



# NEW PORTLANDER

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E-mail: [nwprtld@tds.net](mailto:nwprtld@tds.net) | Mailing Address: Town of New Portland, 901 River Road, New Portland, Maine 04961  
Visit the Town of New Portland's web page at [newportlandmaine.org](http://newportlandmaine.org)

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## TOWN OFFICE INFORMATION

Phone: 628-4441 • Fax: 628-4440

Town Office Contact Information and Hours of Operation:

### Office Hours:

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday..... 10am - 5pm  
Thursday..... 12pm - 6pm

Town Manager/CEO: Stacie Rundlett

Email..... [newportlandtownmanager@gmail.com](mailto:newportlandtownmanager@gmail.com)

Deputy Town Manager: Lori Alyea

Email..... [townofnewportland@gmail.com](mailto:townofnewportland@gmail.com)

Office hours: Same as the Town office hours

Town Clerk: Jacob Pinkham / Deputy Town Clerk: Lori Alyea

Email..... [newportlandtownclerk@gmail.com](mailto:newportlandtownclerk@gmail.com)

Office hours: By appointment

LPI: Dan Gilbert - 207-938-3866

Assessor's Agent: Audra Swanson

Wednesday..... 10am - 2pm

Email..... [newportlandassessor@gmail.com](mailto:newportlandassessor@gmail.com)

Fire Department: Chief Kip Poulin

Animal Control Officer: Stacie Rundlett - 491-8007

## Remember...

- **Selectmen's Meeting**  
1st Tuesday & 3rd Monday of each month .....6:30pm
- **New Portland Fire Department Meeting**  
2nd & 4th Tuesday of each month .....6:30pm
- **Library Board of Trustees Meeting**  
2nd Saturday of the month ..... 9am
- **Planning Board Meeting**  
1st Wednesday of the month .....6:30pm
- **New Portland Water District**  
2nd Wednesday of each month.....6:30pm
- **School Board Meeting**  
1st Wednesday of each month ..... 6pm
- **New Portland Community Library**  
Tuesday & Friday .....9:30am - 12pm  
Wednesday ..... 10am - 12pm & 3pm - 6pm  
Thursday .....3pm - 6pm  
Saturday.....9am - 12pm
- **Kingfield-New Portland Transfer Station**  
Wednesday, Saturday, Sunday..... 7:30am - 4:30pm
- **New Portland Post Office Customer Service Hours**  
Monday - Friday .....7am - 9am & 2pm - 4pm  
Saturday.....7am - 10:30 am

## Selectmen

### Selectmen's Notes:

The weather has turned to fall quickly. Hunting season is here. Be careful out there and good luck. If you are out for a walk, make sure you wear safety gear, orange.

The area needs rain so be careful with all burns, make sure you get a permit even for your camp fire. Guess we all need to do a rain dance.

The large sand and salt shed behind the fire station is off limits to the general public. The summer and winter road crews along with the selectmen are the only people who can have access. We will be putting up a gate soon, blocking off the entrance.

We have been informed that the State of Maine Planning Office is changing the format to towns comprehension plans. So, with this knowledge we will not be moving forward with the town's comprehension plan until after the State changes are made clear. We hope we can get started again in the new year. Our plan needs to be completed by 2027, so we have the time to wait.

Winter will be here soon. Everyone get your vehicles and homes ready. Check on someone you believe could use some help. In these days of meanness and random violence, we all need to lend a hand to someone, show kindness and respect to others.

Thank you for reading our notes. Happy Thanksgiving.

*Submitted: Janet White, Ray Poulin, Dave Veilleux*

## Town Manager

The Town Office will be closed on Tuesday, November 11 in observance of Veterans Day, as well as Wednesday, November 26, and Thursday, November 27 in observance of Thanksgiving.

Election Day is Tuesday, November 4. Polls are open 8:00 am to 8:00 pm.

The Selectmen's Meeting scheduled for the same day (November 4) will be held at the Town Office starting at 6:30 pm.

*Submitted: Stacie Rundlett, Town Manager*

# Superintendent RSU 74

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October 20, 2025

Dear Residents of RSU 74,

For the past couple years, I have been writing this monthly newsletter to be included in the newsletter sent to residents of New Portland. With this edition, I will be asking members of our technology department to post it on the district web page. The purpose of this newsletter is to keep residents informed as to what your school board is acting on involving day-to-day operations of the district as well as long-term projects for the district.

Our monthly sub-committees that met this month included the Policy Committee and the Academic Committee. Members of the policy committee reviewed ten policies in our book with recommended wording provided by Maine School Management. Our current work is focused on those policies that are required by law. Most of the policies reviewed this month were still worded identically as the recommended wording. The policies that had been modified since the district's last review were adjusted to reflect changes in State Statute around recess and suspension of students in grades K-5 as well as changes around restraint and seclusion of students. A new policy on classroom temperatures was reviewed and will be sent to the full board for adoption as required by legislation this summer.

The second sub-committee that met, Academic, discussed the planned work for the administrative team in collaboration with classroom teachers during the current school year. Major work continues to be the documentation of the curriculum being delivered in RSU 74. Teams of teachers (K-5) have been developed to document the work being done in classrooms in science and social studies. Teachers in grades 6 thru 12 have been working to document their curricula for the past two years. As well, curricula for visual and performing arts, physical education, and health grades K-12 should be completed this year as well. Other discussions held included the need to bring a high school course in physics back. The committee felt the value of the course for students seeking a four-year college degree outweighed the potential impact of state science assessments scores. In order to bring physics back, the course will need to be offered every other year with an honors chemistry class meaning every other year we will be asking students to take the third year science assessment without taking a chemistry course.

The administrative team is in the process of developing a survey to be sent to households who are homeschooling their children. Our goal includes determining the main reasons for families to homeschool their children as well as to make an effort to communicate the offerings the

district can provide families. Currently, there are nearly 60 households that opt for homeschooling.

The monthly meeting of the board is November 5 at the Carrabec Community School.

*Submitted: Mark. L. Campbell, Superintendent of Schools*

## School Board

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The October board meeting was held at Carrabec Community School. A new member, Lynne Cary of New Portland, joined the board.

Disclaimer: The board meeting began at 6:00 pm. The second Red Sox-Yankees playoff game also began at 6:00 pm. It is within the realm of possibility that I wasn't entirely focused on the board meeting at all times. (Therefore, any factual errors in this recap are due to my inability to adequately pay attention to both the meeting and the game at the same time, and not due to any desire on my part to speak "fake news".) In hindsight, the board meeting was far more enjoyable than either game two or game three of the playoff series. Refreshments for the meeting included bottled water.

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Adjustments to the Agenda: A nomination and an executive session were added to the agenda.

Minutes: The minutes of the September 3 board meeting were approved.

Presentation: There was no presentation.

Superintendent Report: The superintendent asked if any board members had questions about his written report. One board member commended him on how well written his report had been. Over the weekend, after Mr. Campbell had submitted the written report, there was some news. On Friday and into Saturday (Sept 26-27), there was a power outage in North Anson. At one point, the power came on briefly, but forcefully. The power surge had an effect on CHS and CCS. Scott Hall outlined the damage. The CHS industrial arts fire panel was destroyed, and power to the shop was disabled. Five printers and the Community School HVAC system need to be replaced. The Community School fire panel was damaged. Some of the items have already been repaired/replaced.

Appointments: Kimberly Swihart - Teacher Certification Chair, Nikki Shamaly - 504 paperwork stipend, PJ Vicneire - CHS boys' soccer coach

Resignation: Taylor Fournier - CCS cook assistant

Nominations: Kelly Vicneire - CHS Alt Ed Teacher; Melody Rich - Dean of Students, GS/S; Julie Clark - Third Grade Teacher, Solon; Darla Neugebauer - GS cook

**NEW PORTLANDER article submission deadline is November 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: alderswamp2@gmail.com**

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

manager

Admin Reports: Scott Hall did not add to his report. Jean Butler introduced Melody Rich, and said she is looking forward to working with her. A board member commented on the GS 100th birthday and suggested it might be a bad idea to spend money to maintain a building that old. Tammy Wyman did not add to her report. A board member questioned her about special ed teacher caseloads. Ms. Wyman listed the caseloads of the elementary special ed teachers. At CCS, one special ed teacher has a caseload of 27, and the other has a caseload of 36. At GS, the caseload is 18, and at Solon it is 12. Those figures lead to more discussion between the director and the board member. Bruce Dostie chose not to add to his written report. Rachel Merrill gave a CHS sports update. Homecoming week begins Oct 6. The boys' soccer team (as of Oct 1) is 7-2, and the girls' team is 8-2. The Carrabec/Madison football team is 3-1. Student board rep Henry Lindeman spoke about student council elections and the preparations for Homecoming. Geoff Case did not attend the meeting. A board member asked a question about the homework policy at CCS. Mr. Campbell promised to find the answer and report back to the board.

Committees: The Policy Committee met on September 17. Buildings/Grounds also met on that date.

Public Participation: Embden resident Tim White spoke. Mr. White said that he had applied to sub in RSU 74 but was denied. He stated that when asked for a reason for his denial, he was not given one. Mr. White suggested there are three people who know the real story of what happened. He is considering filing a discrimination claim against the district, and if he wins, he may sue. He asked the board members if they had questions for him. No questions were asked.

Policy #1: The first reading of policy JEA- Compulsory Attendance - was approved.

Policy #2: The first reading of policy JFC - Dropout Prevention Students Withdrawal from School - was approved.

Policy #3: The first reading of policy JJIF - Management of Concussions and Other Head Injuries - was approved.

Policy #4: The first reading of policy JICIA - Weapons, Violence, and School Safety - was approved. [The item generated some discussion. Scenarios were discussed in which board members thought there should be some flexibility in how consequences were decided. For example, if a student borrowed a parent's vehicle, and drove to school not knowing the parent had recently gone hunting and left a gun in the vehicle ... There were board members who expressed concern about whether the policy would be enforced consistently.]

Policy #5: The first reading of policy JKAA - Use of Physical Restraint and Seclusions - was approved.

Buses: The board authorized Chris Roux to apply for state approval for two new buses in 26-27.

Maine Youth and Government: The board approved

the November 7-9 trip to Augusta.

Following the agenda item about Maine Youth and Government, but before the vote regarding whether or not to enter executive session, a board member raised a concern. In settings where the board chair/vice-chair meet with staff, do the board chair/vice-chair represent the board, or do they profess to speak and/or act on behalf of the board? The board chair/vice-chair stated that they did the former, while the board member who raised the question seemed to be of the belief that they were doing the latter.

Executive Session, Legal Matter: The board voted to enter into executive session to discuss a legal matter. Following the executive session the board voted to seek legal advice. I was not present to witness the vote because I chose to go home and watch the Red Sox. That didn't end well. (By "that", I am referring to the game, not the executive session or the vote.)

*Submitted: Dave Ela, President of Carrabec Teachers Association*

## New Portland Community Library

Hello, New Portland! October was a beautiful month in New Portland and at the library. We have a fall tree located in the library with the names of books read by patrons over the summer and the fall! We encourage you to join us as we continue to add leaves throughout the fall. Help us fill out the tree!

Forgive my late announcement, but we would like to thank the Anson Academy who generously donated \$1,500 in August! We are so thankful to have been chosen as the yearly recipient of this generous gift!

With your help, our last bake and book sale was a success! We raised \$559 in the sale plus \$240 in Calendar Raffle tickets sales! This is why we are called a community library! The NPCL continues to thrive thanks to members of our community! Talking about community, if you are able to help with our fundraising events, we would love to have you volunteer and join us by greeting folks as they visit! Stop by the library if you are interested or at our next board meeting on Thursday, November 6 from 6:00 - 7:30 pm.

The time is here! Stay posted to our Facebook page each day this month as we announce the winners of the November Calendar Raffle. It could be you! Thank you to everyone who purchased a ticket and to all the businesses/individuals who donated!

The New Portland Community Give and Take Food Cupboard will soon transition into the vestibule to prevent items from freezing. Unfortunately, the door will only be unlocked during regular library hours. Please don't let that stop you from coming by. No judgement, just food

Speaking of food, the Book Club will meet November 3 from 5:00 - 6:30(ish) pm and will be reading *The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store* a historical fiction novel by James McBride. Feel free to bring an item to contribute

to the potluck or just bring yourself! Didn't read the book? Come anyway!

The annual NPCL Craft Fair will be Saturday, November 8 from 9:00 am – 2:00 pm. The library and the Community Room will be filled with over a dozen great vendors with wonderful handcrafted items! You don't want to miss out!

Make, Take, & Bake is November 23. Kids are encouraged to come and make a pie to take home to their family. Sign-ups are a must! Please call the library or check on facebook to register your kiddos/grands for this free event! If you would like to donate supplies or a monetary gift, please call the library at 207-628-6561.

Upcoming Events: Tech help is available with Scarlett by appointment; Lego Club - third Wednesday of the month 4:00 – 5:00 pm and first Saturday of the month 10:00 – 11:00 am; every Friday 10:00 – 11:00 am Homeschool Hangout; reiki with Michelle on Saturday, November 8 from 9:00 am – 2:00 pm; November 1 – 30 Daily Calendar Raffle Drawing – daily on Facebook; November 8, 9:00 am – 2:00 pm, Craft Fair, Book & Bake Sale, November 23 Kids Make, Take & Bake an Apple Pie. Stay tuned... we have a raffle coming in December that will peak the interest of fishermen and outdoor enthusiasts!

*Submitted: Mindy Newman, Library Director*

## Kingfield Seniors Group

Our meeting in October was really informative! So many had questions regarding what services Spectrum Generations provided. Many thanks to Gwyn from Spectrum for her time as well as the handouts she gave us.

SAVE THE DATE!! SAVE THE DATE!! SAVE THE DATE!!  
We are happy to inform everyone that once again we have the pleasure of being entertained by the Merry Plinksters. Because of their schedule, they will be performing for us on Friday December 5 at noon. We usually have our monthly meetings the first Monday of the month, so please make sure that you put this on your calendar! Our November meeting will be on Monday, November 3 at noon. We have the pleasure of the Halls (Gary & Lois) performing for us. Truly a talented couple.

Our meeting/potluck is held at the Western Mountains Baptist Church located on Rte 27N just outside of Kingfield. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 207 628 4461.

*Submitted: Nanci Lehto Mahlmann*

## Wire Bridge Sno-Travelers

The meeting was called to order with 13 members present. The secretary and treasurer's reports were read and accepted.

The treasurer updated the club on last year's budget. It was also reported the liability insurance for the year has been paid. The club took in over \$1000.00 at the New Portland Fair this year. A huge thank you to all that supported the club by volunteering their time, making donations for the raffle, or purchasing raffle tickets.

Trailmaster: It was reported several bridges need to be replaced or repaired. Trail work was done on the New Portland Hill trail and the trail from Hancock Pond to the North Village. The club thanks the land owner for his time and effort in relocating the trail for us. The club received notice the club grant has been approved for 2025-26 season.

Old Business: Over the summer, five used drags were purchased from another snowmobile club. The plan is to keep the best one, a second one has been sold, and the remaining three will either be sold or kept for parts. Work sessions will soon be scheduled to work on trails and groomer repairs.

New Business: A motion was made, seconded and approved to buy some bridge plank. The club discussed purchasing a plaque for a member to show our appreciation for their many years of volunteering their services to the club. Motion was made, seconded, and accepted.

The membership renewals for the 2025-26 season are now open. If you choose to sign up online, go to [wirebridgesnotravelers.com](http://wirebridgesnotravelers.com)

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 pm. Our next meeting will be November 8 at 6:30 pm, at the fire station meeting room.

*Submitted: Joyce Knowles*

## New Portland Churches

New Portland Church News for November: In November we make a point to give thanks for all our blessings. We have so many things for which to be thankful: good friends and neighbors, family who support us, beautiful land surrounding us. Thanksgiving is a special time. And not just for the football games and turkey dinner!

In October the congregation made the move from the sanctuary of the church to the 'sanctuary' of the warm and cozy meeting house. Services are a bit more informal in the cooler months of the year. We gather in a circle of tables and enjoy conversation and worship over a cup of coffee and some tasty baked goods.

At a session meeting in October we discussed what should be done with the proceeds from the bottle and

can redemption. It was decided that we would like to offer a \$500 scholarship to help some local student with their continuing education, be it vocational or university. We still have details to work out, and we will give updates on how that will work in practice. Thanks again to everyone who has donated returnables.

November 30 is a rare fifth Sunday of the month. On those Sundays we gather for a Joint Worship Service with our partner church of Farmington. In the warmer months we gather in New Portland, in the cooler months we gather at the Fairbanks Union Church in Farmington. November 30 we will be in Farmington. November 30 is also the First Sunday of Advent. We will be lighting the first candle in the season of reflection that precedes Christmas. The service will be centered on the theme of "Gratitude" and will feature submissions and participation from the congregations. Please join us, all are welcome.

We would love to see you at coffee hour at 10:30 am and at worship following at 11:00 am, unless otherwise noted in the schedule. The list of ministers for the month of November:

November 2 - Pastor MaryEllen Royce; November 9 - Rev. Dick Waddell; November 16 - Pastor MaryEllen Royce; November 23 - Communion Sunday, Rev. Stan Wheeler; November 30 - fifth Sunday. No service in New Portland. Please join us for a joint service at Fairbanks Union Church in Farmington. Respectfully...

*Submitted: Nan Berry*





# The New Portlander

Established July 1994

901 River Road  
New Portland, Maine 04961

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

## POSTAL PATRON NEW PORTLAND MAINE 04961

NEW PORTLANDER CALENDAR						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
NPCC Service 10:00 am WMBBC Service 10:30 am	Kingfield Seniors Group WMBBC noon	VOTE Community Room 8:00 am - 8:00 pm NPCL 9:30 am - noon Selectments Meeting Town Office 6:30 pm	NPCL 10:00 am - noon & 3:00 - 6:00 pm School Board 6:00 pm Solon School Planning Board 6:30 pm	NPCL 3:00 - 6:00 pm	NPCL Trustees Meeting 9:00 am NPCL 9:00 am - noon Wire Bridge Sno-Travellers 6:30 pm	NPCC Service 10:00 am WMBBC Service 10:30 am
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
NPCC Service 10:30 am WMBBC Service 10:00 am	Veterans Day Town Office Closed NPCL 9:30 am - noon Fire Department Meeting 6:30 pm	NPCL 10:00 am - noon & 3:00 - 6:00 pm New Portland Water District 6:30 pm	NPCL 3:00 - 6:00 pm	NPCL 9:00 am - noon	NPCL 9:00 am - noon	NPCC Service 10:30 am WMBBC Service 10:00 am
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
NPCC Service 10:30 am WMBBC Service 10:00 am	Selectments Meeting 6:30 pm	NNPCL 3:00 - 6:00 pm	NPCL 10:00 am - noon & 3:00 - 6:00 pm	NPCL 9:00 am - noon	NPCL 9:30 am - noon	NPCC Service 10:30 am WMBBC Service 10:00 am
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
NPCC Service 10:30 am WMBBC Service 10:00 am	NPCL 9:30 am - noon Fire Department Meeting 6:30 pm	Town Office Closed NPCL 10:00 am - noon & 3:00 - 6:00 pm	Thanksgiving Town Office Closed	NPCL 9:30 am - noon	NPCC Service 10:30 am WMBBC Service 10:00 am	NPCC Service 10:30 am WMBBC Service 10:00 am NPCC Fifth Sunday Fairbanks
30						

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