

# KENNEBUNKPORT Town Review

A newsletter for the residents of Kennebunkport

Number 17

Spring 2012

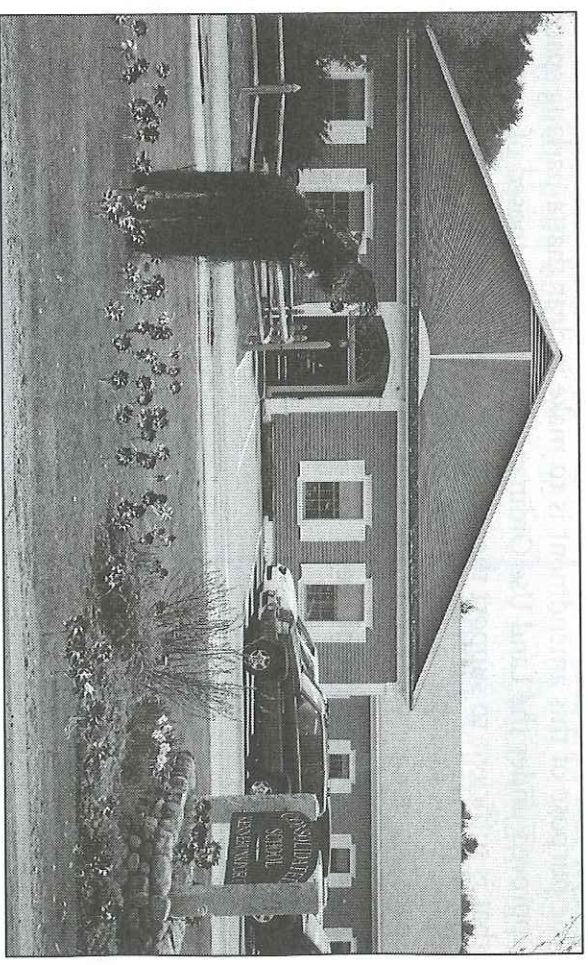
## Committee considers renovations to Consolidated School

By Larry S. Mead, Town Manager

The RSU-21 Board of Directors recently appointed a Building Committee to assess the need for improvements and renovations at the Kennebunkport Consolidated School (KCS). The Committee members are: Chuck Kiezulas (KCS parent), Amy Johnson (KCS parent), Ben Midgeley (KCS parent), Norm Archer (Kennebunkport school board member), Brad Huot (Kennebunk school board mem-

ber), Andrew Dolloff (RSU-21 superintendent), Dave Crandall (KCS principal), Sara Zito (RSU-21 assistant superintendent), Alyce Swan (RSU-21 facilities supervisor), and Dennis Bodwell (KCS teacher).

In September 2010, a facilities utilization analysis completed by Harriman Architects and Engineering reported that KCS suffered from a severe lack of space that compromised current



Consolidated School - Kennebunkport

teaching and programming and prevented the provision of any additional programming such as literacy and math coaching, pre-school programs, or a full gifted/talented program. To address building deficiencies, Harriman prepared an initial renovation plan that would add 8,775 SF of space, upgrade heating and ventilation, address code deficiencies and upgrade lighting and electrical services at a total cost of \$6.9 million. This past fall, the RSU Board adopted a master facilities plan that eliminated 60% of the

## Goose Rocks Beach trial scheduled for August

By Larry S. Mead, Town Manager

It is anticipated that the Goose Rocks Beach litigation will go to trial in the York County Superior Court in August Judge G. Arthur Brennan has advised all sides in the lawsuit (over rights of access and use at Goose Rocks Beach) of the Court's intention to hear testimony and arguments in the matter at that time. A lawsuit was filed against the Town of Kennebunkport, and

sea wall to low water, except for any rights granted in 1647 by colonial ordinance, specifically to fish, fowl, or navigate in the intertidal zone. The Town countered on behalf of the citizens of Kennebunkport that the public is entitled to use the beach along the entire length for general recreational purposes.

### Settlement Efforts

Over the past six months an informal working group, formed at the initiative of Goose Rocks residents, has met regularly with a goal of seeking a resolution of the lawsuit and a

See *GOOSE ROCKS BEACH TRIAL* page 3

## School cost sharing is again up for debate

By Larry S. Mead, Town Manager

The RSU-21 Board of Directors has, for the second time in less than two years, elected to form a committee for the purpose of deciding whether to change the method of cost sharing between the three member communities; Kennebunkport, Kennebunk and Arundel. Just one year ago, the District's voters rejected a proposal that would have shifted a greater share of the cost for education on to Kennebunkport taxpayers. That vote fell far short of the two-thirds margin of support required. Notwithstanding the short span of time since the issue was last debated, the RSU Board, responding to a request from the Arundel Board of Selectmen to once again reopen the issue of cost sharing, voted overwhelmingly to do just that. Kennebunkport's

additional space and deleted new lighting and windows, proposing improvements to KCS that totaled \$4.2 million in cost, which is 40% less than the initial Harriman estimate. The proposed improvements would replace the two portable classrooms by adding 3,500 SF to the existing building footprint. While this would address qualitative deficiencies posed by the aging portable classrooms, it would not eliminate the severe space deficiencies identified in the

See *RENOVATIONS CONSIDERED* page 3

Selectmen attended an RSU Board meeting to ask the RSU Board to reconsider its decision. The Selectmen opposed reconsidering cost sharing given that this would be the third time that the method for sharing costs was debated even though the RSU is in its third year of operation, and that only six months had elapsed since the unsuccessful vote in May 2011. The School Board declined to reconsider its decision.

The method of allocating school budgetary costs among member municipalities is confusing. For the most part, school costs are broken into two large categories. The first category comprises costs that have been identified by Maine's Department of Education (DOE) as essential to meeting the educational

See *SCHOOL COST SHARING* page 8

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# Eight warrant articles to be on June ballot

By Larry S. Mead, Town Manager

## Question 1: Parking Spaces

Question 1 amends articles 6.9 and 6.10 of the Land Use Ordinance. It appears as follows on the ballot:

Shall an ordinance entitled "June 2012 Amendment to the Kennebunkport Land Use Ordinance Concerning Parking Space Standards" be enacted? (A true copy of which is on file in the Town Clerk's Office and is incorporated by reference.)

The purpose of this amendment is to make it clear that a parking space approved under the Land Use Ordinance must be composed of material that is sufficient to support the weight of a vehicle under various conditions. As an example, a grass lawn area would not qualify as a parking space but semipervious materials such as "grass pavers" would qualify.

## Question 2: Residential Piers

Question 2 amends article 5.11 of the Land Use Ordinance. It appears as follows on the ballot:

Shall an ordinance entitled "June 2012 Amendment to the Kennebunkport Land Use Ordinance Concerning Docks, Piers and Wharves" be enacted? (A true copy of which is on file in the Town Clerk's Office and is incorporated by reference.)

The purpose of this amendment is to provide the Planning Board with the ability to permit residential piers to be longer than 100 feet when there is no other alternative to provide access from the applicant's lot. It also would allow the Planning Board to include a portion of a right-of-way as required shore frontage for a residential pier or walkway as long as there is no interference with the use of the right-of-way.

## Question 3: Signs

Question 3 amends article 6.12 of the Land Use Ordinance. It appears as follows on the ballot:

Shall an ordinance entitled "June 2012 Amendment to the Kennebunkport Land Use Ordinance Concerning Signs and Billboards" be enacted? (A true copy of which is on file in the Town Clerk's Office and is incorporated by reference.)

The purpose of this amendment is to modify the ordinance regulating signs in the Dock Square, Riverfront and Cape Porpoise zones so that the language in the ordinance more accurately conforms to the current utilization of commercial signage in these areas.

## Question 4: Building Code

Question 4 amends articles 6.18 and 6.19 of the Land Use Ordinance. It appears as follows on the ballot:

Shall an ordinance entitled "June 2012 Amendment to the Kennebunkport Land Use Ordinance Concerning the Adoption of the Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code (MUBEC)" be enacted? (A true copy of which is on file in the Town Clerk's Office and is incorporated by reference.)

The purpose of this amendment is to have the Land Use Ordinance conform to the current practice in Kennebunkport with respect to the required building code standards.

## Question 5: Comprehensive Plan Updates

Question 5 amends the existing comprehensive plan. It appears as follows on the ballot:

Shall an ordinance entitled "June 2012 Amendment to the Comprehensive Plan for the Town of Kennebunkport, Maine regarding chapters on Economy and Fiscal Capacity" as submitted by the Town of Kennebunkport's Growth Planning Committee be enacted? (A true copy of which is on file in the Town Clerk's Office and is incorporated by reference.)

The purpose of this amendment to the comprehensive plan is to bring up to date the content of the economy chapter and the fiscal capacity chapter.

See WARRANT ARTICLES page 8

# Town of Kennebunkport Annual Town Meeting June 12 and 16, 2012

## PLEASE TAKE NOTICE

To the voters of Kennebunkport: You are hereby notified that the **Annual Town Meeting** of this municipality will be held at the **Village Fire Station, 32 North Street, in said Town on Tuesday, the 12th day of June, AD 2012, at 8:00 a.m.** for the purpose of acting on Articles numbered 1 and 1a and Questions 1 through 8 (Election of Officers and Referendum Questions) as set forth in the Town Warrant.

The polls for voting shall be opened immediately after the election of the Moderator at 8:00 a.m. on June 12, 2012, and shall close at 8:00 p.m.

The continuation of said meeting will be held in the **auditorium of the Consolidated School, 25 School Street, in said Town on Saturday, the 16th day of June AD 2012, at 9:00 a.m.** for the purposes of acting on Articles numbered 2 through 56 (Funding and Non-Funding Articles), as set out in the Warrant.

The Registrar of Voters will hold office hours while the polls are open to correct any error in or change a name or address on the voting list, to accept the registration of any person eligible to vote, and to accept new enrollments.

Attested copies of the Town Warrant as well as sample ballots are posted at the United States Post Office, Temple Street; Atlantic Hall, Main Street, Cape Porpoise; Louis T. Graves Memorial Library, Maine Street; Goose Rocks Beach Fire Company, Winter Harbor Road; and at the Town Offices, 6 Elm Street.

A **copy of the Town Report** can be picked up at the Town Offices, 6 Elm Street, Bradbury Brothers Market, Main Street, Cape Porpoise and Graves Memorial Library, 18 Maine Street.

April Dufoe  
Town Clerk

## Absentee ballot changes

By April Dufoe, Town Clerk

If you are one of those voters who likes the ease and convenience of voting by absentee ballot, please take note. On September 28, 2011, a new law went into effect that prohibits the issuance of absentee ballots after the third business day before an election day, except when the voter signs an affidavit designating one of the allowable reasons for voting by absentee ballot on that day. This means that the last day to get a "no excuse" absentee ballot for the June 12 election is Thursday, June 7, 2012.

After that day, the only acceptable reasons an absentee ballot can be issued are: 1) an unexpected absence from the municipality during the entire time the polls are open on election day; or 2) a physical disability or an incapacity or illness that has resulted in the voter being unable to leave home or a treatment facility.

Since the heaviest volume of absentee ballots are issued the Friday and Monday just before election day, I want to get the word out to voters to make sure you come in early from now on to request your absentee ballot. The very last thing I want to do is make it more difficult for voters to vote, but I will have no choice other than to enforce the laws that are passed in Augusta by our legislators. **So please, plan ahead and request your absentee ballot no later than Thursday, June 7, 2012.**

If you have any further questions, please call April Dufoe, Town Clerk at 967-4243 ext. 110.



# RSU Withdrawal Study Committee

By Larry S. Mead, Town Manager

In February, the Board of Selectmen created a committee charged with researching the costs, advantages, and disadvantages of withdrawing from Regional School Unit 21 (RSU) and forming an independent school department. The Board's action to form a committee grew out of frustration with the decision by the RSU Board of Directors to once again reopen the School District's cost-sharing formula for reconsideration. The existing cost sharing was negotiated among the three member towns prior to the formation of the RSU. It took effect in July of 2009. In 2010, the School Board voted to reconsider cost sharing.

A proposed new cost-sharing approach was presented to voters in May of last year but did not pass. The School Board's action on cost sharing this year was in response to a request from the Arundel Board of Selectmen. The Arundel Board would like to see cost sharing adjusted so that more weight is given to town property valuation and less weight given to the number of pupils a town has in the school district. Such an adjustment would increase the cost of school funding to Kennebunkport property taxpayers and reduce the cost to Arundel and Kennebunk property owners.

The Committee will investigate the

operational needs and considerations of the various departments, areas of responsibility, and cost of an independent school district, including: elementary school education and operations, general administration, tuitioning of middle and high school students, transportation, special education services, debt obligations, and future capital needs and debt.

The Committee consists of the following individuals: Jackie Kellett, Bonnie Vitali, David James, Sheila Matthews-Bull, Jim Mulligan, Lou Miller, Grace Adams, and Larry Mead. The Committee will provide a report to the Selectmen by June 1.

## Kennebunkport

### Public Officials

#### Board of Selectmen

Chair

Stuart E. Barwise

Vice-Chair

Sheila Matthews-Bull

Allen A. Daggett

Mathew J. Lanigan

D. Michael Weston

#### Town Manager

Larry S. Mead

Visit the Town Website at  
[www.kennebunkportme.gov](http://www.kennebunkportme.gov)

## Renovations considered

from page 1

Harriman study.

The Consolidated School was opened in the fall of 1953. The original portion of the building was shaped like a "T" and was 18,674 SF. Interestingly, it was declared deficient in size immediately upon opening. As a result, more classroom space (5,220 SF) was added for the 1955-56 school year. Space needs continued to be at issue. In 1966, the gymnasium wing was added (7,068 SF), resulting in additional classroom space being made available. In 1990, the school was renovated although no new space was added.

To its credit, the RSU School Board has authorized the Consolidated

Building Committee to work with the Harriman consultants to study all of the needs and issues at KCS and to bring forward a recommendation to the RSU Board that is not constrained by the Board's existing \$4.2 million proposal. At that point, the RSU Board will need to finalize its bond proposal for all three schools to be presented to voters as one bond package sometime in 2013.

The Committee began its work in March and will meet at least once per month. The meetings are open to the public. Information and materials related to the Committee's work are accessible on line at the RSU-21 website.

## Absentee ballots now available for June Town Meeting

By April Dufoe, Town Clerk

Absentee ballots are now available at the Kennebunkport Town Clerk's Office for the upcoming Annual Town Meeting election to be held Tuesday, June 12, 2012, at the Village Fire Station, on 32 North Street in Kennebunkport. Because of a new law that went into effect on September 28, 2011, **THE LAST DAY TO OBTAIN A "NO EXCUSE" ABSENTEE BALLOT FOR THIS ELECTION IS THURSDAY, JUNE 7, 2012.** If you have any questions about absentee voting or about this election, please call the Town Clerk at 967-4243 ext. 110.

## Registrar of Voters holds evening hours for June election

By April Dufoe, Town Clerk

The Kennebunkport Town Clerk/Registrar of Voters will hold **evening hours** at the Kennebunkport Town Hall on Wednesday, June 6, 2012, from 4:30-6:30 p.m. to conduct absentee voting, to register any person eligible to vote, and to accept any enrollment/address changes.

**2011 Annual  
Town Report  
available June 5  
see page 6  
for more information**

## Goose Rocks Beach Trial

from page 1

settlement outside of the court system. The working group consisted of representatives of the plaintiffs, the Town, back-lot owners who are party to the lawsuit, and the Kennebunkport Conservation Trust. The group drafted a detailed proposal that required concessions from all sides. The Town would give up all claims of ownership to the beach properties at issue and would bind itself to maintaining the patterns of residential development and absence of commercial development that Goose Rocks residents have embraced as the quality of life in their neighborhood. This would include restrictions on parking, bus use, commercial development and other issues that were identified by plaintiffs, as well as other beach residents, as concerns underpinning the lawsuit. The plaintiffs would assure no impediments to the public to use the beach for general and traditional recreation activities. This proposal was mailed to almost 300 individuals who are directly involved as parties to the lawsuit. 225 property owners responded to this single mailing and 88% of those responding supported the plan, including 36 non-plaintiff ocean-front owners. Unfortunately, the owners of only 10 of the plaintiff

properties responded to the request, six favorably and four unfavorably. Based upon this response and additional feedback received through other channels, it appears there is not sufficient support from plaintiffs for the proposals drafted by the working group. Although this particular settlement effort appears to have stalled, there may be other opportunities to reach a settlement before going to trial, including the possibility of a settlement conference administered by the court.

#### Documents available on-line

There are a great many documents related to the lawsuit on the Town's website, [www.preservegoose.rocks-beach.org](http://www.preservegoose.rocks-beach.org), including motions, court orders, responses, affidavits and other court documents. Recent additions to the available documents include the transcripts of depositions given by individuals, including the Town Manager and several plaintiffs. The judge's rulings on the requests by various parties for summary judgment are included (dated December 22, 2011 and January 18, 2012). The Plaintiff's original complaint that initiated the lawsuit and the Town's response and counter-claim from 2009 are also available.



# Time to ride

By Craig Sanford, Police Chief

The approach of warm weather brings with it the excitement of outdoor activities. One of the more popular activities in the Kennebunkport area is cycling. Families as well as fitness-minded individuals frequently travel our local roadways on their bicycles.

We are lucky to have some of the most beautiful shoreline on the east coast. The roadways that snake along the coast are usually very busy with vacationers and visitors in cars, on foot, and on bicycles. These roads are cramped for space, and caution should be used to accommodate all lawful activities.

The use of safety equipment and following applicable laws ensure

that bicycle riders enjoy their ride and motorists avoid an unfortunate accident.

Some important laws to remember when riding a bicycle:

Bicycle operators or passengers under the age of 16 must wear a helmet.

A person operating a bicycle on a roadway has the same rights and is subject to the same duties applicable to the operator of a motor vehicle.

Bicycles are required to have lights and reflective material when used at night.

A person operating a bicycle upon a roadway at a speed less than the normal speed of traffic moving in



## Bike skills and safety course.

the same direction, shall drive to the right portion of the roadway as far as practicable except when it is unsafe to do so or:

1. When passing another cyclist.
2. When preparing to make a left turn.
3. When proceeding straight where

right turns are allowed.

4. When avoiding a hazard.

The Bicycle Coalition of Maine (bikemaine.org) has a great website that contains useful information for bicycle enthusiasts. Riders can find safety tips, bicycle maintenance tips, bike trails, and much more.

## Drug turn-in box now at Kennebunkport police department



The new drug turn-in box installed at the police department.

The Kennebunkport Police Department has participated in several Drug Take Back Days that were held nationally over the last several years. On May 4, 2012, the department installed a drug turn-in box in the P.D. lobby. One day, every six months, will be dedicated to the take back program.

The turn-in box came about because in between the take back days, the police department continually had citizens come into the station to drop off unwanted medications. Concerned with the safe handling of these medications, Police Chief Sanford started to

search for a solution.

Kennebunkport Public Health Nurse Judy Barrett became involved and was very interested in helping the police department. Chief Sanford said, "Judy was instrumental in the purchase of the drug box." She was able to find funds in the I-Anson Macomber Fund and helped purchase the box.

The drug turn-in box is accessible to citizens all day, every day, for safe turn in of unwanted prescription medications. The box will hopefully add to the safety of our community and environment.

## HAZMAT Training

The Kennebunkport Fire Department recently conducted training in Hazardous Materials Operations. Here, District Chief Jim Burrows demonstrates the proper technique for decontaminating a firefighter wearing a Level A HAZMAT suit. Each year, fire department members spend hundreds of hours training in various firefighting and rescue operations to be prepared to help our community. If you are interested in learning more and possibly becoming a member, ask any Kennebunkport firefighter or call the Fire Administrator's office at 967-2114.

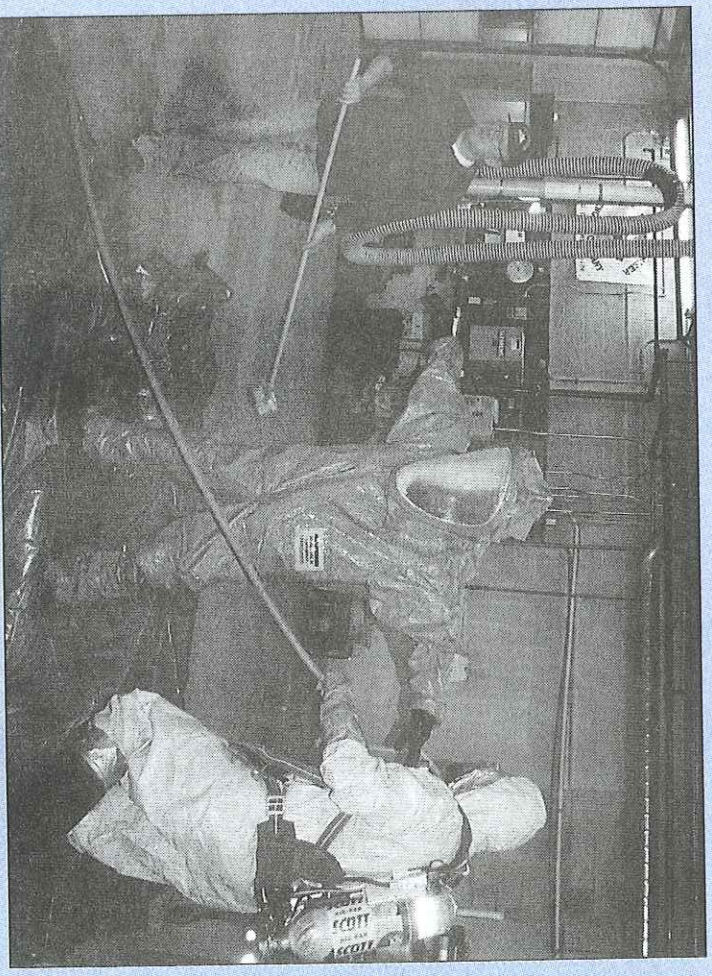


Photo by Bob Kemner

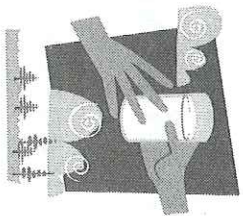


# Kennebunkport Public Health

By Judy Barrett R.N., B.S.

## Well water test day

Kennebunkport has over 1,000 households relying on a well for their water supply. It is strongly recommended by the Department of Health and Human Services Well Water Division that you have your water supply tested periodically for bacteria, radon, arsenic, copper and lead. Suggested test schedule: dug well every year and artesian wells every three years. Again, this year on June 9, we are offering

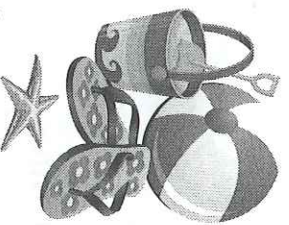


Kennebunkport residents only, reduced rates on Well Water Test Day with Nelson Analytical laboratory. Pick up an information packet and sample kit either at the public health office or in the police department lobby. Follow the quick and simple directions for obtaining the sample. Then, deliver it to 32 North Street between 9 AM and 12 PM on June 9. All results are confidential between you and the lab. This simple step can have a huge impact on the health of your family.

Speaking of wells, now that winter is over and we are busy fertilizing lawns and gardens, and spraying for ants, ticks, slugs and bugs, remember that all of those chemicals used will leach into the soil. They can effect you or your neigh-

bor's well water supply if there is even a tiny crack or break in the system. Please read the directions and use these products sparingly and only if all other methods have failed.

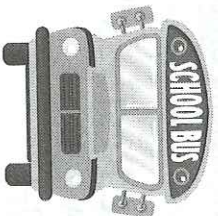
## Healthy Maine beach program



Kennebunkport will participate in the Healthy Maine Beach Program again this summer. From Memorial Day to Labor Day, trained volunteers and town staff will be collecting water samples for enterococci bacteria and site specific data weekly. Results and history of our participation in this program are posted on the Town of Kennebunkport's homepage under Water Quality. There has been no change in the EPA exceedance level of 104 enterococci (an indicator of fecal contamination.). If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, please contact the Public Health Department.

## Stuff the bus

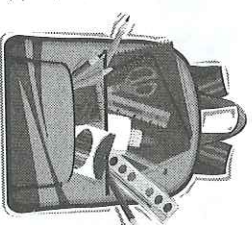
Help us fill the Parks and Recreation bus with non perish-



able food and household/personal supplies on Election Day, June 12. The number of requests for food assistance does not diminish dur-

ing the summer. When school is out and children do not receive the free or reduced rate breakfasts and lunches, the requests increase. Our goal is to stock the Community Outreach Services pantry shelves so no resident goes hungry. Also, we will have a donation jar present to accept cash or checks. Please make out your checks to the Community Outreach Services. These funds are used to purchase food from the Good Sheppard Food Bank. Any household in need of food assistance is encouraged to contact the public health department- 967-4401.

## Stuff the backpacks

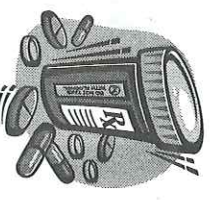


I know that you are saying—"School isn't even out yet" but—now is the time to prepare for fall needs. Again this year, we would like to provide filled backpacks for at least 20 Kennebunkport students, grades kindergarten through high school. While you are out and about this summer, purchase a backpack and start filling it with back-to-school supplies. This is a great family and friends project.

## Drugs and sharps disposal

Did you miss the statewide TAKE BACK THE DRUGS DAY? The

Kennebunkport Public Health Department accepts prescription, over the counter, and pet



medications as well as your sharps year round. Please bring these items to our office, and we will ensure that they are disposed of safely. Do not dispose of them in your trash. Medications flushed down your toilet or sink can have an adverse effect on a septic system as well as leach into our streams and rivers.

## Nursing services

If you find that you are in need of nursing care or have a health/welfare related question, Kennebunkport Public Health can help. The nursing staff provides skilled nursing care for our residents and guests 365 days per year. We can visit you in your home or if you prefer at our office. Remember, we have the FREE durable medical equipment closet (LOAN CLOSET) if you find that you are in need of crutches, a walker, commode or shower chair.

*Kennebunkport Public Health is a department of the Town of Kennebunkport. Our services are covered under your town taxes.*

## RIVER TREE arts

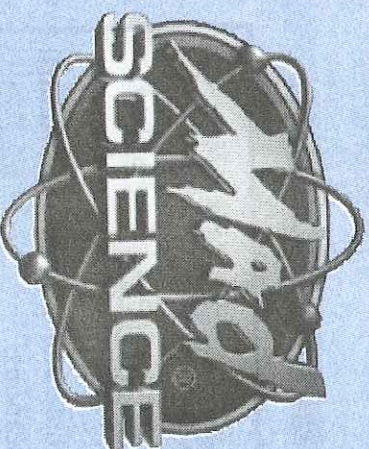
**Jewelry Studio:** Move over plastic pony beads, this class will take your jewelry creations to the next level with cold metal fusion, hand tools and techniques from a master metalsmith. Min: 6, Max: 12, 2nd graders+ Ann Thompson Tuesdays, 1-2:30 PM, July 16-August 14. \$45

**Guitar Band:** Join the band! Professional musician and River

Tree Arts music coordinator Duane Edwards will teach beginners and more experienced musicians how to perform rhythm and music in a group band. Final performance will be at the Day Camp Talent Show on August 17. Free guitar rentals, limit 10 students, all ages. Tuesdays, 1:15-2:15 PM, July 10-August 14 and August 17 talent show. \$45

Our Outdoor Adventure program participants will be participating in **Bike Part Art** this summer. They will work with Ann Thompson of River Tree Arts to transform reclaimed and recycled bike parts, hand tools and metal

wire to create one of a kind sculpture for Beachwood Park.



**Mad Science of Maine** is offering its **Jr. Engineer Camp** at Consolidated School, July 23-27, 2012. Put on your hard hat for this exciting week of Engineering Science, Aerodynamics, Circuitry, and Machines! We will explore

the role that wind and the movement of air plays on simple flying devices such as kites, hot air balloons, and parachutes. Creativity is the name of the game as we build work-saving inventions of our own. Children will delve into Newton's Laws of Motion and use their construction skills by assembling and controlling fun machines like pulleys, levers, and catapults. The Jr. Engineer Camp will run from 9 AM -3 PM all five days for ages 6-12 years. The cost for this fun, interactive, educational science program is \$235. Minimum enrollment is 10, maximum 20.

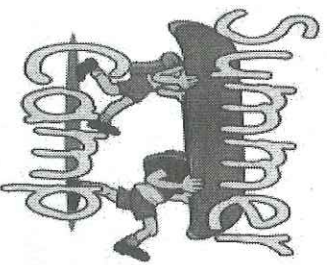
**Now accepting credit cards for summer recreation programs.**



# Kennebunkport Parks & Recreation

## Summer 2012

FM1- 967-4304 or [www.kennebunkport.me.gov](http://www.kennebunkport.me.gov) and go to "Recreation News"



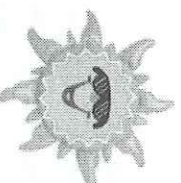
### Summer Day Camp

Entering grades K-8  
June 25-Aug 17

Full-time, half-day, or part-time possible  
\$525 for full 8 weeks of FUN

Includes field trips, special events, camp-wide activities  
or \$20/day plus trip expenses

You won't believe what we pack into a day!



### Outdoor Adventure

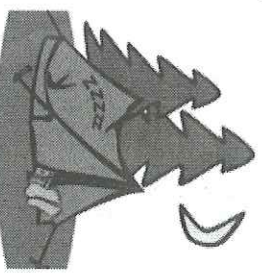
Entering grades 7-9  
8 weeks: June 25-Aug 17

2 Options:

\$625 Mon-Wed

\$675 Mon-Fri

Max. 13 participants



### Mini-Golf Tour

Mini-Golf Tour

Fridays, July 6-August 10

Cost: \$45/participant



### Youth Golf

August 6, 7, & 8

Ages 6-9

2:00-3:15 PM

Ages 10 & Up

3:30-4:45 PM

Cost: \$60/participant

### Archery

Wednesdays, July 11-Aug. 15

Intermediate: 9:30-10:30

Beginner: 11:00-12:00

\$25/participant



### Swim Lessons

Mondays: 9:00-12:00 (noon)

July 9-August 13

Ages 5-12

Cost: \$65/participant

Transportation provided from

Consolidated School to the

Biddeford YMCA



### Bike Club

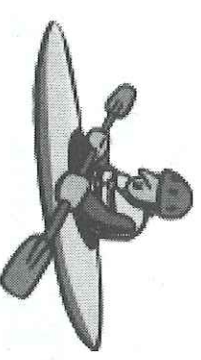
Wednesdays- 1:00-3:30

July 11-August 8

Ages 9 & Up

Cost: \$25/participant

Leader: Helena Brook



### Youth Kayaking

Tide dependent

7/3, 7/17, 7/23, 8/3, 8/6

Ages 10-14

Strong swimmers only

\$25/per session

\$60/3 sessions

Instructor: Bill Junker

Registered Maine Guide

### "Young & the Restless"

June 25-Aug 17

Ages 3-4

8:30- 12:00 (noon) Mon-Fri

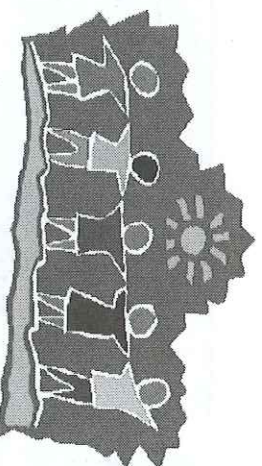
Minimum: 10 participants

Cost/participant: \$14/half day,

\$60/week, or \$450/8 weeks

Full-day available,

please call 967-4304



### "Last Days of Summer"

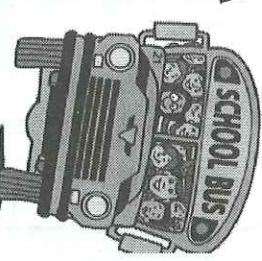
Post-camp week

August 20-24

8:00 AM-5:00 PM

All field trips

Cost: \$95



### Arundel Barn Family Night

Rodgers & Hammerstein's Cinderella

Details TBA

### Discount Tickets to:

Funtown, Water Country,

Sea Dogs

## Annual Town Reports-2011 available June 5

Be an informed resident and voter. Come and pick up your Annual Town Report at one of the following locations:

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

Besides voting information for the annual town meeting in June, this report also contains other essential items such as town department phone numbers, the recycling reference chart and calendar, along with an account of the activities of the various town departments and boards/committees.

## Town of Kennebunkport Annual Town Meeting

Tuesday, June 12, 2012

Village Fire Station, 32 North Street

8:00 AM - 8:00 PM

Election of Officers and Referendum Questions

And

Saturday, June 16, 2012, at 9:00 AM

Consolidated School Auditorium, 25 School Street

Funding and Non-Funding Articles



# Kennebunkport shade tree program

By Shade Tree Committee

*We do not plant trees for ourselves; we plant them for posterity.*

The Shade Tree Program was established to manage, promote and sustain a healthy town tree canopy for the future. The present town committee consists of four volunteers, the Tree Warden and an arborist, and works in consultation with the Town Manager.

## The Program Serves Kennebunkport in Many Ways...

The program:

- Tags trees which influence the public right of way and have value to the town according to nationally accepted standards. About 1,300 trees are labeled with a numbered metal tag, including approximately 100 mature American elms on maintained property.
- Looks after tagged trees for community health, public safety and beauty.
- Keeps an updated inventory on GIS (Global Information Systems) of tagged trees.
- Monitors elm tree health, including disease detection and provides preventative treatment.
- Plants trees incorporating a variety of species, locations and compatibility to sustain our community's tree canopy.
- Participates in Project Canopy, part of the Maine State Forest Service.
- Participates in Arbor Day celebrations and assures the decades-long town Tree City USA award.

## General Tree Care Information...

- Roots grow mostly within 18 inches of the surface and outward to a diameter of 1 or 2 times the height of the tree.
- Mulch insulates the soil, retains moisture,

keeps out weeds and prevents soil compaction. Place wood chips or bark pieces 2-4 inches deep with a diameter of 3-10 feet, but not touching the trunk.

- A healthy trunk carries water and minerals to the leaves and returns food produced by leaves to the rest of the tree. Damage to the trunk caused by weed trimmers, lawn mowers, chained dogs etc. drastically shortens the life of a tree.
- Firewood should be kept local because transporting firewood spreads catastrophic disease and insects. Burn it near where it is cut.

## Trees are a Great Investment...\*

- Trees save energy and money. A 25 foot tree reduces annual heating and cooling costs of a typical residence by 8 to 12 percent. The evaporation from a single large tree can produce the cooling effect of 10 room-size air conditioners operating 24 hours a day.
- Trees protect air quality by adding oxygen to the air and tree leaves act as natural air filters, removing dust and particles. They also absorb ozone, carbon monoxide, sulfur dioxide and other pollutants.
- Trees help reduce traffic noise.
- Trees improve water quality as the tree canopy intercepts rainfall, which reduces the amount of uncontrolled run-off that flows into our lakes and rivers. Trees also absorb harmful pollutants found in pesticide and fertilizer runoff.
- Trees save tax dollars by slowing or reducing storm water runoff, thus reducing the load on storm sewers.
- Trees add to property value. Large specimen trees can add 10 percent to a property's value.
- Trees provide habitat for wild life.



## New map to show "lawns for lobsters" households

### By Conservation Commission

ties, including Consolidated School and its sports fields. Many of the BMP recommendations apply to individual lawns, and we hope that you will join the movement to minimize reliance on weed and insect controls.

This year, we are adding a new twist to our celebration of a healthier environment. We will have a map located in the Town Office lobby that will show the properties of homeowners who have agreed to follow a healthier approach to lawn care. Let us know if you would like your property added to the map!

And, as in past years, if you'd like to proclaim your commitment to the environment with your healthier lawn, we'll provide you a small

"Lawns for Lobsters" sign to display. (We charge \$1 per sign to cover the cost of materials.)

Lots of good information on maintaining a healthier lawn can be found at [www.yardscaping.org](http://www.yardscaping.org), and you can visit our page at [www.kennebunkportme.gov](http://www.kennebunkportme.gov) to find the following information (Select the link for "Appointed Boards," then select "Conservation Commission").

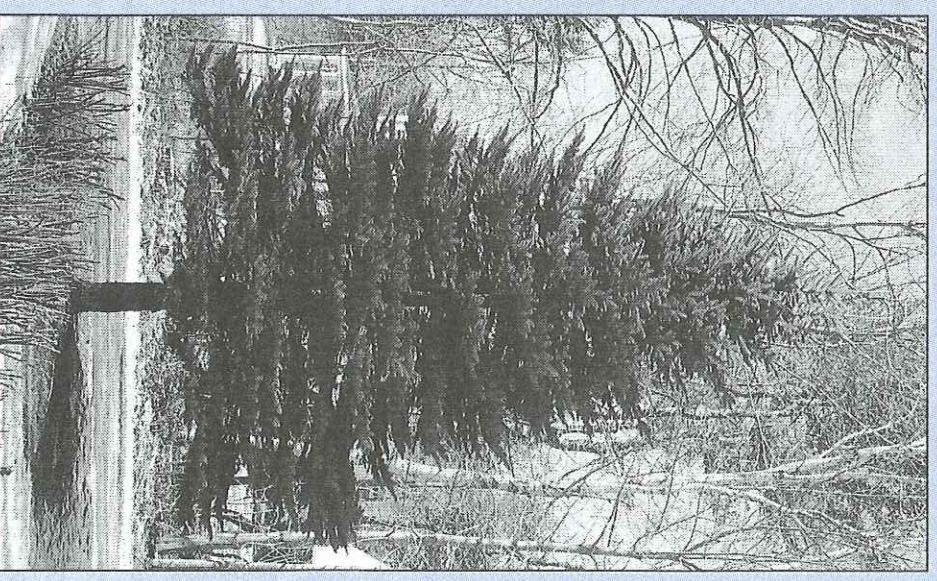
- A complete copy of the Best Management Practices for the Application of Turf Pesticides and Fertilizer.

- A letter to homeowners which includes a list of 10 Simple Steps Toward a Safe and Healthy Lawn and 7 Questions to Ask Your

- Trees are infinitely recyclable. Trees become lumber for homes, boats, furniture, firewood, mulch etc.

\*Source - Project Canopy, part of the Maine State Forest Service 1-207-287-4987 direct OR 1-800-376-0223 and ask for Project Canopy

Locally, call Kennebunkport Town Hall - 207-967-4243 and ask for the Tree Warden, Rick Griffin



This handsome Spruce on Wildes District Road was planted from a seedling presented at a Consolidated School Arbor Day Program. For the 35th consecutive year, Kennebunkport will be named "Tree City USA."

### Lawn Care Company.

- A list of organic lawn care products and local sources for them.
- A list of grass seed mixes that are drought, insect and weed resistant and hardy for our climate.
- A list of lawn care companies that are willing to use a sustainable approach if asked to do so by the homeowner.

If you would like your property included on the new Lawns for Lobsters map, and if you would like a sign for your yard, please contact Deb Bauman at 967-4134 or [www.lawnsforlobsters@aol.com](mailto:www.lawnsforlobsters@aol.com)

We hope you will join in the challenge to make Kennebunkport beautiful and healthy!



# Warrant Articles

from page 2

## Question 6: Fireworks Prohibited

Question 6 enacts a new ordinance that prohibits the use and sale of commercial fireworks in the Town. It appears as follows on the ballot:

Shall a new ordinance entitled "Fireworks Ordinance" be enacted? (A true copy of which is on file in the Town Clerk's Office and is incorporated by reference.)

The Maine State Legislature passed a law last session that legalizes the sale and use of a broad category of fireworks classified as "consumer fireworks." Consumer fireworks are currently legal in most states, although the New England and Mid-Atlantic regions are much more restrictive than the rest of the country, with the exceptions of New Hampshire and Connecticut. Across the country, there is among states, counties and cities a broad range of approaches to the regulation of fireworks, with many communities prohibiting or strictly regulating the use and sale of fireworks despite more permissive state and federal laws allowing them. The regulation of consumer fireworks is an area where local control is well established throughout the United States.

Maine law is more permissive than appears on first reading. While it does not restrict the sale of several classes of fireworks, it allows the use of all consumer fireworks as defined under federal law. The fireworks prohibited for sale but permitted for use are: missile-type rockets, helicopters and aerial spinners, sky rockets and bottle rockets, and reloadable aerial shells. These fireworks are currently sold in New Hampshire. As a result, individuals will be able to easily acquire them and legally use them unless restricted by municipal ordinance. In addition, Maine law allows the sale and use of fireworks identified generically as firecrackers. By way of comparison, firecrackers can be sold in New Hampshire but are illegal to use in New Hampshire. In Maine, they will be legal to both sell and use unless restricted by municipal ordinance. In this regard, the new Maine law is more permissive than New Hampshire law.

The new state law allows cities and towns to adopt rules and regulations that are more restrictive. Many municipalities in York and Cumberland counties have already this year prohibited both the sale and use of consumer fireworks, including the following communities: Bath, Brunswick, Buxton, Cape Elizabeth, Cumberland, Eliot, Falmouth,

Freeport, Hollis, North Yarmouth, Portland, South Portland, Wells, and Yarmouth. The Town of York will vote May 19 on an ordinance to ban the sale and use of fireworks.

## Question 7: Horses on Goose Rocks Beach

Question 7 enacts a new ordinance that would regulate the riding of horses on Goose Rocks Beach. It appears as follows on the ballot:

Shall a new ordinance entitled "Horse Riding on Goose Rocks Beach Ordinance" be enacted? (A true copy of which is on file in the Town Clerk's Office and is incorporated by reference.)

The purpose of this ordinance is to restrict the riding of horses at Goose Rocks Beach to months when there is less activity at the beach in order to minimize conflicts between horseback riding and other forms of recreation. Horses would be allowed at Goose Rocks Beach between September 15 and May 14.

## Question 8: Moorings in Cape Porpoise Harbor, Goose Rocks Beach and related waters.

Question 8 would enact a new ordinance that regulates the placement and use of boat moorings in Cape Porpoise Harbor, Goose Rocks Beach, and related waters. It appears as follows on the ballot:

Shall a new ordinance entitled "Waterfront Ordinance" be enacted? (A true copy of which is on file in the Town Clerk's Office and is incorporated by reference.)

The purpose of the proposed ordinance is to regulate moorings in all Kennebunkport waters except for the Kennebunk River, where moorings are already regulated under separate ordinance. The ordinance will ensure that there will be adequate and usable mooring space for the Cape Porpoise commercial fishing fleet. It is designed to help preserve the working waterfront, under pressure from growing demand for coastal waters access and use. There is a provision that preserves 60% of the moorings in Cape Porpoise harbor for commercial fishing users. The ordinance will enable the Town to ensure consistency with the policies and requirements of the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers so that Cape Porpoise harbor will be eligible for federal funding for the future dredging of the channel at Cape Porpoise harbor. The ordinance will provide guidelines and authority for the harbormaster to administer mooring space and balance competing needs and demands in the harbor and other waterways.

# School Cost Sharing

from page 1

needs of students. This category is labeled as Essential Programs and Services (EPS) costs. The second major cost category is those costs that the DOE considers non-essential. This category is labeled "above EPS" costs. The amount of funding devoted to above EPS costs is discretionary and is determined separately by each school district in the state. The sharing of costs between the three member communities is different for each of these two categories.

EPS costs currently comprise about 85% of the total RSU budget. These costs are allocated according to state law, which requires a "minimum required local share" from each municipality. This amount is determined by the state, based on the lesser of two values: "the town allocation" which is determined by pupil count, or the "town contribution" which is a function of both a town's valuation and a minimum mil rate effort for education as established by the state.

Kennebunkport's portion of EPS costs is the "town allocation" (pupil count). Arundel and Kennebunk's portion of EPS costs is the "town contribution" (valuation and minimum mil rate effort).

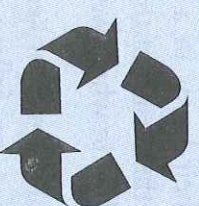
Expenditures that are "over EPS," about 15% of the total budget, are considered local costs by the state. It is these costs that are at issue and the subject of debate in the current Cost Sharing Committee. The method of apportioning over-EPS costs is not established by the state, but rather is determined by the member communities of the school district (RSU). In the case of RSU-21, the over-EPS costs are apportioned by a formula that is based 60% on each community's state equalized property values and 40% on each community's number of students, or 60/40. This formula was agreed to by representatives from the towns as part of the process to form the new RSU as a three-town school district, and approved by a vote of all three

towns in November 2008. For the current school year, the share of over-EPS costs for each town is Kennebunkport 31%, Arundel 15%, and Kennebunk 54%.

The Cost Sharing Committee is made up of three representatives from each town. Kennebunkport's representatives to the 2012 version of the Cost Sharing Committee are: Selectman Stuart Barwise, RSU Board Chair Norm Archer and former Selectman and former State Representative Stedman Seavey. The Committee began its work in late March, met again in April, and a third time in May. The initial discussion by Kennebunk and Arundel representatives focused on how much each town's share of costs would change if the over-EPS costs were allocated entirely on the basis of valuation. Because Kennebunkport's valuation is higher per capita than Kennebunk or Arundel, any change to the cost sharing formula that relies more on valuation increases the cost to Kennebunkport taxpayers and decreases costs to Kennebunk and Arundel. Under the current cost

sharing arrangement of 60% valuation and 40% pupil count, Kennebunkport's per student costs are already 30% higher than Kennebunk's and 130% higher than Arundel's. Any change that puts greater weight on valuation will only increase the per-pupil cost differential.

If the Cost Sharing Committee votes to modify the existing formula, the proposal must be brought before voters of all three towns for consideration. Under state law, the cost sharing arrangement can only be changed if two-thirds of those voting district-wide vote in favor of the change. Information regarding the Cost Sharing Committee is available on the RSU-21 website ([www.rsu21.net](http://www.rsu21.net)).



Reduce • Reuse  
Recycle