

# THE ARROWSIC ARROW

Volume 4, Number 6

Arrowsic, Maine 04530

MAY, 1989

Dear Reader,

Spring is here! Important dates in May:

**1st-** May Day; **5th-** Cinco de Mayo in Mexico celebrating 1862 defeat of French forces at Pueblo; **13th-** Litter Patrol- meet at Town Hall at 9 AM, also in 1888 slavery was abolished in Brazil; **14th-** Mother's Day; **19th-** Spring Cleanup/White Goods curbside pickup, also in 1925 birth of Malcolm X; **20th-** Curbside recycling; Cuban Independence Day; and Full Moon; **23rd-** 1930 Harvey Milk's Birthday; **24th-** 1941 Bob Dylan's birthday; **26th-** National Windmill Day in the Netherlands; **29th-** Memorial day (Observed) **30th-** Planning Board Public Hearing

Many of you have called the Selectmen wondering about the Spring Cleanup curbside collection, and the "Litter Patrol." Because T&R (our garbage haulers) will not come out on a Saturday, we are arranging for them to collect FRIDAY, MAY 19. This includes all white goods and other large items. At the time this goes to press, it is uncertain if they will pickup tires- the Bath dump has been charging \$5 and \$10 each, depending on the size. If you put tires out on your driveway and they don't get picked up, you will be responsible for taking them to the dump.

The next curbside pickup of recyclables will be May 20. If you'd like to volunteer to be a curbside pickup person (we need trucks, drivers, and passengers) call Jeff Mann 443-6174. Stay tuned for further details, and watch for the sign in front of the Town Hall. Although we only had 20 participating households in April, we hauled 2,540 lbs (twice as much as normally fills up the building in 2-1/2 to 3 weeks). The recycling building is still open for those who would prefer to drop off their recyclables. Feedback and volunteers are always welcome.

Remember, there are three categories of paper: **NEWSPAPER** which has to be tied in bundles now due to market conditions, **CORRUGATED CARDBOARD** must be broken down as flat as possible, and **MIXED PAPER**, all other papers and paperboard except heavily waxed papers. **GLASS** must be rinsed, tops removed, and if possible sorted by color. Thanks.

The volunteer litter patrol will be Saturday, May 13. Meet at the Town Hall at 9:00 AM. Last year we were able to do the ENTIRE ISLAND! This year looks like a much greater challenge due to the amount of garbage that has been tossed onto 127. If you arrive late, and want to pitch in, just grab a few bags (they will be left in front of the Town Hall) and find a stretch of road that looks like it needs to be picked up. The full bags can be left on the side of the road, and people in trucks will come by to get them and leave them at the Town Hall parking lot. T&R will pick everything up there. Rain Date will be May 14. And if we need a second rain date, it will be the following Saturday.

## FROM THE FIRE DEPARTMENT

Come help us finish the front of our building! We can always use more volunteers to finish up the construction we started when we got the new doors. This includes outside and inside work on the front wall, and putting the ceiling in. Call Ray Hutton at 442-7187 or Tony Carey 443-6254.

## PLANNING BOARD NEWS

On Tuesday, May 30 at 7pm there will be a public hearing to discuss the zoning map and ordinances to be voted on at town meeting. Ordinances include cluster development, changes to the current subdivision ordinance, and a trailer park moratorium.

In the last week, you may have received a phone call from a high school student asking about your willingness to participate in a solid waste survey. The students are from the Chewonki Foundation's Program and have been encouraged by the Recycling Committee to use the town's families as subjects in the hope that the study will increase interest in and awareness of waste reduction. These students are trying to complete the project by the first week of June which may mean a certain amount of disorganization in an effort to get it done. They will not be able to use all the families that volunteered so we thank all of you who did, and would like to keep you in mind for future possibilities.

the following people have vehicle registrations due in the month of May:

APPEL, JAMES M	MORGAN, MARIA B
BERTSCHY, ROBERT C	NOYES, JEAN B
BRETT, CHRISTOPHER	ORR, EDWARD
BROOKS, DAVID	ROBBINS, KAREN M
BURNHAM, BRETT D	ROLLINS, ELIZABETH J
CATES, RICHARD	ROLLINS, JOHN F
CHAFFEE, JOHN W JR	SEWALL, ABBIE
COTE, CANDACE	SPENCER, WYLIE
DAVIS, DIANA L	STINSON, LUCY
DRESSER, ARTHUR E	STORIN, KEIKO T
ELWELL, RICHARD	STUMP, NANCY B
FRAHM, SHIRLEY D	SWEARINGEN, RICHARD T
HOMAN, JANE E	WEISS, DAVID R
LAWRENCE, SANDRA L	WISEMAN, ELIZABETH M

**Thank you, thank you, thank you** Bart Chapin and Lucy Hall, and two other folks whose names are in a box waiting to be unpacked- I'll print names in June. By the way, I (Patty Olds, editor) am in the process of moving. My new number is 442-8270. Any contributions to the Arrow newsletter- announcements, cartoon, articles, etc can be left at the Town Hall or mailed to me Patty Olds, Arrowsic 04530.

Portland, Augusta . . .

## Property Tax Hearings

The Taxation Committee listened for nearly 5 hours as Cumberland County citizens, municipal officials, and others described the problems with the property tax system, suggested possible solutions, and put their hopes and trust in the 114th Legislature to pass meaningful property tax reform this year.

**"You've done one marvelous thing: you've managed to unite us — small towns, large towns, citizens, everyone."**

— Linda Abromson  
Portland Councilor

In Portland, more than 100 people crowded into the City Council Chambers. Legislators heard impassioned, often poignant, always frustrated pleas for help. The clear themes of the meeting were support for the circuit breaker program; disillusionment and even bitterness over the Education Funding formula since it penalizes high growth communities which, speakers said, are

**"If (highest and best) means highest monetary amount, there is very little that can be said for farmland."**

— Sally Merrill  
Sheep Farmer,  
Cumberland

responsible for the wealth which makes it possible for the state to send it to other communities; the need for the state to provide municipalities more funds to pay for local services through less reliance on property taxes; state mandates that aren't funded; and concern over valuation which considers "paper

wealth" rather than ability to pay in allocating state aid to municipalities, and the very real concern that escalating property taxes are jeopardizing people's ability to keep their homes.

**"The myth of 'if you want lower taxes have development' has been shattered."**

— Bob Ganley  
City Manager  
Portland

South Portland Mayor Sharon Benoit described the stresses on the property tax in her city, which is now operating under a spending cap. Her analysis was repeated by many others: (1) decline in State aid to education; (2) uncontrolled costs, i.e., mandates; (3) loss of federal funds—particularly Revenue Sharing, and (4) valuation.

"Cities like South Portland are paying more than their share." The Mayor estimated that South Portland receives approximately 10 cents for every dollar it sends to Augusta. Discussing state mandates, the former legislator said, "I rarely thought of the impact what we did in Augusta would have on local communities."

Another former legislator, Ed Kane a South Portland attorney, touched upon a subject that was mentioned several times during the hearing: the refund checks the Legislature sent to voters last year. "I urge you not to take the surplus and send it back to citizens." He went on to say, "You bear the burden of resolving this crisis—and it is a crisis."

Biddeford Tax Assessor Ann Farnsworth, asserted "I feel like I'm a soldier on the front lines of the property tax war." She told the legislators that she loved her job, but she has

an undated letter of resignation waiting in her desk drawer because her city is about to do a revaluation and she isn't sure if she can continue to handle all the angry taxpayers. She said the only hope she was offering taxpayers was that the Legislature would pass real property tax relief this year.

A sheep farmer from Cumberland, described the pressure she was under due to property taxes. Sally Merrill said open space was very important to the public, but it was increasingly difficult for farmers to keep their land in farming due to high valuations and escalating property taxes.

Lots of speakers talked about the problems created by State mandates that carry no funding. They echoed Saco Mayor Paul Janson's sentiment when he said, "If you mandate it, pay for it."

Also talking about State mandates was Rep. Neil Rolde (D-York) who has sponsored several property tax bills. He described mandates as the policy of "Shift and Shaft" whereby a higher level of government passes on program responsibilities without adequate funding and thus "shafts" them.

He admitted that he had only recently begun to realize "the amount of burden (the Legislature) puts on local government."

Pat Gardner, a Peakes Island resident who bought land and built his home "when real estate was cheap" gave an impassioned plea.

"I think I'm an asset to the City and the State. I'm concerned about whether I'll have to sell my home." Admitting he'd get a lot of money for his home, which he and his wife built themselves if he were to sell, he said, "The money's not important; my home is."

As the hearing was nearing the end, a petite, elderly woman approached the podium. She explained that she was shy and not very good at public speaking but told Senator Andrews and Rep. Nadeau, who had remained for the marathon session, "I need tax relief or I'm going to lose my little home."

This article is several portions of a longer text taken from "The Legislative Bulletin" the complete text is available on the bulletin board at the Town Hall.

# THE ARROWSIC ARROW

VOL. 4 NO. 7

ARROWSIC, MAINE 04530

MAY 26, 1989

Dear Reader,

Here is a gentle reminder of an important public hearing:

On Tuesday, May 30 at 7 pm the Planning Board will hold a public hearing on the Zoning and Subdivision Ordinance amendments to implement the Comprehensive Plan, and on the Mobile Home Park moratorium Ordinance.

PLEASE TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS OPPORTUNITY TO ASK QUESTIONS AND DISCUSS THE CHANGES. If you want to be an informed voter at Town Meeting, please plan to attend.

**Positions that are open for election (or re-election) this year include:** Town Clerk, Tax Collector, Treasurer, Fire Chief, one Selectman, and two School Board Members.

Appointed positions in town include members of the Conservation Commission, the Zoning Board of Appeals, the Planning Board, Registrar of Voters, Election Warden, Election Clerks, Recycling Committee, Budget/Finance Committee, Road Commission, Codes Enforcement Officer, Assistant Fire Chief, and Animal Control Officer. Some of these positions are for multi-year terms, but many are one year terms. They are re-appointed if the person would like to continue working with the Town. If you are interested in any of these positions, please notify the Selectmen and we will let you know when there is a vacancy.



THE SELECTMEN WILL HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING JUNE 6<sup>TH</sup> AT 7:00 PM TO DISCUSS A PROPOSED NO-PARKING ORDINANCE TO GO INTO EFFECT JUNE 13<sup>TH</sup>:  
(EXCUSE THE HANDWRITING - WE JUST LOST POWER)

"THERE SHALL BE NO PARKING AT THE ENTRANCES TO SEWALL POND (OLD STAGE RD. & RT 127) FROM 1/2 HOUR AFTER SUNSET TO 1/2 HOUR BEFORE SUNRISE. VIOLATORS WILL BE TOWED AT OWNERS EXPENSE."

WE RECENTLY RECEIVED A NOTICE FROM THE COAST GUARD OF NEW, TEMPORARY CARLTON DRAWBRIDGE RULES:

FROM JUNE 1 TO JULY 30, 1989 THE BRIDGE WILL NOT OPEN MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY 6:30 - 7:30 AM, AND 3:45 - 5:30 PM IT WILL OPEN AT ALL OTHER TIMES ON SIGNAL FROM COMMERCIAL VESSELS.

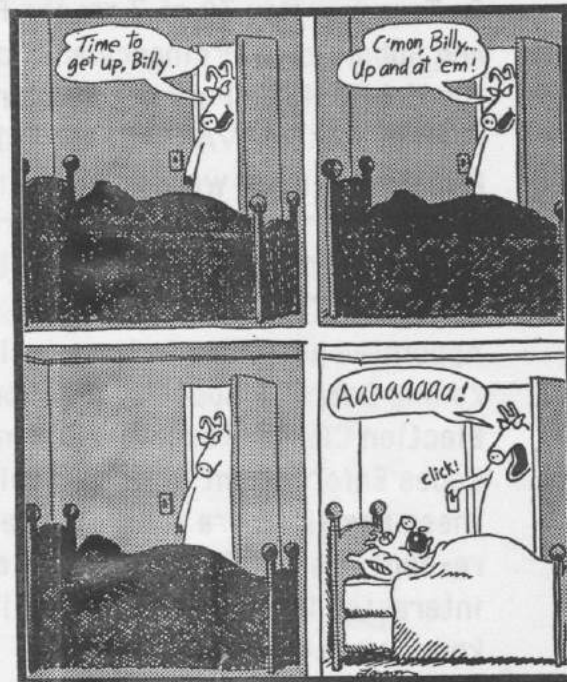
RECREATIONAL VESSELS ALL TIMES ON SIGNAL EXCEPT THAT FROM 6 AM TO 6 PM OPENINGS WILL ONLY BE AT 10 AM & 2 PM.

THE FOLLOWING VEHICLES HAVE REGISTRATIONS DUE IN JUNE

WAYNE COUSINS	KATHLEEN KAHL	RONALD PAGIE
ART DRESSER	JANET KEHL	JAMES PINETTE
ETHEL ELWELL	JEFF MANN	JOAN RICHARDSON
DOROTHY GREENE	GEORGE MOORE	DIANE SMITH
		ELAINE SULLIVAN

DON'T FORGET - TOWN MEETING  
JUNE 29<sup>TH</sup> 6:00 PM.

THE NEXT NEWS LETTER WILL BE  
JUST BEFORE TOWN MEETING



Piglet practical jokes