



# NEW PORTLANDER



INFORMATION IS THE CURRENCY OF DEMOCRACY — THOMAS JEFFERSON

PUBLICATION VOLUME 15 NUMBER 12

Visit the Town of New Portland's web page at [newportlandmaine.org](http://newportlandmaine.org)

JUNE 1, 2009

## TOWN OFFICE HOURS

The Town Office hours are as follows:

**Town Manager:** Stacie Rundlett 628-4441

*Tax collecting, registrations, hunting & fishing licenses*

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday ..... 11:00 am - 5:00 pm  
Thursday ..... 2:00 pm - 7:00 pm  
First Saturday of each month ..... 8:00 am - noon

**Town Clerk:** Becky Taylor

*Vital statistics & dog licensing*

Monday ..... 11:00 am - 2:00 pm & 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm  
Thursday ..... 3:00 pm - 7:00 pm  
First Saturday of each month ..... 8:00 am - 11:00 am

**CEO:**

First and third Tuesday ..... 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm

**E-mail for town business:** [nwprtld@somtel.com](mailto:nwprtld@somtel.com)

*The Town of New Portland is an equal opportunity employer and service provider.*

## Remember...

- **Selectmen's Meeting**  
1st Tuesday of each month at the Town Office at 6:00 pm
- **New Portland Fire Department Meeting**  
2nd & 4th Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm
- **MAC Meeting**  
3rd Monday of the month at 7:00 pm
- **NP Community Library Hours:**  
Mon, Wed, Thurs ..... 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm  
Saturday ..... 10:00 am - noon
- **Library Board of Trustees Meeting**  
2nd Tuesday of the month at 6:00 pm
- **Planning Board Meeting**  
1st Wednesday of the month at 6:30 pm
- **New Portland Water District**  
2nd Wednesday of each month at 7:00 pm
- **School Board Meeting**  
1st Wednesday of each month at 6:00 pm
- **Wire Bridge Thrift Shop** open every Saturday
- **Firemen's Auxiliary**  
3rd Wednesday of each month at 6:30 pm

### New Portlander deadline is June 24 by 4:00pm.

Any articles, submissions, information for publication should be received by:

**Dallas Landry • PO Box 34, North New Portland, ME 04961  
phone 628-4201 • email: [bigd@tdstelme.net](mailto:bigd@tdstelme.net)**

If there are any questions or needs regarding the receiving of the New Portlander, those inquiries should be directed to the Town Manager.

## Selectmen

On June 9 at 6:30 pm at the Fire Station we will be having a public hearing. The hearing will be to discuss Central School. We will present what the Town's Real Estate Lawyer thinks about the deeds for Central School, and we will share with you our findings on what maintenance needs to be done to the school and the cost to heat the building. We are looking for input from our town's people so please come out for this hearing.

On June 1 at 7:00 pm at Webster Hall in Kingfield, there will be a Transfer Station meeting, and we will be discussing if we should allow people who do not want to recycle to be able to pay a fee per bag to dump their trash. We are already paying over \$50,000.00 to the Town of Kingfield to be part of their transfer station and now if this passes you can pay your share of taxes and also pay extra at the station to dump non-recyclable trash. The New Portland selectmen have some concern about this because who will watch the bags going in to see who is paying. Peter Gardner is already busy up there. What can be in these bags? Anything, or will there be restrictions? If you are interested in this issue please come to the meeting.

Thank you to everyone who has donated flags and to everyone who has put them up in town. Now that they are up, take pride in your own town, and if you see a problem with the flags and if you are able please stop and fix them. This is our community; let's all take care of it. We still need some more flags for the North Village. If you would like to donate, please contact Stacie at the Town Office.

Just so everyone knows, the Town Office did not receive notice about the North Village bridge being closed until May 5, 2009. The letter was dated May 4, 2009. We received no notice about the closing of the Wire Bridge. They did not finish the bridge project last year, so they will be closing it again to finish the bridge project. We are sorry for the inconvenience of all of this. We have no control in what the State does.

Stacie and Janet have contacted Central Maine Power about the street lights. CMP sent a person out to check all of our street lights, they gave the Town Office a readout of how many lights and what the cost per light is. If anyone would like this information you can contact Stacie at the Town Office.

*Submitted: Lorie Agren, Doug Archer, Janet White; Selectmen*

## Selectmen's Meeting Minutes - May 05, 2009

Present: Mary and Al Bolduc, Gary Agren, Kip Poulin, Becky Taylor, Lorie Agren, Janet White, Stacie Rundlett, John Bertyl

Meeting called to order 6:07 pm.

Department Heads: Town Clerk, Becky Taylor, stated that there are two clerk classes coming up May 18 and May 21. The board informed her that at this time because of budget reasons they would approve for her to go to these classes but not her deputy, Marilyn Gorman. They would like her to bring back information for Marilyn and train her. They also stated that possibly next year funds for classes could be appropriated for Marilyn to take the classes. Becky also inquired of the board if they would allow her to join the Maine Municipal Clerks Association for a fee of \$20.00 per year. The board agreed it was a good idea and gave her their approval. She also asked what the protocol was for the classes that she takes regarding pay. Selectmen informed her that mileage was reimbursed, and the town would pay for the classes. Becky told the selectmen that the dog licensing was improving.

Road Commissioner, Gary Agren, informed the board that he met with CEO Bob Dunphy to look at culverts on Gilman Pond Road. The CEO told Gary that replacement culverts were okay. Gary informed the board he would like to purchase plastic culverts and take funds out of surplus. There was some discussion on this matter and the options that were available. Gary will get prices for the materials and once that is done the selectmen will meet to decide where to go from there. Gary also informed the board that guardrails on New Portland Hill Road had been damaged this winter from plowing. Gary stated that we could purchase used guardrails from the State to replace damaged ones on New Portland Hill Road. He stated the need to install an overflow pipe as well on that road. The board asked Stacie to look into the matter with regards to plow contract and responsibility of damages done to guardrails. Gary told the board that he expects the State posters for road postings to come down within the week. Gary asked the board about painting of the old Fire Station in the West Village. He informed the board he knew of someone who does a good job for a reasonable rate. There was discussion about the roof, paint and that the shed on the back of the building needs to be torn down. Gary will contact the person that he knows and get prices for the board.

Fire Chief, Kip Poulin stated to the board that the squad is ready. Stacie noted that an ad for accepting bids would go out this week. There was some discussion on the dry hydrant that needs to be put in at the bridge over Gilman Stream.

Town Manager, Stacie Rundlett informed the board that she had applied for a DEP permit by rule with Bob Dunphy and it had been mailed to the state. Stacie informed the board that the bridge was scheduled to be closed from May 11, 2009 to October 15, 2009. Kip did not know exactly what was needed for supplies for the dry hydrant project. The board asked Stacie to contact the contractor on the bridge project to see if they could answer that question about supplies needed. Kip asked the board if they wanted to use plastic or steel. The board stated it should be whatever is going to last the longest. It was also stated that funds for this project should come out of a dry hydrant account. Kip told the board that he would contact Mark Reichert about a section of pipe that was discussed last year that possibly Mark might donate. Stacie informed the board and Kip

that flags from last years' bicentennial, which were left in the Fire Station, were gone. She has been in touch with Judy Wills about the flags and they are not where they were left last year. Stacie stated that this poses a security problem for the building and should be addressed. There was some discussion about a motion-sensored light that was appropriated for last year but was not purchased for the corner of the building. There have also been complaints about someone tearing up the parking lot doing "power turns or donuts". It was also stated because of this Gary usually has to grade the parking lot because ruts are deep from vehicle doing "power turns or donuts". It has been suggested the town install a security camera to try and deter any more vandalism or theft. Kip informed the board some systems could be purchased fairly inexpensively. Stacie was to look into this matter and let the board know of the costs so possibly this could be purchased. She informed the board that the riding lawnmower had been purchased and is scheduled to be picked up later in the week. Stacie shared with the board that the invoice from Taylor Made Homes had come in and was \$548.00 less than the quoted estimate. Stacie told the board that there were still some issues to work out for a possible partial road closure for the Safford Road. She was in hopes details could be worked out before next selectmen's meeting. Board agreed to table this matter.

Treasurer's Warrant totaling \$89,370.83 and Payroll Warrant totaling \$4117.31 were signed. There was discussion on the closing of Central School. Stacie shared with the board that a representative from CMP came to check on our town street lights. They are all the type of lights we are supposed to have. She provided for the town a breakdown of each street light and its monthly and annual cost to operate. The selectmen can now check out each light and decide if there is a necessity for it and if not it can be discontinued to save the town money.

Selectman, Janet White, shared with the board that there had been a recent Transfer Station meeting held in May in Kingfield. The Kingfield Selectmen wanted to vote on a new option they were proposing for Transfer Station. They wanted to have an option for people who do not want to recycle. Those who do not want to recycle can still bring bags of trash to the transfer station but have to pay an additional cost other than what their town currently pays annually for use of transfer station. Janet was the only representative from New Portland that night, and she insisted they table the matter for the next meeting when more board members were in hopes to be there. Janet also shared with the board that the financial statement that was submitted to board members at that meeting was different than usual and she wondered if former Administrative Assistant to Board of Selectmen from Kingfield, Greg Davis, had submitted this information for a particular reason. Lorie stated that she would be at the next Transfer Station Meeting scheduled for June 01, 2009 at 6:00 pm at Webster Hall in Kingfield.

#### Items by the Public:

John Bertyl informed the board that he was having issues with the Water District. And he had obtained information from the Attorney General's office that the Water District was not operating as according to Maine State Law. Therefore, his source informed John he

should get the selectmen in his town involved. He told the board he was not allowed to be a write-in for a seat on the Water District's board. The selectmen stated to John that the Water District was not a part of town business, and the town had no say in what the Water District did or did not do. Lorie did let John know she would be inclined to contact Don Edes, president of the Water District, to see if she could help clear up any of this matter.

Al Bolduc asked the board about the work being done on the Wire Bridge. He wanted to know if the bridge could be left open for evening hours and weekends. Stacie would call project manager to see if something could be negotiated.

Meeting adjourned 7:55 pm

*Submitted: Stacie Rundlett, Town Manager*

## **Town Manager**

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Summer is fast approaching us; I hope we all can find some time to enjoy it. I would like to thank Carrabec High School and the students who participated in New Portland on their community service day. It was very nice to have all those young people lending a hand with some yearly chores here in town. Also I'd like to give a special thank you to Alice, Lorie and Wayne for letting us borrow tools for that day. Janet had a group at the wire bridge doing some clean up work and I had a group at the town office and fire station doing some clean up work indoors and outdoors. They did a fantastic job. THANK YOU!!

Some of you may have noticed the flags in the East. Judi Wills donated them since our flags from last years bicentennial disappeared. So I would like to thank Judi for her kindness, we all appreciate it. Also, a thank you to my brother-in-law, Wayne Rundlett, and husband, Brian Rundlett, for making sure the flags went up. Alice Bixby donated a flag, which will have gone up hopefully by the time you read this newsletter. Thank you Alice. If anyone else would like to donate flags to be put up around town please call the town office to speak with me and we can make arrangements.

I hope you all will take notice of the beautiful flowers that Janet White planted for us at the town office. Thank you Janet for the time you put in, the flowers look very nice.

On another note, the town selectmen will be hosting a Public Hearing on June 9th at 6:30 p.m. at the Community room in the Fire Station. This Public Hearing will be to explain the town's current situation with the closing of Central School. The town has heard from the School District with regards to the school closing and the selectmen and I have met with the heirs to the property. We would hope that everyone would make a special effort to attend this meeting, we will be sharing a lot of information that night and wouldn't want anyone to miss out on any of it.

I also wanted to make sure all New Portland residents knew that we no longer issue fire permits at the town office. You must contact Kip Poulin, Brian Rundlett, David Reed or Kendall Knowles.

I would also like to inform the public that the bridge in the North Village will be under repairs and closed from May 11th through October 15th, 2009. And I have not received a date yet but at some point this summer the wire bridge will also be closed for repairs.

Enjoy the warmer weather and be safe.

*Submitted: Stacie Rundlett, Town Manager*

## **New Portland Fire Department**

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To the good citizens of New Portland.

The warm days of spring are finally here for us to enjoy. I hope everyone had a safe and enjoyable Memorial Holiday. Last word from the Town Office was the old ambulance that we were using has been awarded to the highest bidder and should be gone by the time you read this. This month both the Pierce Engine and the International Tanker we sent out completed their annual pump test. When the apparatus are tested, the pumps have the oils changed and are looked over. Then the trucks are submitted to a test that works all systems in the apparatus to find any short coming that might happen on the fire grounds, along with the pump volumes and pressures. Both apparatus have passed; the only note would be that the tanker is off a little bit in its volume, which is down some compared to the listed rpm. The Pierce Engine had to have a couple of gauges replaced to correct readings.

As far as the department goes it's been very slow, not much in the way of calls. We are looking to do a control burn in June where we will be able to do some training with our department and some area departments.

Have a happy and safe month of June.

*Submitted: Kip Poulin, Fire Chief*

## **Town Clerk**

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I want to thank everyone for their prompt response to the dog notices, for either coming in and licensing or letting me know if you no longer have the animal, for whatever reason. I did learn from my recent class, if you live part-time in Maine and another state you are by law required to license your dog after a ten day period. I also learned the extra \$25.00 can't be charged.

I apologize for any inconvenience last week while the office was closed, as I was taking classes on licensing and vital records.

I would like to remind everyone if you need a copy of your birth record or another record call me at home 628-5001 or e-mail me at [gofergal@tdstelme.net](mailto:gofergal@tdstelme.net) to make the necessary arrangements.

*Submitted: Becky Taylor, Town Clerk*

## **Central Elementary School**

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It is amazing how, with a few sunny days, the time starts to fly by and the bugs come out! As Central's last school year comes to a close, we continue to be upbeat and plan great memorable occasions for our students.

On May 14, the last after school program was held and students enjoyed making oobleck. We read the Dr. Seuss book Bartholomew and the Oobleck together. Later, they mixed together the "kitchen science" materials, water and cornstarch with food coloring to create oobleck. When you hear the word polymer, you probably think of manufactured plastics. Cornstarch is a natural polymer. When added to a liquid, polymers cause the liquid to flow at a much slower rate. When adding cornstarch to water, the substance will still pour, but not as fast as plain water. If students try to roll it into a ball, they can, as long as they keep the substance moving in their hands. Oobleck acts like both a liquid and a solid. A liquid like this is called a non-Newtonian fluid. The kids discovered if they pushed on the oobleck gently, their fingers would slide right into the gooey substance. But, they also discovered that if they punch the oobleck, their fist would bounce on the surface and not slide in. What a lot of fun they had discovering what they can do with oobleck.

On to science, what happens when three identical plants are repotted into sand, gravel, and soil? In the continuing saga of second and third grade science, that is what we will discover. The potting medium is the only variable. The necessary light and water will be provided in the same amounts for each plant. We will observe the changes in three plants over the course of two weeks. We will watch the plants carefully and record our observations on our lab reports, just like grown-up scientists.

Carrabec High School held their community service day on May 15. Mr. Landry and a group of 13 Carrabec students came to Central for Community Service Day. They sorted through and boxed up books, raked and shoveled sand, gravel and debris from the driveway and front lawn. They also replaced bark mulch around the playground equipment. They were well organized and extremely helpful.

Central students are enjoying some of this nice spring weather by barbequeing for lunch whenever the chance arises.

"Promising Futures" essays were well researched and completed by all students in grades 4 and 5 and submitted to Skowhegan Savings in time for the deadline. Their work was excellent and they all received an A in their classwork. They are also enjoying their dreams! This year's winner from Central was Hunter Stevens. Congrats Hunter for a job well done!

Remember our letters to an alumni soldier last fall? Johnny Maynard visited Central School students in early May dressed in very accomplished uniform to personally thank the students for their letters, all written on yellow paper. He told them anyone seeing his room saw a solid yellow wall of letters from his community school. Johnny told them he was in the area because he had a meeting with Governor Baldacci concerning Veteran's plates that afternoon.

He responded to the students questions, about the war, his experience as Central School student and about all of his medals, with great respect and honor for a full hour. Johnny was a member of the first Eighth Grade to graduate from the new gym 22 years ago! He told them how fortunate he feels to have attended such a family oriented community school. When taken on a tour of the school, including the old cafeteria and downstairs classrooms, he remarked, "Wow, the cafeteria used to seem sooo...big" and upon looking for his carving on the woodwork he found it was painted over and covered by shelves. (The students were very interested in knowing what he found.) He also shared a little story about how the older kids used to tell the kids, "If you misbehave, you'll have to go in the dungeon." The "dungeon" was a storage room, but a room of mystery to them. Thank you, Johnny, for taking the time to come visit with us. Thank you so much for your service to our country!

Central students enjoyed traveling to Solon School on May 20 for the District Band Concert. The members of the band did a super job! We are especially proud of our own Shenciaray Black, Evan Gorr and Tyler Reichert.

Congratulations to all the SAD #74 students who participated in this year's performance. It was another outstanding show!

Enjoy the gardening season.

*Submitted: Bonnie Atwood, Secretary*

## **Central Elementary PTF**

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The Central PTF would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the staff at Central School for all of their years of service and dedication to the children of New Portland. You will be greatly missed and good luck to all of you in your future endeavors.

*Submitted: Lorie Agren, Heidi Tolman, Central PTF*

## **New Portland Community Library**

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Friends of the Library held their last activity night until fall on May 21. Stephanie showed us several examples of art created from junk using a slide show she created. We all got busy choosing someone's junk and created some of our own art. Everyone ended up with a creative piece and a few burns from hot glue. Blueberry cobbler and iced tea were enjoyed by all of us.

On June 6 (Saturday) from 9:00 am – 1:00 pm plants, baked goods, and books will be on sale at the library. Someone will be calling asking for donations of plants, seedlings, or baked goods. If you don't receive a call and wish to donate, please drop off your donation at the library before 9:00 am. Looking forward to seeing many of you.

As a reminder we will be holding our Annual Ice Cream Social July 16 at the fire station meeting room. The Annual Yard Sale will be held on August 22. Start saving items to donate to the library's table.

We are still processing donated books. Not accepting any donations at this time. Thanks for your patience and understanding.

*Submitted: Petrina "Pete" Bearor  
and Stephanie Campbell,  
Friends of the Library*

The New Portland Community Library Book Club will meet on June 11 to discuss David Wroblewski's novel, *The Story of Edgar Sawtelle*. The July 9 selection is an autobiography by Sidney Portier titled *The Measure of a Man: A Spiritual Autobiography*. We meet at 6:30 p.m. at the library, which is located across from the Town Office on River Road. All are welcome!

*Submitted: Kay Michka, Library Volunteer*

## Animal Control

Animal control only takes care of domestic animals, NOT skunks, raccoons, deer, moose or any other wild animals. If you have any domestic animal problems please call me at 628-2919.

Remember to put the flea and tick treatment on your animals.

*Submitted: Lorie Agren, ACO*

## Announcements

1.) On Friday, May 22 three members of the Bicentennial Committee were present at the Spirit of America Award Ceremony in Augusta, Maine. The Bicentennial Committee members were notified on Friday May 15 of the Spirit of America Award ceremony. Judi had sent addresses of each member to the committee of the Spirit of America, and post cards were mailed to all members.

There were many people from all towns in Maine who had received this award for outstanding community involvement. The mayor of Augusta commented that most of the people in the room receiving the award have been volunteering for many years. It was usually the same people who stepped out and did what was needed when it was needed and asked nothing in return. In this time of economic challenges people are needed to step forward and volunteer in their communities.

Marilyn Gorman, Diane Pease and Judi Wills, on behalf of the Bicentennial Committee and the Town of New Portland, were thanked for the hard work and dedication to their town. Pictures were taken and a small reception was held.

*Submitted by: Judi Wills*

2.) I am looking for some volunteers to help install the rest of the playground equipment up at the fire station field. Anyone interested in helping please call Lorie Agren at 628-2919 or the Town Office at 628-4441. Thank you.

*Submitted: Lorie Agren*

## SUMMER CRYPTOGRAM

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
3				11				9						6							20				

### Directions:

This puzzle is called a Cryptogram. At the top there is a KEY that lists all the letters from A thru Z with a box below. Each of the letters has a corresponding number.

A    \_ E    \_ E    \_    \_ U    \_ E    \_    A    I    \_  
3    26 11 2 14 11 22 7    5 20 18 18 11 2    4 3 1    9 5

\_ E    \_ E    \_ U    I    \_ I    I    \_  
25 23 11 12    7 23 11    5 20 12    9 5    5 23 9 12 9 12 17

The bottom part contains a secret phrase. Each of the blanks has a number underneath it. Fill in the letters that correspond to the numbers below the blanks to solve the phrase.

\_ E    \_ I    \_ A    E    \_ I    \_ I    \_ A    \_  
7 23 11    19 9 2 4 5    3 2 11    5 9 12 17 9 12 17    3 12 4

\_ E    \_ A    \_ O    E    \_ I    \_ O    E    \_  
7 23 11    21 3 25 12    18 6 25 11 2    9 5    19 2 6 8 11 12

ANSWER: A perfect summer day is when the sun is shining, the birds are singing and the lawn mower is broken.

NEW PORTLAND MAINE 04961  
 POSTAL PATRON

*The New Portlander*  
 Established July 1994



BULK RATE  
 US POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
 New Portland, ME  
 Permit No. 1



**NEW PORTLANDER CALENDAR**  
**JUNE 2009**



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 Kingfield Transfer Station Webster Hall 7:00 pm	2 Selectmen's Meeting 6:00 pm	3 School Board Meeting - 6:00 pm  Planning Board Mtg 6:30 pm	4	5	6 Town Office Open 8 am - noon  Annual plants, baked goods, and books sale NPCL 9:00 am – 1:00 pm
7  West Village Church 11:00 am	8	9 NPCL Board Mtg 6:00 pm  NPF - 7:00 pm  Central School Discussion Fire Station Mtg Rm 6:30 pm	10  Water District 7:00 pm	11  Book Club - NPCL 6:30 pm	12	13
14  West Village Church 11:00 am	15  MAC Meeting 7:00 pm	16	17  Firemen's Auxiliary 6:30 pm	18	19	20  Sno Travellers Fire Station 6:30 pm
21  West Village Church 11:00 am	22	23  NPF - 7:00 pm	24	25	26	27
28  West Village Church 11:00 am	29	30				