

NEWS AROUND AND ABOUT ARROWSIC

The Arrowsic Arrow

Vol. 29 No. 1

February 2015

WEST BATH LAWSUIT CLOSING

The lawsuit filed by West Bath against Arrowsic, Regional School Unit 1 (RSU1), Bath and Woolwich is formally closing. West Bath was seeking \$182,000 from our Town, claiming that Arrowsic residents unjustly benefited when RSU1 allocated the cost of its budget across municipalities between 2008 and 2012. Last summer, the judge in the case ruled that Arrowsic (and Woolwich) were not liable but allowed West Bath to proceed with the suit against RSU1 and Bath. This last December, the three remaining parties reached a settlement without proceeding to trial.

In 2013 and 2014, Town residents approved spending up to \$30,000 for our legal defense at two Special Town Meetings. Of this amount, the Town spent \$27,892.45. Our lawyer, Rufus Brown, did a very effective job at focusing his time and arguments on our Town's direct interests in the case and we appreciate his successful effort in our defense.

Bill Savedoff

HEAVY VEHICLES AND POSTED ROADS

While Spring may seem a long way off, this is a reminder that the Arrowsic Town Roads will be posted to heavy vehicles, 23,000lbs GVW, again this year. The posting is dependent on the weather, but typically occurs about March 15 to May 1. Every year the Road Commission gets pitiful pleas with promised penance to allow a big truck for trash/debris haul-off or delivery of construction materials.

Why this catches people off guard is baffling, but, as the old Maine saying goes, perhaps being forewarned is forewarned.

Jim Stump, for the Road Commission

ARROWSIC WRITERS READ

Poem format thanks to A.A. Milne and Winnie the Pooh

It's cold and snows,
Tiddley pum.
It snows, this cold,
Tiddley pum,
And goes and goes,
Tiddley pum,
On colding.

There is some warmth,
Tiddley pum,
To the frozen north,
Tiddley pum,
When people pour forth,
Tiddley pum,
With their poems and stories.

New grandfather, Bill,
Tiddley pum,
Shared his most recent skill,
Tiddley pum,
Of playing at will,
Tiddley pum,
With the name, Caliope.

Lee J.'s intrigues,
Tiddley pum,
Around bridge log entries,
Tiddley pum,
Caused Erin to sneeze,
Tiddley pum.
(Now, who is lying?)

Sukey Heard's green tree,
Tiddley pum,
Shed copiously,
Tiddley pum,
Turning out to be,
Tiddley pum,
A white pine.

Nancy sang of a casket,
Tiddley pum,
Which like Moses' basket,
Tiddley pum,
Rode inland waterway fantastics,
Tiddley pum,
Not staying buried.

And we had a spontaneous,
Tiddley pum,
A Will Scarlet being Santa Claus,
Tiddley pum,
A wise cellist hearkening us,
Tiddley pum,
To embrace the darkness.

N. Brown Stump

**POET'S
CORNER**

THE COST OF COUNTING OUR VOTES

Everyone who participated in the tallying of votes after the last election did an important service for Arrowsic.

Counting the votes can be a bigger job than it appears. In this last election, 330 Arrowsic residents cast ballots. Three-hundred and thirty is not such a large number. What's the big deal? Tallying the votes becomes a big deal when there are several candidate races (six of them this time) plus referenda questions and bond issues (eight of them, including both state and county questions). When those are added up, each ballot had 14 different races or questions to be tallied, and suddenly it's not hundreds of votes but rather *thousands* of votes to be counted – 4620, to be exact. And that's not even including the vote for the RSU board.

Another factor that shapes the task is the required state method. For the sake of fairness, transparency, accuracy, plus ease of recounts if necessary, the state has a single method that's mandatory for all municipalities. That method has several elements (verbal, concurrent, by partisan-balanced teams, using approved tally sheets, etc.). Carefully adhering to that particular method also imposes a certain pace.

Therefore, counting the ballots takes more time, care, effort and cost than might be anticipated. Like other municipalities, Arrowsic compensates ballot counters at the rate of \$10 per hour. This past election, we spent \$280 on ballot counting, and the whole process didn't wrap up until 1:30 a.m.

There is an alternative. The state has a contract with a company that leases tabulators. Voters mark a familiar paper ballot, then feed the ballot into a scanner. After the polls close, the warden pushes a button – and the count is done. It's a significant gain in time and ease. The cost is significant also. The lease price for the tabulator, including biennial maintenance, has been \$745 per year. The state has been charging a further \$370 for programming the tabulator for each election. The contract is currently in the process of being extended through 2019; there are no more machines available at the current price and the future price isn't yet determined.

Continued in next column.....

.....Continued from previous column

Whatever the price of the machine tabulator once the contract is renewed, it will be considerably more than the cost of compensating those who spend many hours after the polls close hand counting the votes by the required state method. Hand counting is a chore that enables us to keep the town budget lower than otherwise. Therefore, when the state recently notified us that if we didn't act now to indicate our interest in leasing a tabulator, we'd definitely be hand counting the 2016 presidential election – hand counting is what we elected to continue to do.

Voting is free: no poll tax! Counting the votes isn't. Please appreciate the hours and effort that counters put in, and consider joining us next time.

Amy Smith, Registrar of Voters
Linda Warner, Town Clerk

ITEMS TO REMEMBER

February 19th: Meeting to discuss Fire Department Mini-Pumper 7:00pm at the Town Hall.

Friday February 27th and Monthly: Game night at the Town Hall 6:30pm—8:30ish. Check the calendar for the monthly schedule. All welcome!

Spring: Keep an eye out for heavy vehicle prohibitions to keep our roads intact

April: Alewife monitoring volunteers needed. Let's see how the new culvert works!

Tuesday, April 14, 6:00pm: Roadside cleanup workshop held at the Town Hall

Saturday, April 25, 9:30am: Roadside cleanup day

Ongoing: New members needed for Solid Waste and Recycling committee

(Tentative) Saturday May 2: Household hazardous waste collection day

ADVERTISEMENTS

Woodcock Farm is now accepting reservations for sides of pork. Fill your freezer this fall with tasty local chops, hams, and sausage!
Call **Bill Blaiklock** at 443-3725

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

• *Alewife Monitoring*

We are gearing up for another season of alewife monitoring, starting in late April. This year will be the first test of the new culvert/fishway. We are hoping for an improved success rate for returning alewives to actually reach Sewall Pond. We welcome new volunteers, as well as veteran counters.

2015 SPRING ROADSIDE CLEANUP

Please mark your calendars. The date and time for this year's Spring Roadside Cleanup, jointly sponsored by the Solid Waste/Recycling Committee and Conservation Commission, is Saturday, April 25, 9:30 AM. *In addition to volunteers to help with the actual cleanup, it will be of critical importance to have additional help to sort out the recyclable items from the trash, and permanently keep these materials out of the waste stream. Please e-mail or call the committee to add your name to the list of volunteers.* A workshop to train these additional volunteers will be held on Tuesday, April 14, 6:00 PM, at the Town Hall.

MILLIE'S ARROWSIC HISTORY QUIZ, PART 1

BY MILDRED STAFFORD, TOWN HISTORIAN
(ORIGINALLY APPEARED IN THE
1994-95 ANNUAL REPORT)

1. When did Arrowsic separate from Georgetown?
2. What was the location of the Town Hall before it was moved to its present location in 1949?
3. When was the first bridge built between Arrowsic and the mainland?
4. When was the present bridge to Woolwich built?
5. When was what we know as Rt. 127 built?

Answers on Page 4 of this Arrow

SOLID WASTE AND RECYCLING COMMITTEE

• *Call for New Members*

The committee is looking for new members interested in helping with the necessary work and in developing strategies and charting the Town's course for resource and materials management.

• *New Recycling Brochure*

A new, comprehensive brochure has been produced and will be made available on the town website by February 1. Please let the committee know if you have any questions about this or find any errors or omissions.

• *Townwide Recycling Survey*

The committee has put together an online survey on recycling and composting. The purpose of this survey is to determine how well we are doing in these two most important areas, as well as gather information for analyzing and improving the town's solid waste program. Notice of the survey and a link for online access will be e-mailed to the town on February 1. The link will also be posted on the town website. It is very important to have as many households as possible participate. Please take advantage of this opportunity to provide your valuable feedback.

• *Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day*

Bath has tentatively scheduled the 2015 Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day for Saturday, May 2.

• *Discount Composting Bins*

Sometime soon, Bath will once again be offering composting bins at a discounted price. Details to follow.

Committee Contact:

Paul Schlein, pschlein@gmail.com, 443-3209

**HOW ARROWSIC VOTED IN THE
NOVEMBER 2014 GENERAL ELECTION**
*330 OF 401 REGISTERED VOTERS
PARTICIPATING**

GOVERNOR

Eliot R. Cutler (I) 17 5.15%
 Paul R. LePage (R) 119 36.06%
 Michael H. Michaud (D) 194 58.79%
 J. Martin Vachon (U)—Official Write-In 0 0%

U.S. SENATE

Shenna Bellows (D) 153 47.37%
 Susan M. Collins (R) 170 52.63%
 Christopher A. Lyons (I)—Official Write-In 0 0%
 Deril V. Stubenrod (R)—Official Write-In 0 0%

U.S. HOUSE

U.S. House District 1
 Isaac J. Misiuk (R) 75 23.51%
 Richard P. Murphy (I) 18 5.64%
 Chellie Pingree (D) 226 70.85%
 Barry D. Stephens (R)—Official Write-In 0 0%

REFERENDUM QUESTION

Bear-Baiting Referendum

Do you want to ban the use of bait, dogs or traps in bear hunting except to protect property, public safety, or for research?

Yes 176 55.35%
 No 142 44.65%

BOND REFERENDUMS

Bond Issue: \$8 million for agriculture

Do you favor an \$8,000,000 bond issue to support Maine agriculture, facilitate economic growth in natural resources-based industries and monitor human health threats related to ticks, mosquitoes and bedbugs through the creation of an animal and plant disease and insect control laboratory administered by the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Service?

Yes 219 68.22%
 No 102 31.78%

Bond Issue: Small Business Loans

Do you favor a bond issue to provide \$4,000,000 in funds to insure portions of loans to small businesses to spur investment and innovation and to provide

Continued on page 5...

ARROWSIC NEEDS YOU!
**TO HELP DESIGN AN
OFFICIAL TOWN SEAL**

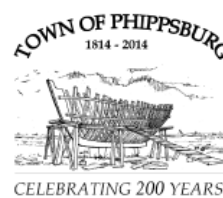
The State of Maine has one, our neighboring towns have them, wouldn't it be nice to have an official seal for Arrowsic? And wouldn't it be fun to design and create it? Now is our chance, and the possibilities are endless.

What symbolizes our town, what makes it unique, and what will translate into a simple graphic that can be used wherever needed, for both official and recreational purposes—stationary, signs, T-shirts, hats, etc.?

Please submit your ideas in any form—words or graphics, basic ideas and concepts, or completed artwork. E-mail them to peacefulquinn@gmail.com, or put them in the Arrow box in the Town Hall.

Future editions of *The Arrow* will include everything submitted and a decision-making process will be determined. *May the muse be with you and the fun begin!*

Paul Schlein



MILLIE'S ARROWSIC HISTORY QUIZ, ANSWERS, PART 1
 BY MILDRED STAFFORD, TOWN HISTORIAN
 (ORIGINALLY APPEARED IN THE
 1994-95 ANNUAL REPORT)
 1. 1841.
 2. Beside the church on Old Stage Road.
 3. 1849 for \$3700.
 4. 1957.
 5. 1850 & 51.

.....Continued from page 4

\$8,000,000 in funds to make flexible loans to small businesses to create jobs, revitalize downtowns and strengthen the rural economy?

√ Yes 201 63.21%

No 117 36.79%

Bond Issue: Cancer Center

Do you favor a \$10,000,000 bond issue, to be awarded through a competitive process and to be matched by \$11,000,000 in private and other funds, to build a research center and to discover genetic solutions for cancer and the diseases of aging, to promote job growth and private sector investment in this State, to attract and retain young professionals and make the State a global leader in genomic medicine?

√ Yes 201 62.42%

No 121 37.58%

Bond Issue: Biotechnology Jobs and Training

Do you favor a \$3,000,000 bond issue, to be awarded through a competitive process and to be matched by \$5,700,000 in private and public funds, to modernize and expand infrastructure in a biological laboratory specializing in tissue repair and regeneration located in the State in order to increase biotechnology workforce training, retain and recruit to the State multiple biomedical research and development groups and create a drug discovery and development facility that will improve human health and stimulate biotechnology job growth and economic activity?

√ Yes 188 59.31%

No 129 40.69%

Bond Issue: Clean Water

Do you favor a \$10,000,000 bond issue to ensure clean water and safe communities across Maine; to

Continued on Page 6....

**2015 BOAT REGISTRATIONS
NOW AVAILABLE!**

Boat registrations have arrived and can be purchased at any time...be ready for the spring thaw!

Thanks, Linda Warner

**TOWN TO CONSIDER REPLACING THE
MINI-PUMPER**

The Arrowsic Fire Department's Mini-Pumper is 27 years old and it is time to consider replacing it. We plan to hold our first meeting to discuss options on February 19th at 7:00pm at the Town Hall.

The Mini-Pumper plays a special role in addressing emergencies. It is smaller than our large Tank Truck so that it can handle more of the Town's winding private roads and driveways and it has four-wheel drive. It is a valued part of our mutual aid commitments to neighboring municipalities. It carries 250 gallons of water and can pump 450 gallons per minute which allows it to do much more than our Brush Truck. But after 27 years, it is wearing out, the pump is finicky and it cannot handle the pumping capacity required by current firefighting standards (1000 gallons per minute minimum).

The Select Board originally postponed considering the Fire Chief's request to replace the Mini-Pumper while we waited to hear the outcome of the West Bath lawsuit. Now that the lawsuit is closing, we believe it is time to put replacing the Mini-Pumper before the Town for consideration. At the meeting, the Fire Chief and Select Board will share information about the characteristics of a replacement truck, its cost (which could be as much as \$250,000), and different financing options. We will be interested in hearing your views on how to proceed.

SHELLFISH CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

All four commercial licenses allocated for 2015 have been sold to non-resident harvesters. Plenty of recreational licenses are available from the Town Clerk. The flats are open year around except for flood and rainfall closures.

Bill Blaiklock

.....Continued from page 5

protect drinking water sources; to restore wetlands; to create jobs and vital public infrastructure; and to strengthen the State's long-term economic base and competitive advantage?

√ Yes 231 71.52%

No 92 28.48%

Bond Issue: Marine Economy

Do you favor a \$7,000,000 bond issue to facilitate the growth of marine businesses and commercial enterprises that create jobs and improve the sustainability of the State's marine economy and related industries through capital investments, to be matched by at least \$7,000,000 in private and other funds?

√ Yes 219 68.65%

No 100 31.35%

MAINE SENATE

Maine Senate District 23

√ Linda L. Baker (R) 91 27.91%

Alice E. Knapp (G) 16 4.91%

Eloise A. Vitelli (D) 219 67.18%

MAINE HOUSE

Maine House District 53

Peter S. Kent (D) 212 66.04%

√ Jeffrey K. Pierce (R) 109 33.96%

DISTRICT ATTORNEY

District Attorney District 6

√ Geoffrey A. Rushlau (R) 113 35.99%

David A. Sinclair (D) 201 64.01%

SAGADAHOC COUNTY

Sagadahoc County Referendum

Yes 130 44.37%

√ No 163 55.63%

** Number of active registered voters as of Oct. 1, 2014, from the Maine Secretary of State's Office. Number of participating voters is calculated based on the number of people voting in the election for Governor.*

√ *Indicates overall winner in the election.*

[Results as posted on the *Bangor Daily News* website: [http://maineelections.bangordailynews.com/mobile_ad.html?](http://maineelections.bangordailynews.com/mobile_ad.html?County=Oxford+County&Town=Arrowsic) County=Oxford+County&Town=Arrowsic.]

ARROWSIC SOLID WASTE/RECYCLING COMMITTEE

2015 TRASH/RECYCLING

PICKUP SCHEDULE

January–May; September–December
Biweekly schedule for everything; Friday pickup*

June–August
Weekly trash pickup; biweekly recycling; Friday pickup

JANUARY	9 ^R		23 ^R		
FEBRUARY	6 ^R		20 ^R		
MARCH	6 ^R		20 ^R		
APRIL	3 ^R		17 ^R		
MAY	1 ^R		15 ^R		29 ^R
JUNE	5	12 ^R	19	26 ^R	
JULY	3	10 ^R	17	24 ^R	31
AUGUST	7 ^R	14	21 ^R	28	
SEPTEMBER	4 ^R		18 ^R		
OCTOBER	2 ^R		16 ^R		30 ^R
NOVEMBER		13 ^R		27 ^R	
DECEMBER		11 ^R		*24 ^R	

^RRecycling, as well as Trash pickup

*Pickup Thursday, due to Christmas holiday

Questions? Contact: Paul Schlein, pschlein@gmail.com, 443-3209

CAR REGISTRATIONS

Looking for your car or truck registration?
Check out the website:

<http://arrowsic.org/uploads/autos.pdf>

GAME NIGHT AT THE TOWN HALL

Chase those winter blues away with lively games and conversation with your fellow islanders! See your neighbors struggle with that extra “Q” in Banagrams or complete that river system in Carcasson—BYOB on February 27th, 6:30pm
Quinn Blaiklock

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 November

Due dates will be posted at Town Hall
Questions?

Please contact Quinn Blaiklock peacefulquinn@gmail.com