



Whitefield News

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Holiday Events:

Kings Mills Union Hall Craft Fair November 3rd, 10-2 pm Join local crafters to support your community and get a jump on gifts for the season.

7th Annual Windsor PAWS PTO Holiday Craft/Vendor Fair being held at Windsor Elementary School, 366 Ridge Rd, Windsor. Saturday, November 17th, 9 am - 2 pm. Call 592-3313 or email wespaaws@gmail.com

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 2nd, 3-5 pm Santa arrives at 4 pm.

PATIENCE, PERSISTENCE, OPTIMISM: FOR THE LOVE OF CLARY LAKE

By Sue McKeen

All fishermen, as far as I can tell, are patient, persistent and optimistic. These are necessary traits for a fisherman because they sometimes sit in a boat all day, keep going back to the same fishing spot, and continue to be optimistic they'll catch something.

George Fergusson is a fisherman, both literally and figuratively. In the literal sense you will find George out on Clary Lake almost every day in good weather, rod in hand, with a smile on his face. In the figurative sense, George embodies all the qualities of a fisherman in the relentless single-minded eleven year battle to save Clary Lake. That battle was won at last on October 13th when the Clary Lake Association filed their deed for the long contested ownership of the Clary Lake dam.

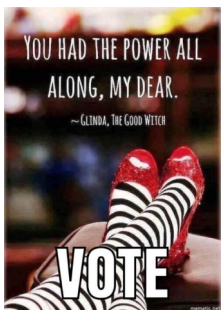
I sat down with George and his wife, Margaret, last week to talk about George's love of the lake. He told me that in 1922 his grandfather, who was an opera singer and voice teacher, was attracted to the area as a result of visits with friends from the New

England Conservatory of Music in Boston. They bought the Old Choate Farm as a summer place on the lake, along with 110 adjoining acres. In 1945 the farm was given to his parents as a wedding present where they spent summers with their children, George and Jean. George recounted his many lazy and idyllic days fishing on the lake with his best friend, Robert Giampetruzzi, whom he met when he was just five years old. George commented, "It was a great life on the lake. We fished all the time, smoked cigars, and were inseparable."

George's family moved to the Choate Farm from their home in Massachusetts in 1971. In 1960 George's father was instrumental in starting what would become the Clary Lake Association, and in fact, wrote the first Clary Lake newsletter, the same newsletter George now edits and publishes. When his parents passed away, George and Jean inherited the property. Jean built a house on the property across the road from the farm. *Continued on Pg. 2*



George Fergusson Photo by Margaret Fergusson



Town Voting in November and March

by Tony Marple

In addition to the election of the District 88 State Representative and the Governor, a state referendum, and four state bond votes, there will be two Whitefield ordinances on the ballot. The first is the local junkyard ordinance which makes enforcement of state law more straightforward for the town. The second is a simple set of rules for visitors at the Coopers Mills viewing site where the dam was located, the most important of which is to not block access to the fire hydrant. This ordinance is needed to allow the Lincoln County Sheriff's Department to enforce the rules when necessary. Copies of the ordinances are available at the town office and on the town website.

Tuesday, November 6 voting will occur at the fire station from 8:00am to 8:00pm.

Next March there will be two Select Board positions up for election, and three Planning Board positions. The Select Board currently meets weekly, and is considering meeting every other week starting next spring, except when weekly meetings are necessary such as during the budget season. The Planning Board meets monthly, unless additional meetings are necessary.

We encourage you to vote on November 6 and to consider running for these open positions in March. For those who decide to run, state law now requires that nomination papers become available at the town office on December 6 and be returned with the signatures of at least 25 registered Whitefield voters by January 11. Most candidates get a few extra signatures just in case any turn out to be invalid.

See you at the polls!



Fergusson from Pg. 1 In 1979 George married Nancy Bell. They also lived on the property in what had been the old Game Warden camp on Clary Lake. He and Nancy built their house on the property in 1985 where they raised their children, Colin and Liz. George and Bob Bills set up shop as surveyors, in the old farm house in 1987 and then Fergusson and Associates in 1991. He worked for several computer companies as a consultant and now is happily retired. In 2010 his wife Nancy passed away. Colin and his partner, Sara Roy live in the old farm house today. The house partially burned in 2016.



Photo by Margaret Fergusson

George was president of the Clary Lake Association for four years when it became apparent there was going to be a water level crisis after the purchase of the dam by Pleasant Pond Mill, LLC. George admits he never could have foreseen the long battle ahead. The original water level petition was filed in 2005, but then dropped. The next petition was filed on January 3, 2012 as a citizen's initiative with the Clary Lake Association members as "interveners" after the lake was lowered over five feet. And now, over 6 years after the petition was filed, the Clary Lake Association

owns the dam. In a posting George said, "We own the dam. I've been waiting to say that for more than seven years." George acknowledges the many people who made it possible and particularly the Clary Lake Association Board.

In 2011 George met and married Margaret Lawton, who has been his champion and support during these contentious times. Margaret is Irish after all. She's used to



Photo from Clary Lake Association

a good fight for a good cause. Margaret says, "George has been sleeping, eating, and living the initiative; it's been all-consuming....but he doesn't regret a moment." She remarked about the battle for the dam, "They stole something from us that wasn't theirs to take." George concurs, nods his head, smiles from ear to ear and says, "But, we own the dam."

The Jeff Monteith Family - "A.J Mowing"

There are numerous folks who help make things happen well in Whitfield. It is evident all over the place, but sometimes there are situations where the helpers are NOT from Whitfield. Such is the Monteith Family; Jeff, Amanda, and Colby.

The Monteith's maintain the Whitfield Cemetery south of Kings Mills.



(photo and article courtesy Dan Joslyn, Whitefield Cemetery Corporation)

They go way beyond what

is expected of them to ensure that the memories of the interned are shown respect.

The entire family attends our annual spring meeting to answer questions or to ask permission to do those "extra things" at the cemetery that they do not expect to be compensated for. While the committee was discussing the repair of the old sign (once residing high over the main gate), Amanda leaned over her dad's shoulder and quietly asked if they could do the work just as a donation. Early in the summer, they removed the sign and spent nearly forty hours hand-sanding, priming, and painting our sign with "Black Hammered Paint". Now attached to the left of the main gate, it serves as a reminder of the many volunteers who have helped to keep our cemetery clean, and respectable.

There are numerous other "extra" things that they do from Spring to Fall that are unsolicited by the committee. They are willing to share about their contributions if asked, so stop by next Summer and discover how one family from another town goes the extra mile for Whitefield. Thank you, Monteith's Family!



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Boston Cane Presentation

The Town of Whitefield and the Whitefield Historical Society are pleased to announce that the Boston Post Cane will be presented to 92-year-old Albert Boynton on Saturday, November 3 at the Whitefield Historical Society at [2 pm](#). His family will be there and his friends and neighbors are welcome. The tradition of giving the cane to the oldest Whitefield resident began in 1909 when it was first presented to Samuel Kennedy.



Pumpkin Decorating/ Carving Contest

The staff at Whitefield School had the opportunity to participate in a Pumpkin Decorating/ Carving Contest. Carved pumpkins were displayed in the lobby and students, guests, and staff got to vote on their favorite one. The votes were counted and the winners were as follows:

1st place- Mrs. Perkins- Spaceship and Aliens
 2nd place- Mrs. Simpson- Basketball
 3rd place- Mrs. Anderson- Pumpkin Nurse

Thank you to the other participant- Mr. Deblois, Mrs., Brewer, Mrs. Marecaux, Ms. McCormick, Mrs. Howard and Ms. Hilton. They all did a great job and had so much fun doing it!



Photo by Cheryle Joslyn

Whitefield Library Closed for the Season

When Mother Nature has her way, we just need to step aside and wait. In Whitefield we know how to do that...we "winterize"! That's what we've done at Whitefield Library after a most successful summer and fall. We doubled our membership, we shelved over 6000 books, and we mapped out a plan for maintaining our community library into the future. With big hopes for seeing you all in the Spring, we are closed for now, but look for us again when Mother Nature writes another chapter! See you soon!



Cooper's Mills Project Dedication Ceremony on November 13th

Join the Town of Whitefield in dedicating the completion of the project in Coopers Mills. A ceremony will be held on Tuesday, November 13, from 11:00 AM to 12:00PM. The ceremony will showcase the check hand-off to the Town of Whitefield for the future stewardship and maintenance of the site. The town and several project partners will also offer brief remarks on the project.

The Coopers Mills project involved the construction of two new dry fire hydrants, the removal of the dam, and enhancements to the town property including a river overlook, interpretive signage, trails, and the stabilization of the historic mill foundation walls. The project partners included the Town of Whitefield, Atlantic Salmon Federation, The Nature Conservancy, Midcoast Conservancy, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Maine Department of Marine Resources, and the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation. The work has been completed at no cost to the Town of Whitefield.

The dedication will happen rain or shine, with light refreshment to be served. The event will take place at the new interpretive area along the Sheepscot River, off of the Main Street Bridge and Basin Lane in Coopers Mills. Parking is unavailable at the site and limited parking will be available at the Coopers Mill Volunteer Fire Department and Main Street as needed.

Please contact Maranda for any questions or concerns at maranda@midcoastconservancy.org or 207-389-5177.

Whitefield Has Pride Inside

by Emily Ripley (8th Grade Student, Whitefield School)

What does it mean to have "Pride Inside"? What does the word pride mean to you? The word pride has different meanings to different people. By definition the word pride means, "to feel deep satisfaction from one's achievements." But why is it important to show pride? How do you show pride? How do others show pride?

Why is it important to show pride in the school? It is important to show pride in school so that other students can excel and strive to achieve greater goals. I believe that our school should show pride in others' successes because I think our school could benefit from others' successes. Some of the ways our school could benefit from these achievements is that our school could get more funding for in-school clubs, sports teams, Music and Art.

How do the students and staff show pride in our school? During the morning announcements, sport teams' wins and losses are announced over the intercom. There are banners in our gymnasium/cafeteria, and there is a trophy case by the ramp leading to the gymnasium/cafeteria. The teachers and staff members give out Wildcat Cards to award students' good behavior. There are monthly assemblies where the students are given certificates and homework passes for their good behavior. Also, during these assemblies there is a mascot that walks around and gives out Wildcat Cards. There are events organized by the National Junior Honor Society that let the kids cheer their teams on and win prizes.

How does our community show pride? There are actually a few ways that our community shows pride in our school. One of these ways is the PTA, a group of parents and teachers, that gather monthly and organize events like paint nights, bottle drives, pumpkin sales in the fall, and they collect Box Tops that the students bring in from their houses. Other community members help out by coaching the WAA and Middle School sports teams, leading them to victory.

This year our school adopted a new theme, "Whitefield Has Pride Inside" for the 2018-2019 School Year. Our new principal, Mr. Deblois has suggested this theme as a way to inspire others to succeed and do their best. I believe that this theme will help our school with achieving the goals that our principal has set for the new school year.

NOVEMBER 2018 COMMUNITY EVENTS CALENDAR.

- 1st** **SENIOR MEN'S GROUP**, Sheepscot General, 10
- 2nd** **WHITEFIELD FOOD PANTRY**, St. Denis Hall, 1-3 pm
ARTIST AND RECEPTION, MARLENE BARTER 6-7: 30 pm at Sheepscot General. We are excited to host the work of local artist Marlene Barter. Her colorful work will adorn our gallery walls for the month of November.
- 3rd** **CRAFT FAIR, KINGS MILLS UNION HALL** Join local crafters to support your community and get a jump on gifts for the season. 10-2 pm
WOMEN'S CHAINSAW SAFETY COURSE HVNC For more information, contact Amanda Mahaffey, amanda@forestguild.org or 207-432-3701.
- 5th** **COOPERS MILLS FIRE DEPT.** All are welcome. No obligation. 7 pm
- 6th** **KINGS MILLS FIRE DEPT.**, 7 pm
SELECT BOARD, Fire Station, 6 pm
YIN YOGA AT SHEEPSHOT GENERAL, 6:30-8:00 pm
KINGS MILLS UNION HALL BOARD MEETING - Public Welcome 7 pm
- 8th** **SENIOR MEN'S GROUP**, Sheepscot General, 10 am
RSU SCHOOL BOARD MEETING Chelsea School, 6:30 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 SHEEPSHOT GENERAL, 6:30-8:00
SELECT BOARD, Fire Station, 6 pm
PTA MEETING- please join us for our meeting @ 5:30 (always the 2nd Tues. of the month). We need all of our community to remain functioning for our children.
- 14th** **WHITEFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY** meeting 1:00 pm Town House
- 15th** **SENIOR MEN'S GROUP**, Sheepscot General, 10 am
- 16th** **WINE TASTING WITH SO PO WINE CO.** Friday, 4-6pm Colleen from South Portland Wine Co will be on hand to offer a tasting of some new and seasonal wines. At Sheepscot General
OPEN MIC NIGHT FEATURING SCOTT WOODRUFF 7-9pm Join us for music. Sheepscot General, 7-9 pm.. Come early for pizza night starting at 5pm.
- 17th** **7TH ANNUAL WINDSOR PAWS PTO HOLIDAY CRAFT/VENDOR FAIR** being held at Windsor Elementary School, 366 Ridge Rd, Windsor. Saturday, November 17th, 9 am - 2 pm. Call 592-3313 or email wespaws@gmail.com
DRUMMING CIRCLE, Sheepscot General, 6:30 pm. Open to the public, all ages welcome.
- 20th** **SELECT BOARD**, Fire Station, 6 pm
YIN YOGA AT SHEEPSHOT GENERAL, 6:30-8:00 pm
- 21st** **PLANNING BOARD**, Fire Station, 6:00 pm
- 22nd** **HAPPY THANKSGIVING**
- 27th** **WOMEN OF WHITEFIELD**, Sheepscot General, 10 am
SELECT BOARD, Fire Station, 6 pm
YIN YOGA AT SHEEPSHOT GENERAL, 6:30-8:00 pm
- 29th** **SENIOR MEN'S GROUP**, Sheepscot General, 10 am

Do you have an event? Contact: whitefieldtownnews@gmail.com



Deadline for newsletter submissions is the 15th of the month. Email whitefieldtownnews@gmail.com Whitefield Newsletter Committee: Cheryle Joslyn, Kit Pfeiffer, Sue

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