

The Arrowsic Arrow

News Around & About Arrowsic

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Spring 2025

Dr. Julia G. “Judy” Kahrl 1934 to 2025

Judy Kahrl died on January 10th, surrounded by family. Her connection to this area dates back to the 1950s, when she came to visit with then fiancé, Stanley Kahrl, at the cottage on Georgetown his family had owned since the 1930s. In 1969, Judy and Stan built a house of their own on Kennebec Point, where Judy continued to summer until the end of her life. An avid rower, she loved spending hours on the water, venturing out into the bay. In 1971, Judy bought Fisher Eddy Farm. Family members used and cared for the property until Judy moved to Arrowsic permanently in 1999 and Fisher Eddy became a year-round gathering place for family.

An environmentalist to the core, Judy found peace in the natural world and worked to protect it for future generations. Judy left Reskohegan, her property off the Bald Head Road, to The Nature Conservancy with oversight from the Kennebec Estuary Land Trust. She was a strong supporter of both organizations, along with the Bath YMCA, the Bowdoinham Food Pantry, Seguin Lighthouse, and many other organizations. We all have Judy to thank for her generous support of bringing broadband to Arrowsic.

Judy was a lifelong human rights activist with a passion for sexual and reproductive health, rights and justice. Always a voice for women’s rights, she traveled the world with her father in support of reproductive healthcare. She served on the board of Pathfinder International, an organization

her father founded, for almost 60 years. She was an advocate for La Leche League International, starting in the days when breast-feeding was disparaged and out of favor. In 2010 Judy was recognized by the Peruvian government for her support of maternal healthcare.



Inspired by observing the role of grandmothers during her travels in Tanzania, Judy founded Grandmothers for Reproductive Rights (GRR!) in 2013, here at her home on Fisher Eddy. GRR! is now a national organization that works intergenerationally, through education and advocacy, to secure access to sexual and reproductive health, rights and justice for current and future generations. Judy was a beacon of light and inspiration for activists of all ages. She was seen frequently in Augusta advocating for reproductive rights, and she worked to lift up the voices of older women whose stories have been buried under decades of shame and stigma.

In 2017, Judy received the Mabel Sine Wadsworth Award for her passionate activism. In 2022, Judy was inducted into the Maine Women’s Hall of Fame.

Judy focused on the crisis of Black maternal mortality in the last two years of her life, supporting several African American-owned birthing centers across the country. She never lost her determination or her sense of humor. Always questing to learn, and never flagging in her activism, she was a faithful friend and a delight to work with.

All are welcome at a celebration of her life on August 2, 2025, from noon to 3:00 at Fisher Eddy, Arrowsic.

—Lucy Hull

Significant Proposals in Maine and U.S. Congress Seek to Change Election Law

Voter I.D. laws have been proposed in Maine and in the U.S. Congress that, if passed, will affect how elections are administered and how voter registration is conducted.

In Maine voters will decide on, “An Act to Require an Individual to Present Photographic Identification for the Purpose of Voting.” Included in the initiative are proposed changes to how elections are administered at the local level.

The “Voter ID for Maine” campaign started as a citizen initiative. A citizen initiative is legislation proposed through a petition process. Any registered Maine voter can initiate a petition. The Secretary of State’s office has reviewed and approved the “Voter ID for Maine” initiative, and it will appear on the November 2025 ballot.

The Act proposes to:

- require a qualified photo I.D. to vote in person and with an absentee ballot.
- eliminate ongoing absentee voting, which allows Maine voters, if requested, to have an absentee ballot mailed to them automatically for each election cycle.
- place limits on the use and number of absentee ballot drop boxes.
- require “a bipartisan team of election officials” to collect absentee ballots from drop boxes. Current election law gives that responsibility to the municipal clerk or two people designated by the clerk. (Ballots are typically

retrieved from drop boxes multiple times daily.)

- change the deadline for requesting an absentee ballot from 3 to 7 days prior to an election.

At the Federal level, H.R. 22, known as “The Safeguard American Voter Eligibility Act”, or SAVE Act, proposes “to amend the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 to require proof of United States citizenship to **register** an individual to vote in elections for Federal office, and for other purposes.”

Eligible documents include a REAL ID-compliant identification indicating U.S. citizenship; a valid U.S. passport, military ID, and service record; a government-issued photo ID showing U.S. birthplace; or a government-issued photo ID that does not indicate birthplace or citizenship **and** a valid secondary document.

What effect would H.R. 22 have if passed by Congress? Currently, in addition to registering at your local registrar’s office, citizens may register to vote (or update their voter registration) at the BMV, at voter registration drives or online. These options will likely remain; however, the voter will have to appear, in person, to their local registrar and provide the eligible documents to prove citizenship, to complete their voter registration application.

Every person’s right to vote lies at the heart of our democracy. I encourage citizens to seek out non-partisan sources, such as the League of Women Voters, for information on initiatives that impact voting nationally and in Maine.

H.R.22, SAVE ACT [HERE](#) or <https://www.congress.gov/bill/119th-congress/house-bill/22/text>

“An Act to Require an Individual to Present Photographic Identification for the Purpose of Voting.” [HERE](https://www.mainelegislature.org/legis/bills/bills_128th/billtexts/HP008901.asp) https://www.mainelegislature.org/legis/bills/bills_128th/billtexts/HP008901.asp

—Barbara Boyce [Town Clerk]

Town Hall History - Part 1

According to a document prepared by Millie Stafford, former Town Historian, at least as early as 1850 the building now used as the Town Hall was built. Privately owned, it was a “Band Hall”. The town used it occasionally for town meetings from 1852 to 1880. Town meetings were also held in the North or South Schoolhouse, or in the hall over C.C. Crosby’s store on Mill Island. For years, the townspeople had discussed the need for a meeting house, but it wasn’t until 1878 that they authorized the Selectmen “to negotiate with the owners of the Band Hall and have it transferred to the Town...”

The Selectmen bought the building from Nicholas L. Hogan and Thomas Rairden for \$21 and in 1879, with an appropriation of \$100, the town moved the Band Hall a quarter of a mile to a site next to the Methodist Church on Old Stage Road (now a private residence) and had it repaired. The move reportedly took “42 yoke of oxen and much cider drinking and loud talk”. The town held its first meeting in its own Town Hall in 1880. In 1949, the Town Hall was moved again, with trucks, to its present site, on the same location as the North Schoolhouse, which was razed in the late 1960’s.

The following account itemizes the work of relocating the building a second time to its present location, preparing a new foundation, constructing the chimney, the rear and side shed additions and installing electricity:

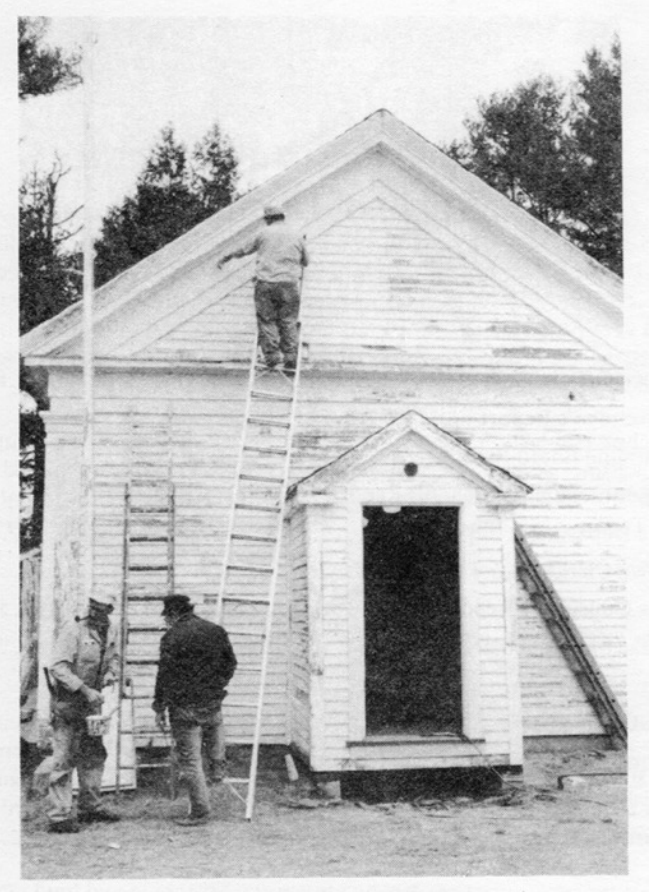
Annual Report of the Town of Arrowsic for 1950

TOWN HALL MOVING & REPAIR

J. M. Jutrus, Moving Town Hall	\$500.00
George Stafford, Labor	290.62
Frank Rittall, Labor	256.37
Clarence Carlton, Labor	57.15
John G, Morse & Son, Labor and Material	459.84
Nathan Petlock Inc., Material	15.75
Crooker & Simpson, Sand	27.00
Mark Hennessy, Bids	2.40
Frank Toothaker, Blasting	15.30
Arthur W. Allan, Wiring	75.00
First National Bank, Interest	36.00
TOTAL	\$1776.93
Loans from First National Bank	\$1800.00



Painting Town Hall South



Painting Town Hall West

Annual Report of the Town of Arrowsic for 1979

TOWN HALL FACELIFT

In spring of 1979 a group of residents heeded the call for volunteers to scrape and paint the Town Hall. The job took two days and approximately 20 men, women, and children pitched in to put the hall back into top trim for the Centennial of the purchase of the building. Confections were provided by the Fire Department Auxiliary and beer and soda were provided by the Selectmen.

—Michael Kreindler

Essential Rides for Everyday Living

With twelve drivers, the first two communities on the lower Kennebec, Arrowsic and Georgetown, now have a volunteer transportation program for older residents without other transportation options. This free program is all about getting neighbors to where they need to go. Volunteers are ready to drive a registered rider to different destinations such as the grocery store, medical appointments, and social activities. Based on driver availability, rides will generally be offered weekdays from 9am-5pm. We are asking for a three-day advanced notice to allow us time to arrange the ride with one of our volunteer drivers.

To register or to learn more about Arrowsic rides contact Karin by voicemail or text at 207-208-9418 or email at arrowsictransportation@gmail.com.

Georgetown residents please get in touch with Jim Peavey by email, gtagefriendly@gmail.com, or call 207-387-0440.

Other communities in the region will follow. This program would not be possible without continuous support from the Bath Police Department, AARP Maine, UMaine Center on Aging/Lifelong Maine, and the Maine Cabinet on Aging.

—Karin Sadtler and James Peavey

Age Friendly Communities of the Lower Kennebec
Age-Friendly Georgetown

Community News

Herbert ("Herb") Hewlett, longtime resident of Whitmore's Landing, passed away in January, just shy of his 85th birthday. He left behind his wife Lois, and many, many good friends.

We would like to express our gratitude for our good neighbors Doug and Liz Ware. Time and time again they come through to help with projects on the property like maintaining the shoreline, putting the dock in and out, mowing and clearing snow...just to name a few. We want them to know how much we appreciate them and that we are so very grateful to have them as neighbors!

—The Brown Family



Baseball Cards by Paul Kalkstein tied for first place in the 2024 Pat-ten Free Library's Annual Writing Contest. Paul originally wrote the piece to inspire students in a course he designed for Midcoast Senior College. It also

encouraged his children and grandchildren to write about their own childhood memories, which made him especially proud. At the library's awards ceremony on February 11, his daughter Molly McGrath read the winning piece from his book, *Anamnesis*, to a packed audience. Paul, Arrowsic's long-time webmaster, and Marnie have been residents on Doubling Point Road for 45+ years.

—Janet Persen



Having read in the Arrowsic newsletter or *The Arrow* that *The Arrow* likes new residents to introduce themselves there, we three are happy to do so: We're Alice Colwell, a mostly retired editor, a lover of birds and gardens, and David Dobbs, a mostly retired author and journalist and avid birder and angler who has written about both the New England Forest and the New England coastal fisheries, and Altheo Colwell, our 20-year-old, decidedly not retired son, who's excited to explore the unfamiliar topography of the midcoast and get involved in community organizing both in Arrowsic and surrounding towns. We've spent the past 30-plus/20-plus years in Vermont.

We're charmed and excited about both the human and natural dynamics we're discovering in this wonderful spot, and we look forward to meeting fellow residents (Arrows?) and finding our places here.

—Alice Colwell, Altheo Colwell, and David Dobbs

Roman H. Wasilewski, Resident of the Bald Head Road Died on January 15, 2025.

In 1986, Erica Wasilewski bought a house near the south end of Bald Head Road. Moving to Arrowsic in 2005 to support his mother before her death in 2008, Roman put down roots of his own here.

In 2015, Roman picked up leadership of Citizens for Squirrel Point (CSP) from the former board and from "Lighthouse Lee" Johnson, who founded the organization to rescue the lighthouse from a real estate developer who had a very different vision for the property. He served as the President of CSP until 2021, and he remained on the board until his death. Roman obtained numerous grants, first to stabilize and then to start the restoration of the structures at Squirrel Point. Conserving and maintaining public access to this historic landmark were tremendously important to him. From organizing volunteer cleanups to hosting planning sessions over one of his signature meals, Roman's wit, warmth, and good humor were always apparent.

After college, Roman worked for the United States Postal Service (USPS), where he drew life-long inspiration from USPS workers, including immigrants from around the world.

In 1984 he joined the US State Department, where he served as an economic analyst and advisor. Roman waded fearlessly into many conflicted areas in the world. He served in Peru, Jordan, Columbia, Kosovo, Moldova, Moscow, Ukraine, Turkmenistan, and Brazil. With the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe he was an election observer and conducted on-site investigations of human rights abuses in Chechnya and Georgia.

Roman was a talented linguist, fluent in Polish, Russian, Spanish, and Portuguese. He was conversant in Arabic, French, Ukrainian, and Serbian.

An intrepid traveler and explorer, he relished new adventures and challenges. He loved long walks



in Ireland, where his family had a cottage for many years, and he hiked in the Alps, Andes, and the Himalayas. Full of wisdom and life experience, Roman was a talented conversationalist and raconteur and he could find a connection with anyone. He was also an inveterate punster. His family points to a particular example, when he ordered a Harp beer in Ireland and was told they were out, he said, "Alas, no Harp, life is a Guinness."

Fiercely proud of his Polish heritage, Roman delighted in meeting people who could speak the language. In fact, his ears perked up whenever he heard people speaking in any of the tongues he knew, and he would greet the speaker with immediate words of welcome and recognition. He appreciated and found ways to cheer everyone around him.

Roman frequented the Squirrel Point and Bald Head trails and was often seen kayaking the Kennebec and Back Rivers, bicycling around Arrowsic and far beyond (even with a perpetually rusty chain), and walking at Reid State Park.

Roman is much missed by all who knew him.

—Lucy Hull



Many Helpers Secured Significant Funding

Arrowsic First Responders Receive Equipment from Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation®

Grant is part of more than \$92 million given by Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation® to support safety across the U.S.

The Arrowsic Fire Department (AFD) has been named a 2025 grant recipient by Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation®, receiving \$42,634 to increase lifesaving capabilities in Arrowsic and neighboring communities through mutual aid. The grant will be used to purchase twelve sets of bunker gear for the department and will ensure our community is better prepared for emergencies.

“We are grateful to the Foundation and our local Firehouse Subs® in Topsham for awarding us this grant,” said Dale Carlton, Arrowsic Fire Chief. “The new bunker gear will fulfill a critical need within our department and allow us to purchase personal protective equipment made of modern materials which provide superior protection against the hazards we face. The new gear will be lighter and more flexible, allowing our firefighters to move more freely and perform their duties more effectively during high-stress situations.”



Arrowsic Fire Department Receives Grant from Stephen & Tabitha King Foundation

We sincerely thank the Stephen & Tabitha King Foundation for their generous grant of \$20,000 enabling the purchase of a specialized laundry machine and dryer cabinet for our turnout gear. This backing reinforces our readiness and security, benefiting the whole community and showcasing the foundation’s dedication to safeguarding lives.



The Climate Resilience Committee, our Town Treasurer, State Representatives, members of the Selectboard, and the Arrowsic Volunteer Fire Department worked together to submit these successful grant applications. Thank you, Allison, Dale, Eileen, Eloise, Jody, Joe, Karin, and Walter!

Arrowsic Fire Department Acts to Extend Truck Life

Recognizing that the cost of new fire trucks is expected to continue increasing by ten percent per year, the AFD is committed to building resilience through extended service life of its existing firefighting apparatus. Arrowsic's 2015 Fire Department Long Term Plan projected twenty-year vehicle replacement but did not imagine the currently escalating prices. While we have recommended the Town adjust its annual AFD capital fund investment, we are also performing proactive maintenance designed to decrease the corrosion rate on structural steel components. Our oldest vehicle is now fifteen years old, and our goal is to have it last for another fifteen. The application of Fluid Film, an environmentally safe undercoating derived from sheep's lanolin, forms a renewable barrier to protect steel from the effects of salt, water, and oxygen that accelerate corrosion. The coating requires periodic re-application but has proven effectiveness since being developed for the military during World War II to replace scarce petroleum products. Anyone concerned for the longevity of their personal vehicle in Maine might wish to consider investing in this process as well.

—The Arrowsic Volunteer Fire Department

The Town of Arrowsic's New Website

If you've gone online to find something on our website recently, you've seen that we have a whole new look. It's still got the same range of information; in addition, the new platform allowed us to streamline the look. We will keep updating the details so that the website is easier to use by long-term residents as well as new neighbors.

Each town committee, including the Select Board, has its own page on the website, presenting resources and minutes from their meetings so that you can keep up with the issues that matter to you most.

Links to online options, information and paperwork concerning taxes, motor vehicle registration, and licenses are available on the site, and you will find the contact information for Barbara Boyce, Town Clerk, and Rachel Strachan, Tax Collector.

As a reminder, Barbara Boyce oversees:

- Marriage, Hunting & Fishing, Dog, and Shellfish Licenses
- ATV, Snowmobile, and Watercraft Registrations
- Vital Records for Arrowsic
- Elections

Rachel Strachan oversees:

- Real Estate Taxes
- Motor Vehicle Registration

To make changes to the website contact Irene Burgess, irene.burgess@arrowsic.org, the Town Administrator. We no longer have a Webmaster, but she will make changes to the website as needed.

—The Town of Arrowsic

Arrowsic Helps Build Dunes

Following last year's successful project at Popham Beach, Reid State Park has amassed about 200 trees to help rebuild dunes lost in last year's

storms. If you visit, you will see piles near both the Griffith Head and Todd's Point parking lots. In March, the trees will be arranged in rows on the beach and secured with line where they will trap sand and assist in rebuilding the shoreline.

Arrowsic donated at least 62 Christmas trees to the effort! Thanks to our volunteers for collecting and transporting the trees and to any individuals who delivered them directly to the park.

—Arrowsic Recycle and Solid Waste Committee



The First Batch

(Photo by Jon Biehler)

The Third Annual Arrowsic Alewife Harvest

Mark your calendars for 9 a.m. on May 10! We will be at Sewall Pond offering a fish for the community and a fish for the pond until we reach the day's limit. Arrowsic residents can get a few fish to pickle, smoke, or use as fertilizer in their gardens. Recipes will be available. Being able to harvest alewives is a sign of success after all the efforts to ensure clear passage and all the volunteer hours of monitoring the annual alewife run for the past decade and a half.

We look forward to seeing you.

—The Arrowsic Fish Commission

Amy Smith

Artist's Statement

I design and weave scarves and shawls. I work in lace because I'm fascinated by light – catching it off water, through trees, or in a late twilight. Lace is a structure that incorporates negative space, allowing me to design with both the threads and the spaces between them.

My color-gradient warps are fun to create. Each is improvised so no two are exactly alike. Colors move across them, as they do across water or sky.

I work on an 8-shaft floor loom. My preferred material is Tencel, a fiber made from wood pulp (primarily eucalyptus) in a “closed loop” manufacturing process with low environmental impact. I weave it into fabric that has a lovely luster, drape and hand yet is also sturdy and not precious – a pleasure to weave, a pleasure to wear.

I am proud to be a member of Maine Craft Association (MCA), a great organization that supports the craft community and arts economy of Maine in many ways. As a Guild Level member, I participate in MCA's Maine shows. I also show nationally – including at the Smithsonian Craft Show and American Craft Council shows in Baltimore.

For more information, please check www.bluefeetstudio.com



Teal Swich



Zephyr

Assessing Risks to Private Wells in Arrowsic—Hopefully

Have you ever had your well run dry, or experienced water quality issues? The Arrowsic Resilience Committee (ARC) plans to help residents assess these types of risks and others starting this summer. The ARC partnered with the Georgetown Conservation Commission and the Maine Geological Survey (MGS) to submit a joint proposal for \$165,000 to assess each island’s groundwater vulnerability in a changing climate. Crucial support was given by our Selectboard, State legislators, and Conservation Commission. In March, we will find out if we are funded and if so (and we are optimistic) we will be able to do the following:

1. **Offer free water tests:** All residents will have the opportunity to have their well tested for a variety of attributes (see below) in exchange for basic well information (e.g. well type, depth, location, and yield). Residents may also *volunteer* basic information on their septic system since these systems can affect water quality. Results of each test will be given to participants confidentially.
2. **Identify local strategies to enhance groundwater:** This will be done through data compilation and GIS mapping/analysis of wells and septic systems. All well and septic system information will be aggregated when reported out to protect landowner’s privacy.
3. **Assess alternative public water source(s):** We aim to increase community resilience during climate-related weather or disaster events. In Arrowsic, we will focus on the town well near the Town Hall and what is needed to address its current water quality issues.
4. **Establish an aquifer monitoring network:** In collaboration with the Maine Geological Survey, we will be looking to place several devices in “abandoned” wells to continuously monitor water quality. This type of data will help MGS assess risks, including saltwater intrusion.
5. **Conduct Community Outreach:** Just as in the Climate Action Plan, we hope to engage as many residents as possible through water testing, regular updates, and education on factors affecting the water quality of the wells in Arrowsic.



Water quality was identified as a high priority in the [Arrowsic Climate Action Plan](#) that passed unanimously at last summer’s town meeting; and it is why testing of private wells was chosen as the cornerstone for this project.

At a minimum, the free water tests will include bacteria (total coliform and E. coli), chloride, and a limited number of metals and other naturally occurring parameters, such as calcium magnesium, sodium, alkalinity, and hardness. In addition, we hope the budget will allow some samples to be tested for contaminants, including nitrate/nitrite, lead, copper, and synthetic chemicals.

We hope most residents will choose to participate and look forward to working with all our neighbors on this important project.

—*The Arrowsic Resilience Committee: Jody Jones (chair), Jerry Pieh and Dale McNutt*

My Connection to Judy Kahrl and the Kahrl Family

My connection to Judy Kahrl’s husband, Stanley Kahrl, and his family goes back to Mt. Vernon, Ohio, and my elementary school years. Having settled in Mt. Vernon in 1907, the Kahrl family arrived there years after my Mill ancestors, who settled in Mt. Vernon in the 1880s. But being a small town, they surely knew each other.

Members of the Kahrl family were prominent insurance agents in Mt. Vernon and one of the younger generation, Clyde, was in my sister’s class. As he tells it, he had a major crush on her in first grade and wrote her name on the basement wall in his family home. As far as he knows, her name is still there.

In the early 1960s, my family purchased a camp on Webber Road in Georgetown where we would spend vacations every summer. As a teenager, I remember talking with George and Faith Kahrl, Stanley’s parents, on the wharf at Five Islands and visiting them at their home at Kennebec Point. During a visit with them when I was a freshman at The Ohio State University (OSU), I was introduced to Stanley, who was an English professor at OSU. I tested out of English and so didn’t experience taking any of his courses.

During all my encounters with the Kahrl family I never met Judy, although I heard many stories about her. Having connections in Mt. Vernon, Gambier, and Columbus, Ohio, and Georgetown, Maine, it’s surprising that our paths didn’t cross through the years. It wasn’t until about 15 years ago that I actually met Judy. Jim and Larry, former owners of the Galen Moses House in Bath, were mutual friends and introduced Judy and me. In the years since meeting her, Judy and I became close, and I had tremendous admiration and respect for her. For reasons unknown to me, she asked me to join the “Grandmothers for Reproductive Rights” Board of Directors when it was formed several years ago. It was a privilege to work closely with her to ensure access to reproductive rights and justice for future generations. She will be greatly missed.

—Denise Mill Parker

Arrowsic Scholarship Silent Auction—Save the Date!



Silent Auction 2024 (Photo by Camille Kauffunger)

The Arrowsic Education Committee announces the second annual silent auction.

Date: Saturday, June 14, 2025

Time: 11:00am - 1:00pm

Place: Arrowsic Fire Station

Please plan to come bid against your neighbors on items and experiences donated by local organizations—and visit with friends and neighbors. Money raised during the silent auction supports the Arrowsic Education Committee Scholarship Fund, which awards scholarships to Arrowsic’s high school seniors planning to pursue higher education.

The Education Committee is seeking to add two members to the committee. If you would like further information, please email Denise Parker at denise.parker@arrowsic.org.

—The Education Committee

Measles Cases and Outbreaks

As of March 13, 2025, a total of 301 confirmed measles cases were reported by 15 jurisdictions: Alaska, California, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Maryland, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York City, New York State, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Texas, Vermont, and Washington. There have been 3 outbreaks (defined as 3 or more related cases) reported in 2025, and 93% of cases (280 of 301) are outbreak-associated. For comparison, 16 outbreaks were reported during 2024 and 69% of cases (198 of 285) were outbreak-associated.

How serious is Measles?

Measles is an airborne, extremely infectious, and potentially severe rash illness. Before the measles vaccine was introduced, an estimated 48,000 people were hospitalized and 400–500 people died in the United States each year.

Measles is not a seasonal virus. However, measles is often spread during times of high travel (like spring break) or in situations where unvaccinated persons are in close quarters (like summer camp).

Can I get Measles while traveling?

Did you know that measles can be found around the world? Measles can live in the air for two hours after an infectious person leaves the space. Before any international travel, evaluate if your family needs early vaccine doses. After you return, watch your health for three weeks and call your healthcare provider if you or your child gets sick with a rash and fever.

Why are some fully vaccinated people getting measles?

Two doses of MMR vaccine are 97% effective at preventing measles, one dose is 93% effective. It is uncommon for someone fully vaccinated to develop measles. However, breakthrough infections (when someone becomes infected after they have been vaccinated) can occur, especially in communities experiencing an outbreak where high levels of measles virus are circulating. The number of breakthrough infections (approximately 5% of total) is consistent with what we have seen in previous years.

How do I protect myself?

Prevent measles and talk to your healthcare provider about the measles, mumps, and rubella (MMR) vaccine, especially if planning to travel.

Key points:

- Two doses of the MMR vaccine are recommended by doctors as the best way to protect against measles, mumps, and rubella.
- Children may get two doses of MMRV vaccine instead.
- MMR & MMRV vaccines usually protect people for life against measles and rubella; but immunity against mumps may decrease over time.

Why is there more measles activity?

Measles was declared eliminated in the United States in 2000. This was thanks to a very high percentage of people receiving the safe and effective measles, mumps, and rubella (MMR) vaccine. In recent years however, U.S. MMR coverage among kindergarteners is now below the 95% coverage target—much lower in some communities—and is decreasing. Global measles activity is increasing, meaning more chances of an unvaccinated person infected with measles abroad returning to the United States.

Questions About Measles

Get answers to questions about protecting against measles, measles vaccine, and how measles spreads. Visit

<https://www.cdc.gov/measles/data-research/index.html>

—Linda Kelly, FNP

Sparkling Lights at Town Hall

That was a lovely surprise and warm welcome you offered all of us coming home this winter.



Thank you,
Nick and
Bob!

(Photo by Michael Kreindler)

Flooding of Two Town Roads to be Assessed

The Arrowsic Resilience Committee worked with the Kennebec Estuary Land Trust (KELT) and Jack Witham on a successful grant (\$50,000) from the Maine Infrastructure Adaptation Fund to identify potential solutions for Indian Rest and Spinney Mill Roads, both of which have tidal crossings that experience regular flooding.

The project will be jointly coordinated by KELT's Project Director Ruth Indrick, who has significant experience with tidal road crossings and salt marsh restoration, and Jack Witham, who has been appointed by the Selectboard as the Municipal Project Leader. An Advisory Committee consisting of representatives from several town committees will assist with the project.

The project includes scoping and conceptual design with hydrologic modeling and geotechnical surveys as needed. The models will address road flooding and flow through the culverts, identifying options for decreasing road flooding while also improving/replacing the road crossing structures. Health of the salt marshes and maintaining the flow through the fish and wildlife friendly culvert between Spinney Creek and Sewall Pond will be additional considerations. The condition and sustainability of roadbeds and surfaces will also be assessed.

An important piece of the project is equitable community engagement. Community conversations will identify and confirm community needs and goals and weigh the costs and benefits of conceptual alternatives for both sites. Some considerations that will be included are long-term maintenance costs, construction costs, emergency access, school bus access, and links to the new Town recreation area. In addition, considerations for increasing health and resilience of the impacted salt marshes will be included, as this is a goal outlined in Arrowsic's Climate Action Plan.



Spinney Mill Road January 2024 (Photo by Jody Jones)



Indian Rest Road (Photo by Sarah Mahoney)

Three engineering firms have submitted proposals for the work and the committee is in the process of selecting which candidate is best suited for the work.

—Jody Jones



Packard's Landing

(Acrylic by Livy Glaubitz)

Packard's Landing Update—March 2025

Since the last Arrow issue the Water Access Management Committee (WAMC) has been quite active in caring for Packard's Landing and preparing for a spring re-opening.

We had a very successful Winter Solstice brush-burning event that included about 50 Arrowsic residents enjoying each other's company (along with the hot chocolate and s'mores!). Folks in attendance had so much fun that the idea of a Summer Solstice event was brought up. It is now in the planning phase....Stay tuned!

We are on track to have the pier, ramp, and float in by early May, with a newly donated kayak

support bar to make getting in and out of a kayak a bit easier!

We will be installing two kayak/canoe racks so paddlers can leave their kayaks on site. To this end, we are very interested in hearing from anyone interested in donating a kayak. It will be stored on the racks to be available to those who do not have their own and want to get out on the water.

Thanks to the efforts of Irene Burgess, we now have a page on the Town website where we will be posting pictures and any news and updates. For those interested, all our WAMC meeting notes can now be accessed there.

To care for the plant life of the property, we are planning on continuing to remove invasive vegetation while simultaneously adding native plants throughout.

Finally, while the property cost \$200,000, we will, through donations, grants, and funds set aside by the Town for the express purpose of acquiring a water access site, be able to pay down the note to a balance of approximately \$87,000.

Our goal is to pay off the loan through a focused "burn the note" fundraising effort, asking residents to support the cause. We hope to begin this activity in the next several weeks.

—The Water Access Management Committee



Snowstorm over the Sasanoa



Sunrise over the Sasonoa (Photos by Denise Parker)

Hook, Line & Sinker

Our “historic” shipwreck saga continues. In spite of its potential as a tourist attraction, your Select Board is doing everything we can to have the boat removed and the mess cleaned up. At this time, that boils down to waiting for the Maine Department of Parks and Lands to authorize us to do so. They have asserted that it is the town’s responsibility.



(Photos by Jon Biehler)

As far as funding that operation goes, it’s an open question. There is a State statute that appears to specify that the State is legally responsible for the cleanup. Whether we can force that remains to be seen. I have fired a shot across the bows of the Governor’s office regarding Maine’s legal liability and await a reply.

—Walter Briggs [First Selectperson]



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