

The Arrowsic Arrow May 2006

Dates to note

Public Hearing

Wednesday, May 31st,

6:30pm at Town Hall

There will be presentations from the School Committee on the 2006-2007 budget, from the Shellfish Committee, the Planning Board proposed ordinance changes and a Citizens Group ordinance change to be voted on at Town Meeting.

Primary Election

June 13th

Voters enrolled in a party are eligible to vote. Unenrolled voters who wish to vote in the Democratic, Republican, or Green Party primary may register as a member of that party when they arrive at the polls on election day or earlier.

Town Meeting

Wednesday, June 14th,

6:30pm Georgetown School

From The Selectmen

Committee Openings:

Our present need is two permanent members for The Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) The Board meets on a needs basis, which is normally 2 to 3 times a year. This is a very important committee which helps to shape the future of the Town. Please contact any one of the selectmen, or Phine to apply for one of the vacancies.

From the Solid Waste & Recycling Committee

The hard-working crew who picks up our curbside recycling each week would like to make the following two requests of residents:

- 1) Please rinse containers
- 2) Please break down your corrugated cardboard into flat units of no more than three feet square so that they fit into the truck slot (they can be folded or cut into this size)

Two other useful points of information that you may not know:

- 1) There is a collection box for recycling rechargeable batteries in the shed at the town hall.
- 2) Inkjet printer cartridges may be recycled free of charge by dropping them off at the post office.

We recognize that there are many different rules regarding "where to put what" when it comes to recycling, and we are working toward making a comprehensive list that will be distributed to residents in the coming months. Finally, our committee would like to welcome input from concerned recyclers about how to increase adherence to our mandatory recycling ordinance, since it is apparent that many of us are still in violation.

As always, your cooperation is appreciated. Questions, please call Heather Baker (443-1713), John Hinds (443-4322), Judy Jones (442-7612), Roz McLean (386-0179), or Liz Ware (443-1490).

Congratulations

Three of Union 47s National Honor Society inductees are from Arrowsic. Congratulations to Brian Carlton, Will Kalish and Henry Mann on their hard work! The National Honor Society recognizes

scholarship, community service, leadership and character.

From The School Committee

The Arrowsic School Committee held an information meeting on May 2 to discuss the results of its investigation regarding contracting for the education of Arrowsic students. About 25 people attended the meeting at Town Hall to hear and comment on the results of the work begun by the committee last October.

The investigation was in response to concerns by Arrowsic residents over the increase in school costs for the 2004-05 school year. The school committee undertook a study to “pursue the viability of contracting for the education of our elementary and high school students”. RFI’s (request for information) were sent to nine school districts (18 area schools) in an effort to gauge the interest of these schools in negotiating a contract to educate Arrowsic schoolchildren.

Responses from five districts, representing 12 schools were received. The school committee spent two months reading, considering, analyzing, discussing and synthesizing the responses. Based on several criteria, the school committee presented its findings and recommendation at a selectmen’s meeting on February 13. The criteria that were considered included, tuition costs, proposed terms of a contract, MEA scores, proximity to Arrowsic (i.e. transportation costs and length of travel), condition of facility, educational opportunities, and shared history/sense of community. The school committee also took into account the economic situation of the area (BNAS closing, BIW uncertainty, spending cap in Bath) as well as the larger state education picture [EPS

(Essential Programs and Services) fluctuation, possible school construction, reconfigured schools]. We learned that the area schools have different strengths and different weaknesses that may or may not lead to the best educational climate for an individual child.

After much deliberation, the school committee believes that the responsibility of educating Arrowsic’s children is best left up to parents who can choose from many options to determine where their child is best suited. The Arrowsic community has historically been well informed when it comes school issues. Parental involvement in school choice encourages parental involvement in schools and their children’s learning. The tax savings of contracting are not compelling enough to warrant a change in policy for a system that has worked well for Arrowsic students for many years. The tuition rates proposed were not locked in, they were based on the yearly rate set by the state, which changes from year to year. These, as well as factors of instability within surrounding school districts and economic uncertainty at the regional and state level led us to our recommendation. Our recommendation to the select board and to the town is that Arrowsic not contract with any one school or district at this time. We do, however, feel that the issue should be revisited, therefore the school choice option will be reviewed annually.

The board of selectmen accepted our recommendation that it is not “viable to pursue contracting” at this time.

—Francie Tolan, Nancy Brown
Stump, Walter Briggs

From The Georgetown Central School

Spring has arrived at the Georgetown School. The bulbs that Nancy Axelson

planted with the kindergartners in the memorial garden are beautiful! Many thanks to the community members who came in to read to kids on March 2nd, Dr. Seuss' birthday! We enjoyed a day full of great stories!

Fundraising for new playground equipment is completed. Thanks to all who contributed!

Our kids continue to give back to the community and the world at large. Over the last month, our students raised over \$1300 to purchase gifts of livestock for struggling families around the world who need an ongoing source of income. They also raised money for Jump Rope for Heart, Cystic Fibrosis, and Nurse Sherwood's Mexico Mission trip.

The Georgetown Central School Leadership Club has exciting news! We now have a shed for you to drop off your 5 and 15 cent bottles and cans. The money will be put into an account so that the students of the Leadership Club may do other community service projects for Georgetown and Arrowsic. What a fabulous opportunity for you to give to the students, who will in turn learn about giving back to the community! Thank you for your support with this project.

April Car Registrations

33Dunn
Barnes, D.
Beveridge, R.
Blaiklock, J.
Blaiklock, J.
Blaiklock, Q.
Brett, J.
Briggs, W.
Brown, L.
Coleman, G.
Cunningham, L.
Downs, F.

Dunn, D.
Dunn, F.
Dunn, S.
Elwell, M.
Fitzherbert, D.
Guckenburg, G.
Guckenburg, M.
Gunston, K.
Huene, A.
Jones, Jody
Jorgensen Landscaping
Jorgensen Landscaping
Kane, M.
Kingsbury, B.
Levesque, C.
Mackie, S.
Macmahan, J.
Martin, A.
McLure, J.
Munsey, W.
Olde Kennebec Wood
Cookery
Orr, E.
Packard, N.
Packard, P.
Packard, P.
Puff, K.
Ron Elwell Plumbing
Shaw, J.
Shover, E.
Shover, E.
Simmons, T.
Starbird, R.
Stone, J.
Stuart, S.
Sullivan, T.
Theodore, S.
Thomas, R.
Warner, J.
Willoughby, S.
Willoughby, S.
Wilson, E.
Woodruff, M.

May Car Registrations

Ames, H.
Anderson, E.
Arsenault, P.
Barter, M.
Beaton, D.
Brooks, D.
Bryant, B.
Carlton, A.
Chapin, E.
Conner, P.
Cunningham, L.
Dunn, F.
Elwell, R.
Fitzherbert, D.
Galuzza, J.
Geiger, M.
Giles, S.
Goodwin, P.
Goodwin, P.
Hanson, J.
Harkins, T.
Harper, M.
Harper, M.
Heard, R.
Heard, S.
Hewlett, H.
Hudson, D.
Jorgensen, M.
Jorgensen, M.
Jorgensen, M.
Jorgensen, M.
Jorgensen Landscaping
Kingsbury, R.
Lyden, D.
McLuer, J.
Munsey, W.
Cleary, R.
Orr, W.
Paradis, R.
Pinette, J.
Rollins, E.

Rollins, E.
Santerre, R.
Shulta, R.
Spencer, J.
Stoebe, J.
Traulsen, I.
Ulmer, W.
Warner, L.
Weiss, D.
Weiss, S.
Westcott, D.
Wilson, L.
Wiseman, E.
Wood, J.