



NEW PORTLANDER



INFORMATION IS THE CURRENCY OF DEMOCRACY — THOMAS JEFFERSON

PUBLICATION VOLUME 22 NUMBER 9

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

MARCH 1, 2016

E-mail for town business: nwprtld@tds.net | Mail for Town Office - 901 River Road, New Portland, ME 04961

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

TOWN OFFICE HOURS

PHONE: 628-4441 • FAX: 628-4440

The Town Office hours are as follows:

Town Manager/CEO: Stacie Rundlett - Ext. 1

Deputy Town Manager: Kristen Mitchell - Ext. 0

Tax collecting, registrations, hunting & fishing licenses

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 11am - 5pm
Thursday 2pm - 7pm
1st Sat. of ea. month (except holiday weekends) 8am - 12pm

Town Clerk: Kristen Mitchell - Ext. 2

Deputy Town Clerk: Stacie Rundlett

Vital statistics & dog licensing

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 11am - 5pm
Thursday 2pm - 7pm
1st Sat. of ea. month (except holiday weekends) 8am - 12pm

LPI: Robert Dunphy - Ext. 5

Assessor's Agent: Terri Lamontagne - Ext. 3 npassessor1@gmail.com

Monday and Tuesday 9am - 5pm

Fire Department: Chief Kip Poulin - Ext. 4

Email for Town Manager nwprtld@tds.net

Email for Town Clerk newportlandtownclerk@gmail.com

Remember...

- **Selectmen's Meeting**
1st Tuesday & 3rd Monday of each month at 6:30 pm
- **New Portland Fire Department Meeting**
2nd & 4th Tuesday of each month at 6:30 pm
- **NP Community Library Hours:**
Mon, Wed, Thurs 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm
Tuesday and Saturday morning from 10:00 am - noon (Thank you)
- **Kingfield-New Portland Transfer Station Hours:**
Wed, Sat, and Sun 7:30 am – 4:30 pm
- **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
New hours 10:00 am - Noon.
- **Knitwits & Happy Hookers (NPCL)**
2nd & 4th Thursday of each month at 10:00 am

Town Clerk

Notice of Election

Date:

Friday, March 4, 2016

Polls Open/Close:

10:00 am – 8:00 pm

Location:

911 River Road
at the Community Room / Fire Station

The following is a list of the Candidates - Board of Selectmen: Lorie Agren, Raymond Poulin; School Board: Heather Hilenski

*Reminders

The Annual Town Meeting is Saturday, March 5 at 9:00 am in the Community Room/Fire Station

Please keep in mind of these laws: It is that time of year again, and we are stressing that you do not plow, snow-blow or shovel snow or slush into public roadways. This is a state law and causes roads to become more dangerous.

It is unlawful for any dog licensed or unlicensed to be at large except when used for hunting.

Absentee ballots for the Municipal Election can start to be requested on Wednesday, February 3. I can accept requests for absentees ballots up until 7:00 pm on Thursday, March 3.

Submitted: Kristen Mitchell

New Portlander article submission deadline is March 20 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.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

for Highland Plantation, Maine

Highland Plantation will be holding a Public Hearing on Wednesday March 9, 2016, at 5:30 pm at the Highland Town House, 2185 Long Falls Dam Road, Highland Plantation., Maine 04961. The purpose of this hearing is for resident and non-resident property owners to review, discuss and make necessary revisions to the Highland Plantation Zoning Ordinance.

*Submitted: Highland Plantation Assessors:
Jo Dunphy, Jarrett Staton, Frances Sieber*

Candidates

My name is Lorie Agren; I am running for the position of selectmen. I have lived in New Portland all of my life. I love this community, but I wish people would become more involved in what goes on in town. Some of the things I think we need to look at in New Portland are as follows: bringing the community back together and getting people involved again, forming another Municipal Advisory Committee, meeting with TDS to see what can be done to upgrade our internet service, looking into building our own salt shed. These are a few things I would like to look into if I become your selectman.

I will be the first one to tell you, if I make a mistake, I am also going to listen to everyone who has something to say. I am not saying I can fix everything for everyone, but I am willing to listen and see what we can do to help with your situation. Please get out and vote! Thank you.

Submitted: Lorie Agren

This submission was to appear in last month's newsletter and due to an oversight on my part, I sincerely apologies to Lorie Agren and the readers of the New Portlander. Editor

Meet the Candidates Night

On Wednesday, February 17, 2016, about 16 citizens gathered to meet with the people who had taken out papers for positions in the town which were going to be available. Kristen, (deputy town manager) opened the meeting with what the agenda was for the evening. At that time she read a message from Heather Hilenski, who was unable to attend due to illness of her child. She did send a message that was read explaining why Hilenski was interested in the position on the school board. She has a child in school and feels this would be a good time to be involved. She believes she will learn a lot and be able to bring information back to our town with what is happening.

We have two people who are interested in filling the select-person position. Raymond Poulin introduced himself and told us he has a business in New Portland. He stated he had not been to many meetings in town but did have a strong interest in being more involved. Raymond shared that he deals with the public and hears many stories and problems in the town each day. Raymond stated he had no "agenda" but a wish to learn more about the running of the town. One area he was very interested in was the school budget. He stated trying to look into the share New Portland pays with how many children from New Portland are in the school. Raymond also stated he was interested in different areas of the town and how to clean up and to bring in businesses. He felt he could be at meetings and be involved to help the town move forward to becoming the town it once was. He stated he was born and raised here and is raising his children and running a business. To be select-person he felt he could balance his business separate from the Town's business.

Lori Agren introduced herself, as having been born here, raised and attended schools here. She was a select-person at one time and felt she needed a break from the position for a while. She followed the happenings in town and understood the thoughts of the people who shared their feelings, anger and frustrations. Lori felt that she had a little more time to commit to being a select-person at this time. She is interested in looking at grants or resources to help "bring back New Portland." She would like to work towards bringing in businesses, store etc, improving

neighborhoods. Lori is also interested in looking at the tax burden New Portland has. She has no "agenda" to try to accomplish, except to help restore and bring back New Portland

Residents who attended asked questions of the candidates and some of the above information came from those questions. It was asked how to get people involved in the town, on committees to help the town. Raymond and Lori both agreed that volunteering has decreased and were not sure how to get people to be involved. A few people asked how they (Raymond and Lori) felt about the fire department and if they had issues with the budget. It was stated that lots of negative comments are made but no answers to solve or help. It was also stated people felt it was a lot of money to run the department. Lori and Raymond stated they had heard some complaints but had not seen the budget proposals from this year. Someone spoke and stated that the fire department budget covered the heat and electricity of all the fire department and the meeting room. The budget covers all the state mandated requirements for equipment, uniforms, training and testing of all members. This is one of the biggest increases to all fire departments everywhere. Recently, larger towns have lost volunteers and are asking for budgets to hire for full time positions to fill the gaps. Lori and Raymond suggested that in the budget, break it down to show what the costs are and why. This could help the townspeople see why the budget has increased and where the money goes.

After the discussion, Lori and Raymond gave closing comments and appreciated the opportunity to share views and reasons to want to fill this position. Respectfully...

Submitted: Judi Wills

New Portland Community Library

Our book sale continues. We are frequently adding books for adults and children. No cash amount is too small (or too big!) for this donation only sale. The used books are located in our meeting room and is open for business when we are. Speaking of this... do you still have a VHS player? We are removing all our VHS tapes from inventory to make room for new

acquisitions. And best of all, they are all free for the taking!

Did you know we have the library edition of Ancestry.com on the library computers? This database is one of the largest, if not the largest database available to genealogists both professional and amateur. If you have any questions on your heritage or family history, this is the place to start. Sheila can help you with further questions in this area!

Did you know that the library has a room set up for tutoring? It is private and is comfortably furnished. It is a perfect space for literacy volunteers, tutors in all subjects, and even for one on one meetings. It is available when the library is open and at other times with permission. We also have a comfortable, warm meeting room that can hold up to ten people. Stop in and see how these spaces might work for your needs.

We continue to welcome and seek new volunteers. Volunteers can choose to keep library open during regular hours or can work on special projects as they come up. No job requires more than several hours at a time. If you know of someone who would be a good candidate, please direct them our way. This is also a great way for students to earn community service points!

This past month we had 30 donated books and DVDs that we have added to inventory and are always looking for more to add to our collection. If we already have the items, we add them to our sale room.

Toasty Tuesdays continue 10:00 am - noon. What can you do when you join us? Have a cup of coffee or cocoa and a snack, work on the jigsaw puzzle that we have laid out, try coloring in the adult coloring books (the latest fad!) or you might take a moment to check out the latest art exhibit or put your comments on the 2016 Reading Challenge bulletin board.

Exciting upcoming events at the library include: 3/5: Children's Hour - join Willow and Autumn Emery for a book reading and fun craft! (9:00 am); 3/12: Local author, Karen Pease will be joining us for a book signing from 10:00 - noon. She will have copies of her two latest books for sale; 3/13: Photo Challenge Slideshow - all are welcome! Light refreshments will be served from 3:00 - 4:00 pm.

Doug Archer's beautiful photography is gracing our walls at the library. His show will stay up through the month of April. Please take a few moments to stop in and see this fabulous show.

Library hours continue to be Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday 4:00 – 6:00 pm, and Tuesday and Saturday 10:00 am -noon. If you are unsure if we are open due to weather please call 628-6561.

100 Club Winners this month are Wire Bridge Photography, Wanda Calder, Roland & Jean Morang, Sharon Bernard, Marsha Siviski, and Marcia Siebermann

Submitted: Tabitha Emery

Knitwits and Happy Hookers will meet at the NPCL on the second Thursday, March 10 and the fourth Thursday, March 24 starting at 10:00 am. Join us for help, conversation, sharing patterns, and light refreshments. If there is no school due to the weather ,we will not meet. I'll post cancellations on FB too.

Model Flying

Free Indoor Model Flying: All ages are welcome to fly your small electric, rubber band or glider model of any configuration every Tuesday 6:00 – 9:00 pm and Wednesday 9:00 am – 12:00 pm. The location is the gymnasium of the Calvary Pentecostal Church, 160 Old Point Avenue, Madison, Maine.

This event is on going year round and is free to come fly, get instruction or just to watch. We do have a sponsor donation box for any who wish to make a donation – we will never ask!

Weather is seldom a cancellation factor and holidays are never a cancellation factor! However, we recommend you always check our web site before leaving for cancellation.

The Franklin County Aircraft Modelers web is: www.rcflyer.org

For more information please email: nightvapor1945@gmail.com

Community Churches

At the Western Mountains Baptist Church, twenty three ladies attended the Women's Breakfast on February 13. Their breakfast was prepared by men of the church. Christ's love in action! A good time was had by all. Appreciation was given to Debi Staier for the many years she has served as the leader of the Women's Ministry and a welcome was given to the new co-leaders. Pat Sanders, Shelly Zoebisch and Nicole Dereszynski, all of Kingfield, will be busily planning upcoming opportunities for women to gather for fellowship, outings, activities, learning opportunities and outreach into the community. March 12 at 9:00 am will be the next Women's Breakfast; plan to attend to meet the new leadership and to hear about upcoming events. Call Pat at 265-4164 for more info.

The annual Sledding Party also known as a Family Fun Day is scheduled for March 12 from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm. Bring sleds, snowboards, skis, etc. to Gilmore Hill for a few runs down the hill. Pastor Tom and others will be there with snow machines to haul everyone back up the hill. Afterwards, come to the church to roast hotdogs and marshmallows on an open fire and get warmed up with some hot chocolate. For more information call the church at 265-2557.

Gems, a Christian club for young girls ages 5 – 12, will meet March 11 and again on March 25 at the church. For more information text Rosie at 779-4524

Plan to join us for a sunrise service on Easter morning, March 27th. A big breakfast will be served immediately after the service. As the day gets closer, more details can be found on our Facebook page or call Pastor Tom at 557-2802.

Sunday morning worship begins at 10:00 am. If you are from the area or from away, know you are welcome. If interested, there is time for coffee, snacks and fellowship before and after the service. Children's church is available during the worship service. Sunday School for all ages is held at 9:00 am.

"Some trust in chariots and some trust in horses, but we trust in the name of the Lord our God". Psalms 20:7 (NIV)

Submitted: Crystal Fitch

3/5: Children's Hour - join Willow and Autumn Emery for a book reading and fun craft! (9:00 am); 3/12: Local author, Karen Pease will be joining us for a book signing from 10:00 - noon.

Submitted; Petrina "Pete" Bearor

WireBridge Sno-Travelers

Minutes for the February 20 meeting was held with eleven members present.

Secretary report from last meeting was not read due to the secretary not being present.

Treasurer report: the bills are all paid to date, checking account balance read, update on savings account.

Trail Master reported the trails are in very good condition, and trail riding has been excellent. Many positive comments have been given to different members. Talk about signs needing updating in certain areas. It was discussed to try and put up bulletin type boards to organize and neaten the displaying of signs and to put a roof over the board to protect the information. It was suggested at certain areas to add a club map with area identified on the map of where the snowmobilers were at that time. The areas discussed (just a few) were Friends' Field, Tuttle Corner, Bennett Hill, Gilman Pond, Millay Hill, Moose Trail intersection. Discussion about replacing bridge signs at the approach to bridges. It seems the groomer keeps moving them a little. Also signs stating "leaving New Portland trails" was discussed.

Brad updated the club about grants and what has been done. Lewis explained the funding is hours of labor and grooming with less snow and grooming time probable will be a smaller amount.

Discussion about a club ride, but with weather forecast as "rain" it will be, wait and see.

Discussion about "Caferelli's" Place was positive. Bill stated he has donated the money to the Kingfield food bank, and he has also made laundry detergent that he donated. The soups and chicken wings are very good and company is always fun.

Discussion was held about "Landowner Supper" this

year. The members have an interest in doing this. Judi will discuss with Joyce and see times available. Notes will be sent to members of the date, time and more discussions as planning continues.

MINUTES TAKEN BY JUDI WILLS

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm, next meeting will be March 12, 2016

Submitted: Joyce Knowles

New Portland Water District

The New Portland Water District Annual meeting will be held on March 9, 2016 at 7:00 in the New Portland Community Library. Trustees will be elected. The regular monthly meeting will follow immediately after the annual meeting. Officers will be elected.

The New Portland Water District is also looking for any one interested in being a trustee or helping in any way. Any one interested can call either Marilyn Gorman at 628-3532 or Ron Bearor at 628-3061. Remember this is your Water District!

Submitted: Marilyn Gorman





The New Portlander
 Established July 1994

901 River Road, New Portland, ME 04961

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	



NEW PORTLANDER CALENDAR
MARCH 2016

