

Volume 9, Issue 12

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Not too early to plan your float for July 4th

It's not too soon to start planning your float. After a two-year Covid hiatus, the Fourth of July parade is back with all the trimmings. Put on your creative hat, gather your friends, and show up to dazzle the crowd. George Fergusson posted a picture from the 4th in 2009. He was reclined in a bathtub, resplendent in a pink ensemble, sporting a chamber pot as a chapeau. We're counting on you to bring back our parade, greater than ever.



Main Street - Coopers Mills Maine 04341

The CMVFD Fundraising Auction has been a tradition that has run for several generations. Covid interrupted that tradition. Lots of folks have been asking if we are going to have it again. We have looked at the present manpower, and realize that we are fewer and older. One way we could revive the



Select Board takes on junkyards

by Sue McKeen

When all the leaves are on the trees, fields rich with grasses, purple and pink lupine growing wild, no one can see what's behind all this glorious nature. But by the end of February and March, when all the snow is brown and melting, the trash and junk blossom like an invasive plant.

In 2017, due to a growing number of complaints about junkyards and trash, the Select Board and the Planning Board proposed a junk-



yard ordinance. The Town approved Whitefield's Automobile Graveyard, Automobile Recycling Business, and Junkyard Ordinance at a special Town Meeting in August of 2018. And the town, in conjunction with Code Enforcement Officer Arthur Strout and the Select Board, have made progress. But the problem is a big one.

You've heard the adage; one man's junk is another man's treasure. The question is what IS trash and what IS treasure. According to Wikipedia, treasure is a quantity of precious metals, gems, or other valuable objects. According to Whitefield's Junkyard ordinance trash or junk is described as follows: "Junkyard" means a yard, field or other outdoor area used to store junked items including but not limited to the following: A. Discarded/worn-out plumbing, heating supplies, household appliances, furniture, machinery, equipment and trailers; B. Discarded /scrap lumber and building materials; C. Discarded/scrap copper, brass, rope, rags, batteries, paper trash, rubber debris, waste and all scrap iron, steel, plastic and other scrap ferrous or non-ferrous metallic material; D. Garbage and waste *Continued on Pg. 2*

tradition, would be to get commitments from enough people to help for one afternoon or evening, sorting, or collecting, or help on auction day. If we can get enough help, we can do it again. Let us know if you would like to commit to a few hours so we can plan for this community event. Call Norm Best 215-6600, Chuck Vaughan 208-0350, or any of the

members. No commitment yet – just seeing what the interest is.

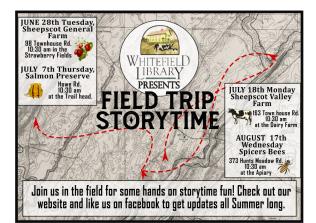
Also, please join in on the fun of a Horseshoe Tournament to benefit the Coopers Mills VFD. ANNOUNCING! Juzz Annual Coopers Mills VFD Benefit Fundraiser Horseshoe Tournament Saturday June 11, 2022 Kennebec Valley Horseshoes Courts Piggery Road Augusta, Maine Registration 9 AM, Games 10 AM Cash Prizes Contact - Garrett Joslyn 485-004 *Junk from Pg. 1* dumps; E. Any discarded/scrap conveyance originally designed to operate on land, water or air. All the materials in A through E found in the locations listed above are hereinafter referred to as "junk".

According to the Select Board, Whitefield has only one licensed junkyard. All other residents who are storing junk on their properties are unlicensed junkyards. License applications are available at the Town Office.

Since the ordinance passed in 2018, many properties have been surveyed by CEO Strout. The property owners were given several months to remove junk that had accumulated on their land. The owners were given an extra month's time to avoid court action. Some residents did clean up; some did not, and as a result, the Town obtained judgments against them at Lincoln County District Court. Ten cases have been resolved since 2018. At the present time, four more properties are being surveyed, photographed, and notified to clean up their properties.

Let's talk a moment about the great summer pass time, The Lawn Sale. Who doesn't love a lawn sale? I know I've got lots of those treasures around my house. However, some of these lawn sales go on for months, years even. Are those treasures now junk? So, for all you folks considering a lawn sale, consider Whitefield's ordinance, which is part of the Junkyard Ordinance. It says: "A lawn sale is the periodic sale of miscellaneous household or similar materials where the materials are spread out in the open air, or under a tent or canopy. Such activities happen on a frequency of no more than once a month and last a maximum of three (3) days when they occur. Any such activity that occurs in a fully enclosed structure such as a barn or garage is not considered either a junkyard or lawn sale". So, if you're a lawn sale junkie, so to speak, consider the ordinance and don't leave that priceless inventory on your lawn for too long!

Whether it's a junkyard or a junky yard, there is no ordinance or rule for a simply junky yard, that's where the subjective/objective thinking comes in. The goal is to respect our neighbors so we can all live and enjoy the homes we've worked so hard to have. For more information on the ordinance go to <u>www.townofwhitefield.com</u>.





Up Front Pricing: NO Surprises, NO Hidden Fees Tax Relief and Planning: Lowest Tax, Highest Expertise Early Season Refund Advance: Same Day, NO Interest, NO Fees

H&R BLOCK Maximum Refund Guaranteed

 Augusta (East)
 Augusta (West)

 84 Bangor Street
 198 Western Avenue

 622-3738
 621-0001



Whitefield Trash

Call Dana Rogers 485-3991 Free Estimates for Clean-outs

Town Office News.....

As summer approaches make sure you are prepared with your "Summer Fun Toys" being registered and ready to go when you are ready to take off for the day, weekend or even a week. ATV registrations are now available for the 22-23 season. The current registrations expire 6.30.22. The fees have increased to \$70 Residents and \$115 for Non Residents. If you can't make it in to the office during regular business hours you can register your ATV's online at https://apps1.web.maine.gov/online/atv_snow/index.htm and Boats can be registered online at https://apps1.web.maine.gov/online/atv_snow/index.htm and Boats can be registered online at https://apps1.web.maine.gov/online/atv_snow/index.htm and Boats can be registered online at https://apps1.web.maine.gov/online/atv_snow/index.htm and Boats can be registered online at https://apps1.web.maine.gov/online/atv_snow/index.htm and Boats can be registered online at https://apps1.web.maine.gov/online/boat/ If you own a motorcycle, keep in mind they expire in March every year so stop on by and register yours today to get out and Enjoy a Ride! You can always register vehicles online at https://www1.maine.gov/online/bmv/rapid-renewal/

2022 RE Taxes, the 2nd half was due April 29th, interest is now accruing if you have not paid. Our tax collector, Tina Laskey, has been making courtesy calls for a reminder to those who have not paid. The response has been grateful for both parties. The 30 day Lien notices for 22 RE Taxes will be going out in early July for those that have not paid in full by then. If you are having trouble making the two half payments, maybe the tax club is for you. Read the Tax Collector article in this newsletter and see if it would be right for you or call the office to find out more.

The Assessors Agent, RJD Appraisal, will be out around town to review the residences that have made changes by submitting a notice to build in the past year since February 2021. Keep in mind if you are making any additions to your property, you must fill out and submit a Notice to Build in advance of the work, once that has been approved you may begin work. The forms can be found on the website at <u>https://townofwhitefield.com/</u> forms-permits/ along with reviewing the ordinance at <u>https://</u>

townofwhitefield.com/policies_ordinances/. You may always contact Arthur Strout, CEO/LPI 458-2154 if you any questions. Taxes are based on what is Assessed as of April 1st each year and are taxed to the owner of record as of April 1st as well.

The Town Office will be CLOSING EARLY THURSDAY JUNE 30^{TH} . There will be NO EVENING Hours. The office will be CLOSING at 12 pm for the remainder of the day to allow adequate time for the staff to close the books for Fiscal Year End. The office will be open for regular hours on Friday July 1st 8 am -2 pm. Please plan ahead for your 4th of July week-end!

Reminder, bring **Current Insurance**, **Mileage** and **previous registration** when coming in to do a **Re-Registration**. For **ATV's**, **Boats**, **Hunting or Fishing Licenses bring in the previous registration**.

The Office will be CLOSED Monday July 4th, in observance of Independence Day

Sincerely,

Yolanda Violette, Administrative Assistant, Town Clerk & Treasurer

Whitefield Historical Society Memorial Day Celebration, May 30, 10:00

Veterans Memorial and program after "Remembering the women"

Kathy Dauphin Massage Therapy



By Appointment

Call 207-549-0286





1980's baseball team with Jerry Maldovan and Mike McCormick

Library News

We just welcomed five new enthusiastic community members to our Board of Directors (Emma Nelson, Kathy Goetzman, George Fergusson, Shawn Gallagher, and Julie Cowles), and we're looking forward to the experiences they bring to support the growth of our library.

On May 2nd we were pleased to receive a congratulatory letter from Secretary of State Shenna Bellows for being awarded the Maine 2021 Spirit of America Award.

We continue to need help from the community with librarian duties (assisting patrons, circulating books, shelving); no experience necessary/we'll train! We are also looking for someone to coordinate programs for adults. If available to help out, please contact Julie (our volunteer coordinator) at <u>volunteer@whitefieldlibrary.org</u>.

Another exciting moment this month was when we received notice that we had been awarded a grant from the Maine Community Foundation for general support towards our renovation project. This grant will aid us in the work we are doing to make our building adequately and efficiently heated and preserved. We'll be installing two heat pumps to keep our water lines from freezing and our main room warm in the winter months ahead. We are very grateful for MCF's financial support to help complete these projects.

Our Geezers are getting the piles of dirt and crushed rock in front of the library cleaned up. Nathan Northrup generously dropped a big load of stones for us to use as foundation drainage and with his backhoe, Chuck Vaughn made trenching all around the building look easy. You're welcome to join the Geezers any day. They have a long list of summer renovation work ahead!

Ms. Emma has planned many exciting hands-on **Storytime** adventures for our young visitors in June. Check out the schedule in the newsletter and our Facebook posts for schedules, updates and photos.

The Whitefield Lions Club presented the Library with a donation which we will be using to purchase new books. We appreciate this donation as we continue to update our library collection. Our Book Committee is thrilled to be selecting brand new adult books as well as a few children's selections which we'll add to our purchase with the money set aside from our *Marie's Fund*. Please consider donating to our Marie Fund. (*Whitefield Library, 1 Arlington Lane, Whitefield, ME 04353: Open Fri/Sat. 10-2) Contact us: in-fo@whitefieldlibrary.org or 207-549-0170.*)

Select Board Notes

April 26 through May 10 By Seth Bolduc

Below are issues of likely interest to the residents of Whitefield from the Select Board meetings of the previous month.

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.

The board approved a new plan for the Cooper's Mill Dam hydrant. The hydrant has been in use since installation but has been plagued by excessive sediment build-up. The plan, proposed by the Atlantic Salmon Federation in consultation with the Rural Fire Protection of New England, will reduce the sediment in the hydrant.

Road commissioner David Boynton will soon begin preparing the sand shed/recycling area parking lot in anticipation of re-paving the area this summer. The board will open paving bids for the recycling area parking lot, portions of Hilton Rd, and North Howe Road at its next meeting.

The town's new speed radar sign and trailer is out to remind drivers to drive at a reasonable speed.

An ad-hoc committee is being assembled to look into alternatives to Hatch Hill for solid waste disposal. Anyone interested may contact Keith Sanborn.

A brainstorming session to explore ideas about how to use ARPA funds will be held May 31st at 6 pm at the Fire Station. Although the ARPA funds need to fit into guidelines set by the government, the brainstorming session will seek to solicit any idea that residents may have. Ideas can also be sent directly to the board members.

Having trouble making the semi-annual tax payment deadlines? Tax Club could be the answer for you!

Tax Club allows you to make 12 monthly payments with no interest penalties. In order to quality for participation in Tax Club, all prior taxes must be paid in full and applications must be received by June 30.

Payment amounts for the months of July, August and September are estimated based on the amount of the prior year's tax bill. The remaining months are calculated when the new tax bills are committed in September and are based on the amount due minus the total of the first three payments.

Your Tax Club participation depends on making the monthly payments when they are due. If a payment is late, your Tax Club privilege will be suspended for the remainder of the fiscal year and the unpaid balance will be subject to interest if not paid by the regular November and April due dates.

As an alternative to Tax Club, you can make installment payments at your own convenience or by using an automatic bill paying service to make scheduled payments. As long as each half is paid by the due date there will be no interest charged.

Please feel free to contact the Town Office with any questions regarding Tax Club and other payment options.

Tína J. Laskey Tax Collector

> The Whitefield Town Office will be Closing at 12 pm on Thursday, June 30th. There will be NO Evening Hours. This will allow the office to Close the books for Fiscal Year End. We will have regular hours on Friday, July 1st 8 am – 2 pm Plan ahead for your registrations for the 4th of July weekend fun!

The Town Office will be CLOSED Monday July 4th

	JUNE 2022 COMMUNITY EVENTS CALENDAR.	AD ALBISON'S
2nd	SENIOR MEN'S GROUP (ROMEOS) 10 am Sheepscot General	PRINTING
3rd	WHITEFELD FOOD PANTRY, 150 Grand Army Road, 10-2 pm	
	WHITEFIELD LIBRARY Open 10-2 Storytime at 10:30 am Cats- our furry	Quality Printing Since 1932
	feline friends!	Offset & Digital Printing
	WINE TASTING with Easterly Wines at Sheepscot General 5-7 pm	www.albisonsprinting.com
	SHEEPSCOT GENERAL LIVE MUSIC Stan Davis live music 6-8 pm	
14h	Outside, weather permitting WHITEFIELD LIBRARY Open 10-2	124 Riverside Drive, Augusta 622-1941
4th 6th	Roads Committee, Central Fire Station, 4:00 pm	Country Corner's Store
oui	Coopers Mills Fire Dept. All are welcome. No obligation. 7 pm	
	Kings Mills Fire Dept., 7 pm	549-3135
7th	SINGING CIRCLE at Inn Along the Way in Damariscotta, on Tuesdays	Mon-Fri 5:30 AM -9 PM
	1-3 pm https://www.innalongtheway.org	
	SELECT BOARD at 6 pm Central Fire Station	Sat 6:30 AM-9 PM
	KINGS MILLS UNION HALL MONTHLY MEETING 7pm Union Hall	Sun 7:30 AM-9 PM
0.4	Public is welcome	Gas, Groceries, Deli, Pizzas, Sandwiches,
9th	SENIOR MEN'S GROUP (ROMEOS) 10 am Sheepscot General	Meats and MORE!
10th	RSU 12 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING 6:30—9:00 pm WHITEFIELD LIBRARY Open 10-2 Storytime at 10:30 am Veggies- How they	meats and morel.
Ioui	grow, and how to paint with vegetable stamps!!	
	SHEEPSCOT GENERAL LIVE MUSIC WITH Arrowsic String Band 6-8 pm	CANOPY TREE SERVICE
	Outside, weather permitting	Licensed & Insured
	Mumbai to Maine Indian simmer sauce tasting 6-7pm at Sheepscot General	TREE REMOVAL
11th	WHITEFIELD FOOD PANTRY, 150 Grand Army Road, 10-2 pm	TREE TRIMMING
	WHITEFIELD LIBRARY Open 10-2	STUMP GRINDING
13th	WHITEFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY, Town House, 10:00 am	HEALTH & WELLNESS
1 /4h	WHITEFIELD MUNICIPAL FIRE DEPT., Fire Station, 7 pm	207-542-2867
14th 15th	SINGING CIRCLE 1-3 pm YOUNG AT HEART will be at the Lions Club in Coopers Mills at noon. Bring a	www.canopytreeservice.com
1501	hot dish, salad or dessert to share.	
	PLANNING BOARD 6 pm at Central Fire Station	The Hair Works
16th	SENIOR MEN'S GROUP (ROMEOS) 10 am Sheepscot General	Family Hair Care
17th	WHITEFIELD LIBRARY Open 10-2 Storytime at 10:30 am Fathers- and our	April Capper 207-549-3375
	father figures (Grandpas, Uncles) in honor of Fathers day (19 th). Let's	1/90/16
	make something that says 'I love you'.	6 7 9
	ICE CREAM SOLSTICE CELEBRATION at Sheepscot General 5-8pm while	
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Deadline for newsletter submissions is the 15th of the month. whitefield townnews@gmail.com Whitefield Newsletter Committee: Cheryle Joslyn, Kit Pfeiffer, Sue McKeen, Tony Marple, Dolly Burns, Lise Hanners & Debbie Rogers. www.mainetriallaw.com

You can receive the newsletter by email by signing up at whitefieldtownnews@gmail.com