

# Arrowsic Fall Family Festival & Energy Fair

October 30, 2010 1-3 pm Town Hall and New Fire Station

Come celebrate the fall season with cider pressing and pumpkin treats. Come see the progress on the new Fire Station. Bring some apples to press and treats to share (cookies, muffins – show off your baking talent!)

A number of community members will be sharing energy and cost saving ideas for your home and family including:

- ⇒ Restarting a buying co-op for food, household goods and home heating fuel
- $\Rightarrow$  Do it yourself home energy audits and winterization
- ⇒ PACE Loan and Energy rebate information
- ➡ Easy cheap ways to change your energy consumption and save \$\$\$\$
- $\Rightarrow$  A home grown energy efficient car project



AND Fun for kids of all ages including a scavenger hunt and **more surprises!** 

WINTER FARMER'S MARKET United Church of Christ, 150 Congress Ave., Bath from 9 am to 12 noon on the following (mostly) Saturdays:

NOV. 6 20, Wednesday Nov. 24 DEC 11 18, Thursday, Dec. 23 JAN. 1 15 29 MAR 5 19 FEB 5 19 APRIL 2 16 30

# PACE ORDINANCE PASSED

September 28, 2010 Arrowsic passed an enabling Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) Ordinance. The state PACE ACT (LD 1717) requires a town to pass its own PACE Ordinance in order for residents to be eligible for a low interest PACE loan. PACE loans are administered by Efficiency Maine Trust using funding received from the Department of Energy.

If you are interested in **weatherizing or installing clean energy,** you maybe eligible to **apply for a low interest PACE loan**. With liberal underwriting standards, this junior mortgage may be the way for a family to finance such improvements. There are no income restrictions, and the goal of the program is to have monthly payments be less than the cost of not making the improvement with the caveat that the life of the loan cannot exceed the useful life of the improvement. Furthermore, the loans may be eligible for tax credits and incentives. Ask your tax advisor.

More information: www.efficiencymaine.com or call 1-866-376-2463. Arrowsic resident Suzanne Gunston is Arrowsic's administrative liaison for anyone needing local assistance. Suzanne may be contacted at 443-8719 or gunston@gwi.net.

## ARROWSIC PROPERTY MANAGEMENT NEEDS

**Property Management:** We are looking for an experienced person to assist the Selectmen by annually inspecting the town's buildings for repair and maintenance issues, reporting the findings with project recommendations and timelines, and assisting in contracting out the work. This person would also manage any space modification projects. We are hoping one of our resident building contractors will volunteer.

**Grounds Maintenance:** The Selectmen are looking for someone to manage seasonal chores on the grounds around town hall and the fire barns. These would include scheduling and staffing spring and fall clean up, weedwhacking, and arranging for debris disposal.

For more information, please contact one of the Selectmen Larry Wilson: larryw551@gmail.com, Michele Gaillard : mgaillar@bowdoin.edu, Sukey Heard: sukeyheard@gmail.com

# A NEW ARROWSIC BUYING COOP?

## BACKGROUND

You may be aware that, for more than 25 years, Arrowsic was the center of a very active food buying coop--the Naturally Better Coop. Group orders were placed every month, year-round, and everyone gathered to unload the shipment and distribute the food and other items. At its height, the coop included more than 40 families. For the nearly 20 years that my family and I participated, about 90% of all the food and household items we needed came from this source--we rarely had to shop at supermarkets. This included fresh produce, dairy and soy products, vitamins and supplements, and a complete line of staples and household items.

The primary supplier for the coop was the Northeast Coop of

Brattleboro, Vermont, but other suppliers included local producers, such as Sparrow Farm of Pittston, Goranson Farm of Dresden, Winter Greens of Wiscasset, and Black Crow Bakery of Litchfield. We also ordered cosmetics from Anne Marie Borlind of Germany and the Eclectic Herb Company of Oregon (high-quality vitamins and supplements) at a 50% discount. The food quality was high, most items were organic, and we were able to support local businesses. Northeast, if I remember correctly, had a monthly catalog with about 40,000 items.

However, Northeast Coop was bought out by United Foods, a huge national company, and that's when things started to change. United raised prices, changed product lines, made it more difficult to buy smaller quantities, and, most critically, made delivery schedules much more difficult to work with. In addition, where we were using the Town Hall for delivery and distribution (for a small fee), the coop's larger size made it logistically impossible to continue in that relatively small space. We moved around the area to different locations--the Bath Senior Center, Veteran's Hall, etc. All of these challenges were the beginning of the end of the coop. A much smaller group continued for a number of years, but eventually completely disbanded.

While there were significant savings by purchasing as a group in bulk (at its peak, the coop was buying about \$40,000 of merchandise a year at wholesale prices), there was also a sense of common purpose, camaraderie, and community. Personally, I miss all these things. I should add that I'm not saying it was all roses all the time, or that things always ran smoothly--there were difficult times, many meetings, restructuring, and lots of disagreement on how to do things over the years; but that challenge, how to resolve our differences and come together and stay together, were also part of the excitement.

#### **TIME FOR REBIRTH?**

It seems that interest is again growing to have a town buying coop, with perhaps an even more expansive range of products, including bulk purchasing of fuel oil, firewood, and the development of cooperative island alternative energy sources.

My own vision of an Arrowsic coop is probably totally unrealistic, and complete pie in the sky, but below is a brief outline of what I'm thinking. Maybe it can be a starting point from which to brainstorm ideas.

1) Form group, brainstorm ideas, write mission statement, create organizational, operational structure (committees for ordering, delivery, distribution, maintenance, accounting, etc.). Consider contacting other coops for ideas.

2) Find a permanent location for the Coop. Need *(Continued on page 3)* 

## AD HOC COMPENSATION COMMITTEE

Based on a warrant article passed at last year's Town Meeting, the Selectmen have been asked to enjoin an ad hoc committee to review the compensation of town employees.

While many town employees look at their service as quasi-volunteer, we want to ensure that our pay structure is fair and not a disincentive to qualified people.



The committee of approximately **5 people** will survey local and like-sized towns to determine where we stand in comparison, look at the scope and complexity of our jobs, and make recommendations for salary changes if thought necessary. Any recommendations will be brought to a vote at the **Town Meeting in June 2011**.

If you can make a commitment to this important project, please contact Larry Wilson, Michele Gaillard or Sukey Heard.

#### (Continued from page 2)

heated year-round structure, storage, refrigeration, supplies, etc. Unloading large orders in a parking lot, distributing/paying on the spot, or temporarily storing in a temporary, unsuitable location, is difficult and uncomfortable at best.

3) Determine sources of supply, discount pricing, etc., develop

catalog and method for ordering (e.g., a computerized catalog or Internet-based ordering system). Build in alternate suppliers, to avoid depending on any single source.

4) Coop would be funded through membership dues and a percentage charge for each order above the actual merchandise cost. Donations and grants could also be sought out and accepted.

I've never been in on the planning of a coop from the beginning and find this prospect most exciting. We can do anything we want, buy anything we want, and work together as a team to make things work!

As of this writing, there are 12 households that have expressed interest in at least meeting to discuss the possibilities. This may be a good starting point, but I think we will need more to make this work.

Please let me know if you are interested in meetinge-mail or call. We can wait to see who responds and schedule a first meeting for early November, or another time to be determined.

Yours cooperatively, Paul Schlein 127 Whitmore's Landing Road Arrowsic, Maine 04530 207-443-3209 pschlein@gmail.com

## NEWS AROUND TOWN:

GET OUT AND VOTE NOV. 2, 2010 No matter your political leanings, vote at Town Hall!

**SAVE THE DATE!** November 5, 2011 will be the next Arrowsic Artworks show. We started so late this year that there wasn't a critical mass of artists prepared to display for this year. Hopefully we will be able to use the space in the new fire barn for next year's extravaganza. Artists, start production..... Questions, call Phine Ewing or Sukey Heard.



The Project is coming along nicely; on schedule and under budget. The walls are up and the roof is on. The next step is to complete the utility rough-ins, then insulate. Many area businesses and trades people have given donations and discounts to the town. Stay tuned for a complete list of "thank yous" to these generous folks.

Respectfully submitted, Jeremy Blaiklock Acting Chairperson







### **TRASH/ RECYCLING REMINDERS**

- At the curb, please set recycling bins apart form trash piles for easier identification.
- ⇒ Break down cardboard cartons and flatten for recycling.
- ➡ Take all florescent bulbs (include CFLs to retailers, Bath landfill, or Pine Tree Waste for collection. Florescent lamps contain mercury!

If you have trash/recycling concerns or questions, please look at the Arrowsic website or talk to a committee member: John Hinds, Judy Kahrl, Liz Ware, Roz McLean, Damian Sokol.

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TRASH & RECYCLING CALENDAR 2010–2011		
NOV. 5* 19*	DEC. 3* 17* 30*	
JANUARY 14* 28*	FEB. 11* 25*	
MARCH 11* 25*	APRIL 8* 22*	
MAY 6* 20*	JUNE 3* 10 17* 24	
JULY 1* 8 15* 22 29*	AUGUST 5 12* 19 26*	
SEPT. 9* 23*	OCT. 7* 21*	
NOV. 4* 18*	DEC. 2* 16* 30*	
*Denotes that curbside recycling is also picked up		
Recycling is mandatory!		
Please no bulky items or hazardous waste.		
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# Community Energy is Clean Energy

Are you tired if hearing about economic downturn, the non-renewable energy crisis, and ecological disasters? Tough times can challenge us in many ways. We do have a vast supply of affordable, renewable, and creative energy in our community – ourselves.

We all have a set of basic needs: shelter, sustenance, safety, occupation, and friendship. Historically, our species has most successfully met those needs communally. The last 50 years of human ingenuity and cheap oil have allowed us to create life styles that are less interdependent. Today, many of us meet our needs and responsibilities individually - driving to work, shopping, working on our houses, caring for our families, and entertaining ourselves with electronic media. The burden and expense of that independence only becomes apparent when a crisis strikes.

We have reached a crisis nationally and globally. Economists say we need to stimulate the economy, get people working and spending money again. Our government has attempted job stimulus packages, reinvesting in infrastructure and is encouraging the production of cleaner, cheaper fuel sources and more efficient cars and appliances. These are all worthy endeavors that will take time and money. Time and money we may not have to meet our needs right now.

What we do have is a community of people with unique expertise and resources. If we share these resources we immediately reduce our expenses, and improve our standard of living. A successful example of this is the Unity Barn Raisers (www.unitybarnraisers.org) - a 13 year old citizen lead initiative that has revitalized Unity Maine economically, environmentally, and communally. They are currently working on a Neighbor to Neighbor project helping homeowners winterize their homes. It is a very inspiring story. People Power is, in fact, the cheapest, cleanest and most renewable source of energy available.

What would an Arrowsic Barn Raisers look like? It might be: a ride share program for commuting to work, shopping (farmer's market days), or after school activities; a tool share program with a list of resources (chippers, wood splitters, trucks, hammers) and people who are willing to help or need help for projects in their homes; a communal garden space or food and seed sharing program; a buying Co-op for food, household goods, and home fuel (wood, oil, propane). All of these ideas require People Power to become a reality. We need to be willing to participate both as consumers (voicing our needs) and producers (be willing to share some of our

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ARTICLES NEEDED — TELL US WHAT IS GOING ON

The Arrow will be produced on a regular basis; arriving at your doorstep in the months of

February May August

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KKKKKKK

November

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Due dates will be posted at Town Hall Questions?

Please contact Quinn Blaiklock peacefulquinn@gmail.com

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#### **Requirements/Restrictions**

- 1. Advertisements must be no longer than 200 characters; no special text or highlighting will be used. Spaces, punctuation, and dashes count!
- 2. If you want a longer ad, you must write an article for the *Arrow*, could be about your business, but must include content of interest to the People of the Island.
- 3. One ad per person/company per issue.
- 4. Each ad must be submitted separately; no "Please run this ad in the *Arrow* until the end of time."
- 5. Yard sales, items of interest, and "lost and founds" welcome.
- 6. Cost is free to Arrowsic residents; cost is subject to change as we see how the advertising is going.
- Send ads to me, Quinn Blaiklock, in the Arrow box at Town Hall, or by email, peacefulquinn@gmail.com.

### **A**DVERTISEMENTS

23' Seasprite Auxiliary Sloop with custom 1990 tandem axle trailer for sale- Hull no 225 built in Wickford, RI in 1969. Furlex with 130% cruising chute. Hood main. Complete equipment list available by e-mail. Contact barry@lbjhonda.com. Asking \$6000 OBO. 617-371-6789 cell

Andrea Galuza Broker/REALTOR RE/MAX RIVERSIDE andreagaluza@remax-riverside-maine.com 1 Bowdoin Mill Island, Ste. 101 Topsham, ME 04086 Office: (207) 725- 8505 Ext. 111 Cell: (207) 751- 9701 Direct: (207) 319- 7811

time, stuff, and expertise with each other). These difficult times are an opportunity for us re-invest in our most valuable resource – each other.

You can find opportunities to participate by watching the Town web page. Come to the **Fall Family Festival October 30<sup>th</sup>** to share your ideas and find out what your neighbors are doing.

## PRESS RELEASE For Immediate Release

Municipal officials are pleased to announce that the **Town of Arrowsic** has received a **\$405** dividend check from the Maine Municipal Association (MMA) as a result of its good loss experience and loss prevention programs.

The MMA offers three self-funded pools for municipal and quasi-public entities in Maine: the Workers Compensation Fund formed in 1978, the Property & Casualty Pool formed in 1987, and the Unemployment Compensation Fund formed in 1978.

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The programs are overseen by governing boards of elected and appointed municipal officials. Each year the boards review the program' loss experience to determine if dividends may be paid. Patricia Kablitz, Director of Risk Management Services for MMA, said more than 75% of program participants receive dividends each year for their good risk management practices and loss experience.

This year the Workers Compensation Fund has distributed almost **\$600,000.00** in dividends to participants and the Property and Casualty Pool has paid dividends of nearly **\$400,000.00** for total payments of nearly **\$1 million** provided directly to MMA members.

Since 1997, the three programs have returned close to **\$13 million** in dividends to participating members. For more information about any of the MMA Risk Management Services programs, including online training programs and other services, check the offerings on their website at **www.memun.org** and click on the Risk Management Services link, or call 1-800-590-5583.

•	October 2010	Car Registrations	A helpful tip from your friendly Animal Control Officer:
	BAKER, KENNETH A BLANCHARD, HAROLD M BROWN, ANITA CARLETON, JAMES CRABTREE, R CHRISTIAN CREPEAU, KATE-LORENA DEMERS, THOMAS W ELWELL, BRIAN ELWELL, NATHAN A ELWELL, NOBERT A FAVRO, PHILIP C FAVRO, PHILIP C FITZHERBERT, DAVID A GRILL, MARIA M HEWLETT, HERBERT R JORGENSEN LANDSCAPING INC KNIGHT, MILDRED E KREINDLER, MICHAEL L LEBRUN, LEONARD A MACLEOD, GRETCHEN MACTIN, AMY J MORAN, SANDRA L MOUNT, PAMELA A NELSON, ROBERT H PACKARD, PHILLIP E PINETTE, CRAIG R ROBINSON, MATTHEW B STAFFORD, MILDRED R STONE, PATRICIA TARBOX, CHARLES H WARNER. KEVIN J WEBSTER, ENOS F WELSH, JOSEPH L		<text><text><text><text><text><text></text></text></text></text></text></text>
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Town of Arrowsic 340 Arrowsic Road Arrowsic, ME 04530

> Resident HC 33 Arrowsic, ME 04530