



Celebrating Our 10th Year



Whitefield News

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Welcoming the new generation

By Seth Bolduc

During July, many bird species will begin fledging. After having received food and care in the safety of their nests for several weeks, juvenile birds are now preparing for the wider world. Common Loons may soon be spotted along the shore of Clary Lake giving their young chicks a ride on the back of one adult parent while the other fishes for food. As the chicks get older, they may bob and float alone while the adults are diving for a meal.

Barred owl fledglings will soon climb out of their tree cavity nests or drop to the forest floor. Having hatched in April, they have spent a long time as nestlings until now. As fledglings, they are adept climbers, monkeying around trees and continuing to be fed by their parents for months before they are big and capable



enough to hunt on their own. Although we recognize the adults' distinctive "who-cooks-for-you" hoot, the juveniles make a raspy, breathy, wheezing call which sounds ghoulish and spooky in the evenings.

Bobolinks, members of the blackbird family, are identified by having a distinctive "reverse tuxedo" (white back and black bottom). They nest in open fields and are experiencing habitat loss across their range. Their population decrease is compounded by haying too early in the season, which destroys their nests and kills nestlings just before they fledge this month. Haying the first cut in mid-July gives Bobolinks the chance to fledge their nests and enjoy the summer here before migrating some 12,000 miles to Argentina for the winter. Impressive!

Other songbirds nearer to our houses like chickadees, finches, and sparrows may fledge from their nests and end up on the lawn looking disoriented. Lacking the same specific coloration as the adults, the scraggly fledglings may still sport tufts of downy feathers. Often still under the watchful eye of a nearby parent, the fledglings don't need to be "saved" by humans. Instead we can welcome the new generation of birds to our neighborhoods.



4th of July Parade Returns to Whitefield

By Phil Yund

The Town of Whitefield is excited to announce that the annual 4th of July parade will resume this year, following a two-year hiatus due to the pandemic.

The festivities will take place in the village of Kings Mills and in addition to the parade will feature an auction of donated items, food and merchandise sales by the Kings Mills Volunteer Fire Association (KMOVFA) and a white elephant sale by the Union Hall as well as games and the always popular cakewalk. Some great toe tapping music will be provided by Rusty Hinges. Proceeds from the KMOVFA activities are used to maintain the Kings Mills Fire Station and support the municipal fire department.

Floats and vehicles for the parade should line up north-bound on Head Tide Rd. (Rt. 194), just south of the intersection with East River Rd., in time for a 10 AM start. The parade will head south on East River Rd. and then turn west on Pittston Rd. Food will be available during the parade and the auction will begin immediately after the parade. The Kings Mills

Fire Station and Union Hall are located on the south end of Townhouse Rd., near the intersection with Pittston Rd.

Items donated for the auction can be delivered to the Kings Mills Fire Station (904 Townhouse Rd.) on Friday, July 1, from 4-6 PM, Saturday, July 2, from 4-6 PM, and Sunday, July 3, from 8-4 PM. Unfortunately, we will not be able to pick up auction items this year. We also must respectfully decline donations of large pieces of furniture. Any donations of baked goods can be dropped off at the fire station before the parade.

Come out, socialize with people that you have not seen in a couple of years, and support the fire department and your local non-profit organizations!



Planning Board update

At its May meeting, the Board approved a development application by ReVision Energy for a 990-kilowatt, ground-mounted solar array on property owned by Ellis Percy on N. Howe Road. The project, occupying approximately 7 acres, is to be a community operation owned by coop members who are largely homeowners interested in off-site solar power.

The application was filed in January. The Select Board recently voted to pursue a solar ordinance moratorium, it was discussed and passed a special town meeting June 21. The moratorium would allow the Planning Board time to draft an ordinance for commercial solar installations; roof-mounted and other arrays for residential use are to be exempted.

A view from a local volunteer

By Mike McMorro

An article in the June 9th Bangor Daily News entitled "[Island town may have to take over grave maintenance after cemetery caretakers age out](#)" got me thinking about our similar situation here in Whitefield and the implications for our community. Fewer caretakers and volunteers to handle the routine chores of a growing town and more requirements mean more functions will need to be done by paid employees. I remember when the town clerk did business on her kitchen table, now we have four employees in a town office. A road commissioner could keep up with maintaining the roads year round. The fire department was fully manned with volunteers as was the emergency rescue service. School decisions were local.

A different picture today with many causes will require many adjustments, foremost of all paying people to do these jobs with the result being rapidly increasing costs to the town and a heavier tax burden in order to meet community expectations. A good example is our mud season this year, long and costly. Bringing gravel roads to an acceptable level of reliability will take a long time and considerable funds.

Economic and climatic changes will present increasing challenges and maintaining the status quo, let alone improving our situation, will take greater effort and resources.

Right now, I'm resting my wrist (tendonitis) and elbow (tennis elbow caused by chainsaw use) but I can still type and attend meetings.

The Newsletter would like to note Mike McMorro's numerous volunteer activities. Currently he volunteers on the Town Roads Committee, Whitefield Library, Cemetery Committee, Trails Committee, Budget Committee, MOFGA and Midcoast Conservancy.



Library News

CALLING ALL PHOTOGRAPHERS

Once again this year the Whitefield Library will be producing their annual calendar. The theme will be People, Places and Things around Whitefield. You don't need to be a professional to submit a photo so please take a look at your collection, or go out, enjoy this great summer weather and take some photos. All photos should be sent in horizontal format with high resolution and emailed to maciainchief@gmail.com. Please caption and sign your photographs. This is a major fundraiser for the library, and we appreciate your support.

Town Office News.....

July, hard to believe half the year has already gone by.... This means the beginning of a new fiscal year for us here in the Town Office. As I closed out our FYE 22' books on June 30th, I would like to let you know that our Heating Assistance Fund has been used this past winter. Two years ago we had \$3600 in the fund, we currently have just over \$300 in the fund. Unfortunately with the rising costs of fuel, that won't go far. I want to say **Thank You** to those that have donated to this fund in the past. It has helped many in a time of need. With the increasing need for help for heating assistance, we ask if you are willing and able to donate to the Heating Assistance Fund to do so by sending in your donation to the Town Office. I **THANK YOU** in advance. Just imagine the smiles on the faces of people as I tell them the fuel will be delivered soon.

This is an Exciting month for me.... I was hired on as the Administrative Assistant/Town Clerk/Treasurer 2 years ago on July 27th. It has been a pleasure to serve the Town of Whitefield. I look forward to many more years here.

2022 RE Taxes, if you did not get your payment in before June 30th, your name will be listed in the unpaid taxes report in the Annual Report. Tax Liens for the 2022 RE Taxes will be filed mid August, the 30 day Lien Notices will be mailed by certified mail July 8th. As we prepare for Tax Commitment in September for the 2023 Taxes, if you have had an address change within the last year, it is important to update the town office with those changes. Reminder the 2023 Taxes are based on the ownership of the property as of April 1st.

Public Water Access at the Fire Station has not been tested yet for the PFAS. We are at the beginning stages of the testing process. Until we get the results of the testing please be advised that any water gathered from the spicket should NOT be used for drinking purposes. We will post the information once we get it.

June Primary Election day went well. It was a smaller turnout with 203 voters coming to the polls and 23 absentee voters. Thank you for those that took the time to come to the polls to vote. See you again in November!

Reminder to 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.

Enjoy Your Summer & Have a Happy and Safe July 4th!

Yolanda Violette

Administrative Assistant/Town Clerk/Treasurer

St Giles' 2022 Country Fair

When: July 30, 2022 10:00 AM-2:00 PM Where: St Giles' Episcopal Church, 72 Gardiner Rd, Jefferson, ME Attention crafters and those with items to sell or information to share! Join us in celebration of the beauty of our Maine summers at our Fundraising Event! We are renting tables to all crafters, organizations or those who may want to simply sell white elephant items. Tables are \$25 each and it's first come first served. Call 207-549-7872 to make your reservation now! Please leave your name and number if you need to leave a message. Payment can be sent to St Giles, PO Box 34, Jefferson ME 04348 or dropped off in a labeled envelope at Country Corners in Coopers Mills after making your reservation. We have a fun day planned with delicious lunches and snacks provided by a local food truck, an amazing raffle, our famous pie sale, the traditional country cupboard booth, children's activities hosted by Giles our very own church mouse, and a garden center. We have a few new and fun activities in the works so stay tuned for updates! Also news of this year's vendor table offerings will be posted prior to the fair. Partial proceeds benefit The St Giles' Backpack Program, Episcopal Relief and Development, scholarships to Camp Bishopswood, Basic Needs Kits, Home For Little Wanderers, and continued support for the Jefferson Area Community Food Pantry.



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Booklet on request to Miss Anna M. Lauers, Secretary, 42 Depot Plaza, White Plains, New York

Courtesy of "Friends of Whitefield"

Whitefield Elementary School... Celebrating Another Year in the Books

June 16th closed out the end of another school year. By working together and thinking creatively, Sheepscot Valley RSU 12 and Whitefield Elementary provided another 175 days of in-person instruction to our students. Masks were made optional as of February 28, 2022. A big thank you to the school administration and teachers for providing a safe learning and working environment for everyone.

Thank you to all towns in the RSU 12 community for supporting education by funding the 2022-2023 school budget. According to RSU 12 Superintendent Howard Tuttle, "75% approval from the community is an affirmation of the quality teaching and learning that takes place in RSU 12." Two hundred twenty registered Whitefield voters approved the budget by 77%. Thank you for your support for our Wildcats.

Congratulations to all of our 8th grade graduates who officially celebrated on June 15th with a Celebration Dance. They now go on to various high schools for secondary education. You can find the Class of 2022 slide show presentation on the Whitefield Elementary School Facebook page.

End of the year activities included A Day of Caring; raking and weeding

Select Board Notes

May 24 through June 20

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.

Road work has begun or will soon! Paving and brush clearing bids have been awarded and with the summer low-water levels, Leonard's Bridge work should start soon.

The town will be following recommendations from Maine DOT and other states to reduce the salt used on gravel roads in the winter. Salt contributes to excessive mud conditions on gravel roads. This will be an ongoing effort to inform and educate residents and the plowing contractor.

The town is due for a revaluation in the next year and the select board has been working to finalize a contract with the assessor.

More registered republicans are needed to have a balanced list of election clerks. If interested, contact the Town Office.

The ARPA brainstorm session produced several good ideas that the select board will work through to best utilize these federal funds.

at the town office, dedication ceremony for the Dennis Cullenberg Garden, a plant sale for the community, annual Field Day, Year End Awards Assembly and Parent Luncheon, 8th grade class trip and Summer Garden Club planning. All students are invited to play Whitefield Library "Summer Bingo", participate in the library's "Summer Reading Challenge" for fun and prizes and for the little ones

who cannot yet read, "Storytime" is every Friday at 10:30 AM. Students are also invited to "Field Trip Story Time" this summer. For more information, go to whitefieldlibrary.org or check out their Facebook page.

We strongly encourage all Pre-K and Kindergarten students to register for school next year. Whitefield Elementary school will be open, safe, and ready for your student to learn again this fall. Whitefield Elementary School serves Pre-K through 8. Current Principal is Mark DuBlois, who can be reached at 207-549-5251.

-Kathleen Goetzman, Whitefield rep, Sheepscot Valley RSU 12 School Board

Your other Whitefield representatives are Deborah Talacko and Gretchen Morrow, who has been appointed to finish the remainder of Suzanne Balbo's term.



USED BOOK AND YARD SALE

JULY 16TH 11:00 TO 2:00

AT THE LIBRARY

Rain Date: July 23rd.

If you're looking for a place to get rid of some of that stuff you've been storing for too long, please consider donating it to our annual yard sale. You can bring your donations to the Library Friday, July 9th by 2:00 or before 10:00 Saturday morning. We'd love almost everything, but please no clothing.

There will also be plenty of great used books for all ages for sale in the library.

Once again this year, **Rusty Hinges** has kindly agreed to provide some toe-tapping music.

Come pull up a hay bale and enjoy the tunes, browse the used book sale, or purchase some must-have treasures from our yard sale. The Library will be open if you wish to take out a book!

Your support is appreciated. FMI contact Sue McKeen at 443-7473.

JULY 2022 COMMUNITY EVENTS CALENDAR.

- 1st **WHITEFIELD FOOD PANTRY**, 150 Grand Army Road, 10-2 pm
WHITEFIELD LIBRARY Open 10-2 Storytime at 10:30 am
WINE TASTING with American Wines at Sheepscot General 5-7 pm
SHEEPSBOT GENERAL LIVE MUSIC James Lomey live music 6-8 pm
 Outside, weather permitting
- 2nd **WHITEFIELD LIBRARY** Open 10-2
- 4th **4th of July Parade 10 am, Kings Mills**, White Elephant Sale Kings Mills Union Hall, Auction at the Kings Mills Volunteer Fire Department, Cake walk and much more
- 5th **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
- 7th **SENIOR MEN'S GROUP (ROMEOS)** 10 am Sheepscot General
TAKE A HIKE!! At the end of Howe Rd. Salmon Preserve. Meet at the trail head at 10:30 for a fun story walk, and nature adventure.
- 8th **WHITEFIELD LIBRARY** Open 10-2 Storytime at 10:30 am
SHEEPSBOT GENERAL LIVE MUSIC WITH Thomas Cayer 6-8 pm
 Outside, weather permitting
- 9th **WHITEFIELD FOOD PANTRY**, 150 Grand Army Road, 10-2 pm
WHITEFIELD LIBRARY Open 10-2
- 11th **WHITEFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY, Town House, 10:00 am**
WHITEFIELD MUNICIPAL FIRE DEPT., Fire Station, 7 pm
- 12th **SINGING CIRCLE** 1-3 pm
- 14th **SENIOR MEN'S GROUP (ROMEOS)** 10 am Sheepscot General
RSU 12 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING 6:30—9:00 pm
- 15th **WHITEFIELD LIBRARY** Open 10-2 Storytime at 10:30 am
SHEEPSBOT GENERAL LIVE MUSIC WITH Doug Morier 6-8 pm Outside, weather permitting
- 16th **WHITEFIELD LIBRARY** Open 10-2 Storytime at 10:30 am
WHITEFIELD FOOD PANTRY, 150 Grand Army Road, 10-12 pm
USED BOOK AND YARD SALE 11-2 pm Rain date July 23rd at the Whitefield Library
- 18th **WHITEFIELD LIBRARY & COMMUNITY CENTER BOARD MEETING** 10 am at the Whitefield Firehouse.
COW APPRECIATION at Sheepscot Valley Farm 163 Town House Rd. Meet us at the farm at 10:30 to learn about the dairy farming life.
- 19th **SINGING CIRCLE** 1-3 pm
SELECT BOARD at 6 pm Central Fire Station
- 20th **YOUNG AT HEART** will be at the Lions Club in Coopers Mills at noon. Bring a hot dish, salad or dessert to share.
PLANNING BOARD 6 pm at Central Fire Station
- 21st **SENIOR MEN'S GROUP (ROMEOS)** 10 am Sheepscot General
- 22nd **WHITEFIELD LIBRARY** Open 10-2 Storytime at 10:30 am
SHEEPSBOT GENERAL LIVE MUSIC WITH Aaron Englander 6-8 pm
 Outside, weather permitting
- 23rd **WHITEFIELD LIBRARY** Open 10-2 Storytime at 10:30 am
WHITEFIELD FOOD PANTRY, 150 Grand Army Road, 10-12 pm
- 26th **SINGING CIRCLE** 1-3 pm
- 28th **SENIOR MEN'S GROUP (ROMEOS)** 10 am Sheepscot General
- 29th **WHITEFIELD LIBRARY** Open 10-2 Storytime at 10:30 am
SHEEPSBOT GENERAL LIVE MUSIC WITH Cabbage & Co 6-8 pm weather permitting
- 30th **WHITEFIELD LIBRARY** Open 10-2 Storytime at 10:30 am
WHITEFIELD FOOD PANTRY, 150 Grand Army Road, 10-12 pm
ST. GILES 2022 COUNTRY FAIR 10 am to 2 pm St. Giles Episcopal Church, 72 Gardiner Road, Jefferson.



Deadline for newsletter submissions is the 15th of the month. whitefieldtownnews@gmail.com
 Whitefield Newsletter Committee: Cheryle Joslyn, Kit Pfeiffer, Sue McKeen, Tony Marple, Dolly Burns, Lise Hanners & Debbie Rogers.

Kathy Dauphin Massage Therapy



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