



Whitefield News

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July 2020

Elections

State elections will be held July 14 (8:00 AM – 8:00 PM, Central Fire Station) in conjunction with local Whitefield elections and a vote on the RSU 12 annual budget.

Whitefield's annual Town Meeting opening with the election and the public discussion and voting on Warrant Articles will be held on July 18th, 10:00 AM at the Whitefield School Gymnasium. **A letter will be sent to residents outlining changes in the warrant.**

On the Town ballots will be the following:

Select Board

Charlene Donahue 3 year term
William McKeen 3 year term

Planning Board

Kristin Margaret Smith
Mason 3 year term
One Write-In 3 year term

Road Commissioner

David Boynton 3 year term

RSU #12 School Board

One Write-In 1 year term
Interested in serving:
Suzanne Balbo

Town Meeting

By Lise Hanners

Whitefield's annual Town Meeting which will open with the election and public discussion and voting on Warrant Articles, will be held on July 18th, 10:00 AM at the Whitefield School Gymnasium. We ask that residents wear masks and chairs will be set up 6 feet apart to allow appropriate distancing. No food or other sales will take place. If the number of people attending the meeting exceeds 50, then the meeting will be postponed.

The original Warrant Articles that describe the proposed budget for 2020-2021 were published in the 2019 Town Meeting Report that was available in March. Because of anticipated revenue shortfalls from the State due to the pandemic, the Select Board re-evaluated the Warrants and changed some of their recommendations to be more fiscally conservative. The Budget Committee met to review the changes and provided their support. The Select Board is sending a letter to all Whitefield residents outlining the changes made so that Town Meeting can be held efficiently. Be on the lookout for that letter!

Below are other issues of likely interest to residents of Whitefield from the Select Board meetings of the previous month: the first meeting (May 26) was held remotely by Zoom; and the second meeting (June 9) was held in person at the Central Fire Station. For a complete description of the issues before the Board each meeting, please click this link: <https://townofwhitefield.com/agendas-minutes/> to go to the Town website and read the Select Board minutes.

State elections will be held July 14 (8:00 AM – 8:00 PM, Central Fire Station) in conjunction with local Whitefield elections and a vote on the RSU 12 annual budget. The building will be set up to allow people to enter through the main door and exit through the bay of the Fire Station. We ask that residents wear masks and practice social distancing. The voting machines will be sanitized between voters, and the number of people inside the building at one time will be limited to allow adequate spacing. We have a new Election Warden and Deputy Town Moderator, Robin Huntley. Thank you Robin! If you would like to vote by absentee ballot, please call the Town Office (549-5175) to request one.

Select Board member, Bill McKeen, has been working with Arthur Strout, the Code Enforcement Officer, to implement the Town's Junkyard Ordinance. They have prepared letters to be sent to property owners with a lot of junk and/or junk cars in their yards. Whitefield has a strong ordinance that addresses these issues, so Bill and Arthur are compiling a list of properties to take action. If you are concerned about a property in Whitefield please email or call the Town Office to let us know.

We won't be able to have the Parade, but.....

How about a 4th of July Boat Parade!!

Please join in on the first "Clary Lake Boat Parade". Decorate your boat (or anything that floats) and meet down by the public landing for a cruise of the lake. Let's celebrate the 4th in style. July 4th on Clary Lake at 2:00 pm. Watch from your car or along the side of the lake!

Fourth of July Cruise – When you have lemons, make lemonade!

Over the centuries, thousands of creative ideas have been born from adversity. This is one of those times. Following the cancellation of the town's traditional Fourth of July celebration, Jerret Condon had an idea to keep the parade alive, especially in this Bicentennial year, and especially at this difficult time in our country. He says he wants to create something we can all remember beyond the year without a Fourth of July celebration.

Jerret has proposed a "cruise" to the Select Board. He stresses this is not a parade as there will be no pedestrians, no animals, and no stationary event location. It is a chain of slow moving vehicles, travelling a 10 mile route around town. Jerret also stresses the need to maintain social distancing. Although the cruise is not a town or a fire department sponsored event, the town, fire department and the Lincoln County Sheriff's Office are all supporting the cruise. Jerret encourages all types of vehicles to join in, there are no specific exclusions for vehicles. However, whatever you bring must be able to maintain 15 miles per hour for the ten mile cruise.

For information on how to participate in the cruise go to Facebook and search for Whitefieldmaine4thofjulybicentennialcruise.



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE WHITEFIELD SCHOOL CLASS OF 2020



Lyla Bailey
Erskine Academy



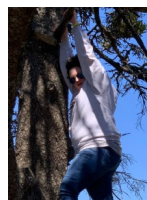
Keegan Bond
Lincoln Academy



Thomas Bowden
Lincoln Academy



Nolan Burgess
Erskine Academy



Allana Chase
Maine Arts Academy



Ciara Fickett
Erskine Academy



Julius Giguere
Unknown School



Arika Gray
Unknown School



Natalie Henderson
Erskine Academy



Jessica Hendsbee
Erskine Academy



Trinity Hyson
Wiscasset High



Stephen Jackson
Cony High School



Cassandra King
Erskine Academy



Kiley Lee
Erskine Academy



Caedynce Logan
Unknown School



Haley Webb
Erskine Academy



Kiana Wilson
Wiscasset High



Baruch Wilson
Erskine Academy

Town Office News

Send us Pictures of Whitefield!

The Town is working to spruce up the Whitefield website and needs new photos to freshen the page and keep things interesting. If you are a photographer, have a good eye for pictures, or just like taking pictures, please send your photographs in an email titled "Town Photos", along with the photo credit you would like us to use, to Nicole Sciascia at townwhitefielddep2@gmail.com. We will make periodic selections to update the site.

Monday/Tuesday 8-4
Wednesday Closed
Thursday 7-12 and 3-7
Friday 8-2

The State Primaries will be on July 14th from 8:00 AM to 8:00 PM. Town Elections will be the same day.

Town Meeting will be on July 18th at 10:00 AM at the Whitefield Elementary School.

I would like to take this opportunity to let you know that my last day here is June 23rd. I have enjoyed learning about your community and I am glad to have been part of it. There is still a lot of work to be done and I hope that those goals for the Town will be accomplished in time. I will miss all those that I have had the pleasure of working with.

Darlene



Pre-K and Kindergarten Registration

The Whitefield School is taking registrations for Pre-K and Kindergarten for the upcoming year. Please call the school at 549-7691 or email Amy at aperkins@svrsu.org.

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Continental
Or Country Breakfast

Whitefield Historical Society "Just Yesterday"



from left to right of names from each row

Bottom row from is (me) Georgette Ladner, Carol Ann Munzert, Rachel Harrington, Peter Nilsen & Roberta York. Second row is Linda Dudley, Deborah MacDonald, Joyce Bartlett, Raymond Glidden, Tim Cuthbertson, Susan Hall, Erwin Robinson, Kevin Olsen, Brent Fenderson. Third row Lois Emerson, Janey Dancer, Dennis Gould, Rhonda Weaver, Cheryl Chase, Patricia Hardy, Lester Dancer, & David Delano. Three boys in the back corner towards the right are Patrick Chase, Mark Nichols and Michael King.

SO YOU THINK YOU KNOW WHITEFIELD?!

Recognize anyone? 1959

Whitefield Food Pantry to slowly open its doors

Clients may begin to enter the pantry to shop for their produce, bread, frozen meats, and non perishables. Clients must wear masks, and will be asked to touch items at a minimum. We will maintain the proper distance between personnel.

We will continue to provide curbside service for those who wish.

We are very thankful to our clients who have been patient as we adjust our procedures accordingly.

We are now getting fresh produce from Twin Village Farm in Damariscotta, bread from Sheepscot General, and cheese from Fuzzy Udder.

Whitefield Trash Service

Weekly Household Garbage Pickup
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Augusta (East)
84 Bangor Street
622-3738

Augusta (West)
198 Western Avenue
621-0001

Town looks at properties storing junk or unregistered vehicles

by Bill McKeen

Residents of Whitefield have recently complained to the Select Board about "junk" yards and too many unregistered cars. In response, Select Board members looked for ways to solve the problem. The Select Board discussed the issue with the town's Code Enforcement Officer, Arthur Stout, who said, "The situation is worse than ever."

Arthur went on to say, "It's because some people won't go to the dump anymore and find it difficult to pay someone to haul it away. Inevitably, it gets thrown in their yards, fields, or any place accessible."

He believed the town should actively deal with the problem by enforcing their own junkyard ordinance. The Junkyard Ordinance was subsequently approved at a special town meeting in August of 2018. Its purpose is to provide adequate controls to ensure that automobile graveyard, automobile recycling businesses, and junkyards within the Town of Whitefield do not have a harmful impact on public health, safety, general welfare, property values, and the natural environment.

The ordinance calls for letters to be mailed by the town to Whitefield residents who have more than two unregistered vehicles or junk stored on their property. The letters ask those who are storing junk or unregistered vehicles to take corrective action within six months. Properties will then be inspected by the town's Code Enforcement Officer and if still in violation of the ordinance, will be summoned to the Lincoln County District Court. The maximum fine is \$2,500 per day.

The ordinance defines a junkyard as a yard, field, or other outdoor area used to store junked items. Examples are worn out plumbing, heating, appliances, furniture, machinery, and trailers. It also includes scrap lumber, metal, batteries, paper, rubber, plastic, garbage and waste dumps.

Unregistered vehicles are defined by the ordinance as any motor vehicle which is wrecked, dismantled or cannot be operated legally on any public highway.

The ordinance does allow lawn sales that do not occur more than once a month or last more than three days. No permit is necessary for an outdoor lawn sale. Sales of this type that are held inside a barn or garage are not considered either a junkyard or a lawn sale.

Junkyards are permissible only by permit. Permit applications and copies of the ordinance are available at the town office or online at www.townofwhitefield.com

Residents who have any questions may call the Whitefield Town Office at 207-549-5175.

LOCAL BUSINESS UPDATES

In an effort to keep you informed, we are listing below some of the local businesses that are open:

Aunt Gin's Restaurant – Open

Country Corners - Open

Elmer's Barn – Open

Fuzzy Udder - Our self-serve farm stand is open 24/7

Hair Works – Open – call for appointment. 549-3375

North Whitefield Superette – Open

Sheepscot General Store – Open - Check website

Sheepscot Links Golf Course – Open. Please call in advance for Tee times. 549-7060.

Amish businesses - Open

132 Waldoboro Road P.O. Box 173 Jefferson ME 04348

Phone: 207-549-0159

Cell: 207-446-0967

Fax: 207-549-0161

Le Barn LLC

Marie I. Lindsey

services@lebarnllc.com

www.lebarnllc.com

Events and Services

Indoor and Outdoor



JULY 2020 COMMUNITY EVENTS CALENDAR.

IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS, CONTACT THE GROUP OR MEETING PLACE TO SEE IF YOUR EVENT IS STILL OCCURRING

- 3rd** **WHITEFIELD FOOD PANTRY**, St. Denis Hall, 10-3 pm
7th **SELECT BOARD** If you wish to attend the meeting, please call the town office 207-549-5175
9th **RSU SCHOOL BOARD MEETING** Please check the website for meeting date and availability online.
11th **WHITEFIELD FOOD PANTRY**, St. Denis Hall, 10-1 pm
15th **PLANNING BOARD**, Town Office 6:00 pm
18th **WHITEFIELD FOOD PANTRY**, St. Denis Hall, 10-1 pm
21st **SELECT BOARD** If you wish to attend the meeting, please call the town office 207-549-5175
25th **WHITEFIELD FOOD PANTRY**, St. Denis Hall, 10-1 pm

"What's Happening at the Library?" You Ask

They say an old home has many stories to tell. Our old "home" that we now call Whitefield Library & Community Center, could certainly speak volumes just about these past three years. It has taken on a whole new "life" by opening its doors and offering what is within right back to its community. The story of the past three years would be about its struggle to organize and structure an association, to build "library", and to design services that match our volunteers' time and our patrons' interests. The story would include the mistakes made along the way, as well as the "celebrations" of accomplishments enjoyed by each one of us after a summer of sharing books and entertainment.

When we purchased our 135 year old building, we knew it needed "work" if we were going to reach our goal to be a year-round community library and "gathering space". We gradually learned what that "work" actually represented; quite daunting to be sure, but we never doubted that we could do it with loads of support and commitment from folks both near and far. We remain continually grateful to all who have contributed to our vision in immeasurable ways; from bringing your children to surround our Story Hour teller, borrowing our books, giving us books, and to every single person who has given their time and talent without asking for anything in return...we are grateful! There has been an amazing generosity of spirit displayed at this "home" over the past three years.

The next chapter of this old yellow building's story includes "fixing it up" so we can use the library during the chilly days of winter; so we can use ALL of our building; including the beautiful 2nd floor. The unbelievable financial support from so many individuals has allowed us to now begin Phase 1 of our renovation. We will increase strength to the structure of the building by adding new beams and posts and repairing old floor joists, and we will add fire stops for safety. This will permit us to use the upstairs. Being closed for the summer has allowed us to securely pack up the books and furnishing, and the dirty work of demolition of the first floor has begun. Ceiling tiles and ductwork have come down, paneling has been removed, and many very old chalkboards painted on plaster have been revealed (history tells us there was a high school here when the building was new, and we now see the evidence). We will install new electrical fixtures, insulation in the ceiling and walls, drywall on the ceiling (and walls if the old plaster does not look healthy) and new propane heaters to replace the old oil furnace.

With all of that done, we will be ready to move on to Phase 2. We may not be able to complete everything that we need in Phase 2, but with the recent charitable kindness from the Stephen and Tabitha King Foundation, with that substantial gift, we can at least begin Phase 2. This phase includes a new bathroom, kitchenette, and office space. The condition of our "home's" exterior is pretty obvious and we will need new clapboards on the south wall, which is where we will build a new emergency fire escape for the 2nd floor. Doesn't this sound like a busy summer? It will be, but we are so appreciative to finally be at this point. It has been similar to dumping Aunt Elsie's 1000 (half inch) puzzle pieces on the floor and trying to find the square edges to begin the challenge. We finally have the "edges", and we can hardly wait to invite you in to see the masterpiece.

Meanwhile, come take a peek anytime. Also, your expertise, labor, and \$ donation will always be welcome. You'll see us around town promoting our little library and community center (a table at Town Meeting, sponsoring a little community "event" here and there throughout the summer, and selling a community calendar that everyone once loved hanging on their walls). We still have fundraising to do to keep the lights on and to pay our bills, so join us in this little "story" of building our community library and "gathering space". It's a special spot in town, and we are thankful to be adding to its story.

You can contact us through our website (whitefieldlibrary.org), the link to our Facebook, reaching out to a Board member, or calling Sue or Cheryle @ 446-7473 or 549-7305.



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Deadline for newsletter submissions is the 15th of the month. whitefieldtownnews@gmail.com
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