

News Around and About Arrowsic...

# The Arrowsic Arrow

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## **TOWN OF ARROWSIC OFFICIALS**

**Board of Selectmen:** Pat Harcourt (442-8122), Melissa Textor, Greg Guckenburg (442 8020)

**Town Clerk:** Sue Elwell

**Tax Collector:** Liz Rollins

**Codes Enforcement Officer:** David Foster

**Regular Town Hall Office Hours:**

Wednesday, 3:30-5:00 p.m.

Fridays, 8:30-11:00 a.m.

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## **SELECTMEN'S NOTES**

**SCHOOLS** - State cutbacks and an increase in the number of students promise a large increase in Arrowsic's school budget. Come to the Public Hearing **May 5** to hear the details.

**EMERGENCY SERVICES** - Midcoast Hospital's closing of the Bath Hospital and move to Brunswick and hopefully finally building a new hospital at Cook's Corner will mean changes in our ambulance service and emergency care needs. Costs, of course, will go up if we move toward a more professionally trained emergency staff as is currently proposed by a regional committee. We should also protect ourselves by continuing to train more people in the use of CPR as a first response to emergencies in our homes. Call Mary Hillery(442-8020) for May 17 class(see elsewhere in The Arrow).

**JUNE TOWN MEETING** - Reports from Town Committees are due by April 15 for the Town Report. Committee heads should begin working on them now. Any other ideas for layout or contents will be welcomed by the Selectmen.

**ABATEMENTS** - Much of the Selectmen's time over the past several months have been taken up by two requests for abatement. Although partially granted, both requests have been appealed to the County Commissioners for further abatement.

**THANKS** - to Brian Scott and Gil Thomas for overseeing the sanding and refinishing of the Town Hall floor.

*\*See the 12 page Public Notice at Town Hall on new Highway Bridge to replace Carlton*

## **PLANNING BOARD DECISION**

The Town of Arrowsic Planning Board held a public hearing on March 10 to consider the application for a conditional use permit by Richard and Beverly Kingsbury.

The Kingsburys asked to build a driveway from Route 127 across 41 feet of salt marsh and continue it 430 feet to an upland building site on their property, shown as Lot 12 on tax map #5.

The Planning Board denied the permit based on the following facts. The setback for a driveway in a resource protection district, which includes the saltmarsh in question, should be 100 feet. The Planning Board could reduce the setback to no less than 50 feet only if no reasonable alternative exists.

The Planning Board found that the Kingsburys failed to establish that no reasonable alternative exists. There is considerable evidence that the Kingsburys have access to their property through the Preble Point subdivision, based both on prescriptive use and on deeded easements created when the Preble farm was divided in the 1840's. The right to use the old farm roads may be appurtenant to the Kingsbury's property; the Kingsburys say they have not released this right.

Ken Textor spoke at the hearing representing the Preble Point Association. He acknowledged that Mr. Kingsbury has always had, and may continue to have, the right to travel over Preble Point roads to access his property for hunting, fishing snowmobiling and wood harvesting using a vehicle, but not for purposes of dividing his land. He urged the Planning Board to grant the permit to avoid a lawsuit between neighbors.

## LEARN CPR

Midcoast Hospital plans to move its acute care and emergency departments to Brunswick this summer. Arrowsic citizens perceive this move as a decline in the safety of our community. It need not be.

Last year Midcoast hired an emergency medical system (EMS) consultant, Kevin McGinnis, to analyze local emergency response systems now in place. He found that, as long as state of the art rescue and ambulance service exists, there will be no impact on safety if the ambulance drives the extra ten minutes to Brunswick.

State of the art response requires specific upgrades of the emergency response system from the first responder with CPR (cardio-pulmonary resuscitation) skills, to the paramedic with advanced life support skills. The recommendations of a Bath EMS Development Team, made up of Midcoast ER personnel, local fire and rescue people and municipal officials, include having a paramedic on 100% of emergency calls in all the towns serviced by Midcoast Hospital; also that licensed EMS personnel be encouraged and subsidized to upgrade their training, and that more citizen first responders be trained in CPR.

Every Arrowsic citizen can do something to contribute to the health of the community. One may choose to lower personal risk factors by improving diet, increasing exercise or quitting tobacco. One can also go the step further and learn CPR.

Brain damage begins after four minutes without a pulse and brain death is certain after ten minutes without CPR. After dialing 911 with specific details and address directions, what does one do next? The Brunswick location of the nearest ER need not weaken the "chain of survival" if the first responder knows CPR.

The American Heart Association Basic Life Support/Heartsaver Course will be offered at the Town Hall Saturday, May 17. Preregistration is required and class limited to twenty-five. Call Mary Hillery 442-8020 or 725-4346 X24. Cost is \$10 which includes the Student Handbook.