



Town Meeting March 19th

Whitefield News



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Annual Town Meeting Whitefield School 10 AM March 19, 2022

Town to decide whether to appoint or elect Road Commissioner

Long-time Road Commissioner David Boynton says he will not be seeking re-election when his term ends in March 2023. The Board has voted to approve putting an article on the warrant for voters to approve making this position an appointed one. In order for the Board to begin the search for a new Road Commissioner, the article must be approved for voters this year. The Roads Committee, in conjunction with David has been talking to other towns in order to develop a job description. More information will be available at town meeting

Meet the candidates

By Sue McKeen

It's March, it's mud season and it's time for our town to meet in one place to voice our opinions, exercise our right to vote and see old friends. Town meeting will be held Saturday, March 19th at 10:00 at the Whitefield Elementary School. Municipal Elections are Friday, March 18th with polls opening from 4 pm - 8 pm at the fire station.

This year there are two seats open for the Select Board, one open for the RSU Board, and one open for the Planning Board.

Meet **Seth Bolduc**, who is running for a three year position on the Select Board. When I called Seth, he was wrapping up a winter camping trip and spoke with me while waiting outside for his ride from Moosehead Lake back home. Seth is from Norridgewock, graduated from UMO and moved to the Bath area.



He is a software writer with a company based in New Hampshire. Seth moved to Whitefield seven years ago and told me he was drawn to the land, that it felt like home. When I asked why he decided to run for the Board, he told me, "It's important for people to contribute, in order for community to work people need to be engaged." He said, "I'm a quiet guy and don't like to make waves. I have no agenda. I plan to be a listener."

Incumbent **Keith Sanborn** is running for a second three-year term on the Select Board. Keith has been a work horse on the board and is the go-to person for all things technical. Keith told me he has learned a lot by being on



Continued on Pg. 2

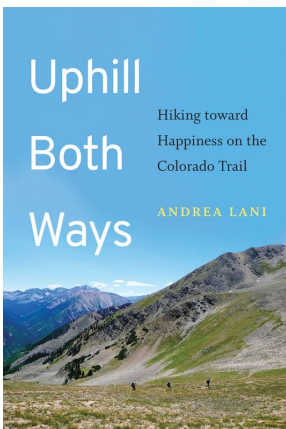
Book Launch for Whitefield Author Andrea Lani

In Uphill Both Ways, Whitefield resident Andrea Lani shuns the typical family vacation and instead drags her husband and three children on a six-week, 500-mile hike through the Rocky Mountains. Frustrated by parenting, tortured by a toxic work environment, and homesick for tall mountains and big skies, Lani quits her job, packs her family into their Volvo, and sets off to hike the Colorado Trail exactly twenty years after she and her husband hiked the same trail at the beginning of their relationship. Along the way they encounter spectacular wild-

flowers, endearing wildlife, and far too many other hikers, while experiencing scorching heat, torrential thunderstorms, and the first nip of winter. Lani's kids grow in unimaginable ways, and she begins to exercise disused smile muscles, despite the challenges of hiking in a middle-aged body, maintaining her children's safety and happiness, and contending with marital discord.

As she inches her way along the trail, Lani learns that being a slow hiker doesn't make her a bad hiker, and she begins to uncover the secret to happiness.

Andrea Lani is a graduate of College of the Atlantic and the University of Southern Maine's Stonecoast MFA program. Her writing about family and the natural world has appeared in a variety of journals and anthologies, including *Spire: The Maine Journal of Conservation and Sustainability*, *A Dangerous New World: Maine Voices on the Climate Crisis*, and *The Maine Review*. She is a Maine Master Naturalist and a member of the Maine Master Naturalist Program's board of directors, and she's a senior editor at the online journal *Literary Mama*. Lani lives in Whitefield with her family.



Sheepscot General Store in Whitefield will host a book launch party for *Uphill Both Ways: Hiking toward Happiness on the Colorado Trail* on Saturday, March 5, 2022, from 2-4 p.m. The launch party will feature a meet and greet, reading, and book signing with author Andrea Lani. There will be treats, and a drawing for a print of one of the book's illustrations.

Candidates from Pg. 1

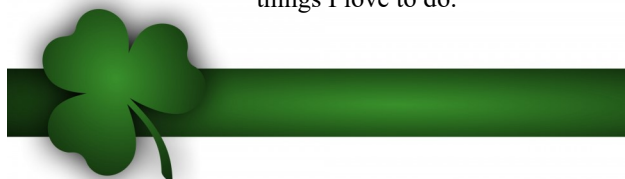
the Board and has especially learned how important volunteers are to the community. He is a retired Systems Engineer and brings that expertise to the many projects he is involved with. Keith is very active on the Roads Committee, and acts as the liaison between the committee and the Board where, he confided, he spends a big portion of his time. Right now, Keith is involved in several projects which include working with the Lincoln County Resources Commission in updating the hazard mitigation plan. Keith told me he likes what he's doing and looks forward to continuing to serve the town.

Glenn Angell, a name well known to the Planning Board and the town, is running for another three-year term. Although Glenn swore he was not running, he told me he has a soft spot in his heart and feels a responsibility to continue, that the Board is fairly new and it's very important to have someone on the board with institutional memory. Glenn is a retired state site evaluator and brings a wide range of knowledge to the Board. We discussed some of the issues coming before the Board as well as things he'd like to see completed. He said he'd like to tighten up and strengthen existing ordinances, making them less open to legal challenges and begin the work on several upcoming issues regarding medical marijuana cultivation facilities and large solar farms.



Kathleen Goetzman is running for the three-year position on the RSU School Board. She and her husband moved from Columbia, South Carolina to Whitefield in 2020. Kathleen told me they love the peace and quiet and slower pace in Whitefield.

Her background is communications where she worked as a radio commentator covering a wide range of topics from news to public affairs. Kathleen said she is interested in running for the board because she wants to be informed, is interested in knowing what kids are learning, and be a part of keeping the public informed. She said, "I enjoy meeting people and listening to what's important to them. What are we paying for in schools? Taxpayers need to know." Kathleen is excited to live in Whitefield and getting involved in the community. She said, "I now have time to do things I love to do."



Town News

March Municipal Election and Town Meeting is upon us. The **Municipal Election is Friday March 18th, the Polls will be OPEN 4 pm – 8 pm** for voting of the Municipal Officials - 2 Select Board, 1 Planning Board and 1 School Board, all the positions are 3 year terms. Voting is held at Whitefield Central Fire Station. You may vote by absentee if you are unable to vote in person. To request a ballot either stop by the office to vote in person or take the ballot with you and return later or call the town office and request your ballot over the phone to be mailed to you. Last day to request an absentee is Monday March 14th by close of business. The **Annual Town Meeting** will be held on **Saturday March 19th at 10 am** at Whitefield Elementary School. We must follow RSU #12 policy in regards to Covid-19 while we are in use of their building. Signage will be posted at meeting that day. A Sample Ballot is viewable on our website: <https://townofwhitefield.com/election-information/>

The Warrant will be posted on our Website, the Town Office, Sheepscot General, Whitefield Market & Country Corners as soon as it is finalized. Annual Reports will be available sometime the week of March 7th.



Dogs that have not yet been licensed for the 2022 licensing year now have a late fee of \$25 per dog, effective February 1st. Make sure to bring in current rabies with you. If you don't have current rabies you need to make an appointment with your vet or check with Tractor Supply or Pet Smart for a rabies clinic.

Foreclosure (30-45 day) Notices for 2020 RE Taxes, that are still outstanding, will be sent out on March 2nd. The 2020 RE Tax Liens will expire on April 16, 2022 (foreclosure date).

We have recently filled our full time position, she will begin working on Monday March 7th. Help us welcome her to the office. We all must have patience while she learns all the rules, laws, processes and procedures that there are in the office.

Homestead, Veteran, Blind Exemption forms, Tree Growth, etc. must be filed by April 1st in order to benefit from them on your upcoming 2023 Tax Bills. If you have any questions on any of these forms contact me at the office during daytime hours.

As always, stay up to date by checking out our website <https://townofwhitefield.com/> You can even Subscribe to Notices by scrolling down to just below the News and Notices section on the home page, click the **GREEN SUBSCRIBE TO UPDATES** button.

Sincerely,
Yolanda Violette, Administrative Assistant,
Town Clerk & Treasurer

Whitefield Planning Board

The board finalized and sent to the town office a Medical Marijuana Cultivation Facilities Licensing Ordinance that would limit such operations in Whitefield to one. This would not apply to residents growing six plants for their own or clients' use, as allowed by the State.

The board also finalized a proposed 180-day moratorium ordinance on commercial or community solar farms (ground-based). This ordinance would provide time to draw up suitable regulations.

Weaknesses in the Building and Development Ordinance, especially concerning noise, odor, and change in use, were also addressed and these improvements will also be voted on at the March 19 town meeting.

Development application: ReVision Energy Inc. has submitted an application to build a 990 kilowatt solar farm on the Howe Road. The board will further review this project at its March 16 meeting.

Notes are very long and therefore we included a link to view the minutes.

For more information go to the town website at <https://townofwhitefield.com/agendas-minutes/> and read the Planning Board minutes.

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Whitefield Historical Society



Cast of the play "His Name was Aunt Nellie" that was performed at the Union Hall in Kings Mills by members of the Whitefield Fish and Game Club, March, 1949. Seated front row L to R: Muriel Tarr, Everett Blair, Wilma Cunningham, Vernon Glidden. Back row: Wilson Buckley, Lawrence Felt, Doris Jewett, Sadie, Raymond Joslyn, Lucena Tarr.

Maple Sugar Sunday

The annual Maple Sugar Sunday is March 27th when many Maine Maple Sugar Shacks open their doors to the public to share their wonderful Maple Sugar Treats.

Sheepscot General be celebrating Maine Maple Sunday all



weekend from 10 am - 3 pm on March 26 & 27.

We'll be serving up vanilla ice cream with maple syrup and maple cookies. We plan to be well-stocked with other maple goodies as well. Come on over!



Select Board Corner

Meetings February 1st through February 15th

by Bill McKeen

A handout listing the pros and cons of changing the Road Commissioners position from elected to appointed will be available at Town Meeting.

The Facilities Committee is discussing methods to bring up the level of our solar capacity to cover our present electricity expense and to expand for future needs. One option would be to add solar panels to the salt shed roof.

Our audit is nearly finished, and it will be presented to the Select Board on March 1st.

The contract with Spicer will be renegotiated for a two-year extension and include a ½ mile addition on Rte. 218 in Alna which is a tradeoff for a small section that Alna plows in Whitefield.

The 2022-2023 warrant for Town Meeting has been approved by the Select Board and will include American Rescue Plan fund uses and amended ordinances and a moratorium proposed by the Planning Board.

Absentee ballots are now available at the Town Office for our municipal election.

Whitefield's Brian O'Mahoney to speak at Whitefield Historical Society Annual Meeting

Brought up in Ireland, Brian O'Mahoney has been a resident of Whitefield for over 30 years. He teaches World and United States history at Lincoln Academy where he has served as chair of the Social Studies Department. Brian is a collector of history and uses an anecdotal speaking style which inspires his students to explore history further. A good example of this was his question to his students asking if they had heard of a gold mine in Whitefield. Soon after, four of his students went out on their own to find it.

With a name like O'Mahoney, it might be expected he will touch on the subject of the settlement of the many Irish families who settled in Whitefield. He said he will talk a little about 19th and early century population changes and how those changes fit into the context of national events as well as looking at the fall in the town's population between 1850 and 1920.

The meeting will take place in the meeting room of the Whitefield Fire Station at 2 pm on March 20. A short election of officers will precede the program. Masks are required.



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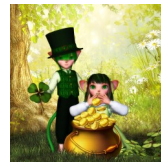
www.whitefieldhistoricalsociety.org

Click on it and check us out!



MARCH 2022 COMMUNITY EVENTS CALENDAR.

- 1st** **SINGING CIRCLE** at Inn Along the Way in Damariscotta, on Tuesdays 1-3 pm <https://www.innalongtheway.org>
SELECT BOARD at 6 pm Central Fire Station
KINGS MILLS UNION HALL MONTHLY MEETING 7pm Union Hall
 Public is welcome
- 3rd** **SENIOR MEN'S GROUP (ROMEOS)** 10 am Sheepscot General
- 4th** **WHITEFIELD FOOD PANTRY**, 150 Grand Army Road, 10-2 pm
WHITEFIELD LIBRARY Open 10-2
- 5th** **WHITEFIELD LIBRARY** Open 10-2
ANDREA LANI BOOK LAUNCH Sheepscot General 2-4 pm
- 7th** **ROADS COMMITTEE**, Central Fire Station, 4:00 pm
COOPERS MILLS FIRE DEPT. All are welcome. No obligation. 7 pm
KINGS MILLS FIRE DEPT., 7 pm
- 8th** **SINGING CIRCLE** 1-3 pm
- 10th** **SENIOR MEN'S GROUP (ROMEOS)** 10 am Sheepscot General
RSU 12 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING 6:30—9:00 pm
WINE TASTING SOPO WINES at Sheepscot General 5-7 pm
- 11th** **WHITEFIELD LIBRARY** Open 10-2
- 12th** **WHITEFIELD FOOD PANTRY**, 150 Grand Army Road, 10-12 pm
WHITEFIELD LIBRARY Open 10-2
- 14th** **WHITEFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY**, Town House, 10:00 am
WHITEFIELD MUNICIPAL FIRE DEPT., Fire Station, 7 pm
- 15th** **SINGING CIRCLE** 1-3 pm
SELECT BOARD at 6 pm Central Fire Station
- 16th** **PLANNING BOARD**, Town Office 7:30 pm
- 17th** **SENIOR MEN'S GROUP (ROMEOS)** 10 am
 Sheepscot General
- 18th** **WHITEFIELD LIBRARY** Open 10-2
MUNICIPAL ELECTION POLLS OPEN 4 pm - 8pm at Central Fire Station
- 19th** **ANNUAL TOWN MEETING** 10 am at Whitefield Elementary School
WHITEFIELD FOOD PANTRY, 150 Grand Army Road, 10-12 pm
WHITEFIELD LIBRARY Open 10-2
- 20th** **WHITEFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING**, 2 pm at the Whitefield Firehouse.
- 21st** **WHITEFIELD LIBRARY & COMMUNITY CENTER BOARD MEETING**
 10 am at the Whitefield Firehouse.
- 22nd** **SINGING CIRCLE** 1-3 pm
- 24th** **SENIOR MEN'S GROUP (ROMEOS)** 10 am Sheepscot General
- 25th** **WHITEFIELD LIBRARY** Open 10-2
- 26th** **MAINE MAPLE WEEKEND** - Sheepscot General 10 am - 3 pm; ice cream, cookies & syrup at the Store
WHITEFIELD LIBRARY Open 10-2
WHITEFIELD FOOD PANTRY, 150 Grand Army Road, 10-12 pm
- 27th** **FUZZY UDDER CREAMERY KID HUGGING DAY** 12-3:30 pm
<https://fuzzyudder.com/>
MAINE MAPLE WEEKEND - visit the Sugar Shack 10 am - 3 pm; ice cream, cookies & syrup at the Store
- 29th** **SINGING CIRCLE** 1-3 pm
SELECT BOARD at 6 pm Central Fire Station
- 31st** **SENIOR MEN'S GROUP (ROMEOS)** 10 am Sheepscot General



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