



Whitefield News

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Volume 6, Issue 8

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February 2019

Town Meeting

The voting for Municipal Officials will be Friday, March 15, 2019 from 4:00pm to 8:00pm at the Central Fire Station.

The Town Meeting will be on Saturday, March 16 at the Whitefield Elementary School beginning at 10:00 am

CANDIDATES FOR MARCH ELECTION

Board of Selectmen - 2 open seats

Lise Hanners
Christine LaPado-Breglia
Keith Sanborn

Planning Board - 3 open seats

Glenn Angell
Marianne Marple
Stephen Sheehy

RSU School Board - 3 open seats

NO CANDIDATES - Voters may write in candidates

Spirit of America Award Congratulations to Lynn Talacko

The Spirit of America Award was established in Augusta in 1990 to honor volunteerism and is presented by the local board of selectmen to outstanding local individuals to honor commendable community service. This year that well-deserved honor goes to Lynn Talacko and will be presented at town meeting in March.

Lynn moved to Alna with his family in 1967 and then to Whitefield in 1982. He has been an important part of this community serving in the Kings Mills Fire Department for over 34 years. Lynn served as an EMT for over 30 years, becoming chief in 2009. He remains active on the Union Hall Committee, and served on the Board of Appeals. When I asked Lynn his proudest accomplishment, he didn't skip a beat and commented designing the new fire station and, with Erik Ekholm, overseeing the construction. When the old town house on Town House Road was moved to its present location in the 1980's, Lynn designed the office space in the lower section which houses the present town office.



I asked Lynn what motivates him to volunteer in his community he stated, "I volunteer because of my interest in design and firefighting and to help my neighbors." Congratulations to Lynn Talacko for his outstanding service and dedication to the Town of Whitefield.

USDA Funding for Lincoln & Kennebec Counties: How Should the Money be Spent?

On Tuesday, February 5, 2019 from 10:00am - noon, Knox-Lincoln and Kennebec County Soil & Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs), in cooperation with the Augusta Field Office of the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), will host a meeting of the Local Working Group for Lincoln and Kennebec counties at the NRCS Augusta Field Office at 21 Enterprise Drive, Augusta, ME. Taking into account local resource concerns, the Local Working Group will make recommendations to NRCS on how to spend USDA Farm Bill funds for conservation practices on private lands in FY 2020.

If you are an agricultural producer; forester, logger or private woodland owner; member of an environmental or watershed organization or land trust; knowledgeable in soil, water, plant, wetland or wildlife sciences; and/or are familiar with agricultural and natural resource concerns in Lincoln or Kenne-

bec counties, we invite you to attend this meeting to help 1) identify and prioritize conservation concerns in our district; and 2) recommend how local funds for USDA conservation programs will be distributed by NRCS to alleviate problems.

Help shape how Federal conservation \$\$ is spent in your area!

Attend the Local Working Group [LWG] Meeting hosted by the local NRCS [Natural Resources Conservation Service] and SWCD [Soil & Water Conservation District]

What is the Local Working Group?

A group that represents local Natural Resource issues and assists the USDA NRCS with matters relating to implementation of the Environmental Quality Incentives Program [EQIP]

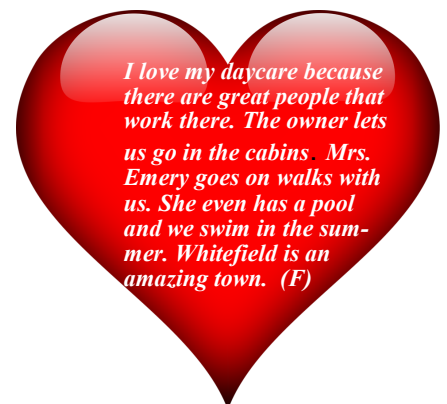
Who is the Local Working Group?

The LWGroup can include Soil & Water Conservation Districts [SWCD], local agricultural producers, forest land owners, and professionals representing agricultural and conservation interests.

What does the Local Working Group do?

Provides recommendations related to implementing the Farm Bill in an advisory role. The LWGroup is particularly focused on the EQIP program. USDA gives strong consideration to recommendations of the LWGroup.

For more information or if you would like to attend, please visit www.knox-lincoln.org/LWG, or contact Hildy at 596-2040, hildy@knox-lincoln.org or Dale at 622-7847 x3, dfinseth@kcsxcd.org.



I love my daycare because there are great people that work there. The owner lets us go in the cabins. Mrs. Emery goes on walks with us. She even has a pool and we swim in the summer. Whitefield is an amazing town. (F)

THANK YOU FROM THE WHITEFIELD SCHOOL GIVING TREE STAFF

Every single year the generosity of the Whitefield School staff continues to amaze us. This year the biggest items asked for were warm clothing and PJs. There are no words to thank you for fulfilling the wishes of our students. Once again this year our students will be warm at home and outside; as well as having some new toys and books. Please know that the Giving Tree has grown beyond our school staff and now includes Whitefield community members and central office staff. Because of all of you we were able to provide Christmas for 17 students. There are no words to express our gratitude as you walk beside us every year. Thank you. Sincerely, The Giving Tree Staff



It may not be an official designation, but let's make it one. Let's make February Whitefield's official "Love Your Library" month. As the Whitefield Library Board and volunteers prepare to negotiate a purchase agreement with the Maine State Grange for ownership of the current Arlington Grange, we are also preparing to open our doors for the 3rd exciting summer! The "love" is

being generated in that old yellow building at the top of the hill! Our vision for "library" is a great deal more than how it was defined by past generations, and excitement over the new prospects is growing.

We would like to show you our vision and ask you to join us in its pursuit. We are pretty sure you'll learn to "Love Your Library" if you don't already! Our vision may seem lofty, but it is attainable with your support. Because we love this community, we are here to help build it. Maybe we should have an official "Love Whitefield" month...hmmm, we'll work on that!

As you can see, we envision a lot more than just books, and we have no intention of becoming "obsolete". Here's a peek at the core of what we envision:

- We wish to be a focal point in our community with a focus on helping to sustain it

- Be a place where people come to know one another (i.e. moms with babies, the elderly to relax, new friends to meet, teens meet up after school, readers discuss, and folks make connections)

- Be a partner in child development with our collections, programs, and space for children to learn to share, be engaged with their community, participate in the arts, and explore their immediate world and the world at large

- Preserve and maintain this rich historical architectural space (Arlington Hall) that is so culturally relevant

- Provide a resource for small businesses with the likes of video-conference space, connectivity, and training workshops

- Give voice to local artists and enable our patrons to create by offering workshops and space for a variety of contents

- Be the people's "university" (i.e. remote access education opportunities)

- Provide space for tutoring, homework help programs, summer reading for kids and teens

The vision for Whitefield Library is never static. It is meant to evolve with time. There are many ways in which Whitefield Library can be leveraged for good in our community. In large part, the community will inform the usage and the Library Board will be tasked to respond in a way that allows for organic and sustaining enjoyment of the Library. We intend to add a whole new definition to the phrase "quaint library". Wouldn't you LOVE to help make this dream a reality? There's plenty to do from signing books in and out to working on fundraising committees. The list is long! Join the library volunteers and let's see what this vision can accomplish. Please call one of us today (Cheryle Joslyn 549-7305 or Sue McKeen 446-7473).

Submitted by: Whitefield Library (a Nonprofit 501c3) Volunteers

Neighbor 2 Neighbor

There has been some interest in starting a telephone service for contacting our neighbors who live alone.

Often in this season the weather and roadways make it difficult for some of us to get out of the house. The idea is to give a daily call to a neighbor to see how they are doing. Just a brief contact can mean so much to folks. This is a free and volunteer service.

Anyone interested in joining this group can call Kathy Dauphin @ 549-0286. Please leave your name and number.



I love Whitefield because of the lakes. I enjoy swimmin and fishing. It's behind my housed, my mom made a good choice moving here. (T)

I love living in Whitefield because of the walking paths. Every summer my mom and I take our dog on a walk on the river trail. We bring lunch and have a picnic... (A)

I love living in Whitefield because of the kindness of families. Families are safe and kind. Families look after one another... (T)

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Free Estimates for Clean-outs

I Love Whitefield Because..... Ms. Northrup's 3rd Graders



The Hearts and remarks on this month's newsletter are from Ms. Northrup's 3rd Grade Class. Great reasons to "Love" Whitefield!

....because I can go camping with my family and dog. We also get to cook s'mores. We know that if we get hurt we can call the Haydens. Whitefield is

I love living in Whitefield because of Donna's Day Care. She is the best. She gives snacks to you and takes care of you. I love going to Day-care every day. (C)

...our loved ones look over you because you go to the cemeteries. They will be in your heart. The people take good care of the cemeteries in Whitefield, (G)

....you can go to the Whitefield churches. You feel welcome. When you go into the church people are always smiling. I love Whitefield, (J)

...you can go trail riding. The trails are really smooth and beautiful. You can also see wildlife while riding your four wheeler. Whitefield is really fun! (J)

....me and my Dad go fishing together. We catch fish in the ponds. It's really beautiful and quiet. Whitefield is the best town! (I)

I love living in Whitefield because it's close to my Grammy cat's cemetery. I love that a lot of family live in Whitefield. Whitefield is a family of friends. (L)

I loved living in Whitefield because my friends and my brother live in Whitefield. It is beautiful. (G)

I love living in Whitefield because of the Sports. My favorite Sport is softball. The coaches are nice at Whitefield. (B)

I love living in Whitefield because of the Sports. My favorite Sport is softball. The coaches are nice at Whitefield. (B)

Reminders from Whitefield Town Office

Just a few things to remember in the next month:

Absentee ballots for Town Elections will be available February 15th.

Reminder that the 2017 outstanding taxes will go to foreclosure on February 25th. Please make your payments prior to that date to stop the foreclosure of your property.

All dogs not licensed after February 1st will incur an additional fee of \$25.00. If a dog is spayed/neutered the cost will be \$31.00. If the dog is not spayed/neutered the cost will be \$36.00.

Be Safe on the Ice

Some important trivia: Know when it's safe to be on the ice. Before you head out for skating or fishing, check to make sure it's safe. Always be cautious and don't put yourself or others at risk. If unsure, don't take chances, and stay away from inlets and outlets. Maybe this little chart can help.

Safe Ice Thickness*

Ice Thickness	Permissible Load	Ice Thickness	Permissible Load
3 inches	Single person on foot	12 inches	Heavy truck (8-ton gross)
4 inches	Group in single file	15 inches	10 tons
7½ inches	Passenger car (2-ton gross)	20 inches	25 tons
8 inches	Light truck (2½-ton gross)	30 inches	70 tons
10 inches	Medium truck (3½-ton gross)	36 inches	110 tons

***Solid, clear, blue/black pond and lake ice**

Slush ice has only half the strength of blue ice. The strength value of river ice is 15 percent less.

FEBRUARY 2019 COMMUNITY EVENTS CALENDAR.

- 1st** **WHITEFIELD FOOD PANTRY**, St. Denis Hall, 1-3 pm
ARTIST OF THE MONTH AND RECEPTION WITH MELANIE WALLACE 5-7pm at Sheepscot General
- 4th** **COOPERS MILLS FIRE DEPT.** All are welcome. No obligation. 7 pm
KINGS MILLS FIRE DEPT., 7 pm
- 5th** **SELECT BOARD**, Fire Station, 6 pm
YIN YOGA AT SHEEPSBOT GENERAL, 6:30-8:00 pm
KINGS MILLS UNION HALL BOARD MEETING - Public Welcome 7 pm
- 7th** **SENIOR MEN'S GROUP**, Sheepscot General, 10
8th **WOMEN OF WHITEFIELD**, Sheepscot General, 10 am
- 10th** **VALENTINE'S BRUNCH** at Sheepscot General, 9-1 pm It's time to treat your sweetheart! Reservations recommended. Menu to be posted.
ADULT X-C CLINIC At Hidden Valley Nature Center, Feb. 10th and 17th. Ski Rentals Available (207) 389-5150
WHITEFIELD ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION (WAA), Whitefield School, 6 pm
- 11th** **WHITEFIELD MUNICIPAL FIRE DEPT.**, Fire Station, 7 pm
- 12th** **WOMEN OF WHITEFIELD**, Sheepscot General, 10 am
YIN YOGA AT SHEEPSBOT 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.
- 13th** **PLANNING BOARD**, Discussion on Food Sovereignty Ordinance, Town Office 6:00 pm
- 14th** **SENIOR MEN'S GROUP**, Sheepscot General, 10 am
RSU SCHOOL BOARD MEETING Chelsea School, 6:30 pm
- 15th** **OPEN MIC NIGHT FEATURING** Mark S. Horn 7-9pm Treat yourself to music and pizza during the dull drums of winter! Beer on tap too! Be sure to arrive early to sign-up for open mic. \$5 donation suggested
- 16th** **DRUMMING CIRCLE**, Sheepscot General, 6:30 pm. Open to the public, all ages welcome.
- 17th** **ADULT X-C CLINIC** Hidden Valley Nature Center, Feb. 10th and 17th. Ski Rentals Available (207) 389-5150
- 19th** **SELECT BOARD**, Fire Station, 6 pm
YIN YOGA AT SHEEPSBOT GENERAL, 6:30-8:00 pm
- 20th** **NEW PARENT PLAY GROUP**, Sheepscot General, We are starting a monthly play group for new parents and their babies. The playgroup is primarily aimed at 0-2 years old however if you have older children also, they are welcome. Playgroup will meet in the gallery space at 9 am. Going forward Playgroup will meet every third Wednesday.
WHITEFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY, Town House, 1 pm
FULL MOON OWL PROWL, 5:30 pm Hidden Valley Nature Center, enjoy a guided 1 mile hike to Little Dyer Pond. Together, we will watch the moon rise and listen for owls and other night sounds. Meet 10 minutes early at the gate for prompt departure. Bring appropriate footwear (cleats or snowshoes, if possible), headlamp, warm clothes and water. Hiking stick or ski poles are helpful. If time permits, we'll will stop at the Barn for hot drinks and snacks. No dogs, please.
- 21st** **SENIOR MEN'S GROUP**, Sheepscot General, 10 am
- 23rd** **SINGING CIRCLE**, Sheepscot General, 6 pm. Open to all, acoustic instruments welcome
- 24th** **SNOWSHOE YOGA** Hidden Valley Nature Center (207) 389-5150
- 26th** **SELECT BOARD**, Fire Station, 6 pm
YIN YOGA AT SHEEPSBOT GENERAL, 6:30-8:00 pm
- 28th** **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 McKeen, Kathy Dauphin and Debbie Rogers.



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