



# Whitefield News

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## The Holidays are Coming!

### Thanksgiving food basket requests

The Whitefield Town Office will be taking requests for anyone in need of a Thanksgiving food basket. All requests must be received by November 7<sup>th</sup>.



Baskets will be ready for pick up on November 21st and should be picked up between 1:00 and 3:00 at the Whitefield Food Bank.

### Kings Mills Union Hall Craft Fair

November 2nd, 10-2 pm Join local crafters to support your community and get a jump on gifts for the season.

### Sheepscot General Holiday Bazaar

December 1st, 5-8 pm. Our famous bazaar featuring local food, artisan, and craftspeople. Great for all your gift-giving needs.

### Kings Mills Union Hall Christmas Program

December 3rd, 3-5 pm

## Road Safety Concerns in Whitefield

by Herb Hartman

In late September and early October, there were two daytime traffic accidents involving Amish buggies on East River Road. Neither passengers nor horses received significant injuries, although one buggy was destroyed. The incidents prompted the Select Board, at their October 10 meeting, to address possible ways to increase safety for horse-drawn conveyances and their occupants.

In addition to coverage by *The Lincoln County News*, several statewide media outlets picked up the story a day or two later.

Excessive speed by a following vehicle and driver inattention were presumed to be the cause of the rear-end collisions. At the meeting Chief Sheriff's Deputy Rand Maker, State Dept. of Transportation engineer David Allen and several concerned Whitefield residents discussed with board members what might be done to better warn motorists of the presence of horse-drawn vehicles. It was also decided to



Please drive cautiously!

Photo

schedule a follow-up meeting with the Amish to explore options.

When several Amish families moved to Whitefield last spring, a number of signs depicting buggies were posted around town to alert drivers; but additional signage, with a message as well as an image, would heighten effectiveness. A mobile, electric traffic control sign will also be placed at

locations where warning was deemed appropriate.

Whitefield's roads are typically narrow and sometimes have narrow shoulders; moreover, curves and hills can reduce sight lines. Meeting attendees agreed it will take a community effort over time to ensure a wide awareness of the presence of buggies and wagons. In order to keep the town's new neighbors and their equipment safe, it is critical that motorists remain attentive and observe speed limits, reducing their speed when following horse-drawn vehicles.

## A Thank You from Whitefield's Amish Community

(by Mose Yoder)

My family and I moved to Whitefield in March of this year; five more families came in the following months.

We have all been humbled by the warm welcome we have received from the local and surrounding communities and towns, and we thank all who stop in to see us, whether it is just to chat or for business. Local government and law enforcement officials deserve special thanks for their assistance.

To date there have been two minor daytime accidents on the road following which both the motor vehicle and buggy drivers amicably resolved the incidents to their satisfaction. Road safety should be everyone's concern, and we have equipped the buggies with 60" of DOT

approved reflective tape and a red reflecting lantern. We teach our young drivers to respect all road users. For us, the biggest issue is that buggies don't exceed 15 MPH, while motor vehicles travel at least 40 MPH. We sincerely appreciate the respect, understanding, and courtesy drivers have shown us when following, approaching, and passing our horse-drawn buggies.

If you have any questions regarding our Amish community and its practices, please feel free to stop by and ask us.



## You're Invited To the Whitefield School Forum

By Keith Marple (Whitefield School Board representative)

This November 15<sup>th</sup>, at 5:30pm, in the Whitefield School Gymnasium, all Whitefield townspeople, regardless of whether or not you have children enrolled in the school, are invited

to join an important conversation with Whitefield School's administration and board members. Principal Josh McNaughton, with the support of the town's School Board members and RSU 12



Left to right- Tara Delisle RSU12 Board, Josh McNaughton Whitefield Principal, Howie Tuttle RSU Superintendent, Keith Marple RSU Board  
Photo by Tony Marple

Superintendent Howard Tuttle, is organizing an open forum about our school and would like to hear from everyone who has a personal experience, a constructive opinion or idea to share, or a talent to contribute to the school. Snacks and beverages will be provided, and child care will be available to ensure as many people as possible are able to attend.

Principal McNaughton, who publishes a weekly school newsletter, is looking for more ways to hear directly from the townspeople, as well as share some of what's been going on lately in the school. "I'm proud of what we've accomplished so far, from building improvements to new anti-bullying programs, and feel like the school is in a much better place than when I started here 7 years ago. But I'm really excited about the possibilities of what we might do with the help of the community," he said.

The town's School Board representatives, Terri Blair, Tara DeLisle, and Keith Marple, are also looking forward to hearing ideas from the people of our town. "I've heard from many about the improvements you'd like to see in the

school, but I don't know everyone, and would love to hear more of your opinions about what could or should be done next," stated Tara DeLisle, who is also the parent of three Whitefield students.

"I believe in our school; I had a great experience when I was a student, and my girls are learning from outstanding teachers, too," said School Board member Keith Marple. "But I remember a time when we felt we had the best school in the area. I think a lot about what has been lost, and it seems to me that while a lot has changed, the biggest factor is the pride Whitefield once took in the school as the focal point of our town. The way all the talented people from the community pitched in to help teachers create a special environment really made a difference to us kids. Although there are a handful of coaches, PTA members and volunteers giving all they can now, they need more help. However, I believe in the power of our town, too; just this summer you built a library from whole cloth! Imagine what else we could do for our kids; I know that with all of your help, the school can be as great as we want to make it." Terri Blair added to this statement, "Positive changes need to be recognized and communicated to encourage school pride and a sense of community. Open, but uncomfortable, conversations also need to be had surrounding sensitive issues. When light is shed on ALL of these, the positive will only grow and the negative will lose its power."

The RSU 12 school district is in full support of this local effort. Superintendent Howard Tuttle stated that he "looks forward to this important Whitefield School Forum as a novel idea that demonstrates the dedication Whitefield citizens have to their students and builds on the good work that has happened in recent years. If we all work together as a team, Whitefield students will surely benefit from our cooperation and our efforts. We are committed to cultivating exemplary community schools where everyone strives to build a foundation of lifetime learning for our students and future citizens."

The organizers plan to come out of this event not only with a clear picture of the town's priorities for the school, but also a set of achievable goals and volunteers identified to help accomplish them. They also hope that this will be an ongoing conversation, with follow-up events to discuss progress. Whether you are a parent, grandparent, business owner, coach, pastor, artist, farmer, or just a concerned citizen, your thoughts and contributions are welcome in this important discussion. If you have any questions about this event, please reach out to Principal McNaughton directly at 549-7691 or [jmcnaughton@svrsu.org](mailto:jmcnaughton@svrsu.org).

## Please help Whitefield School's NJHS raise funds for cystic fibrosis research

(submitted by Karen McCormick)

Whitefield School's NJHS students have partnered up with Cony Boy's Soccer and KCC to raise money for CF research, a terminal disease that effects many, but particularly one student in our very own community, Miss Caroline Mathews. Once again, Caroline has been recently hospitalized. Her battle is real and will never go away. NJHS students have worked hard to help host the Nov. 11 (9:00-1:00) Color Run Event which will take place at the Kennebec Community Church in Augusta. Please support their efforts by sponsoring a runner. Checks may be made out to the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation and given to NJHS advisor, Karen McCormick at Whitefield School. The NJHS students work hard to "be the change" ...please show them that you notice.

## COLOR RUN 5K

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CAROLINE  
MATHEWS

1st grade student at Whitefield Elementary, Caroline was diagnosed with CF at birth, but is active in sports and school activities. She enjoys swimming, Barbies, scary movies and YouTube.

She loves her chickens and her dog, Lucky. Caroline has endured 16 surgeries, 20 hospital stays and does 80 minutes of treatments daily. Her goal is to grow up and become a software developer to create Minecraft games.





## Whitefield Historical Society "Just Yesterday"

November is a time we pay particular attention to honoring our veterans.. In 1944 honoring veterans was also on the mind of Whitefield citizens.



Emma Chase had three sons in the service and the following are excerpts from her 1944 diary.

*Sept 10, 1944*  
We went to Honor Roll meeting at the hall.

Whitefield Senior Men  
July 2000

Robert F. Gilman	Robert W. Bradford	Julian Howell	Elbert D. Hayford	Chester H. Chase
Albert R. Boynton	Phillip E. Russell	Robert B. Hutchinson	Carrol D. Farmer	Roland Patterson

*Oct 4, 1944*  
We drove to Manchester (NH) to see

about the Honor Roll for Whitefield. Took picture of the one in Pittsfield (NH).

*Oct 22, 1944*  
Had Honor Roll meeting in PM

*Oct 23, 1944*  
Went to Waldoboro to look at Honor Roll.



Picture of Honor Roll in Pittsfield, NH taken by Emma Chase.  
Photo above, Whitefield Honor Roll with Senior Men's group  
Photos submitted by Whitefield Historical Society

Happy  
Thanksgiving

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## The Cemeteries of Whitefield

by Charlene Donahue

This town, like many old New England towns, has several small cemeteries and a few larger ones. The large ones (two at St. Denis and the Whitefield Cemetery on the Wiscasset Road) are privately owned and maintained.



Matthews Cemetery, Thayer Road, Whitefield

The remaining twenty-two cemeteries are located in woods and fields on private property; except for Howe Cemetery in Coopers Mills

which the Town owns. Ten cemeteries are mowed by the Town. Some are tended by the landowners, and some are falling into disrepair. Despite this mixture of care, almost all the stones have been photographed and are posted on the findagrave.com website.

By State law, the Town is responsible for maintaining the graves of veterans in ancient and public burying grounds. Also, over the years, a few donors set up trust funds with the Town for the maintenance of specific graves. To help meet its responsibilities, the Select Board decided to form a Cemetery Committee tasked with assisting the Town in keeping track of these sites that are part of our town's history and fabric of the community. Some townspeople already help in this endeavor and have put countless hours into maintenance, record keeping, and research. Some of the following projects have been started, but need more work, and then there is always the annual care of the physical sites.

Some of the questions that need to be addressed are:

- Where are the cemeteries located in Whitefield, and what are their names?
- Where are the veteran's graves located so we know where to put the flags for Memorial Day?
- Where are graves of those who donated money to the Town for the care of their final resting place?
- From whom do we get permission to visit a private cemetery?
- What are the needs of graveyards in Town?
- What is the correct way to clean gravestones?
- Are there recommendations for the Town annual budget and restricted cemetery funds?

Wow, this looks like a pretty daunting list! But as I said earlier, many of these items have been partially completed, but we need to compile the data to insure we can meet our obligations. Some of this work is short term, some will go on into the foreseeable future. Some is outdoors, some is computer-based or digging through old records. Obviously, something for everyone!

Is this something that would interest you, a friend, or family member? These kind of tasks are more enjoyable when shared. Are you new to town and want to connect with the history, or a longtime resident looking to maintain your roots? If you are interested in getting involved, contact Charlene Donahue at 485-0960 or [donahuecp15@gmail.com](mailto:donahuecp15@gmail.com).

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## NOVEMBER 2017 COMMUNITY EVENTS CALENDAR

- 1st **ARLINGTON GRANGE MEETING**, Call 549-3491 for more information .  
**YIN YOGA AT SHEEPSCOT GENERAL**, 7-8:30 pm
- 2nd **SENIOR MEN'S GROUP**, Sheepscot General, 10 am
- 3rd **WHITEFIELD FOOD PANTRY**, St. Denis Hall, 1-3 pm  
**FULL MOON PADDLE**, 5:30-8 pm, Hidden Valley Nature Center, Jefferson.  
 FMI: [midcoastconservancy.org/events](http://midcoastconservancy.org/events), (207)389-5150
- 4th **KINGS MILLS UNION HALL CRAFT FAIR, 10-2**
- 6th **COOPERS MILLS FIRE DEPT.** All are welcome. No obligation. 7 pm  
**KINGS MILLS FIRE DEPT.**, 7 pm
- 7th **SELECT BOARD**, Fire Station, 6 pm  
**KINGS MILLS UNION HALL BOARD MEETING** - Public Welcome 7 pm
- 8th **YIN YOGA AT SHEEPSCOT GENERAL**, 7-8:30 pm
- 9th **SENIOR MEN'S GROUP**, Sheepscot General, 10 am  
**RSU SCHOOL BOARD MEETING** Chelsea School, 6:30 pm
- 12th **WHITEFIELD ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION (WAA)**, Whitefield School, 6 pm
- 13th **WHITEFIELD MUNICIPAL FIRE DEPT.**, Fire Station, 7 pm
- 14th **WOMEN OF WHITEFIELD**, Sheepscot General, 10 am  
**WHITEFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY** meeting 1:00 pm Town House  
**SELECT BOARD**, Fire Station, 6 pm
- 15th **PLANNING BOARD**, Fire Station, 6:00 pm  
**YIN YOGA AT SHEEPSCOT GENERAL**, 7-8:30 pm
- 16th **SENIOR MEN'S GROUP**, Sheepscot General, 10 am
- 17th **OPEN MIC NIGHT FEATURING PUTNAM SMITH & ASHLEY STORROW**, Sheepscot General, 7-9 pm
- 18th **DRUMMING CIRCLE**, Sheepscot General, 6:30 pm. Open to the public, all ages welcome.
- 21st **SELECT BOARD**, Fire Station, 6 pm
- 22th **YIN YOGA AT SHEEPSCOT GENERAL**, 7-8:30 pm
- 23th **HAPPY THANKSGIVING**
- 28th **WOMEN OF WHITEFIELD**, Sheepscot General, 10 am  
**SELECT BOARD**, Fire Station, 6 pm
- 29th **YIN YOGA AT SHEEPSCOT GENERAL**, 7-8:30 pm
- 30th **SENIOR MEN'S GROUP**, Sheepscot General, 10 am  
**WHITEFIELD ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**, 4 pm Sheepscot General



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

**Remember the Whitefield Food Pantry.** Located at St. Denis Church Hall, the food pantry is open the first Friday of each month. Donate your time or food for those who may need it during the holidays and all year long. They always meet Wednesday afternoon before the first Friday of the month.

### Toys for Tots events in our area

*Tuesday, Nov. 14th Flatbread Pizza Fundraiser, Flatbread Company, 399 Commercial St. Rockport, ME 5-8 pm*

*Saturday Nov. 11th Flagship Cinemas, 730 Center St. Waterville from 9-12 Bring a toy and watch a Christmas movie.*

*Saturday. Nov. 25th, Come visit us at our Cocoa Booth during the Parade of Lights in Downtown Rockland, Corner of Main and Tillson Ave. at SnowDrop Confections.*

*Saturday Dec. 2nd Flagship Cinemas, 247 Kennedy Memorial Drive, Waterville from 8:30-11:30 Bring a toy and watch a Christmas movie.*

*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, Suzanne Balbo, Sue McKeen and Debbie Rogers.*

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