

KENNEBUNKPORT Town Review

A newsletter for the residents of Kennebunkport

Number 9

Spring 2008

Voters to Decide Whether to Keep and Improve Contract Zoning

By Town Manager Larry S. Mead

Voters will decide in June whether to make changes to the Contract Zoning Ordinance or to repeal it. The ballot includes two very different questions. Question 8 would retain contract zoning as an option to town residents. It would modify the existing ordinance by having the Planning Board and the Board of Selectmen meet jointly to review an application for contract zoning. Question 9, on the other hand, eliminates the option to use contract zoning altogether. This question is on the ballot because a petition to repeal,

signed by 251 registered voters, was submitted to the Town Clerk. Contract zoning is used by many Maine towns as a land use tool. It is intended to allow, on a case-by-case basis, projects that do not entirely comply with the zoning regulations, but provide an important and desired public benefit. By state law, a contract zone must be approved by the legislative body of a municipality. Under Kennebunkport's town meeting form of government, that approval is given to the Town's voters. Contract zoning has had a very brief history in Kennebunkport. In 2006 voters approved by a wide margin (633-

476) a question allowing the use of contract zoning. This past November, the first contract zoning proposal under the new ordinance was on the ballot. It would have placed public restrooms at the Tides Inn property and allowed conversion of the Tides to condominium ownership. There was a good deal of discussion and opposition to the plan and voters turned it down. Question 8 would retain the option for contract zoning but make changes to the current ordinance. Question 8 is supported by the Planning Board and the Board of Selectmen. The proposed changes include the following:

Public input and participation at the beginning

The proposed changes will make the process of reviewing applications for contract zoning more open to public input at the beginning of the application process. Applicants will present their project proposal in a public hearing at the beginning of the application. Residents will be able to voice their opinions at the front end. This will allow for issues and problems to be identified early on and allow applicants to modify proposals early on as needed.

See CONTRACT ZONE page 2

Goat Island Lighthouse Potential Use for Contract Zoning

By Town Manager Larry S. Mead

While bathrooms at Goose Rocks have been the focal point for past discussions about contract zoning, a very different project may be an example of how contract zoning can be useful in Kennebunkport. An effort is under way to restore the Goat Island Lighthouse buildings so as to replicate the structure that existed on the island until a storm washed it away in 1978.

There has been a light tower in place at Goat Island since it was first approved during the presidency of Andrew Jackson. Since that time, the lighthouse has guided sailors and fishermen safely into the harbor at Cape Porpoise and has been long admired and appreciated from shore. The Kennebunkport Conservation Trust (KCT) took ownership of the island and the historic structures in 1997. Since then, KCT has been an active steward of the property, working hard to insure that the remaining house and bell tower are secured and preserved. Now, the Trust is proposing to reconstruct the walk-

way that previously connected the house to the bell tower in cooperation with the Maine Historic Preservation Committee. The rebuilt walkway will have several uses. It will lessen the impact from shore of solar panels that the Coast Guard intends to install to power the light beacon by shielding them from view. It will provide storage space for batteries associated with the solar power panels. It will also be a space that can be used to display photographs, documents and artifacts from the rich history of the lighthouse.

One hurdle that is complicating the plans to restore Goat Island is the Town's Land Use Ordinance. Existing zoning regulations would not allow the walkway to be constructed due to potential setback violations and other restrictions affecting the Farm and Forest Zone that includes Goat Island.

These zoning restrictions present a permitting obstacle that may very well be outside the purview of the Zoning Board of Appeals. Contract

See GOAT ISLAND page 3

Changes Proposed for Shoreland Zoning

By Werner Gilliam

Question 7 asks voters to approve changes to Articles 1, 2, 8, and 9 of the Land Use Ordinance (LUO) that relate primarily to shoreland zoning requirements. The State of Maine has issued new regulations that set minimum standards for all municipalities in Maine. The Board of Selectmen appointed a Shoreland Zoning Committee that has been working diligently for many months to revise the Land Use Ordinance in order to bring it into compliance and to clarify a number of elements that have been confusing or unclear. The members of this Committee are: Chris Perry (chair), Deborah Bauman, David Kling, Pixie Low, Bob McCrillis, Barbara Rencurrel,

Jamie Houz, Barbara Barwise and Sheila Mathews-Bull. Kennebunkport does not have a stand-alone Shoreland Zoning Ordinance; therefore, the definitions, nonconformance sections, and guidelines are distributed throughout the various articles of the general ordinance. This arrangement can create some confusion when attempting to work with the Ordinance on shoreland zoning issues. For this reason, the Shoreland Zoning Committee has used the opportunity to simplify the LUO by eliminating ambiguities and areas of duplication. Many of these changes do not just affect the shoreland area of town,

See SHORELAND ZONING page 3

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Town of Kennebunkport Annual Town Meeting

Tuesday, June 10, 2008

Village Fire Station, 32 North Street

Voting on the Ballot Questions

8AM to 8PM

Saturday, June 14, 2008

Consolidated School Auditorium

The continuation of the Annual Town Meeting
to vote on Articles 2 through 67 • 9AM

BALLOT QUESTIONS

Question 1 Allows Limited Refunds of Excise Tax

Question 1 would authorize the Town to provide refunds to individuals when they are transferring the registration from a vehicle of greater value to one of lesser value within the 12 month period of the initial registration. This refund would be available only if there is a balance remaining once the registration process is complete.

State law was changed in 2007 to allow municipalities the option of providing a refund in these limited circumstances. Previously, no refund was allowed. The Board of Selectmen voted to support providing refunds; however, it must be ratified at Town Meeting in order to take effect. During the period between July 2006 and June 2007, there were 26 instances when a refund would have been given, with a total value of \$1,618.

Question 2 Corrects Legal Questions in Mass Gathering Ordinance

This past November, voters approved changes to the Town's Mass Gathering Ordinance that were intended to help the Town regulate and support events such as the Circus Smirkus performances sponsored by the Consolidated School PTO. Although the intention of the November changes was to regulate commercial gatherings such as the Circus, concerts or trade shows, the revised ordinance inadvertently included language that is viewed by some as raising potential hurdles to constitutional-ly protected rights of assembly and

speech. Given Kennebunkport's high public profile as the summer home of former President Bush, it is very likely that the Town would face a legal challenge to the existing ordinance.

It was never the Town's intent to limit legal assembly or speech. Therefore, Question 2 proposes changes to the Mass Gathering Ordinance that more clearly focuses the management and permitting guidelines on commercial gatherings as was the original intent. The changes ensure that events such as Circus Smirkus can be held while protecting neighborhoods from being inundated with large scale mass gatherings. Approving the proposed changes will help avoid unwanted, unnecessary and costly legal expense to the Town's taxpayers.

Question 3 Board of Assessment Review Proposed

Question 3 on the June ballot asks voters to approve the formation of a local Board of Assessment Review (BAR). The Board of Assessment Review would be charged with conducting formal hearings to consider appeals by property owners of assessments on property. The BAR would function in much the same way as the Zoning Board of Appeals. The ZBA conducts hearings for property owners who disagree with decisions made by the Assessor regarding property values.

Currently, if a Kennebunkport prop-

erty owner wishes to appeal the valuation of their property, they must present their case in front of the York County Commissioners. By state law, if a municipality does not have a Board of Assessment Review, the County Commissioners are charged with the responsibility. Unfortunately, there can be drawbacks to this system. For example, the level of training of Commissioners with respect to assessment appeals is inconsistent. Also, there may be turnover among the County Commissioners from year-to-year, and this responsibility is a secondary role when compared to the job of managing the County and its finances. This situation has been especially true in recent years due to the financial difficulties facing York County. In addition, Commissioners may lack familiarity with the nature of Kennebunkport's property distribution. Typically, Commissioners do not visit a property that is under review, relying instead on written submissions and oral presentations.

Because Kennebunkport will go through a revaluation process over the next year, it is very likely that there will be numerous appeals of values presented in 2009 or 2010. For this reason, it is timely to establish a local Board of Assessment Review now. This will allow the time to solicit volunteers, appoint members, and provide training well before new values are finalized in the fall of 2009. The proposed Board of Assessment Review would have five members and two alternate members for a three-year term.

Question 6 Makes Cape Arundel Golf Course a Conditional Use

Question 6 would identify Golf Courses that are already in existence as a conditional use in the Village Residential Zone. The designation would apply only to the Cape Arundel Golf Course because it is the only golf course currently operating in Kennebunkport. The purpose of the amendment is to allow the Cape Arundel Golf Course to forego the need to seek a variance from the Zoning Board of Appeals whenever it is proposing to make changes to a building. The change to conditional use would make the Planning Board the reviewing authority through site plan review for any nonconforming changes to existing conditions at the Golf Course. The Cape Arundel Golf Course has been in operation for over 100 years.

Questions 8 and 9 Give Contract Zoning Choice to Voters

Voters will have two very different choices on the June 10 ballot regarding the Town's Contract Zoning Ordinance. Question 8 would modify the existing ordinance (see related article). Under Question 8, contract zoning would remain an option to the Town, and voters would decide on a case-by-case basis whether to approve a request or not. Question 9 would repeal contract zoning entirely. If Question 9 is approved, contract zoning would no longer be an option available to the Town's voters.

Contract Zone

from page 1

Joint review by Board of Selectmen and Planning Board

In a contract zoning application, both the Planning Board and the Board of Selectmen have important roles to play. The proposed amendment establishes a new process in which the two boards meet jointly to review proposals. This meeting will improve the communication between the two boards. The two boards will also jointly conduct the

initial public hearing. In this way, the boards and the public all begin the process together and give feedback to the applicant at the start of the process.

Applicant Receives Early Feedback

The proposed changes include early public participation and input as well as a joint review by the Planning Board and Board of Selectmen. This process will provide feedback to applicants regarding the strengths and weaknesses of proposals and allow them to make

changes if needed at an early stage. This early assessment of whether a project is feasible should save the applicant time and money.

Public is better informed

The proposed changes allow for public participation and input at the early stages of an application. In addition, the Board of Selectmen and the Planning Board conduct a joint review of applications, improving communication and streamlining the process. This will create an open and transparent process that leaves the public

better informed regarding the benefits or shortcomings of proposals.

Voters have the final say

At the end of the application process and the hearings by the Planning Board and the Selectmen, the Town's voters retain the final say in whether a contract zone is approved or not. If contract zoning is repealed, voters don't get the option to decide. The benefit of keeping contract zoning as an option is that voters always get to decide whether a proposal is good for the Town or not.

Shoreland Zoning

from page 1

but inland properties as well. Many of the added definitions relate to timber harvesting and will have little effect on the majority of the town. The significant changes proposed in Question 7 include:

- A change in the point where setbacks from coastal wetlands are measured. In the current ordinance, the setback is determined by identifying the point where saltwater-tolerant vegetation exists. This standard has frequently created uncertainty and confusion. As an alternative, a standard using a fixed elevation point is proposed in order to reduce ambiguity and give clearer direction to property owners. This change will make it easier for property owners to know exactly where setbacks begin and end.

- Changes reducing the restrictions on expansion of nonconforming structures within the Shoreland Zone. For example, including other structures besides just single-family dwellings, and counting the square footage of porches and decks when determining the extent of allowable expansion. In addition, allowing some rearrangement of footprint provided there is no increase in the nonconformity of the use. This change will not allow an increase in the area of total footprint for a nonconforming use. It will, in some cases, allow for an increase in the square footage of expansion within the existing footprint because of the allowance for porches and decks.



Goat Island

from page 1

zoning may be the appropriate zoning tool to facilitate the Goat Island restoration.

Contract zoning is used in many Maine towns when a project needs to be done that makes sense for the community in a particular circumstance but not throughout the underlying zone.

- A change in the language allowing some changes to nonconforming uses as long as they meet all other requirements within the zone and are subject to Planning Board review. The State allows changes to nonconforming uses subject to Planning Board approval.

- A change in which appeals of Notices of Land Use Violations not related to the issuance of a permit (i.e., illegal junkyards, tree cutting or vegetation removal within the Shoreland Zone) go directly to District Court. This language change concurs with the State Shoreland Zoning Guidelines. It is the intent of the DEP that contested Notices of Violation go to District Court rather than before a Board of Appeals. Article 9 is changed to reflect that besides variance requests, only administrative appeals related to the issuance or non-issuance of a permit can be brought to the Zoning Board of Appeals.

These proposed changes are a partial revision to the Land Use Ordinance. The Shoreland Zoning Committee has not yet completed work on other sections of the ordinance. It will continue reviewing and revising the ordinance over the coming months and bring additional recommendations forward for voter consideration either in November 2008 or June 2009.

The full text of the current proposed changes is available on the Town's webpage at: www.kennebunkportme.gov and at the Town Hall.

Goat Island Lighthouse

The Goat Island restoration project is the type of proposal for which the contract zoning provision in the ordinance could be most appropriate. The restoration proposal would be thoroughly reviewed by both the Planning Board and the Board of Selectmen in an open process with substantial public participation. Final approval would rest with the voters of the Town.

Revaluation Process to Begin After Memorial Day

By Town Manager Larry S. Mead

The revaluation process that voters approved in November will get under way right after Memorial Day. Vision Appraisal Company was hired to conduct the revaluation. Vision is the same company that conducted the last revaluation for Kennebunkport in 1997, and is also the company that provides the software for the Town's Assessment Office. Vision has a great deal of experience in Maine municipalities, including considerable experience with coastal communities.

The first stage of the revaluation process involves the collection of data through on-site visits to all properties in Town. On-site inspections are the fairest and most accurate means to arrive at an accurate assessment of a property's value. Property owners are under no obligation to allow an on-site inspection. However, without the on-site inspection, the inspector will, out of necessity, make assumptions regarding the condition and details of a property. These assumptions will lead directly to the final value that is established.

Homeowners should expect that sometime between the end of May and late August, a representative from Vision will visit your property and ask permission to conduct an interior and exterior inspection. As a precaution, you should ask for identification from the inspector prior to letting him/her enter. If you have any doubt at all regarding the identity of inspectors, you should telephone the Police Department at 967-2454. The Police Department will have the name of all inspectors working for Vision as well as a listing of their vehicles. If you are not at home, Vision will mail you a notice asking to arrange for a time to return for the inspection. Property owners who live in areas with higher percentages of seasonal residents will likely have inspections in either July or August. Vision will hold a public meeting on July 9 to review the revaluation process, provide information, and answer questions. Property owners will not receive the proposed new values until June of 2009. Informal hearings will be scheduled in July and August of 2009 for any property owner who believes their new value is not correct. Final values will be established in September of 2009.

Proposed Schedule for Revaluation Process

2008	May 27	Vision Appraisal begins property inspections.
	May 27-Dec	Property inspections and data collection.
2009	Jan-April	Analysis and valuation.
	March-April	Field review.
	March-April	Commercial income production.
	June	Preliminary valuation notices mailed.
	June 20-July 15	Informal meetings conducted by request of property owner.
	August 15	Vision completes work.
	September	Tax bills mailed by Town.

Revaluation: Did you know that...

- Revaluation does not increase the total amount of taxes collected by the Town.
- For every dollar increase in taxes on one property, another property's tax bill will decrease by a dollar.
- Following revaluation, the Town's tax rate will decrease significantly.
- If the Town used the State's estimate of total value (\$1.8 billion), the tax rate would be less than \$7 per thousand.
- Newly constructed homes are not taxed at their full value. The value is reduced to be consistent with the 1998 revaluation.
- Out of 488 towns in Maine, Kennebunkport is ranked 477th when considering assessed value as a percentage of actual value.

Kennebunkport Public Health

By Judith Barrett, RN, BS

Spring has finally arrived and we are all busy repairing our yards from winter's damage. The Kennebunkport Public Health Department and the Kennebunkport Conservation Commission wish to remind you that *how you use your property* as well as *what you put on your lawn* affects our water quality. Contact the Public Health Office for information ranging from septic system care, excavation guidelines, organic lawn care products, buffer zones, recommended non-invasive plants and shrubs.

Residents and guests are reminded that medications are not to be flushed into your septic or sewer

system nor thrown out in your household trash. Bring them and sharps to the Public Health Office for safe disposal. Help keep the chemicals from leaching into our watersheds. Medications and sharps thrown into the household waste provide an opportunity for accidental ingestion or needle sticks by children or pets.

Kennebunkport is participating in the Maine Healthy Beach Program again this summer. We are asking beachgoers and boaters to read and follow the guidelines found in the town's pamphlet and the *Healthy Maine Beach Boaters Guide*. Pick up copies when you obtain your beach sticker, at the

Goose Rocks Beach General Store, the Town Office, Police Department or the Public Health Department. Look for the current tests results on the town's webpage. We test weekly from Memorial Day to Labor Day. If you have any concerns or wish to report a water-borne illness, please contact the Public Health Department at 967-4401.

Summer also is a time for guests with special needs. We would like to remind you that the Kennebunkport Health Council has a well stocked, durable medical equipment closet located in our office. If you should find that you are in need of a walker,

crutches, commode or shower chair, please contact the Health Department. Needless to say, if you are in need of nursing services such as dressing changes, wound assessments, medication pours, blood pressure or blood sugar testing, we are here to assist you. And yes, we do work weekends and holidays.

The Public Health Office is a collection site for used cell phones for the Shelter Alliance Program. Proceeds are dedicated to Caring Unlimited. We are also collecting receipts from Shaw's grocery stores and unused or unbroken ink cartridges for the York County Food Rescue Program.

Budget Vote at Town Meeting June 14

By Town Manager Larry S. Mead

The annual Town Meeting to consider the fiscal year 2009 municipal budget will be held at the Consolidated School on Saturday, June 14, at 9:00 AM. This year's proposed budget includes a proposal to borrow \$1.6 million in funds for the purpose of rebuilding and restoring three major roads (See separate article on road work.). Overall, the municipal budget expenditures are up less than 3 percent, or below the rate of inflation. Most of the increase is related to personnel costs, although there are also increases in debt service related to the proposed road bond and in fuel and heating costs. The weak economic picture has reduced the collection of non-property tax revenues by 5 percent, especially automobile excise tax and interest income. Despite the modest expenditure

increase, the lower revenue forecast results in an increase in the tax rate for municipal expenditures of 31 cents per thousand. This increase is offset by an anticipated reduction in the education mill rate of 52 cents per thousand, reflecting the final year of a three-year phase in of lowered costs for Kennebunkport's share of MSAD#71 expenses. The overall tax rate will not be finalized until the Town's total valuation is set and certified in July. The fiscal year 2008 tax rate is \$16.15 per thousand.

More detailed information is available at the Town's website; www.kennebunkportme.gov. In addition, the Town Report will provide additional information for the individual Warrant Articles.

Road Improvements Focus of Proposed Bond

Three Town Roads Targeted for Repairs
By Town Manager Larry S. Mead

The proposed fiscal year 2009 budget includes a plan for the Town to borrow \$1.6 million over 10 years in order to make needed repairs to three major Town roads: Arundel Road (North St. to Goose Rocks Rd.), Beechwood Avenue, and the Stone Road. If voters approve the plan for borrowing, the road repairs would begin in the early fall and be substantially completed prior to next winter.

The Board of Selectmen and the Budget Board determined that the attractive lending rates currently available made this a good time for the Town to address major repairs that were delayed for a number of years. The poor condition of these three roads was very evident this past winter. Heaving due to frost and poor drainage made sections of the roads very difficult to maneuver, making driving them a challenge at best. The work that will be done would reconstruct most of all three roads, including new road base, culvert replacements, ledge removal where needed, base pavement and finish pavement.

Arundel Road	11,866 ft
Beechwood Ave	12,584 ft
Stone Road	5,220 ft

The proposed work goes well beyond a simple overlay of pavement. Because the work involves reconstruction of each road's base and drainage improvements including culvert replacement,

the useful life of the improvements should last for 15 to 20 years, making the proposed 10 year borrowing terms a prudent investment.

Initial engineering estimates placed the cost for the three roads in excess of \$2 million. Town staff concluded that substantial cost savings were possible by managing the projects in-house and dividing the work tasks between a paving contractor, the Highway Department, and a subcontractor for ledge and culvert work. This approach would have the Highway Department perform the road shoulder preparation on all three roads. The Town would contract with a paving company for paving services including reclaim application and base, and finish bituminous work. The Town would bid separately to have a contractor do culvert replacement, ledge removal and ditching, and stabilization for all three roads.

The Town is well positioned to finance the repair of the three roads. The Town has a very low debt to assets ratio and is in excellent financial condition according to the independent audit conducted for the year ending June 30, 2007. It is important that the Town invest in its infrastructure on a regular basis, and maintenance of the road system is critical to the well-being of the community.

2007 Annual Reports Now Available

The 2007 Annual Town Reports are now available at the following locations:

- Town Office, 6 Elm Street
- Bradbury's Market
- Police Department
- Public Health Office
- Cape Porpoise Library
- Louis T. Graves Memorial Library

Kennebunkport Fire Department and KEMS Train for Motor Vehicle Accidents

By Fire Administrator Dick Stedman

We are fortunate that the roads in Kennebunkport are unusually safe thanks to the diligent patrol efforts of the Kennebunkport Police Department. However, each year we are called to the scene of several serious accidents, some involving the need for prolonged removal of injured motorists. So, on a Sunday morning in April, 50 volunteer members of the Kennebunkport Fire Department and Kennebunkport Emergency Medical Services (KEMS) got together for annual training in motor vehicle extrication techniques. Junk cars were

rolled over, lifted with air bags, cut open with rescue saws, pried open with the "jaws of life," and covered in fire-fighting foam. Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs) crawled into the cars to treat simulated patients, "package" them on backboards, and carefully remove them from the wreckage.

The training session provided an opportunity for members of each agency to better get to know one another and practice working together before having to do it on the scene of a real emergency some night. This year's training

was particularly enjoyable due to there being a large number of new members of both the Fire Department and KEMS. For the new people, it was a chance to learn new skills in a safe environment. Experienced members conducted the training and always enjoy sharing experiences and working with the trainees.

There is a dedicated group of men and women within our community who volunteer to respond to emergencies of all types. Kennebunkport Fire Department members respond to car accidents, water and ice rescue calls,

hazardous materials incidents, missing person searches, and, of course, fires of all types! KEMS personnel respond to all types of medical emergencies and, along with the Fire Department, to most fires and rescue situations. If you would like to learn more about what we do and perhaps consider joining us, we most definitely want to talk with you! Please contact the Fire Department office at 967-2114 or the KEMS office at 967-9704, or talk to any Fire or KEMS member.



Firefighters and EMTs prepare to remove a simulated patient using a backboard after cutting off the roof of a practice car during training in April.



Kennebunkport Fire Department and KEMS members practice vehicle extrication during training in April.

Goose Rocks Beach Parking Stickers

Goose Rocks Beach parking stickers are available at the:

Town Office – Assessing Department
6 Elm Street
8 a.m. to noon and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Police Department
101 Main Street
24 hours a day/7 days a week

General Store
3 Dyke Road
Store hours

Parking stickers are required for parking at Goose Rocks Beach beginning Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day weekend, between the hours of 8 a.m. and 6 p.m.

Sticker prices are the same as in 2007 listed below:

Kennebunkport taxpayers: \$4.00 (individuals who pay excise or property tax)

Nonresidents:

Daily	\$6.00
Weekly	\$25.00
Seasonal	\$50.00

Kennebunkport Tax and Registration Department

Notice of Change in Fees

Effective September 1, 2008, the State of Maine increased the following fees by \$10:

- The registration fee for passenger cars, pick up trucks, sport utility vehicles, and commercial vehicles under 6,000 lbs. in gross vehicle weight (from \$25 per registration to \$35).
- The additional fee for obtaining a vanity license plate (from \$15 to \$25).
- The filing fee for an application for certificate of motor vehicle title (from \$23 to \$33).

Kennebunkport Parks and Recreation Summer Programs

By Director of Parks and Recreation Carol Cook

Unless otherwise noted, our programs are open to children entering kindergarten through those leaving the sixth grade. A \$15 registration fee is required of all participants (whether registering for one program or several). No charges will be accepted; all fees must be paid prior to the provision of service. A payment plan may be established to allow three to four payments to be spread throughout the summer. Pre-registration is mandatory, in person at the Recreation Department Office by Consolidated School or by mail at: PO Box 566, Kennebunkport, ME 04046. *NO telephone registrations accepted.* Programs are first come, first served when space is limited.

Kids in Motion: Summer Day Camp

- Eight weeks of action and adventure; June 23 through August 15 (closed on July 4)
- 8:30-4:30; Monday-Friday; first and last half hour for sign in/check out
- Groups determined by age for appropriate activities; flexible options for participation and payment (choose daily, weekly, or seasonal participation)
- Our "super package" is just over \$12/day including field trips, special events, and Friday lunches.
- Half day option can be 9-12 or 1-4; MTWTF; Thursdays may be added according to field trip policies and payment of fees noted on the calendar
- "Kid-watch" early/late coverage (7:30-8:30 and/or 4:30-5:30) available for just \$10/week/family... pre-registration requested
- Open rain or shine; camp tee shirts (provided) to be worn on all field trips
- Our guiding principles are simple: treat others as you like to be treated, and keep your hands to yourself
- How we can design a program to suit your needs?

Kindercamp

This program is designed specifically for those children just entering kindergarten in the fall of 2008. The information noted above for the Summer Day Camp holds true for Kindercamp as well, but focus will be on the particular needs of socialization and preparation for school of this special age group.

*Classes noted below can easily be added to your child's day camp program (some are free to day campers, others have a fee attached), but be careful not to over-schedule your child's day; check the schedule carefully to avoid conflicts. Prices are listed on the summer registration form found on-line or in the Recreation Office at Consolidated School.

Swim Lessons

- Six Monday mornings at the Northern York County YMCA; 7/7-8/11
- Transportation provided to/from day camp; 9:00-11:45 a.m.
- Half hour lesson and 1 hour free swim each day
- Limit: 50 participants; 5 year olds may register

Let's Play Some Hoops-Basketball

- Mondays; 7/7-8/4, 2:30-4:00 for 9-12 year olds only
- Not just drills and skills; we plan to play games
- No fee for day campers

CraftMania

- Monday afternoons; 1:00-2:30 p.m.; 6 classes 7/7-8/11
- A variety of themed projects; materials included

Mini-Golf Tour

- Friday afternoons leaving at 1:00 p.m.
- Local courses (some more challenging than others); running scores and prizes
- Limit: 14 players in each of two sessions; 6/27-7/18 and/or 7/25-8/8

Youth Tennis Lessons

- Tuesday and Friday mornings; 7/1-8/12; Tuesday, 7/1 will be an evaluation clinic to determine the groups by age and ability; no class on 7/4
- Beachwood Park tennis courts; limit: 10/class
- Limited transportation available to/from day camp at \$15/participant

Archery

- Tuesday afternoons; beginners at 1:00 and intermediate at 2:30
- 7/3-8/7; limited to 10 participants/session ages 8+
- Safety, history, and skills are emphasized; using fiberglass recurve bows

Gymnastics

- Wednesday afternoons; 7/9-8/13; program runs 2:30-3:30
- Learn gymnastic skills using Olympic equipment and trampolines while under the watchful guidance of the certified staff at GymNation in Kennebunk
- Minimum: 6 Maximum: 20
- Limited transportation available to/from day camp (1:10-2:50) at \$15/participant

Just for Kix Soccer

- Wednesdays, 7/9-8/6
- 9:00-10:15 for ages 9-12, and 10:30-11:30 for ages 5-8
- No fee for day campers

Wheels 'n Waves Bike Club

- Monday afternoons, 7/7-8/11 (rodeo and bike safety on 7/7)
- Groups determined by age and ability, but limited to those 8 and older
- Bike trips to local points of interest; helmets required

Intoring

- Offered by qualified Consolidated School staff
- Schedules and fees determined individually
- Call Consolidated School at 967-2121 for details

Kayaking for Kids

- Tide dependent; M 7/7 @1:30 p.m., W 7/16 @ 9:00 a.m., F 8/1 @ 10:00 a.m., and/or M 8/4 @ 12:30 p.m.
- \$25/session or \$60 for three; strong swimmers only; ages 10-14
- Taught by Bill Junker, Registered Maine Sea Kayak Guide

Youth Golf Camp

- Cape Arundel Golf Course
- Ages 7-10 (2:00-3:30 p.m.) or 11-13 (3:45-5:15 p.m.)
- T, W, Th; August 5, 6, and 7 only
- Minimum: 6 per class. Maximum: 12 per class; clubs provided

Let's Make Music

- (info yet to be confirmed)
- Tuesday afternoons
- Fundamental note reading, rhythm, and music meritment
- Instructor: Linda Swift
- No fee for day campers

Creative Cooking

- (info yet to be confirmed)
- Probably in August
- Instructor: Amy Johnson
- At the Village Fire Station

How Does Your Garden Grow?

- Cooperative effort with the Seacoast Garden Club on Wednesday mornings
- Two options: a butterfly garden and a vegetable garden
- No fee for day campers

FM1- Call the Parks and Recreation Department Office at 967-4304, or go to the Town Website at <http://www.kennebunkportme.gov>

Senior Trip Opportunities and Adult Golf Lessons

Adult Golf Lessons

For beginners or those seeking improvement
Taught by PGA pro Ken Raynor and
assistant pro Sam Marzenell
At Cape Arundel Golf Club
Wednesdays and Thursdays, June 4, 5, 11, and 12
5:30-7:00 p.m.
\$85/participant

Wolfeboro, NH

Thursday, July 24
Tour the Boat Museum and six private
boat houses
Leaving North Street at 8:00 a.m.
Lunch in between at own expense
\$28/person for tour
and transportation

The Pirates of Penzance

Thursday, July 31
Hackmatack Playhouse in S. Berwick
Leaving North Street parking lot
at 11:30 a.m.
\$22/person for show
and transportation
Lunch en route at own expense

Please make checks payable to Kennebunkport Parks and Recreation.
Mail to: PO Box 566, Kennebunkport, ME 04046. Receipt of payment will confirm your reservation as space allows.

FM1: 967-4304

Merrill Cemetery

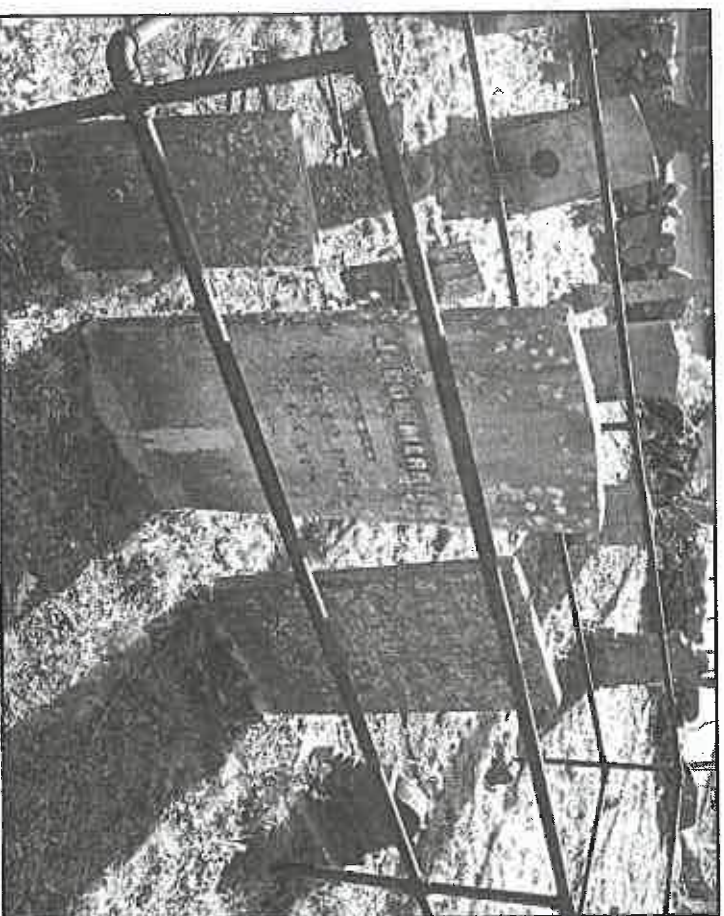
By Ann K. Doe – Cemetery Committee
Ann Merrill 1808-1851

The Merrill Cemetery is on Arundel Road between Town House Corner and the Arundel line. It is wooded and encircled by a stone wall. It is the final resting place for 64 of Kennebunkport's residents and its dates range from 1784 to 1954. There is a stone crypt and three family plots surrounded by their own fences within the cemetery.

Inside the fence of one family plot lies the sad story of Ann Merrill, wife of Captain Jacob Merrill. Ann was an Englishwoman, and she and Jacob were married in Liverpool in about 1831 when she was 23. For a number of years, Ann went to sea with her husband. In 1844 or so, he returned to the farm on which he was born (land granted to a distant uncle for killing an Indian in 1681) and built a "neat house and necessary outbuildings" according to Kennebunk Town Clerk, Andrew Walker. The house is still standing but was moved from its original location near the present-day Cape Arundel Golf Club to North Street.

Life on land must have agreed with Mrs. Merrill, and she gave birth to their son in June of 1845. Not much is known about Jacob Comstock Merrill's life, but he died on December 11, 1849, at the tender age of 4 years and 6 months, as engraved on his headstone. Andrew Walker remarks in his journal that young Jacob's death was "much lamented" by his parents.

It can be argued that Ann was especially tormented by the death of her son, as well as by an eye ailment for which she was being treated in Boston and at home, for on Saturday, May 17, 1849, at age 43, she took her own life. She left her home about 8 o'clock in the evening and walked to the river. She waded into the channel (the tide was out) and drowned. Captain Merrill became aware of her absence and



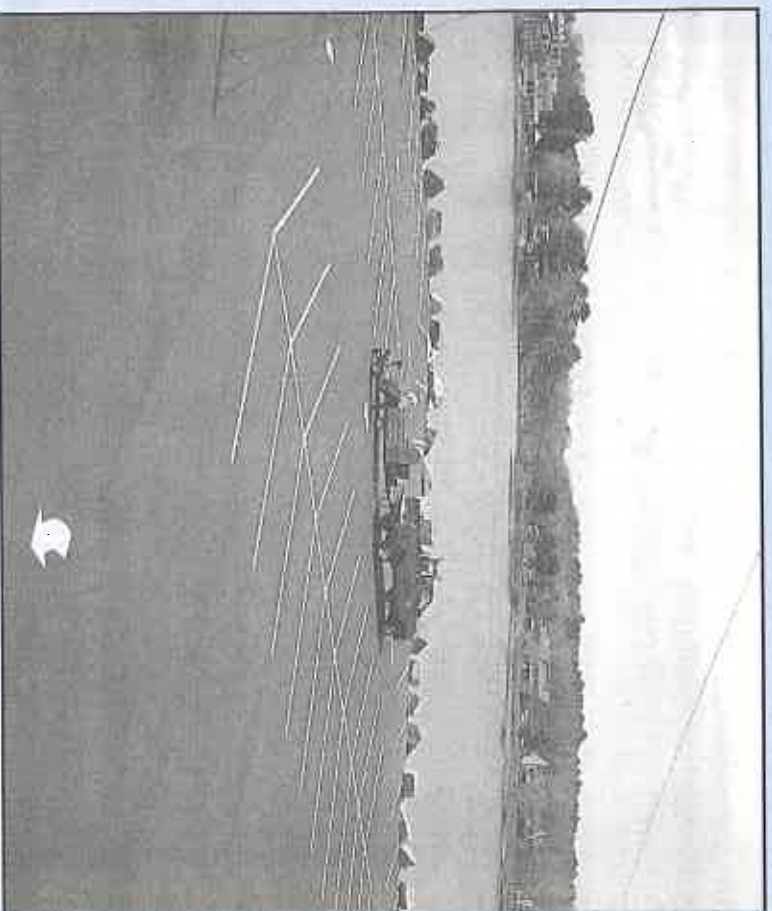
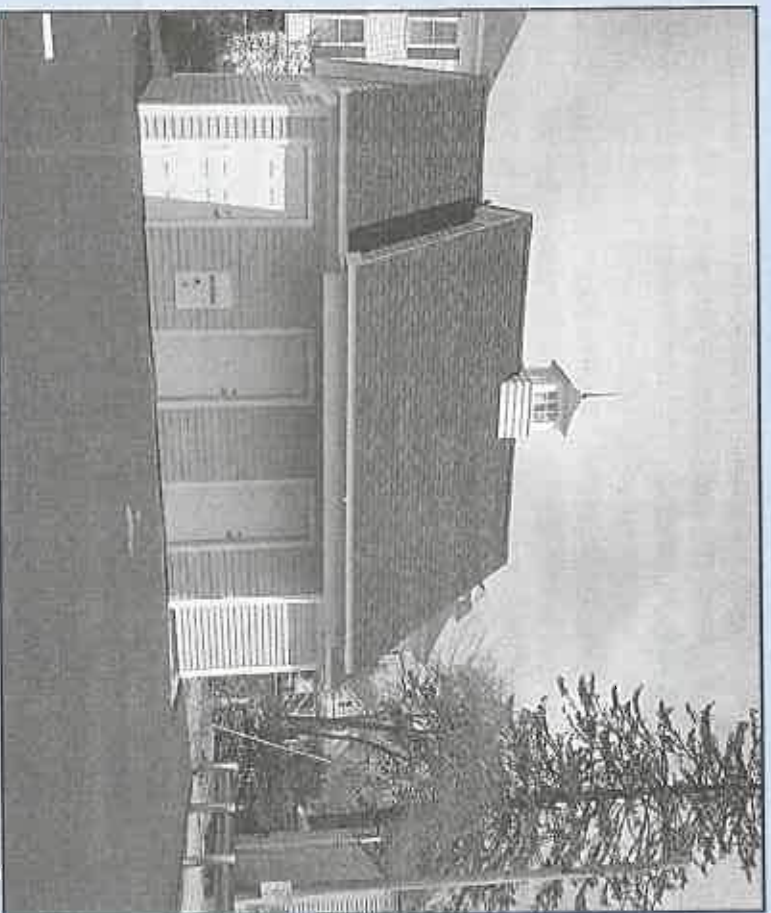
Jacob Merrill's grave flanked on the right by his wife, Ann, and their son Jacob on the left.

gathered some people to search for her. They traced her to the river and dragged it after finding a bit of her clothing nearby on the bank. Ann Merrill's body was not found that night. She floated up river with the tide and was discovered the next morning at the Landing near Titcomb's boat yard, a distance of about two miles as the river runs. Her obituary in the *Weekly Eagle* of Brattleboro, Vermont stated that she left a large circle of friends to mourn her death, who had "discerned no symptoms of insanity" in Ann prior to this melancholy event.

Ann Merrill was buried beside her son, but with enough room between them for Captain Merrill to be buried in April 1864.

What's New at Dock Square?

New restroom facility and new pavement and striping at the parking lot.



Did you know that the Dock Square parking lot generates \$280,000 in revenues for the town each year? The cost of the new bathrooms and parking lot improvements were funded out of these revenues.

Single-Stream Recycling Now in Place

By Town Manager Larry S. Mead

It has never been easier to go green. The Town's recycling pick-up has made the change to single-stream collection. This process means that homeowners no longer need to separate the recycling objects into different containers. Previously, it was necessary to separate out the paper products and the cardboard from the other items. Under the single-stream system, everything that can be recycled may be mixed together in the same bin; newspapers and magazines, other paper products, cardboard, bottles, plastic and cans. All may be put in the same container.

This new approach is made possible because the solid waste industry is making great strides in its ability to separate different types of waste through automated processes. In the very near future, it is likely that much more of our "trash" will be diverted into other uses, leaving less-er amounts to be disposed of.

The Town contracts with Oceanside Rubbish for curbside pickup. Oceanside is using a standard trash compactor to pick up the recycling materials. On recycling days, this compactor is dedicated solely to that use. No disposable waste is mixed into the truck's bin with the recycling materials. When the day's work is concluded, the truck is taken to a recycling processing center. The separating of products takes place at the recycling center through a combination of mechanical and hand sorting.

If you haven't been recycling in the past, now is the time to start! If you already recycle, the new approach makes it easier to recycle even more. Recycling is the earth friendly thing to do. It also saves tax dollars. Every ton of waste that is diverted from the MERC incinerator foregoes the \$65 per ton tipping fee. Visit the Town's website for information about the recycling schedule and what types of plastics can be recycled. If you would like to obtain another blue bin, they can be obtained at Town Hall for \$6 each.

Goose Rocks Beach Summer Trash and Recycling Collection schedule

Trash and recycling collection occurs on Fridays in the Goose Rocks Beach area in the spring, fall and winter.

In the summer, the collection schedule changes to: the Saturday, immediately following Memorial Day to the Saturday of Labor Day weekend.

SUMMER OF 2008 COLLECTION DAYS

Saturdays, May 31, 2008, through August 30, 2008

SUMMER OF 2009 COLLECTION DAYS

Saturdays, May 30, 2009, through September 5, 2009

After Labor Day weekend, the schedule returns to Friday pick up (September 5, 2008, and in 2009, September 11.).

Assessing Information is Online

Assessing information for the Town of Kennebunkport is available online at:

<http://www.kennebunkport.me.gov>

Select the yellow button "Assessor's Database."

Then, select ONLINE DATABASE ACCESS.

Continue following the instructions.

Too Much of a Good Thing

By the Conservation Commission

Nitrogen is an essential nutrient for gardens and lawns; but if you add too much, it can run off into our streams and ocean, causing an algae bloom that replaces the microscopic plants at the bottom of the ocean's food chain. This change can affect our scallops, clams, lobsters and fish. If we follow some simple steps, we homeowners can make a difference.

By limiting the amount of nitrogen used on lawns, we can save our lobsters!

Consider if you can skip fertilizing for a season or two. The beauty of

our local area goes deeper than perfect expanses of lawn. If you do feel your lawn needs fertilizing, follow the Maine Board of Pesticide Control recommendations and choose a fertilizer that contains at least 50 percent water-insoluble nitrogen (stated as WIN on the label). Choose composted, organic fertilizers, preferably slow release, and apply no more than 1 lb. of nitrogen per 1000 square feet of lawn. By not over applying and holding off if there is a likelihood of rain, you can improve the health of our oceans.

Where are All the Bees?

By the Conservation Commission

Bee keepers around the country are reporting a new phenomenon called Colony Collapse Syndrome. Since about one third of our food is pollinated by bees, this is a serious threat to our agricultural industry. Bees are showing confusion and an inability to locate their hives. A likely cause is a

chemical called imidacloprid that is found in grub control products. So, beware of this chemical if you have grubs (or the moles that eat them) and look for another way, like nematodes to get rid of them. And remember – organic lawns are more resilient to pests!

Attention Dog Owners

By Town Clerk April Dufoe

On September 20, 2007, a new law went into effect. All veterinarians in the State of Maine must submit a copy of the rabies vaccination certificate for all dogs to the Department of Agriculture/Animal Welfare Program which in turn distributes the certificates to the appropriate municipalities and Animal Control Officers.

The Animal Control Officer then determines if the dog listed on the certificate is currently licensed as required by state statute. If the dog is not licensed, the Animal Control Officer will send out a letter to request that the owner come into Town Hall to license the dog.

(No, your neighbor did not turn you in.) So, if you are a dog owner and have not licensed your dog yet, please come in and take care of it before you receive your letter from Dave Conway, our Animal Control Officer.

Remember, rabies is a serious public health risk; and unfortunately, Maine has had its share of positive cases each year that have exposed both humans and other animals. It is always tragic when a child or even an adult has to go through the post exposure treatment simply because the dog owner did not have his dog vaccinated against rabies.

Town Holidays Observed (Town Offices Closed)

New Year's Day
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
Washington's Birthday/
President's Day
Patriot's Day
Memorial Day
Independence Day

Labor Day
Columbus Day
Veterans Day
Thanksgiving Day
Thanksgiving Friday
Christmas