



NEW PORTLANDER

INFORMATION IS THE CURRENCY OF DEMOCRACY — THOMAS JEFFERSON



PUBLICATION VOLUME 17 NUMBER 8

Visit the Town of New Portland's web page at newportlandmaine.org

MARCH 1, 2011

E-mail for town business: nwprtld@tds.net | The Town of New Portland is an equal opportunity employer and service provider.

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
(except Holiday weekends)	



Town Clerk: Becky Taylor

Vital statistics & dog licensing

Monday	3:00 pm - 4:00 pm
Thursdays	3:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Deputy Town Clerk: Marilyn Gorman

Monday	12:00 pm - 3:00 pm
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CEO:

First and third Tuesday	1:00 pm - 3:00 pm
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Assessor's Agent:

Every other Monday	10:00 am - 2:00 pm
or call to schedule a meeting	

Remember...

- **Selectmen's Meeting**
1st Tuesday of each month at 6:30 pm &
3rd Monday of each month at 6:30 pm
- **New Portland Fire Department Meeting**
2nd & 4th Tuesday of each 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**
2nd Wednesday of each month at 6:30 pm

New Portlander deadline is Mar. 25 by 4:00 pm.

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

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

Town Clerk

Announcing the Annual Town Meeting: The Annual Town Meeting will be held on March 5, 2011 at the Community Room at 1:00 pm. Election and voting will take place at the Community Room on March 5 from 8:00 am – 12:00 pm. This is for the election of town officers and the school article for the Alternative Organization Structure (AOS).

Citizens, if you are voting for a candidate, whether on the ballot or a write-in, please make certain to check the box by the name you select or your vote will not be counted.

The Town Clerk's office will be closed on March 3. I have a training requirement for this office.

Submitted: Becky Taylor

New Portland Community Library

Librarian Wanted: The New Portland Community Library seeks an enthusiastic, energetic person to serve as the librarian. Having library skills is wonderful but training and support will be available. Close and friendly contact with the Library Board and members of the community is essential. There is freedom to create library programs, help with fund raising and expand the collection. We want a strong, creative person who is willing to "grow the job". There is a stipend. Please send a cover letter, resume, and the names of three references to K. Michka, Box 182, Lexington Twp, Maine 04961

Submitted: Dotti Carter

NEW PORTLAND COMMUNITY LIBRARY'S 100 CLUB WINNERS:

January 3: Ruth Arrington, Dan Davis, Sharleen Belanger
 January 10: Robert Whitten, Linda Taylor, Ruth Arrington
 January 17: Barb Bruno, Alison Thayer, Tim and Ruth Parent
 January 24: Greg and Pat Drummond, Emily Clague, Russ Morey
 January 31: Ezra Pease, Anne Hunter, Gary Cobb
 February 7: Russ Morey, Dotti Carter, Julie Edes
 February 14: Petrina Bearor, Betty Brown, Jennifer Moes
 February 21: Betty Cobb, Barb Bruno, Gerald Strickland

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY: Our Scrapbooking Activity Night was well attended. Shelby Newell taught us how to create mosaic pictures using photographs she had taken. Thank you, Shelby, for showing us how to do something new and the peanut butter pie was delicious.

The next Activity Night is March 16 at 6:00 pm. Greg Drummond, Jim Heichel, Tom Wilkey, Brad Smith, and Tom Gagnon will be demonstrating the art of tying flies. If you have any fly tying material you want to bring and share, please do. We are hoping boys and girls interested in fly fishing will come. I know, there are many ladies out there fishing, too. This night is for everyone. Refreshments will be available for \$3.00. See you on March 16.

We are still knitting the second and fourth Thursday of each month from 10:00 -11:30 am. Everyone from beginners to experts is welcome.

Shelby Newell also held a very successful Children's Valentine Activity Day. Ten children and their parents decorated cookies and made valentines. From the messages read on Facebook, everyone had a great time.

Submitted: Petrina Bearor and Stephanie Campbell

Below is a list of new books at the New Portland Community Library. Come in and enjoy one of these choices.

- Worth Dying For* by Lee Child
- Plum Spooky* by Janet Evanovich
- Decision Points* by George W. Bush
- True Compass* by Edward M. Kennedy
- Major Pettigrew's Last Stand* by Helen Simonson
- Cross Fire* by James Patterson
- Think of a Number* by John Verdon

Submitted: Kathy Garland

Tinkers written by Paul Harding is the name of the selection the New Portland Community Library Book Club has chosen to discuss on March 10. Mr. Harding has taught writing at Harvard, and this is his first novel, which won the Pulitzer Prize after countless rejections for publishing. The story is of a grandfather lying on his deathbed in his New England home with his family surrounding him. He once repaired antique clocks as a hobby, and the metaphor of the mechanics of life and the objects he once brought back to life are intertwined.

Please join us when we meet at the library on River Road across from the Town Office at 6:30 pm. Happy reading!

Submitted: Kay Michka, Library Volunteer

Recreation Committee

The Recreation Committee met on February 16 at the New Portland Community Room. Members present were Colby Atwood, Cindy Atwood, Jessie Campbell, Stacy Rundlett and Judi Wills.

The meeting started at 6:30 pm. The committee discussed the playground equipment and planned how to move forward with this project. There was a discussion with ideas of what needs to be done. More discussion will be done at the next meeting to try and finalize this project. Ideas were discussed about activities we thought would be fun to do. In April a movie night will be held. We will look at good family movies and announce the time and movie. We felt it would be a good time for kids and parents to share a special time together. Refreshments will be available and everything will be free. Stay tuned for date and time!

Discussion was held about the Fun Day on Saturday, February 18. All plans and preparations for the event are done and the food has been arranged. Meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm; next meeting will be March 16, 2011 at 6:30 pm at the Community Room.

Submitted: Judi Wills

Citizens' Corner

My name is Ken Whitney, and I was running for selectperson of New Portland. As of 6:30 pm on February 9, 2011, I officially pulled my nomination papers, and I am not running for the office of selectperson.

I am doing this so I can support our new write-in candidate Andrea Reichert for the position of selectperson.

I believe Andrea is the right person for the position of selectperson of New Portland. I know she will work hard to get the town moving in the right direction! With her 12 years as our town manager, she has the experience and trust of the people of New Portland.

I am asking all the people who were supporting me to join me and vote Andrea Reichert. **Remember she is a write-in candidate. This means you have to write her name in the box and place a V or X in box next to her name, an example is below.**

X (or v)	Andrea Reichert
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Andrea and I care about our town and we need your help to get it headed in the right direction. Thank you.

Submitted: Ken Whitney

I am running for a seat on the Board of Selectmen as a write in candidate. Some of you may wonder why didn't Andrea just take out nomination papers and get her name on the ballot? At the time nomination papers needed to be handed in I had not really considered seriously running. I think being a selectperson in New Portland can be a big job, and I wasn't sure I was ready to take on the task. After attending several meetings, including the budget committee meeting, I realized that my experience in town government could be useful at this time. If elected, I will do my best to make educated, forward thinking and thoughtful decisions on policies and procedures brought before the board. If you want to vote for me, please make sure to write my name on the blank line and check the box beside my name so that your vote will be counted. Thank you.

Submitted: Andrea Reichert

I am supporting Andrea Reichert for the position of New Portland Selectmen.

I thought it was a great opportunity for the citizens of New Portland to have a choice between three candidates. When Ken Whitney withdrew his name and supported Andrea publically, he led people to whom he felt was the strongest of candidates. I believe, Ken White has a true interest in New Portland and wants to add his strengths to the town.

I feel Andrea has many strengths and insights that this town needs right now. The commitment to be a selectperson is more than many of us know. The knowledge someone can bring with them to do this job is an added benefit for this town. This is why I support Andrea Reichert. I have worked with Andrea and have had to go to her when I worked on projects for this town; she always had an answer or would give me a direction to get the information which I needed. I believe, Andrea's agenda is to bring this town in a direction to work together and to help manage the town's income and interests.

Please if you are voting for Andrea make sure you spell her name correctly. ANDREA REICHERT. Make sure you make an (X) or (V) in the box, otherwise your vote will not be counted.

Submitted: Judi Wills

I am seeking your vote as I run for the position of your school board representative. I have served two consecutive terms. I have six years experience in this position and wish to serve the town of New Portland in this capacity for a third term. I believe, my work and concerns

over the past years whether as selectperson, fire chief and most recently as school board representative speak loudly about my commitment to the community. I would appreciate your vote and continued support in my effort as your board representative. Thank you.

Submitted: Eugene "Gene" Hutchins

My Fellow New Portlanders: I would like to place my name, Janet White, forward as a write in candidate for the Municipal Advisory Committee (MAC). I offer my twelve years of municipal government, county government and my knowledge of the Maine Municipal Association to the Board of Selectmen, for any projects they would like the Municipal Advisory Committee to undertake. I look forward to working for New Portland again. Please write me in as a member to the Municipal Advisory Committee. Make sure you check the box on the ballot or it is not valid. Thank you.

Submitted: Janet White

On this year's town warrant you will be asked to not only vote on summer roads and winter roads, you will also be asked to vote on three separate articles regarding individual road projects. Two articles propose setting aside money in anticipation of the State declaring Tannery Bridge and a portion of the Middle Road unusable. A third article proposes to spend a considerably larger amount of money on the Hancock Pond Road. If passed, the road commissioner would begin doing maintenance on the road and use the remainder of the money to hire an engineer who would explore fixing the Hancock Pond Road, as the road commissioner believes the road to be unsafe. Tannery Bridge is absolutely in need of repair, but the larger question is do we need Tannery Bridge at all? The houses and business that once made that road viable no longer exist. The Middle Road is unarguably a necessary road with many residents and an alternative route to Kingfield; it deserves our attention. Asking an engineer to study the Hancock Pond Road will get the town back a study and an additionally expensive project proposal. Such a proposal would more than likely include paving and widening. Most houses on the Hancock Pond Road are old and as such are set close to the road. Many of us moved into and improved the houses on the Pond Road adding value to our properties and subsequently paying more taxes to the town because of our improvements. Cutting into our already small front yards, will not increase our property value. Having a wider smoother road for non-residents who already drive too fast will certainly not make us safer. So I guess, the question is, "Who are we looking to make these improvements for?" Certainly not the residents of the New Portland.

Obviously, all the registered voters should scrutinize the town warrant before our upcoming town meeting. We all have our areas of interest and pet peeves. Mine is obviously the road budget. Currently, the road commissioner decides on a figure to be spent annually on each road, but nowhere in the town office is the actual annual expenditure per road recorded. Lack of specific data make it very difficult to see if any type of trends are emerging or what kinds of things on which we might like to base a road plan. It has been suggested several times in the past years that the town develop a long-term plan for the maintenance of its roads. Occasionally, there has been traction to move on this, but it never seems to get off the ground. There is no doubt the development of such a plan would require time and effort. I believe, the time and effort would be well spent and would produce a collectively developed road plan with criteria enabling us to use our limited resources more effectively while meeting all our needs.

Submitted: Brenda Stevens

Announcement

Another call to Lexington Township. Folks: We are slowly accomplishing our goal of raising the money to pay for mailing the *New Portlander* to our homes but we are not there yet. So PLEASE dig deep into your piggy banks and donate to cover this cost. Any amount would be wonderful! Send donations to Pete Bearor, Box 184, New Portland, Maine 14961.

Submitted: Dotti Carter

Wire Bridge Sno-Travelers

The February meeting was called to order with seven members present. The secretary's and treasurer's reports were read and accepted.

Trail Master Report: Trails are in excellent condition. Some bridges have been built since the last meeting and some signing has been done. There is still a need to have some brushing done. Just a reminder, if you do any trail work, please keep track of your time and submit it to Kendal Knowles.

Social Director: It was decided by the club to have a dessert social, after the May meeting to show the landowners our appreciation for allowing us to use their land. Kinds of dessert will be decided at the March meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:19 pm.

The next meeting will be held, Saturday, March 19 at the fire station meeting room. The business meeting will begin at 6:30 pm. Enjoy your riding!

Submitted: Joyce Knowles

Literacy Volunteers

Just a reminder: Literacy Volunteers of Franklin and Somerset Counties still has openings in their spring Basic Reading Tutor Training Workshop. This will be held at the University of Maine Extension Office in Skowhegan, beginning on March 22 from 5:00 to 8:00 pm and continuing on Saturdays, March 26 and April 3. To sign up call Joan Moes at 628-5451. There is a \$20 fee for materials but scholarships are available. Help turn someone's life around.

Submitted: Joan Moes

Community Churches

The New Portland Churches will join the Fairbanks Church for a joint Ash Wednesday Service on March 9 at 6:00 pm with Doug Walrath preaching. Paul Mammerci will be preaching on March 13.

The Interim Search Committee is please to announce that they have received the application and references of the Reverend Robert Goodin. They have scheduled him to visit the area and preach on Sunday, March 20. He will be accompanied by his wife Sue.

Submitted: Helen Atwood, Clerk

NEW PORTLAND MAINE 04961
 POSTAL PATRON

Annual Town Meeting
 March 5, 2011
 Community Room
 1:00 pm



The New Portlander
 Established July 1994

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



NEW PORTLANDER CALENDAR
MARCH 2011



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 Selectmen's Meeting 6:30 pm School Board Mtg. 6:00 pm	2 Planning Board Mtg. 6:30 pm	3	4	5 Annual Town Meeting Community Room 1:00 pm (voting 8am-noon)
6 Friends of the Highland Mountains Community Meeting Room 1:00 pm	7	8 NPF 7:00 pm Library Board 6:00pm	9 Water District Mtg. 7:00 pm Firemen's Auxiliary 6:30 pm	10 Knitwits - NPCL 10:00 am Book Club at NPC 6:30 pm	11	12
13	14	15	16 Activity Night Fly Tying - NPCL 6:00 pm Recreation Committee Community Room 6:30 pm	17	18	19 Wire Bridge Snow Travelers Meeting Room 6:30 pm
20	21 Selectmen's Meeting 6:30 pm	22 NPF 7:00 pm	23	24 Knitwits - NPCL 10:00 am	25 Deadline for the New Portlander 4:00 pm	26
27	28					