband Grant

by Dennis Merrill

While many households in Whitefield have access to broadband, many others do not. Commonly, people access the internet by using cable or telephone (DSL) services. However, these

services do not extend to all parts of Town. Recently, the Town learned that it is being awarded a grant by the State ConnectME program to help expand broadband by installing cable along Wiscasset Road (Route

218) from the CMP transmission line South to the Alna town line. This project will be completed by Time-Warner Company that is putting up matching funds. There is no cost to the Town for the project. (cont. on page 2)

Calendar of Events

Broadband Grant cont.

There are other areas in Town that do not have traditional access to high speed broadband. These are generally in small clusters and involve low population densities so wired systems like telephone and cable would be very expensive per household. The Town will continue to explore opportunities for expanding into these areas. Residents may also want to consider individual wireless modem options that are available from cell phone companies such as Verizon and U.S. Cellular.

David A. Spicer, Owner

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Your Ad Here

In the next issue we are offering Ad space for \$10 per box. Contact whitefieldtownnews@gmail.com for more information.

Dispatch from Coopers Mills

by Chuck Vaughn

Coopers Mills Volunteer Fire Department Auction is August 17, 2013.

Aunt Edna and Uncle Morey say they look forward every year to the CMVD auction held on the third Saturday of August. Edna says her house gets the best cleaning of the year as she and Morey go through it looking for things to donate to the auction. And then there is the fun of attending the auction and bidding on a bunch of different stuff and even gift certificates for local services. Morey says it is a delight to see those volunteers pull up to the house with a pick up and truck and spare his back from the heavy lifting. "The food they sell ain't bad,

either," he said. He did add one caution. "I hope you understand that what leaves the auction with you this year may be coming right back at you next year."

A Special Thanks...

A very special thank you to Suzanne Balbo and Clint Towle for donating over 1,000 books to the Whitefield Elementary School. Suzanne and Clint both taught elementary school in Indonesia and have migrated to Whitefield, with their daughter Cadence, to become full-time farmers! Their generosity is appreciated by both students, teachers, and the community. Thanks for your generosity and thoughtfulness.



Don't pay to throw it away!



*Got Metal? Call Dana Rogers
549-3491*



We'll come get it for free. 

If it's metal, we'll take it! 

A BIG thank you to Lisa Tuttle's Yoga Class at Sheepscoot General Store. They donated their class proceeds to the Whitefield Newsletter!

July :

27: Arlington Grange Farmer's Market/Flea Market: 10-2pm

27: St Giles Church Fair and Auction

August:

10: HVNC Music Fest: 2pm-7pm at the Sheepscoot General

14 & 28: Arlington Grange Meeting at 7pm

17: Coopers Mill Fire Department Auction

21: Planning Board Meeting 7-8pm

September:

11 & 25: Arlington Grange Meeting at 7pm

14: Whitefield Day

14: Sustainable Forestry Workshop: HVNC 9am-4pm

18: Planning Board Meeting 7-8pm

26-29: Timber Frame Construction: HVNC

- First Friday of every month: Food Bank from 1-3pm, Sheepscoot Church
- Every Tuesday: Selectman's Board Meeting 6pm, Fire Station
- Every Wednesday: Yoga at the Sheepscoot General @ 6:30pm
- Every Wednesday: Drumming in the Forest at HVNC @ 6:30pm

Do you have an event?

Contact *Sue McKeen* @ whitefieldtownnews@gmail.com or 207-446-7473. We'll add you to the town calendar website and newsletter.

Whitefield Church to Regain Steeple

By Lucy Martin

"A lot of people thought it would never go back up," said Chad Lincoln, deacon candidate at Sheepscot Valley Community Church, in Kings Mills village. The dangerously deteriorating, tilting steeple on what used to be called Whitefield Union Church was ordered removed in late 2009 by the local code enforcement officer.

Lincoln, who "grew up in the church and then stopped attending," returned when Les Dancer, also a local, became pastor. Working with carpenter Troy Prescott, Lincoln said he was "volunteered" to oversee replacing the original wooden spire with a fiberglass model, removing the rotting belfry and repairing the base. "Our original goal was to fix the (leaking) roof, and cap off the steeple. But people said they'd like to see the steeple back," he said. "Thankfully, people have stepped up and have been willing to help" with the \$28,000 cost, Lincoln commented.

One generous local donor has given \$14,000; the 50-member congregation has contributed; the Maine Baptist Association provided funds; and the church of a Southern Baptist minister, who mentored Dancer and "planted" the Whitefield church about four years ago before returning to Alabama, also raised money for the cause.

The height of the replacement spire will be slightly shorter than the original, which measured 35 feet, but it will look like the old one. An important feature is that the structure will be maintenance free. The non-functioning bell will be rescued from the belfry and set on the lawn with a plaque. The work is expected to be finished by October.

Installing the new spire will cap a series of repair efforts begun in 2010. Under Dancer's leadership, what was a faltering and aging congregation has grown to include numerous young families who fill Sunday services. On Sat., July 27 at Whitefield School beginning with a free lunch at 11 a.m., Dancer will be one of two speakers sharing their story of overcoming serious addiction and meeting life's challenges through faith. For more information, call 207-215-3741.



Pastor Les Dancer stands outside Sheepscot Valley Community Church, at the corner of Townhouse Road, where a new steeple will be installed this fall.

To add events or articles to our newsletter and the online calendar, please contact us at whitefieldtown-news@gmail.com or call Sue McKeen at 207-446-7473.

RSU 12 Budget Report

By Hilary Holm RSU 12 Board Chair

At its first meeting on July 11th, the RSU 12 Board voted to recommend a revised budget that has been reduced by \$116,000 to \$26,395,203.

The revenue picture has improved with the passage of the State biennial budget, which gave RSU 12 \$328,660 more in subsidy. Overall, this means that the Total Local Contribution has decreased by \$445,630 to \$15,033,436 compared to the first round of the budget which was defeated at the polls on June 28.

Whitefield was charged \$1,994,275 by the RSU in FY 2013. The Whitefield Local Contribution for FY 2014 is proposed to be \$2,104,645 if the revised budget passes. This is a \$110,370 or 5.53 increase to Whitefield's Local Contribution compared to FY 2013, but significantly less than the \$2,167,285 that had been proposed in the first round of the budget.

The Regional Budget Adoption Meeting will be held on Tuesday August 13 at 7 p.m. at Whitefield School. This will be followed by the Budget Validation Referendum on Tuesday September 10.

You can receive the newsletter by email by signing up at www.townofwhitefield.com/Newsletter.html or pick up a hard copy at The Superette, Health Center, Country Corners, Sheepscot General, Town Office, & Recycling Center.

Annual 4th of July Parade



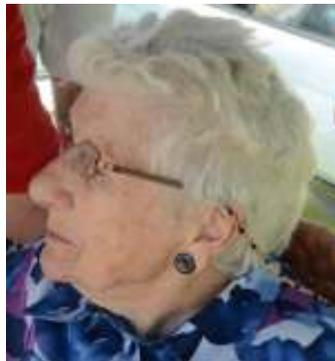
1st place: Burns family Free Bird float!



2nd place: No Drones in Maine!



3rd place: Chase Castle!



Road Committee

By Tony Marple

The Board of Selectmen is seeking 5-7 volunteers to serve on a new Road Committee. The role of the committee will be as follows:

Assess the condition of the town's 39 miles of roads by using Department of Transportation or other suitable evaluation tools.

Develop short and long term plans for maintaining and improving the town's roads.

Consider alternative approaches to road maintenance and improvement.

Assist in the preparation of the town road budget and potential financing arrangements.

The Selectmen are seeking a mixture of citizens with professional road experience and road users interested in the topic. Interested individuals are encouraged to contact Aaron Miller, Town Clerk.