



# Whitefield News

**FREE** Thanks to our advertisers



Volume 5, Issue 4

Published Monthly

October 2017

## Whitefield Property Taxes

(submitted by Tony Marple)

This time each year the Select Board sets "mil rate"; the number used to calculate property taxes. On September 12<sup>th</sup>, the Select Board set the mil rate for the year ending June 30, 2018 at .0138; a decrease from the .015 for last fiscal year. That means that taxes on a property valued at \$100,000 will decline from \$1,500 to \$1,380 or \$120. By comparison, the mil rate five years ago was .01475.

In preparing the budget last fall, the board decided to recommend a \$300,000 reduction in the town's surplus which had increased over the years. After voters approved the use of surplus at

Town Meeting, the \$300,000 is being used to reduce 2018 taxes; still leaving the town in a very healthy financial position. In addition, very late in the session, the State Legisla-



Photo by Tony Marple

ture approved an increase in school funding, but not until the 2018 RSU 12 had already been approved by the towns.

As a result, RSU 12 had additional funds which could only be used to reduce taxes. Whitefield's share is \$69,000. In addition, Town expenses and the Lincoln County tax were essentially flat.

Unfortunately, it's very unlikely that we will have this big a surplus with which to reduce taxes in the next budget cycle, nor will we likely have a surprise excess in school funding. Therefore, the mil rate is likely to increase in the 2019 fiscal year, but there are many variables, and it's far too early to know how that will play out.

Most homeowners will also benefit from a State increase in the Homestead Exemption from \$15,000 to \$20,000. Prior to last year, the exemption was \$10,000. In effect, the homestead exemption reduces the assessed value of property for taxation purposes. Unfortunately, the State only reimburses towns for 50% of the mandated exemption. Veterans are also eligible for a \$6,000 exemption. If you are unsure whether you are receiving exemptions for which you are eligible, please call the Town Office. We encourage you to be involved in the Town and RSU12 budget processes where spending recommendations are prepared for town approval.

## "Snow-Day Artist" Genevieve Keller

by Kit Pfeiffer

The subdued light on a foggy Saturday morning filters through numerous windows and creates a subtle warmth to the above-garage studio of Whitefield artist, Genevieve Keller. In one corner is her fibre area, where she works on specially designed mittens and miniature needle-felted creatures such as a mouse wearing a tiny hand-knit sweater. Another corner is for her painting, scattered with botanical drawings and whimsical works, many of which she reproduces as giclée prints (a digital process that makes archival-quality prints).

It's a new studio, completed last fall. She didn't have time to move into it fully until February school vacation, because teaching art to 300 students in grades K-8 at the Windsor School consumes most of her time and energy. She has playfully named the new space Snow-Day Studio and calls herself the Snow-Day Artist.

Genevieve has been an artist all her life.

She holds a BFA from California College of the Arts, studied. *Continued on pg. 2*



*The 'Windsor School Mural' Every year I have each student grades K-8 paint a mystery square. I then put together the piece and we have a mural for that year. This year the mural is an aerial view of our school. In the past I have mostly focused on famous works of art for the mural.*

Photo submitted by Genevieve Keller

## Our community library will return in the spring

by Sue McKeen

For all of you who visited our community library this summer, thank you so much for supporting us. For those of you who have yet to discover the Whitefield Arlington Library, housed in the Arlington Grange, you are in for a big surprise, but you'll have to wait until next spring.

The library will be closing for the winter months on October 7<sup>th</sup>. Our large and enthusiastic group of volunteers will be working during the winter to shelve, categorize and organize the hundreds of books which were donated during the summer. There are books for all ages and interests.

We will reopen in the spring with new books, programs, and something for everyone. In the meantime, we would love to hear your thoughts and ideas. For more information you may contact Sue McKeen at [smckeen66@gmail.com](mailto:smckeen66@gmail.com), Cheryle Joslyn at [cheryle\\_joslyn@yahoo.com](mailto:cheryle_joslyn@yahoo.com) or Debbie Rogers at [windsweptcreations@myfairpoint.net](mailto:windsweptcreations@myfairpoint.net).

Thanks again for a great first summer.

*Continued on pg. 2*





**Keller from Pg. 1** natural science illustration at Rhode Island School of Design, and eventually got her teaching certificate. She has taught art in Windsor for 14 years, with her own classroom that boasts three sinks.

“Unheard of!” she exclaims. “These kids are inherently creative. I am their positive enabler.” As she follows them from K through 8, first they learn basic skills, then they advance to work



Photo submitted by Genevieve Keller

on special projects. By middle school age, they are learning color theory, light and shadow. They also learn about famous artists and their cultures. The culmination of the curriculum, in 8<sup>th</sup> grade, is to develop a digital portfolio. Genevieve says that Windsor School believes mistakes are inherent in learning. “I’m fortunate to be at Windsor.”

And she loves living here. “There is no has-been about the town of Whitefield, with so many stewards for the protection of this gorgeous spot of land,” she claims. “So many different kinds of people live here.” She and her husband Gordon, a woodworker and manager at Front Street Shipyard in Belfast, moved here in 1990 and raised their two sons, Carl and Ross, who went to the Whitefield School.

Almost every day, you can find Genevieve walking her dog Niko on the Happy Farm River Trail adjacent to their home. And you can follow her on line at [snowdayartist.blogspot.com](http://snowdayartist.blogspot.com) or see her work on [www.etsy.com/shop/GenevieveKeller](http://www.etsy.com/shop/GenevieveKeller).

**Library from Pg. 1** Quinn, the young reader who inspired our community library volunteers, sends his appreciation:

Hello I am Quinn. I asked for a library by writing a ltr. It happened and I would like to thank all volunteers for helping our library grow. I like volunteering there so join the LIBRARY TODAY. 😊  
Signed, Quinn

### Coming Soon! An Open Forum on Whitefield School

Whitefield’s School’s administration, led by Principal Josh McNaughton, and the town School Board representatives, Terri Blair, Tara DeLisle, and Keith Marple, are organizing an open, positive discussion about our town’s school and how we can all work together to make it the best it can be. They would like to hear from everyone who has an experience or opinion to share, or a talent to contribute to the school. A lot of good work and new programs are happening at the school, and they would like to hear from you about what could be done to make it even better. Whether you are a parent, grandparent, business owner, coach, artist, farmer, or just a concerned citizen, your thoughts and input are welcome in this important discussion. Please look for more details about dates, times and locations of this forum coming in the next newsletter issue, as well as in the school newsletter and website.


### **Kings Mills Union Hall** **Annual Chicken Pie Supper** **October 21 (5 - 7pm)**

*Shannon Mills*  
Licensed Nail Tech

17 Mills Rd  
Whitefield ME 04353


207-446-3255

*Holly Lynn Carlezon*  
Hair & Nail Studio

 **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

IRS Notices - Settlements - Late Filers

**DEDUCTION-FINDING SUPERPOWER**


**H&R BLOCK**

With **Watson**

**Maximum Refund Guaranteed**

**Augusta (East)**  
84 Bangor Street  
622-3738


**Augusta (West)**  
198 Western Avenue  
621-0001



**4H Aquaponics & Agriculture Club**

Informational Meeting  
Whitefield Elementary School  
September 28th, 2017  
5pm - 6pm

If you can not attend or have questions  
Email James Willigar- [jwilligar@svrsu.org](mailto:jwilligar@svrsu.org)





## Whitefield Historical Society "Just Yesterday"



(photo courtesy of the Katy Perry Collection, WHS)

This is a circa 1950's photo of the Hervey Bailey house and out-buildings. It was located at the present address of 712 East River Road, just south of David Jackson's house where Mose and Anna Yoder are currently building their new home in the old cellar hole. At the time this picture was taken, it was owned by Jack and Alice Adams who called it "Frosty Hill Farm". It was under new ownership when it burned on March 8th, 1964.

## Samuel B. Turner letters to be read at Day of Remembrance

Sam Turner had a glint in his eye for his wife Sarah. But, he also had a glint in his eye for the gold in California. In 1852 he left Whitefield and his wife and family to join many other adventurous men drawn there by the gold rush.

Members of the Whitefield Historical Society will read letters exchanged between Samuel in Snake Bar, California and Sarah and their daughter Eglantine here in Whitefield. The letters tell of the many hardships endured by the separated family and the degree of effort that men will give for the dream of gold.

The program will take place at the Whitefield Town House on October 15th at 2 pm. Music and refreshments will compliment the program. Admission is free, and donations are accepted.



Sarah Turner  
Submitted by WHS

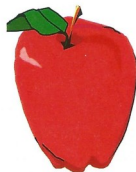
## BAILEY'S ORCHARD

255 North Hunts Meadow Road  
Whitefield, Maine 04353

Rod & Kay Bailey

Apples, Cider, Pears, Plums,  
Fudge, Honey, Pumpkins

207-549-7680



## Pumpkin Harvest

(by Emma Elwell, 8th Grade Student)

On our Day of Caring last spring the pre-k and kindergarten classes planted pumpkin seeds in milk cartons. In June the NJHS went



with them to plant the pumpkin seedlings at the Marple's farm for a Fall PTA fundraiser. We had to replant the seedlings two more times. First they had broken stems from damage when they were planted, then bugs got to them. Over the summer NJHS members went back twice a week to weed and water the pumpkins.

On September 21 we went back with the current pre-k and kindergarten and harvested 221 pumpkins! Everyone involved would like to thank the Marples for letting us use some of their land to plant these pumpkins for the PTA.



Photos by Tony Marple

## Pagurko Family Benefit

Friday, September 29 at 5:30 PM - 9 PM @ Lakehurst Lodge, 30 Lakehurst Lane, Damariscotta--- Come together for a lovely evening of dinner and dancing to show the love we share for the Pagurko Family. Satisfy your appetite with a delicious homemade pasta dinner, while enjoying the rockin' sounds of our musical guest, Esther-M! Later, get moving and grooving on the dance floor, and finish the night feeling like a winner at our raffle and silent auction event!

Dancers and singers are welcome to perform a short piece to share the love for Melanie and her family. Please be sure to bring your own music.

Suggested Donation: \$5 per person or \$20 per family  
We are kindly asking for donations for our dessert table. Thank you. <https://www.gofundme.com/pagurko-house-fire-fund>



## OCTOBER 2017 COMMUNITY EVENTS CALENDAR

- 1st** **RACE THROUGH THE WOODS**, 8 am-2 pm, Hidden Valley Nature Center, Jefferson.  
FMI: [midcoastconservancy.org/events](http://midcoastconservancy.org/events), (207)389-5150  
**FAMILY BIKE DAY**, 1-4 pm, Wiscasset Community Center.  
FMI: Wiscassetrec.com, (207) 882-8230
- 2nd** **COOPERS MILLS FIRE DEPT.** All are welcome. No obligation. 7 pm  
**KINGS MILLS FIRE DEPT.**, 7 pm
- 3rd** **SELECT BOARD**, Fire Station, 6 pm  
**KINGS MILLS UNION HALL BOARD MEETING** - Public Welcome 7 pm
- 4th** **WHITEFIELD ARLINGTON LIBRARY**, Arlington Grange 10-12pm  
**FULL MOON PADDLE**, 6-8:30 pm, Hidden Valley Nature Center, Jefferson.  
FMI: [midcoastconservancy.org/events](http://midcoastconservancy.org/events), (207)389-5150  
**ARLINGTON GRANGE MEETING**, Call 549-3491 for more information .
- 5th** **SENIOR MEN'S GROUP**, Sheepscot General, 10 am  
**WHITEFIELD ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**, 4 pm Sheepscot General
- 6th** **OCT. 6-9 TIMBER FRAME BUILDING WORKSHOP**, Hidden Valley Nature Center, Jefferson. FMI: [midcoastconservancy.org/events](http://midcoastconservancy.org/events), (207)389-5150  
**WHITEFIELD FOOD PANTRY**, St. Denis Hall, 1-3 pm
- 7th** **WHITEFIELD ARLINGTON LIBRARY**, Arlington Grange 10-12pm
- 8th** **WHITEFIELD ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION (WAA)**, Whitefield School, 6 pm
- 9th** **WHITEFIELD MUNICIPAL FIRE DEPT.**, Fire Station, 7 pm
- 10th** **WOMEN OF WHITEFIELD**, Sheepscot General, 10 am  
**WHITEFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY** meeting 1:00 pm Town House  
**SELECT BOARD**, Fire Station, 6 pm
- 12th** **VOLUNTEER TRAIL WORK DAY**, 9am-12:30 pm, West Branch Preserve, Jefferson. FMI: [midcoastconservancy.org/events](http://midcoastconservancy.org/events), (207)389-5150  
**SENIOR MEN'S GROUP**, Sheepscot General, 10 am  
**RSU SCHOOL BOARD MEETING** Chelsea School, 6:30 pm
- 14th** **A DAY IN THE WOODS FORESTRY EVENT**, 8 am-4 pm, Hidden Valley Nature Center, Jefferson. FMI: [midcoastconservancy.org/events](http://midcoastconservancy.org/events), (207)389-5150
- 15th** **DAY OF REMEMBRANCE** 2pm the Whitefield Historical Society will present the Samuel & Sarah Turner letters at our annual Day of Remembrance program. In the Spring of 1852 Samuel went to California in search of gold and their letters are from this trip.
- 17th** **SELECT BOARD**, Fire Station, 6 pm
- 18th** **PLANNING BOARD**, Fire Station, 6:00 pm
- 19th** **SENIOR MEN'S GROUP**, Sheepscot General, 10 am
- 21st** **KINGS MILLS UNION HALL - CHICKEN PIE SUPPER** - (5 - 7pm)  
**DRUMMING CIRCLE**, Sheepscot General, 6:30 pm. Open to the public, all ages welcome.
- 24th** **WOMEN OF WHITEFIELD**, Sheepscot General, 10 am  
**SELECT BOARD**, Fire Station, 6 pm
- 25th** **YOUNG AT HEART SENIORS**, Whitefield Lions Club, Coopers Mills 12 pm  
fmi call Mary at (549-5041) or Arlene (549-7937)
- 26th** **SENIOR MEN'S GROUP**, Sheepscot General, 10 am
- 31st** **SELECT BOARD**, Fire Station, 6 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: Tony Marple, Cheryl Joslyn, Kit Pfeiffer, Sue McKeen and Debbie Rogers.*

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

**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

**Country Corner's Store**  
549-3135  
Mon-Fri 5:30 AM - 9 PM  
Sat 6:30 AM - 9 PM  
Sun 7:30 AM - 9 PM  
  
Gas, Groceries, Deli, Pizzas, Sandwiches,  
Meats and MORE!

  
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 04333  
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)