

THE ARROWSIC ARROW

Volume 8, Number 4

Arrowsic, Maine 04530

June 1993

Dear Reader:

Town Meeting is Wednesday, June 23 at 6:30PM. If you need transportation to or from the town hall, call Patty Olds 442-8270 or Nancy Brown Stump 442-7527. See you there!

More important events:

-On Monday, June 14 at 7pm there will be a public hearing at the town hall to discuss home businesses and a proposed change in the sign ordinance.

-On Tuesday, June 15 at 7pm there will be a public hearing at the Town Hall to discuss changes to the Zoning Ordinance which would require a permit for all home businesses in Arrowsic. The changes, proposed by the Planning Board after months of discussion, are intended to:

- * clarify existing ordinances regulating home businesses
- * protect residential neighborhoods from undue noise, traffic, or other nuisances.
- * protect home businesses by specifying conditions under which they may operate.

If the proposed changes are approved, new and existing home business owners would be required to fill out a one-page application, briefly describing their businesses. If there are no apparent problems, the Planning Board would issue a "Home Business Permit" for a fee of \$5.00.

If the application indicates a potential problem, or if the business employs more than one person not residing in the dwelling, a conditional use permit would be required. After a public hearing, the Planning Board would impose conditions on the proposed business...limiting traffic or noise levels, for example.

The definition of a home business- no retail sales unless the item is "manufactured, produced, created, caught, or grown" on the premises- would remain unchanged.

But new language would be added spelling out what types of home business are permitted: "the production of goods, the sale of goods produced on site, the provision of services performed on site, the provision of goods and services off site for which the material and equipment are kept on site."

The proposed changes would also reduce the allowable number of non-family members working at a home business from six to four.

-**Candidates Night**, Tuesday, June 22 at 7pm at the Town Hall. If you're interested in running for, or being appointed to public office, or if you'd like to meet town officials or candidates, and chat about issues affecting the town, PLEASE COME! REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED. any questions, call 442-7178

Reminder from Dave Foster, Codes Enforcement Officer:

To all property owners on Arrowsic: If you are planning any building projects, large or small, on your property please call me at 443-2114 so we can discuss what permits, if any, are needed. Do not rely on your contractors to get the permits unless you have made this their responsibility. You need to have the permits in your hand before any work begins. Allow time enough to check on these details, don't call the night before you want to start construction. Tree cutting in some areas may require a permit, so again, please call me before you start. The same cautions go for driveways, roads, earth moving, and land clearing. Although many of us can remember when none of these activities required permits, we now live in an era of many regulations. You can save money spent on fines and costly delays by checking with me first. Every year we become subject to more regulations, many of these are enacted at our town meeting. Take the time to go to town meeting where your vote can make a difference.

From Greg Guckenburg:

I have lived in Arrowsic for 12 years and am running for Treasurer of the town at the upcoming town meeting. I am currently a maintenance pipefitter at BIW. My managerial experience includes: Financial Secretary for one year of Local 6 IAM/IUMSWA at BIW, President of Whitmores' Landing Homeowners Association and currently President and a coach of the Midcoast Maine AAU Basketball Club. I am interested in working with town officials for the greater benefit of the townspeople.

From the Tax Collector and Town Clerk:

Our hours at the town hall for the last week of June will be Tues, the 29 from 3-5:30pm instead of Wed, the 30th. We need to close the town books before 6 pm on the last day of our fiscal year. Thank you for your support.

FUNKY 16' CORSON MOTORBOAT FOR SALE- BEST OFFER-CALL 442-7178

Letter to the editor from Lucy Hull 443-4908

Jeff Mann's letter and Eloise Vitelli's report from the school committee in the April issue of *The Arrow*, raise some important issues for Arrowsic citizens to contemplate.

First of all, in case there is any doubt in anyone's mind, *a new independent school in Arrowsic will not raise your property taxes.* Jeff is concerned about using public funds to pay for private education, and I feel we need to look closely at what this means. Arrowsic town funds (combined with the state educational subsidy) have traditionally been used to pay for a variety of educational choices, public and private. The proposed Arrowsic School will simply offer an additional choice. In order to qualify for tuition money a school must be state approved, and in no case will the town pay more than it would pay for a student to go to one of the public schools. The Arrowsic School's operating expenses will be funded by tuitions (and we expect to have some students from off-island); the school facility itself will be funded privately by donations and fund-raising.

Secondly, many families in Arrowsic are hungry for a school of their own, are tired of sending their children off-island to be educated, and want more control over what goes on at their children's school. Some people have expressed concerns in meetings for our proposed school that our community is fractured by the different decisions we have made for our children. A community school on Arrowsic would address these concerns, and could bring families together in a constructive way. Parents have been told by our school board that it is very unlikely that The State Department of Education would choose Union 47 for a new school if the town petitioned for one, and in any case it would be a 4 - 5 year wait before we heard of their decision. Should we pursue this route there is no doubt that our taxes would be raised.

What distinguishes a public school from a private school? Usually the largest difference is in tuition. Tuition becomes a barrier to children from medium- to low-income families. This barrier will not be present in the school we are proposing. With state approval of our curriculum, I feel it is appropriate for the town to pay tuition -- if it is the same or lower than tuition for public school off-island and if the quality of education is as high as or higher than the public schools in our district.

I, too, am committed to the best possible education for all our children, but I do not believe that meeting this goal necessitates lessening the educational quality for "a few." It is vital for all of us to support public education, but the manner in which we do that will vary from individual to individual (except for the fact that we do so financially every year as we pay our taxes). The Arrowsic School intends to work as closely as possible with the other schools in Union 47. The state school system is in a tough period financially, but I believe that the pain the Bath School System is experiencing is the result not of lost tuitions from Arrowsic, but rather the state of the economy and the budget crisis in the public school system statewide. I believe that we can use town tuition money very effectively right here on-island in part because our community school will have so little over-head in comparison with the existing system.

Finally, let's examine the issue of "choice." Eloise and Jeff have both raised the possibility of Arrowsic joining forces with another town, which would eliminate the choice factor for Arrowsic families. The strength of American society--its diversity--relies on choice. "Abandoning choice in favor of commitment" as Jeff proposes could be seen as hazardous, because diversity is denied. With respect to schools, children have a wide variety of learning styles and needs, so any scheme that fosters a variety of schools best serves the needs of children and their families. This leaves Arrowsic in the enviable position of ensuring choices for the education of its children, at a cost no greater, and probably considerably less, than what other towns pay.

auto registrations: JUNE

BERTOCCI, S THEODO	KEHL, JANET E
CARTER, JOHN S	KENNEY, DEIDRE
CATES, DONALD E	KENNEY, JUDY
COST, WILLIAM T JR	MANN, JEFFREY
COTE, CANDACE	MCKEEN, JACQUELINE
COTE, CANDACE	MOORE, GEORGE
CUNNINGHAM, PAUL K	MOSIER, LARRY
DEION, TAMMY	NEAL, JOHN F
DEMERS, THOMAS W	NELSON, BONNIE
ELWELL, ETHEL H	PIEH, JEROME A
ELWELL, RONALD E	SMITH, LUCY-DIANE
ELWELL, SUSAN D	STONE, PATRICIA M
FUTTER, MARGARET E	SULLIVAN, ELAINE
GILES, SAMUEL D	SWAN, MARY E
	TAVENNER, LISA
	THIBODEAU, PERS REP
	WENTWORTH, PHYLLIS

JULY

B	BISHOP
B	BLATKLOCK, NOREEN
B	BRAWN, CHARLES W
B	BRAWN, PAMELA
B	BRENNAN, WILLIAM R
B	CHANDLER, ROBERT
B	CHAPIN, E BARTON II
B	DRAKE, SALLY
B	DRAKE, SALLY
B	ELWELL, GEORGIA K
B	FRYE, BRADLEY J
B	HEATH, RALPH W
B	HUDSON, W DONALD JR
B	KELLY, WILLIAM L
B	KENNEY, VIVI M
B	LEVESQUE, CLARENCE

M	MCLEAN, DANIEL W
M	MCLUER, JOHN W
M	MOORE, FRED T
M	MORRISON, GLENNA
M	NICHOLSON, A L
M	NICOL, JAMES
M	OLEARY, ROBERT
M	PAGE, RONALD M
M	ROOT, DONALD N
M	SCOTT, BRIAN E
M	SIMMONS, CONNIE
M	SKILLINGS COLEMAN,
M	SOKOL, DAMIAN
M	STONE, ALBERT
M	STONE, GRACE W
M	TARA, JOZEF S
M	WARNER, DORIS E
M	WARNER, JOHN W III
M	WILLIAMS, SARAH B

