



# Whitefield News

**FREE** Thanks to our advertisers

Published Monthly

Volume 5, Issue 9

March 2018



## Town Meeting

### **BALLOT VOTING - March 16**

Friday from 4 to 8 pm at the Fire Station

### **TOWN MEETING - March 17**

10 am at the Whitefield Elementary School

### **REFRESHMENTS**

The Whitefield School 5th grade will sell home cooked baked goods, coffee, and water.

*This year five incumbents have returned nomination papers to seek re-election for town officer positions, according to Administrative Assistant Aaron Miller. The list consist of:*

-Tara Delisle for one year and Keith Marple for two years on the RSU 12 Board of Directors

-Jacob Matthews and Jim Torbert for two years each on the Planning Board

-Lester Sheaffer Jr. for three years on the Board of Selectmen

### **MARIJUANA SURVEY & DISCUSSION**

After adjournment of our town meeting, those who would like to stay may join a discussion about the future possibility of cultivation, production, and sale of marijuana in Whitefield. A survey will be distributed, the results of which will help guide ordinance development for future town vote.

## Whitefield Town Meeting Information

by Bill McKeen, Select Board member

A town meeting is a form of direct democratic rule, used in portions of the United States, principally New England, since the 17th century. In a town meeting, members of a community come together to legislate policies, plans and budgets for local government.

We are fortunate to have that form of government here in Whitefield. We hope you will join us and participate in the discussions and voting. Those that have attended in the past can tell some great stories about past differences of opinion and controversies. It may be no different this year. Come and see.

### **SIGNIFICANT WARRANT ARTICLES:**

-Fire Department budget: For many years, Scott Higgins and his staff have requested no budget increase. This year, a reasonable increase is recommended.

-Administrative wages and benefits: The board surveyed similar sized towns around



File photo

the state and determined that wages for the Administrative Assistant and for the Treasurer/Tax Collector are well below the market. Also, many town personnel are retiring around the state and towns are finding it difficult to recruit young people. The town has been using the Affordable Care Act (ACA) for staff health insurance. Given the ACA uncertainty, a relatively high out of pocket private insurance plan is recommended.

-Summer Roads: The summer roads budget is down somewhat, but continues to implement the Road Committee ten-year plan. The town recommends setting aside \$50,000 from surplus to begin funding an expensive culvert repair or replacement on the South Hunts Meadow Rd.

*Continued on Pg. 2*

## Update on Coopers Mills Dam

by Robert Van Riper, Midcoast Conservancy & Atlantic Salmon Federation

The removal of Coopers Mills Dam is on track for this summer. The project, a partnership between Whitefield and the Midcoast Conservancy, Atlantic Salmon Federation, and The Nature Conservancy, has made great strides towards the actual work of taking the dam out and installing the dry hydrant system. As with any big project, there are a lot of 'moving parts' that all have to fit together before work can start. Those parts are now falling into place.

The dam qualified for listing on the federal and state registers of historic places, so a lengthy process was undertaken to document it in its current condition and gather information for historic engineering records. That is now complete and state and federal historic agencies have finished their reviews. Final plans for the removal of the dam and putting in the dry hydrants are complete. Agreements with abutting landowners have been signed.

Negotiations are underway with the contractor chosen for the work. For the project, the partners needed permits from the Army Corps of Engineers, the Maine Department of Environmental Protection, and



Coopers Mills Dam Photo by Brooke Joslyn

the Town Planning Board. Also involved at the federal level is an in-depth Endangered Species Act review of the potential impacts to Atlantic salmon. The review has been coordinated by the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). The state DEP permit is in place, while the Federal and Planning Board permits are being reviewed. With the assistance of the Whitefield Dam Committee, work is also underway in developing informational

signage for the site.

Sometime early this summer, the partners plan to hold a public meeting to go over how the project will be built – or rather, removed.

**Town Meeting Cont. from Pg. 1 -Winter Roads:** With our current multi-year plowing contract expiring, the town will be going out to bid for winter road maintenance. Not knowing who the successful bidder will be and the price at the time of budget preparation, the town recommends a significant increase in the budget to avoid a circumstance where the bids come in higher than budget. We hope to have the bidding complete by town meeting to have voters finalize a number.

**-Town Office renovations:** The \$29,000 in renovations budgeted in the current year to upgrade the town office are nearing completion. However, after a week without power in the town office after the October storm has led to plan to install a generator.

**-Overall, the town's proposed expenditures for FY19 are relatively flat, but not knowing the RSU 12 or Lincoln County tax amounts, it is too early to predict tax rates.**

**-Revenue budget:** For the first time in many years, the town recommends budgeting all town sources of revenue to reduce taxes, rather than having unbudgeted revenues create a surplus to reduce taxes in the following year.

PLEASE JOIN US!

## Welcome to our interim Whitefield School Principal!

The RSU 12 district and the Whitefield staff welcomes Mr. Tom Soule as interim principal for the remainder of the school year. Mr. Soule is a veteran



*Mr. Soule with excited students celebrating their final Winter Carnival Day before vacation.*

Photo courtesy Amy Perkins, Secretary

educator and principal with 42 years in public education; 25 of those years as an elementary school principal. Most recently, before retiring in 2014, he was Principal of Woolwich Central School's 400 PreK thru 8th grade students in Woolwich, Maine for 16 years. He is very excited about leading Whitefield School and getting to know the students, staff, parents, and community of Whitefield. He believes in being "Fun, Firm, Fair, and Consistent"; many of the right ingredients to create ideal learning conditions in our school. Please extend a warm welcome to Mr. Soule.

## Whitefield Collaborative Problem-Solving Project update

Whitefield Elementary School held a community forum in order to collect information from the community about areas in which the school should work to improve. The forum generated many ideas and the school has embarked on a process to address the areas of improvement.



*Whitefield School Photo by Cheryle Joslyn*

In January 2018, a group was formed to coordinate this work. The group is called the Whitefield Collaborative Problem-Solving Project. There are twenty-two members of this group representing many different parts of the Whitefield Community. You can find the membership list here: [https://core-docs.s3.amazonaws.com/documents/asset/uploaded\\_file/132372/WCPSP\\_Group\\_Members.pdf](https://core-docs.s3.amazonaws.com/documents/asset/uploaded_file/132372/WCPSP_Group_Members.pdf) or by contacting the school at 549-7691

Some actions have already been initiated (or will be initiated in the near future) which include, but are not limited to:

- Formation of the Whitefield Collaborative Problem-Solving Project committee
- Initiation of more after-school enrichment activities in areas such as coding, art, aquaponics, 4-H and more. Look for these advertised in the next few months
- Bus aides on all buses
- Budgeting for video cameras on all buses
- Review and refinement of discipline policies including district bullying policies
- Continued implementation of restorative practices and further training for educators
- Additional anti-bullying and anti-harassment training for all staff
- Ongoing positive behavior celebration assemblies for students
- Civil Rights team implementation and activities
- Reviewing barriers to volunteer coordination
- An "Education Celebration" in the planning stages for later in the school year



**Tim's Sugar Shack  
Maple Products  
for sale**

**MAINE MAPLE SUNDAY**  
Come check out our backyard sap boiling operation. Sample some of our Blue Ribbon Syrup on ice cream and also taste different Maple flavored recipes.

**March 24th 10am to 2pm**  
**March 25th 9am to 3pm**

23 Grand Army Road  
Whitefield 549-5016



## Tim Chase Wins Maple Syrup Awards

by Tony Marple

Tim Chase grew up in Whitefield in the house currently occupied by his sister Jane on the Mills Road. After a couple of years in the Army, Tim married Martha and they now live in the beautiful white colonial at the top of Grand Army Road. Tim spent most of his year working for BIW but after retirement

opened Whitefield Dry kiln. Tim has always been active in town, spending three years on the Select Board and four on the Planning Board.

In 1986 Tim started making syrup in a rock pit when their four sons were

young. With help from Martha, the boys and their grandchildren, they now make between twenty and forty gallons a year depending on weather conditions. While Tim collects and boils the sap from his own trees, St. Denis, Christie Mitchell and the Earl Copper property, Martha does the bottling and labeling. They sell their products at the North Whitefield Superette and at their home on Maine Maple Sunday. The Alna Store uses their syrup for cooking.

Every year the Maine Maple Producers, an association of 160 producers



Tim & Martha Chase Photo by Tony Marple

and manufacturers holds a contest at their annual meeting which is part of the Maine Agriculture Show in January. The criteria include density, color, clarity and flavor. Contestants chose which color category to enter. Taste can be affected by sap buckets, late season sap, products used for de-foaming such as cano-

Tim Chase receives Award for Best of Show!

la oil or butter, burning and even the soap used to clean equipment at the end of the season. Great diligence is required.

In January, Tim entered his syrup in the amber category and won first prize. As if that wasn't enough, Tim won the trophy for best of show which includes all of the syrup types. Congratulations to Tim and Martha and their family helpers. You can taste their award winning syrup on Maine Maple Sunday on March 25<sup>th</sup>.



**Stop by our table at Town Meeting for information about the Whitefield Library at the Arlington Grange!! We are getting ready for our 2nd Summer of fun for kids and adults alike! Support the Whitefield Library!!**

## Annual Corned Beef & Cabbage Benefit Dinner

St. Denis Knights of Columbus #1423 will be hosting their famous Irish Holiday Dinner on Saturday March 17<sup>th</sup> at the St. Denis Hall on Rt. 126 in North Whitefield. Serving begins at 5 p.m.

Menu – Corned Beef & Cabbage, Potatoes, Vegetables, Cole Slaw, Biscuits, Plus Drinks and Desserts

The dinner is open to all area residents who frequently enjoy the great dinners put on by the dedicated Knights from all of the St. Michael Parish area councils.

As always, your “FREE WILL DONATIONS”, are what we depend on to fulfill all of the charity that we give back to our local folks, causes and needs.

Thank you!

## RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

Hosted by Knights of Columbus Council #1423

Wednesday March 7, 2018 – 01:00 PM to 06:00 PM

At St. Denis Church Hall

298 Grand Army Road

N. Whitefield, Maine 04353

There is an Urgent Need For Blood And \*Platelets.

Schedule Today, 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767)

\*One Platelet Donation Can Be Worth 12 to 18 Whole

### Whitefield Trash Service &

#### Snow Removal Service

(Also roof clean offs and shoveling)

Weekly Household Garbage Pickup

Free Metal Removal

Appliances (no Freon), woodstoves, batteries (auto, marine and

Lawnmower)

Any Metal Item!

Call Dana Rogers at 485-3991

IRS Notices - Settlements - Late Filers

### DEDUCTION-FINDING SUPERPOWER



With Watson

Maximum Refund Guaranteed

Augusta (East)  
84 Bangor Street  
622-3738

Augusta (West)  
198 Western Avenue  
621-0001



## MARCH 2018 COMMUNITY EVENTS CALENDAR

- 1st** **SENIOR MEN'S GROUP**, Sheepscot General, 10 am
- 2nd** **WHITEFIELD FOOD PANTRY**, St. Denis Hall, 1-3 pm
- 4th** **7TH ANNUAL LIBERAL CUP BIATHLON** \$35 for adults, \$10 for kids and students. Register now to guarantee your spot. Space is limited and prices go up \$5 per participant on Feb. 23rd. Day-of registrations as space provides. Any questions, call Midcoast Conservancy at (207) 389-5150.  
**DEMOCRATIC CAUCUSS** at Jefferson School. For more information contact Jim Torbert at 549-3149 5:30 p.m.
- 5th** **COOPERS MILLS FIRE DEPT.** All are welcome. No obligation. 7 pm  
**KINGS MILLS FIRE DEPT.**, 7 pm
- 6th** **SELECT BOARD**, Fire Station, 6 pm  
**YIN YOGA AT SHEEPSCOT GENERAL**, 6:30-8:00 pm  
**KINGS MILLS UNION HALL BOARD MEETING** - Public Welcome 7 pm
- 7th** **RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE** Hosted by Knights of Columbus Council #1423  
Wednesday March 7, 2018 – 01:00 PM to 06:00 PM At St. Denis Church Hall 298 Grand Army Road N. Whitefield, Maine 04353 There is an Urgent Need For Blood And \*Platelets. Schedule Today, 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) \*One Platelet Donation Can Be Worth 12 to 18 Whole
- 8th** **ARLINGTON GRANGE MEETING** 7:00 pm call Debbie at 549-3491 for more information  
**SENIOR MEN'S GROUP**, Sheepscot General, 10 am  
**RSU SCHOOL BOARD MEETING** Chelsea School, 6:30 pm
- 9th** **FAMILY GAME NIGHT** Sheepscot General 5pm  
**WINE TASTING WITH DEVENISH WINES** Sheepscot General 5-7 pm
- 11th** **WHITEFIELD ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION (WAA)**, Whitefield School, 6 pm
- 12th** **WHITEFIELD MUNICIPAL FIRE DEPT.**, Fire Station, 7 pm
- 13th** **WOMEN OF WHITEFIELD**, Sheepscot General, 10 am  
**YIN YOGA AT SHEEPSCOT GENERAL**, 6:30-8:00  
**SELECT BOARD**, Fire Station, 6 pm  
**PTA MEETING** 5:30 pm, Whitefield School conference room (always the 2nd Tues. of the month).
- 14th** **WHITEFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY** meeting 1:00 pm Town House
- 15th** **SENIOR MEN'S GROUP**, Sheepscot General, 10 am
- 16th** **BALLOT VOTING FROM 4 TO 8 PM AT THE FIRE STATION**  
**OPEN MIC NIGHT FEATURING GABRIEL ZACCHAI WITH AARON ENGLANDER** Sheepscot General, 7-9 pm.. Come early for pizza night starting at 5pm.
- 17th** **WHITEFIELD TOWN MEETING, WHITEFIELD SCHOOL, 10:00 AM**  
**ANNUAL CORNED BEEF & CABBAGE BENEFIT DINNER** St. Denis Knights of Columbus #1423 will be hosting their famous Irish Holiday Dinner at the St. Denis Hall on Rt. 126. Serving begins at 5 p.m. As always, your "FREE WILL DONATIONS", are what we depend on to fulfill all of the charity that we giveback to our local folks, causes and needs. Thank you!  
**DRUMMING CIRCLE**, Sheepscot General, 6:30 pm. Open to the public, all ages welcome.
- 18th** **WHS ANNUAL MEETING AND PRESENTATION "A WALK DOWN MAIN STREET"** slide show of Coopers Mills at 2pm on Sunday Mar 18 at 2:00 at the Whitefield Lions Club
- 20th** **SELECT BOARD**, Fire Station, 6 pm  
**YIN YOGA AT SHEEPSCOT GENERAL**, 6:30-8:00 pm
- 21st** **PLANNING BOARD**, Fire Station, 6:00 pm
- 22nd** **SENIOR MEN'S GROUP**, Sheepscot General, 10 am
- 25th** **MAINE MAPLE SUNDAY BRUNCH**, Sheepscot General, 9am - 1 pm
- 27th** **WOMEN OF WHITEFIELD**, Sheepscot General, 10 am  
**SELECT BOARD**, Fire Station, 6 pm  
**YIN YOGA AT SHEEPSCOT GENERAL**, 6:30-8:00 pm
- 29th** **FULL MOON HIKE** Explore the wonders of nature under the light of the full moon at Hidden Valley Nature Center. We'll end the evening with a hot drink and camaraderie at one of the heated cabins. Meet at the gate promptly for a 2.5 mile trek to the pond for the full moon rising. Please no dogs. 7:30-9:30 pm (207) 389-5150  
**SENIOR MEN'S GROUP**, Sheepscot General, 10 am
- 30th** **WINE TASTING WITH SO PO WINE CO** at Sheepscot General 5-7 pm

**Do you have an event? Contact: [whitefieldtownnews@gmail.com](mailto:whitefieldtownnews@gmail.com)**

**Deadline for newsletter submissions is the 15th of the month. Email [whitefieldtownnews@gmail.com](mailto:whitefieldtownnews@gmail.com)**  
**Whitefield Newsletter Committee: Cheryle Joslyn, Kit Pfeiffer, Sue McKeen and Debbie Rogers.**

**AP ALBISON'S PRINTING**  
Quality Printing Since 1932  
Offset & Digital Printing  
[www.albisonsprinting.com](http://www.albisonsprinting.com)  
124 Riverside Drive, Augusta 622-1941

  
**Whitefield Country Preschool**  
Serving the area's 3 - 5 year olds since 1981  
1 - 5 days of instruction per week Sept. - May  
Register year round  
For information, please call  
Joan Kierstead - 549-5019

  
**RE/MAX**  
Riverside  
Dari Hurley  
Broker  
Multi-Million Dollar Producer  
1 Bowdoin Mill Island, Suite 101  
Topsham, ME 04086  
Mobile 207-446-2273  
Direct 207-319-7840  
[darihurley@remax.net](mailto:darihurley@remax.net)  
[darihurley.com](http://darihurley.com)  
Each Office Independently Owned and Operated

  
**GRADY**  
Forest Products  
Mechanical Timber Harvesting  
Master Logger Certified  
Chipping  
Earthwork  
Steve Grady  
Whitefield, ME  
h:(207)549-3170  
c:(207)242-9840

207-549-7921  
open 7 days a week  
  
**North Whitefield Superette**  
Since 1976  
Pizza, Sandwiches and Groceries

  
**THE HAIR WORKS**  
FAMILY HAIR CARE  
APRIL CAPPER  
207-549-3375  
  
221 GRAND ARMY ROAD  
WHITEFIELD, ME 04353  
OWNER  
AVAILABLE BY APPOINTMENT

**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](http://www.lipmankatz.com)  
[email@lipmankatz.com](mailto:email@lipmankatz.com)

**You can receive the newsletter by email by signing up at [www.townofwhitefield.com/Newsletter.html](http://www.townofwhitefield.com/Newsletter.html)**