



Whitefield News

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Changes at the Arlington Grange

By Debbie Rogers

We are happy to tell you that the Arlington Grange, after more than 120 years, has a working bathroom. For over 100 years the grange has hosted a library, school, meetings, events and amusements for local residents. The dual outhouse was added and continued to be used until 2015 when the grange members and generous contributors took on the task of building a working bathroom with, yes, a new-fangled flushing toilet. Well, it's done! Although real plumbing for a restroom is not a new idea and is no longer considered a luxury, but to the members of the grange, it is indeed call for celebration.

Our members have worked tirelessly to complete the project; with all members involved in the fundraising and construction of the new bathroom. Of note are Steve Smith, Dana Rogers, Josh Miller and Tom Colpitt. They have devoted a large amount of their time and effort to complete the project.

Although we have many more projects to complete to restore and maintain this wonderful historic building, we feel that the addition of a working bathroom was our highest priority. Now begins the list of other projects that NEED to be completed to restore the grange and see it used as a community gathering place as it was meant to be when the concept of the GAR hall began in 1884.



Dana Rogers working on the Grange bathroom
Photo by Debbie Rogers

The grange is now available for rentals for your events at a very reasonable donation of \$125 with \$25 refunded with the members determination that the grange was left clean and as you found it. Also, for the first time in many years, the upstairs is

also available for rent for an additional donation of \$100.

The main need of the Arlington Grange is members. We are an agricultural based group with interest in the local farming community, but also the community as a whole. We encourage you to consider joining the grange to promote agriculture in the area and community service as well. The goals set forth when the building was first conceived were for community gatherings, education and fellowship. We need members to continue that path and to restore this beautiful old building. Dues for the year are \$27 and we meet once per month. Activities planned in the near future are: the 2017 Grange calendar, a raffle, several music events and hopefully, several dances. We are also considering starting Bingo once a month. Some of our long term goals include a meeting place for farmers, classes in food preparation such as canning and cooking with local growers' products, celebrations and education in areas of agriculture.

Continued on Pg. 2



Above suspended ceiling in the grange Photo by Dana Rogers Jr.

by Chuck Vaughan

Since everything but the shell of the Coopers Mills Fire Station is brand new and mortgage free, there has been some speculation that the need and desire for major fundraising has abated. NOT SO! CMVFD has a tradition and culture of fundraising and there is always more to do. As far as the building goes, the outside has looked pretty much the same for decades and could use a facelift. There is also talk of a memorial garden and flagpole and there are always Community needs like the Larry and Dot Hardy Scholarship that was instituted a number of years ago to help deserving students from the area who are pursuing a career in an emergency services related field.

But, with all the good reasons for raising money, the auction is also a heck-of-a-lot of fun. With a couple of great auctioneers, there are many laughs and some of the items themselves could challenge you to keep a straight face. The food tent has the usual burgers and hot dogs and also homemade beans with other good stuff.

Over the years, there have been some really great bargains that have crossed the auction block; like a John Deere diesel garden tractor, boats, outdoor power equipment, tools, furniture including a spotless white leather couch. There are always boxes of things people have

The Auction tradition continues Saturday, August 20th, 10:00 a.m.



saved for years until it's time to clean out. Some boxes might even have a treasure hiding in them - an antique piece of pottery or a little-used power tool. You

might even see an item that showed up at last year's auction going around for the second time. Even though the collecting is just starting, there is already a nice 2007 Chrysler Sebring - the proverbial "little old lady's car", donated because one of our supporters stopped driving. There is also a perfect Kohler toilet in case yours needs replacing.



As auction time approaches, the fire trucks are moved out of the firehouse and it will be stuffed with an amazing variety of items. If you have never experienced a Coopers Mills Auction, you have missed an amazing experience. Typically, around \$10,000 worth of merchandise sells in about 6 hours. Mark the date on your calendar: Saturday, August 20th at the Fire Barn, Main Street Coopers Mills, starting at 10 am. If you want to donate items, contact any of the Coopers Mills members.

Grange cont. from Pg. 1 Some of the areas that need work for the restoration of the building are wiring, painting, kitchen renewal, and a new chairlift. Long term projects include restoration of the balcony, stage and ceiling upstairs.

In our minds we are blessed to have such historical and still viable buildings in town such as the Arlington Grange. We know that life is very busy for all, but would ask that you support the grange with your membership and continued financial support in participating in the fundraising activities. Whitefield and the surrounding towns are jewels in the state of Maine. We all need to support the efforts to maintain the buildings we have left in town that reflect the past so well in our town and community. For more information, please contact Debbie Rogers, Secretary for the Arlington Grange at 549-3491.

New Windows

By Cheryle Joslyn

Whitefield School is undergoing several construction projects this summer. Unfortunately, all activities scheduled for summer vacation, such as the Summer Library project, had to be postponed until next summer. The school is undergoing asbestos removal, replacing carpets in seven rooms, replacing windows in the lobby by the art room and putting new siding on the back of the building. They are also taking this opportunity to overhaul the library with new carpets, fresh paint, and changing the layout to be more user-friendly. There is much to do before August 29, but to be certain, all will be complete to welcome our students on the first day of school.



Photo by Cheryle Joslyn

Firehouse Steps

By Martha Tait

In June, several hardworking Whitefield volunteers made a set of stairs leading from the new parking lot at the Town Office, up to the fire station; making it convenient for parking and foot traffic between the two areas. The job involved cutting into the existing slope, forming the steps and sides with dimension lumber, and filling in the steps with stone and rock dust. Handrails will be added in the near future. In addition, one of the existing trees needed to be moved to make room for another exit from the new parking lot.

The men working on this project were Erik Ekholm, Dennis Merrill, Aaron Miller, Frank Ober, and Chuck Vaughn with added assistance from Scott Higgins.



Photo by Martha Tait



Photo by Martha Tait



Photos by
Callie Wronker



Whitefield Historical Society "Just Yesterday"



Photo of Emma Chase and Lore Ford (circa 1945 around the same time that she wrote the VJ Day entry).

Courtesy Whitefield Historical Society

Emma's Diary - August

1921

Saturday August 18,
Mrs. Hapgood called in the AM ..Mrs. Bailey has company...Dod helped Hope (Bailey) haul shingles and earned 15 cents he is some glad...kids earning 5 cents per 100 flies they kill and they have been killing for 2 days guess they will earn it by tonight.

1940

Friday, August 23

Auction at Ever Albee's and Lester Felt bought the store.

1945

Tuesday August 14

The radio awaits announcement of V.J.Day everyone excited Dod called up from Times Square he is celebrating ..everyone is in N.Y. I mean to celebrate though no official word yet.

Entry later that night

War ended tonight, Japan I guess will fold up right off. Pearl and I took flags and marched went on Harvey's (Bailey) truck and had lots of fun. Doris, Dora, Eddie, Midge and Hoddy came by and we sang etc. until 2am

Wednesday, August 15

This forenoon I got Marjorie and Jr (Lore Ford) to take me around to get people out to a bon fire to celebrate. In evening went to Wits End Dod called from Times Square N.Y. having a swell time. Then we had a huge bon fire everybody liked it.

Congratulations Albert Boynton



The Boynton's Float Celebrating Albert's 90th

Photo by Debbie Rogers

Midcoast Conservancy's Live Edge Music Festival Coming to Hidden Valley Nature Center

By Ali Stevenson

Mark your calendar for Sunday, August 21st! Midcoast Conservancy is happy to announce the 5th annual Live Edge music festival at Hidden Valley Nature Center. A fun-filled day of live music, great local food and beer, and even belly dancers—all

set in the midst of HVNC's 1,000 acres of trails, pond shore frontage and bogs. This year's all-Maine musical line-up includes Pri-



mo Cubano,

the Gawler Family, the Oshima Brothers, and the Shakes, a testament to our vibrant local music scene! The festival will also feature the US premier of the belly dance troupe Sirumem. Food from the Sheepscot General Store, authentic Mexican tacos from the Solorzano family, and beer from Liberal Cup, Geary's and Allagash will keep you going between acts or after you explore the 30-plus miles of trails at HVNC until the next band takes the stage.

To sweeten the deal, advance ticket buyers receive a \$20 voucher good for a second entrée at 15 participating restaurants; at \$20 per ticket, that makes your festival entry, well, practically free! Restaurants that will honor the vouchers include: Slates, Liberal Cup, A-1 Diner, Newcastle Publick House, El Camino, Frontier, Cloud 9, River Grill, Crissy's, Savory Maine, Le Garage, Montsweag Roadhouse, The Slipway, Rhumb Line and Rock Harbor Pub & Brewery. Tickets are available at Mexicali Blues, Sheepscot General Store, the Alna Store, HVNC and Midcoast Conservancy's office in Wiscasset.

Live Edge is supported by long-time sponsors Cribstone Capital, Ames Supply and Mexicali Blues; proceeds from Live Edge support Midcoast Conservancy, whose mission is to support and promote healthy lands, waters, wildlife, and people in Midcoast Maine through conservation, education, and recreation. For more information, go to midcoastconservancy.org, www.facebook/midcoastconservancy.org or call (207) 389-5150.

Lipman&Katz
ATTORNEYS AT LAW


5 Community Drive, Suite 3
P.O. Box 1051
Augusta, Maine 04332-1051
207- 622-3711 FAX 207- 622-7415
1-800-660-3713
www.lipmankatz.com

email@lipmankatz.com

AUGUST 2016 COMMUNITY EVENTS CALENDAR

- 1st** **COOPERS MILLS FIRE DEPT.**, All are welcome. No obligation. 7 pm
KINGS MILLS FIRE DEPT., 7 pm
- 2nd** **SELECT BOARD**, Fire Station, 6 pm
KINGS MILLS UNION HALL BOARD MEETING - Public Welcome 7 pm
- 3rd** **WEDNESDAY WALKERS**—Wednesdays from May 4 into the Fall, join a group of intrepid hikers, led by a rotating roster of guides, to discover new trails throughout the Midcoast area. Hike locations and times are emailed to members of the Yahoo Group; to sign up, go to https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/wednesday_walkers/info
ARLINGTON GRANGE MEETING, Pot Luck Dinner 6 pm, Meeting 7 pm
WHITEFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY meeting 6:30 pm
- 3rd-5th** **LITTLE DYER ADVENTURE CLUB, HVNC** The Adventure Club will learn to work and play alongside each other as they develop their sense of adventure. Participants will experience the basics of canoeing, mountain biking, hiking and leave no trace camping through structured and thoughtful approaches. The program will be centered around Little Dyer Pond, which is a 110acre Great Pond with no public access. Little Dyer is a serene gem and offers local youth an authentic back country experience with the convenience of a day-program. For more information, go to midcoastconservany.org, www.facebook/midcoastconservany.org or call (207) 389-5150.
- 4th** **SENIOR MEN'S GROUP**, Sheepscot General, 10 am
- 5th** **WHITEFIELD FOOD PANTRY**, St. Denis Hall, 1-3 pm
- 8th** **WHITEFIELD MUNICIPAL FIRE DEPT.**, Fire Station, 7 pm
- 9th** **WOMEN OF WHITEFIELD**, Sheepscot General, 10 am
SELECT BOARD, Fire Station, 6 pm
- 10th** **WEDNESDAY WALKERS—SEE AUGUST 3RD**
- 11th** **SENIOR MEN'S GROUP**, Sheepscot General, 10 am
RSU SCHOOL BOARD MEETING Chelsea School, 6:30 pm
- 14th** **WHITEFIELD ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION (WAA)**, Whitefield School, 6 pm
- 16th** **SELECT BOARD**, Fire Station, 6 pm
- 17th** **WEDNESDAY WALKERS—SEE AUGUST 3RD**
PLANNING BOARD, Fire Station, 6:00 pm
PUBLIC HEARING ON CELL TOWER IN WHITEFIELD, Whitefield Fire House, Townhouse Road, Public Hearing at 7:00 pm on the proposed cell phone tower on property located at 571 Townhouse Rd.
FULL MOON PADDLE @HVNC, For more information, go to midcoastconservany.org, www.facebook/midcoastconservany.org or call (207) 389-5150.
- 18th** **SENIOR MEN'S GROUP**, Sheepscot General, 10 am
- 19th** **OPEN-MIC NIGHT**, Sheepscot General, 7-9 pm
- 20th** **COOPERS MILLS VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT AUCTION**, Coopers Mills Fire House, 10:00 am
DRUMMING CIRCLE, Sheepscot General, 6:30 pm. Open to the public, all ages
- 21st** **LIVE EDGE MUSIC FESTIVAL, SEE ARTICLE ON PG. 3**
- 23rd** **WOMEN OF WHITEFIELD**, Sheepscot General, 10 am
SELECT BOARD, Fire Station, 6 pm
- 24th** **WEDNESDAY WALKERS—SEE AUGUST 3RD**
YOUNG AT HEART SENIORS, Whitefield Lions Club, Coopers Mills 12 pm
- 25th** **SENIOR MEN'S GROUP**, Sheepscot General, 10 am
- 30th** **SELECT BOARD**, Fire Station, 6 pm.
- 31st** **WEDNESDAY WALKERS—SEE AUGUST 3RD**
Do you have an event? Contact whitefieldtownnews@gmail.com





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