



KENNEBUNKPORT Town Review

A newsletter for the residents of Kennebunkport

Number 30

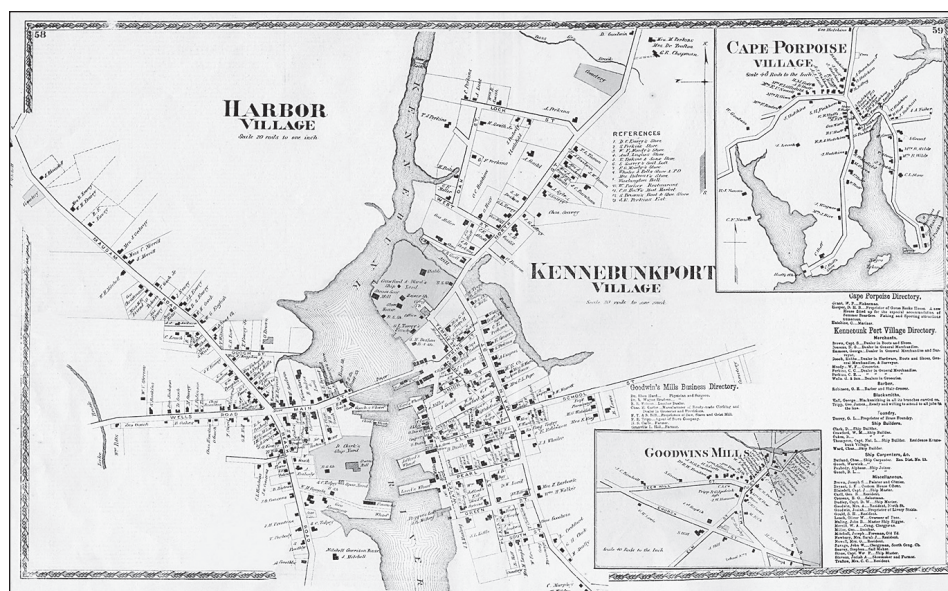
Fall 2018

GPC community survey due by November 20

By Abbie Sherwin, SMRPC Coastal and Land Use Planner and Daniel Saunders, GPC Chair

The Growth Planning Committee (GPC) survey is available for all community members to complete between September 1 and November 20, 2018. Your input is vital for understanding future town planning needs and providing feedback to the GPC members as they embark on the next update of the Kennebunkport Comprehensive Plan. The last day to complete the survey is November 20, 2018. It is available online at this link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LJYQZVL>. Paper copies are available upon request at the Town Hall and at the Louis T. Graves Memorial Library. Please take a moment to complete the survey to share your opinion with the GPC. If you have already done so, then thank you for your input!

The GPC is initiating the process to update the Comprehensive Plan so that it reflects the current and future issues, interests, and needs of the Town. The plan was last updated and approved by the town's voters in



November 2012 and found to be consistent with the State of Maine Growth Management Act in October 2013. The GPC's goal is to complete the review and update of the plan by mid-year 2022 so that it may be submitted to the town's voters for approval by that year's end. The current plan consists of 15 chapters, 46 town goals, 89 policy statements, and 189 strategies that will be evaluated to determine their con-

tinued relevance to the town. Some may be removed, others modified, and new ones added to improve the overall plan. Additionally, new chapters with their own sets of goals, policies, and strategies may need to be included as we consider the future and how changes in our climate and our environment may impact our town.

A very important part of this review process is to engage the Kennebunkport

community directly through a community survey. The objective of the survey is to learn what members of the Kennebunkport community think about their town, the issues that it faces today, and the services that it provides. Whether you are a resident or a non-resident, a homeowner or a renter, a business owner or an employee working in Kennebunkport, we want to hear your opinion.

The Growth Planning Committee is responsible for overseeing the Comprehensive Plan for the town of Kennebunkport. The Comprehensive Plan outlines the town's planning goals, policies, and strategies to help guide important municipal decisions related to land use. The Land Use Ordinances are more than establishing setbacks and minimum lot coverage requirements when building a new home. They provide a mechanism to help shape how we want our town to grow while maintaining the distinct character of our village centers and rural areas.

The new recreation building should be completed this November



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CodeRED and Silver Alerts

By Susan Boak, Senior Advisory Committee

Serving on this Senior Advisory Committee has taught us many things about the town of Kennebunkport. Did you know the new business center at the Graves Library hosts a weekly familiarization session, STAY CONNECTED WITH THE TOWN, on how to use the town's website? Every Friday morning at 10 a.m., Arlene McMurray, town manager's assistant, and Mary-Lou Boucouvalas, library director, conduct a tutorial on how to subscribe to email notifications on varied topics such as trash collection, meeting agendas, road closings, etc.

These dedicated town employees also introduced us to CodeRED on the police department homepage where subscribers can receive email or text notifications from the local emergency

response team. Both my husband and I signed up to receive CodeRED notifications. I just wanted the local information, but Tom opened up his window to 20 miles. Within a day, he received a Silver Alert from the town of Wells. This happened on July 12 with good result: an older woman was found safe by a police car and brought to a local hospital.

What is a Silver Alert?

A Silver Alert is a public notification system in the United States to broadcast information about missing persons – especially senior citizens with Alzheimer's disease, dementia, or other mental disabilities – to aid in locating them.

See ALERTS page 4

– NOVEMBER BALLOT –

– Question 1 –

Should medical marijuana be publicly available?

By Werner Gilliam,
Director of Planning and Development

The rules surrounding medical and recreational, adult use marijuana appear to be in a constant state of flux and are continually modified as the cannabis industry continues to evolve in Maine.

Last year, Kennebunkport overwhelmingly voted to prohibit the commercial aspects of adult use recreational marijuana.

Recent rules that have gone into effect statewide this past May appear to have given a boost to the medical side of the cannabis industry, allowing for the practice of “patient cycling” which dramatically increases the number of patients a caregiver can serve from five to potentially unlimited. This practice allows for cannabis patients to obtain a “short term designation” for just long enough to complete a purchase. This designation disappears once the transaction is complete, only to become reactivated for the next patient in line. Many communities are experiencing a rush of retail store applications since prohibition ordinances that were put into place deal only with adult use recreational and not medical retail locations.

If Kennebunkport does not put into place a moratorium on “medical” storefronts or ordinances in place governing the licensing, zoning, and operation of such storefronts, we will have far less de facto authority to control their existence in zones where retail uses are permitted.

The proposed moratorium would close the door temporarily, enough for the community to discuss the implications of having retail medical marijuana storefronts in Kennebunkport and establish language to either support or restrict this type of retail use.



– Question 2 –

Change in Waterfront Ordinance to go to voters

By Craig Sanford, Police Chief

In the past few months, it was apparent there was a need to make the town's Waterfront Ordinance clearer when it came to moorings in Cape Porpoise. It has always been the desire of the Kennebunkport community to maintain the working waterfront in Cape Porpoise while creating access to shorefront owners. The harbor is small, and the pier is busy with commercial fishing operations while trying to accommodate restaurant patrons and site seekers. With that being said, mooring space is limited and waiting lists exist to try and fairly regulate harbor usage. In the definition section of the Waterfront Ordinance, it was not clear that a recreational mooring permit holder needed to be a dues-paying member in good standing or a shorefront owner. So, we had someone attempt to lease a mooring from a shorefront owner to avoid pier dues.

Language to clean up the confusion was brought to the Pier Committee and then to the Selectmen for approval. Voters should see the changed language on the next ballot. Should you have questions or concerns about this change or other ordinance issues, please feel free to contact the town hall.

– Question 3 –

Proposed revisions to the Victualer's Ordinance

By Tracey O'Roak, Town Clerk

Question 3 on the ballot for the November 6, 2018, election proposes revisions to the Victualer's Ordinance. This ordinance oversees the licensing process of “any person who serves food or drink prepared for consumption on the premises by the public.” The most substantial change adds “section 6” which outlines what constitutes a violation of the licensing process and the fines associated with any violations.

Other proposed revisions are intended to clarify and to align the ordinance with state statute.

These changes were reviewed by the Board of Selectmen and approved to be placed on the November 6 ballot.

– Question 4 –

Wireless Telecommunications Ordinance—time for an update

By Werner Gilliam,
Director of Planning and Development

The Town of Kennebunkport has a separate, stand-alone, Wireless Telecommunications Ordinance that was first adopted November 2, 1999. It has not undergone any revisions or modifications since then. In the past 18 years, much has changed in the world relative to wireless telecommunications. Gone is the occasional use of a cell phone for emergency calls. Enter the world where cell phones are a functional necessity. For many of us, our day-to-day activity needs cellular technology as a functional utility spanning well beyond our use as a communication tool.

On the legal side, much has changed since 1999 regarding cellular technology. Specifically, the Spectrum Act was enacted as part of the Middle-Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012. The Spectrum Act was generally intended to “advance wireless broadband service” for public safety and commercial purposes and provided for the creation of a broadband communications network (known as “FirstNet”) for first responders as recommended by the 9/11 Commission. Many of the language changes proposed are intended to bring the ordinance into compliance with this act.

In addition, the town was approached by Verizon Wireless to review and comment on a proposal to install numerous small-scale, cellular nodes which would be located on top of existing utility poles. These small-scale, cellular nodes have the potential to improve data gaps and demands that residents currently experience throughout town. Many other Maine communities have taken steps to incorporate small-scale, cellular nodes into their ordinances to meet the needs and demands of residents who increasingly rely on cellular technology for their own purposes. Chances are, you have driven past one of these nodes and have not even realized it. They are typically mounted on top of existing utility poles and are about the size of an existing power transformer. As one can imagine, Kennebunkport's Wireless Telecommunications Ordinance developed in 1999 does not address these types of facilities, nor other wireless service options that are now available.

– Question 5 –

Acceptance of a conditional gift

By Laurie Smith, Town Manager

The town voters will be asked whether they will authorize the acceptance of a conditional gift of \$4,000 from The William JJ Gordon Trust, which the town intends on donating to the American Legion Post 159. The William JJ Gordon Trust desires the ability to donate funds to the American Legion; however, for legal reasons cannot write the check directly to the Legion. The funds will be used to assist the Legion with operations and maintenance of their property.

Town of Kennebunkport Special Town Meeting November 6, 2018

– PLEASE TAKE NOTICE –

To the voters of Kennebunkport: You are hereby notified that a Special Town Meeting of this municipality will be held at the **Village Fire Station, 32 North Street, in said Town on Tuesday, the 6th day of November, AD 2018, at 8:00 a.m.** for the purpose of acting on Articles 1 and 1a (Referendum Questions 1 through 5) as set forth in the Town Warrant. The polls for voting on Questions 1 through 5 shall be opened immediately after the election of the Moderator at 8:00 a.m. on November 6, 2018, and shall close at 8:00 p.m.

The Referendum questions to be voted on relate to:

1. Enactment of moratorium ordinance regarding retail medical marijuana caregiver storefronts;
2. Amendment to the waterfront ordinance;
3. Amendment to the victualer's licensing ordinance;
4. Amendment to the wireless telecommunications ordinance and land use ordinance; and
5. Acceptance of gift

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.

An attested copy of the Town Warrant is 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.

Complete ordinance amendment language and sample ballots are available from the Town Clerk or on the Town's website www.kennebunkportme.gov/town-clerk/pages/elections-and-voting.

Tracey O'Roak, Town Clerk

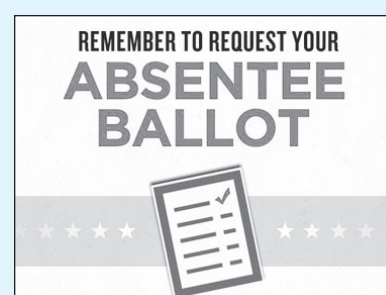


Registrar of Voters holds Saturday and evening hours

The Kennebunkport Town Clerk/Registrar of Voters will hold extra hours at the Kennebunkport Town Hall on Saturday, October 27, 2018, from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. and Thursday, November 1, 2018, from 4:30 - 7:00 p.m. to conduct absentee voting, to register any person eligible to vote, and to accept any enrollment/address changes.

Absentee ballots now available

Absentee ballots are now available at the Kennebunkport Town Clerk's Office for the upcoming State Gubernatorial and Special Municipal Election to be held on Tuesday, November 6, 2018, at the Village Fire Station, 32 North Street in Kennebunkport. If you have any questions about absentee voting or about this election, please call the Town Clerk at 967-1610.



– PLEASE NOTE –

The last day to request an absentee ballot is November 1

Per state law, the last day to request an absentee ballot for the November 6 election is **Thursday, November 1, 2018**. Requests must be received by the Town Clerk, by 4:30 p.m., on November 1.

Time to register your dog

By Tracey O'Roak, Town Clerk

State law requires all dogs kept within the State of Maine for more than 10 days to be licensed. An owner of a dog that is 6 months of age or older and kept in Kennebunkport must obtain a license from the Town Clerk **between October 15 and December 31 each year**. The fee to license your dog is \$11.00 if capable of producing young or \$6.00 if the dog has been spayed or neutered.



Murphy Markowitz

Stop by the town office with your dog's most recent rabies certificate to obtain a new license and tag. If you are licensing the dog for the first time and the dog has been spayed or neutered, please bring proof from your vet.

If you apply for a dog license after January 31, a late fee of \$25.00 (in addition to the annual license fee) will be charged per dog. This is state law and the fee cannot be waived for any reason.

There are three convenient options for registering your dog(s):

1. Come into the Town Clerk's office Monday through Friday, 8:00 AM-4:30 PM.
2. Mail your current rabies certificate and check to: Town Clerk, P.O. Box 566, Kennebunkport, ME 04046.
3. Register online - go to www.maine.gov/dog_license and follow the prompts. You will receive your license and tags through the mail within 30 days.

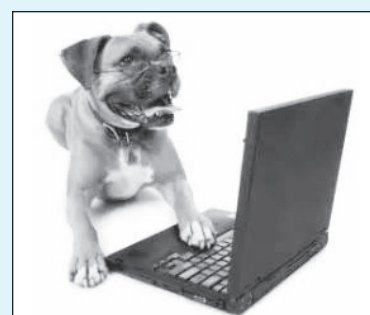
Online dog registration is now available

By Tracey O'Roak, Town Clerk

Dog registration just became even more convenient in Kennebunkport! As much as we enjoy having you come to town hall to register your dogs, we understand that it's not always easy to get here during our regular business hours (8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) Therefore, we are now offering online dog registration. You can register 24/7 from the convenience of your own home! Your new license and tag will be mailed directly to you.

Please visit www.maine.gov/dog_license. It's quick and easy! All you will need is:

- Credit card
- Rabies certificate
- Veterinarian's info
- Tag number (if a renewal)
- Spay or neuter certification (for new registrations, if applicable)





Cory Tardif



Daniel Place



Randy Charland

New employees join police department

By Craig Sanford, Police Chief

The police department has seen some changes in the past few months that have required the hiring of three officers. Long-time department member Sergeant Chris Simeoni left the police department for an administrative role in public works. He is one of those employees that every supervisor would hate to lose. It is great that he continues to serve the Kennebunkport community while having the ability to be on a more consistent work schedule.

We feel very fortunate that experienced officers have been interested in coming to the agency as other police departments struggle to fill

vacancies. Anticipating Sergeant Simeoni's departure, we started the hiring process and were fortunate to get an experienced officer from Biddeford. Officer Cory Tardif joined the agency in June. He was a summer officer here prior to joining the Biddeford Police Department.

Next to rejoin the department was Daniel Place. Officer Place initially started with Kennebunkport before moving north to Bangor. He then had a life change and decided to return to Kennebunkport. I remember telling him he would return!

We then hired Randy Charland

from Biddeford. Officer Charland originally started with the Sanford Police Department then moved to Biddeford before coming back home to Kennebunkport. He grew up in Kennebunkport and attended RSU 21 schools.

We are sad that Sergeant Simeoni has left the agency, but very thankful to have attracted experienced police officers. The new officers bring experience and enthusiasm to the community with a true desire to serve in a caring and compassionate manner. Please join us in welcoming officers Tardif, Place, and Charland to Kennebunkport.

Getting another school year started

By Karen Bubar,
Kennebunkport
Consolidated School
Principal

After enjoying a fabulous summer, we have started another school year at Kennebunkport Consolidated School with nine classrooms for approximately 160 students. Staff members met over the summer to plan a fun event for our first day of school. Imagine a Rock Star Concert for elementary-age students to build some excitement about the fun learning ahead!

This year, we are continuing our work related to the STARS success skills which include showing empathy, trying our best, acting with integrity, respecting differences, and showing self-control.

Consolidated is pleased to welcome several new families and staff members to our school community. We are ready for a great year of fun learning ahead!

Kennebunkport's 2nd annual dynamic dogs contest

By Tracey O'Roak, Town Clerk

Do you have an adorable dog? Would you like your dog to have the honor of being one of Kennebunkport's Dynamic Dogs? All you have to do is submit a photo (no larger than 4"x6") of your pup when you license your dog for 2019. Please put the dog's name, your name/email address, and the category on the back of the photo. Email submissions may also be sent to toroak@kennebunkportme.gov.

There will be four categories:

1. Best dressed
2. Best smile
3. Water dogs (your dog living it up it, on or around the river or ocean)
4. Golden oldies (over 7 years old for small dogs; over 5 years old for large dogs)



Brodie Guertin-Boselli

The winner of each category will have bragging rights and recognition on the Town's Facebook page.

The deadline for submissions will be December 31 (which coincides with the date your dog's 2018 license expires). Winners will be announced January 4.

* Please note that photos will *not* be returned; they will be displayed in the Town Clerk's office after judging is complete.

Photos will be judged by an independent panel of judges.

School Resource Officers (SRO) headed to school in more ways than one

By Craig Sanford, Police Chief

With the RSU 21 community seeing the importance of a safe school environment, it was decided by the voters to put a police officer in all RSU 21 schools. Our police department is lucky to be able to contribute to that mission while benefiting with additional staff during our busy summer tourist season. After holding a selection process that involved school, town, and police officials, officers Jason Hafner and Ashley Sargent were selected to fill two of the schools. Officer Hafner will be responsible to the Mildred Day School in Arundel and Officer Sargent will be stationed at Consolidated. Officer Nate Jones has been the SRO at the Kennebunk Middle

School for several years. Prior to starting their duties in the school system, Officers Hafner and Sargent will soon be attending a national SRO school in Oakland, Maine.

The placing of SRO's in elementary schools is a new step in the eastern part of the country. It will bring unique challenges for the officers but will also give them opportunities to interact with students at a very young age. The new and lasting impressions will hopefully stay with the students and the officers as all progress in life.

The Kennebunkport Police Department is dedicated to the safety and equal treatment of all.

Alerts

from page 1

Supporters of Silver Alert point to the U.S.A.'s growing elderly population as a reason to support new programs to locate missing seniors. Approximately six in ten dementia victims will wander off at least once. If not found within 24 hours, up to half of wandering seniors with dementia suffer serious injury or death.

Maine is one of 28 states having miss-

ing persons recovery programs that are formally called "Silver Alert."

CodeRED alerts also include severe weather conditions, fires, Amber alerts, evacuations, and bioterrorism alerts.

To learn more about CodeRED, consider attending one of the 10 a.m., Friday, morning tutorials at the Graves Library business center, or sign up online at <https://www.kennebunkportme.gov/police>. To get started, just click on the CodeRed logo at the bottom, left corner of the webpage.

Public works news

By Michael Claus, Public Works Director



Chris Simeoni, Ron Taylor, and Paul Jessel.



Chris Welch and Loren Blair discuss Government Wharf Reconstruction with contractor Shawn Toohey. Public works regraded and paved the parking lot area.



Public works reconstructing Mills Road.

Our public works crew started spring off by utilizing our regenerative vacuum sweeper to clean our roads and get an early start on crosswalk and line painting. High spring tides entailed sand and debris cleanup on Kings Highway, Pier Road, and Ocean Avenue. We assisted the volunteer dune replanting program at Goose Rocks Beach by watering the seedlings daily for two weeks until roots took hold. Over the summer, we noticed that beach sand had recovered in the path areas we maintain. We had to reset the disabled access ramp when it had been covered with over 6 inches of sand in spots. We maintained our weekly clean up of Dock Square and Goose Rocks Beach entrances and would like to say thank you to Oceanside Rubbish for their daily efforts to empty public trash barrels throughout Kennebunkport.

As this was the first summer that wastewater and highway operations have been merged under public works, we welcomed Chris Simeoni as our new deputy director and Paul Jessel as our new chief treatment plant operator. Ron Taylor has been our chief treatment plant operator since 1985, and he is looking to retire in early 2019. Ron and Paul are working together this fall for a successful transition in the chief treatment plant operator position.

Our roadside mowing program is ongoing and with the late summer rain and humidity, we had a good grass growing season. We appreciate your patience as it took us most of the summer to complete our first pass for roadside mowing. Our new backhoe was delivered this summer,

and the crew has been out roadside on Beachwood Avenue, School Street, and Towne Street to improve roadside drainage with the new backhoe. The town sold our previous backhoe this summer for \$34,000, which was \$3,000 more than was offered in trade in by dealers when we purchased the new backhoe.

We continued to work on Mills Road in July, with reconstruction of the section between Marshall Point Road and Goosefare completed. We also rebuilt the bike paths on Mills Road from Beachwood Avenue to the Biddeford town line, with shim and topcoat paving over the first 4,000 feet of road east of Beachwood Avenue. MaineDOT has budgeted to pave the east end of Mills Road as part of their new Cyclical Paving program in 2019. Public works plans on reconstructing Mills Road between Marshall Point Road and Cape Square in the spring of 2019.

On North Street, public works is looking at performing drainage improvements at the Walker Lane intersection and installing new curbing around the Drown monument. North Street reconstruction between Arundel Road and River Road is scheduled for 2019. Maintenance paving of town roads approved at our June Town Meeting will take place this fall and in the spring of 2019.

If you would like to meet to discuss concerns or have questions on roadside mowing, street repair, or other public works issues, please call Kennebunkport Public Works Director Mike Claus at (207) 391-3239.

Chamber of Commerce 2018 Municipal Employee Award

By Laurie Smith, Town Manager

On September 13, Werner Gilliam, the director of planning and development, was awarded the municipal employee award at the Chamber of Commerce's annual dinner.

Michelle Allen nominated Werner for the municipal employee award and she obviously saw what many residents have witnessed, "As Code Enforcement Officer, Werner is a pleasure to deal with, always looking for solutions, and with an extensive knowledge of both the town and state laws and ordinances." Although he has many fine qualities, one of his strengths is his ability to work with people



from diverse backgrounds, find common ground, and build consensus. He is always a great resource to the community and other departments through his variety of contacts and his ability to gather the necessary resources to get the job done. Whether he is advocating for the town with federal and state officials, counseling neighbors through a disagreement, partnering with a business owner to tackle challenges, or resolving maintenance issues at town hall, he is always serving with his whole heart and head. His service to Kennebunkport reminds me of the 4-H motto, "to make the best better." Congratulations Werner!

The Kennebunkport Fire Department NEEDS YOU



By John "Jay" Everett, Fire Chief

Have you ever considered what it might feel like to make a big difference in a neighbor's life? Or, be part of a team that takes a situation that is the worst day a person could have and make it better? The feeling is tremendous.

The Kennebunkport Fire Department is looking for new members. The department is comprised of local men and women from town, and a few from neighboring towns. It responds to about 200 calls a year.

The department provides all the necessary protective equipment and training. The training will be tailored to the individual, and their desires. There are many levels of training that an individual can attain.

The department has a **great need** for qualified and trained **interior firefighters**. Ideally, these individuals will be in the 18–50ish age range and be in good physical shape. While the training to become an interior firefighter is rigorous, it is not something that happens quickly. The quickest way to complete the training is by taking a Firefighter 1+2 certified class. Typically, this class will meet once or twice a week in the evenings and some weekend days for 4 or 5 months. The training can also take place through the twice a month training the department offers, plus a series of weekend trainings to get you to an interior qualified status. This path will take quite a bit longer to become certified.

The next level of need the department has is members that are qualified or would like to become qualified fire apparatus drivers. This job entails not only driving the vehicles but operating the pumps and or the aerial ladder. This individual needs to be at least 18 years old and possess a valid drivers license. The training can be at the department level with one or two weekend certified pumps classes.

While the needs of the department right now are specific, we can and will take anyone willing to help and become trained. There is a minimal amount of training that is required to operate at an emergency scene. All certified levels of training have specific objectives that must be met.

If this is something you are interested in and would like to further explore the possibilities, please contact Fire Chief John Everett at jeverett@kennebunkportme.gov or Fire Administrator Dick Stedman at rstedman@kennebunkportme.gov. You can also stop by the Port Village Station Monday through Friday, 8:30–4:30, and pick up an application. Thank you.

– WASTEWATER DEPARTMENT – Upcoming projects CAP & FSP

By Paul J. Jessel, Chief Operator

The Town of Kennebunkport Wastewater Division has completed upgrades to pump stations at Green Street and Chicks Creek as part of our bond funding approved by Kennebunkport voters. In addition, we will be hiring an engineering company for two study projects required by the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) called Fiscal Sustainability Plan (FSP) and Climate Adaptability Plan (CAP)

The Climate Adaptation Plan (CAP) is an analysis of the town's critical assets. This analysis will identify hazards associated with climate change. Some impacts to critical assets will develop slowly over time (sea level rise, air and water temperature changes, precipitation changes, etc.) and other impacts may happen suddenly (storms, tidal surge, ice jams, etc.). This study will identify critical assets for the town and

build resilient systems to offset these climate changes.

The next project is called Fiscal Sustainability Plan (FSP). This is a study to determine the conditions of the town's critical assets at the wastewater treatment plant and at the town's sewer and pump stations. Each system will be identified and scored with a conditional assessment and prioritized to help guide our future capital spending.

The intent of these plans/projects is to maintain/improve the integrity and functionality of the wastewater infrastructure within the Town of Kennebunkport for the future.

Current projects for the department include upgrades at the Cape Porpoise pump station and work on our clarifiers and pumps at the treatment plant.

– PARKS & RECREATION – New programs survey results

By Carol Cook, Director of Parks and Recreation

In August, the recreation department created a survey to gauge the community's interest on new program ideas. With nearly 200 responses, we are excited to offer new programs this coming fall.

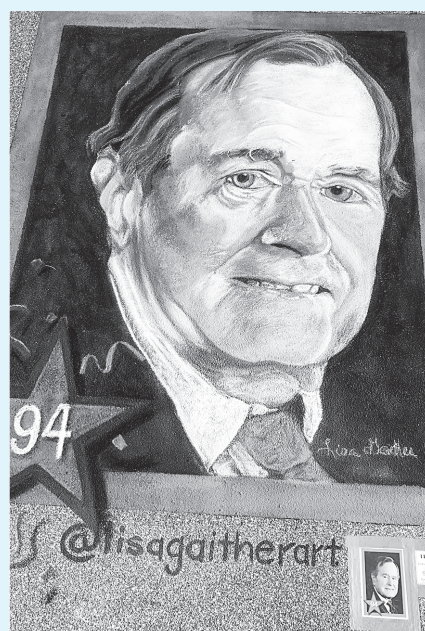
For the youth of Kennebunkport, we will be bringing back our very popular Outdoor Play Adventures, where children will be taking after-school trips to explore their outdoor community. Due to the growing popularity in the sciences, we will be offering a STEM camp, where children learn to solve different puzzles using science, technology, engineering, and math concepts. We will also be offering U- 10 Tennis and Swimming. Kennebunkport After School Adventures, KAK Community Soccer, and Early Release Wednesdays will continue to be offered through the recreation department as well.

Where we have traditionally been more modest, we want to expand our adult options. On the heels of a successful Soft Pitch Softball Season, we are hoping to offer Adult Pickup Volleyball. Due to the displayed interest, Beginner Golf Lessons, organized Adult Tennis games, and Beach Workouts at Goose Rocks are being considered. If you are into Family Feud or Jeopardy, you will be thrilled with our Game Show Night, to be offered during a weekday evening. In coordination with the library, we will be offering a book club to meet every week. And, as before, pickleball will be offered in Consolidated Gym. New adult trips are continually being added to our itinerary.

Family programs will become a renewed focus of the department this fall. We are working to present free projected movies on the lawn. Bring a blanket! We will also be providing Friday Night Family Entertainment, which will feature a variety of kid-friendly entertainers. With the new talent brought to the department, we will be able to offer more family dances looking into the future. Finally, the disc golf course behind the new recreation building has been refurbished and given a facelift, so we will be scheduling a clinic and open house to introduce the sport to people of all ages.

Big things are happening at the recreation department, and we hope to see you this autumn! We are beyond excited to get into our new recreation building this November. When we do, we will offer cooking classes featuring a variety of dishes and cooks. Thank you for your continued support!

www.kennebunkportrec.com or 207-967-4304



Chalkfest 2018

By Breese Reagle, Assistant Director of Parks and Recreation

What an amazing second annual Chalkfest. The town invited five featured artists from around the country and attracted twelve local artists to create wonderful works

of art on the parking lot of 32 North Street. The new location of the event allowed greater variety with two bouncy houses, cotton

See *CHALKFAST* page 8

– KENNEBUNKPORT PUBLIC HEALTH –

By Alison Kenneway R.N., B.S.N. and Angela Jenks, R.N.

Public Health Department: Since our inception in 1943, the Kennebunkport Public Health Department's focus is to provide for the medical and social needs of our residents and guests. It is a department of the town of Kennebunkport. Our services are covered under your town taxes and private donations. Our website has educational information, resources available in our community, upcoming classes we support locally, and projects we are working on. Please visit our website at www.kennebunkportme.gov. Contact the public health office at 967-4401 with any nursing, health officer complaints, or social service needs. Our office hours are Monday-Friday 8:00 AM to 9:30 AM, and 1:00-2:00 PM. Stop by and see us!

Be Prepared: Please visit our department's website for up-to-date information on disaster tips and planning. If you or a loved one are medically fragile, on home oxygen, live alone, etc. and would like to be on our "call of concern" list, please contact our office and let us know. We want all our community members safe and sound. We encourage everyone to sign up for "code red," an alerting system that will inform you of disaster preparation, sheltering information, and inclement weather warnings. To sign up, go to the Kennebunkport Police Department's homepage to sign up!

Maine Healthy Beach Program: Kennebunkport has participated in the Maine Healthy Beach Program by monitoring the water quality at Goose Rocks and Colony Beaches weekly since 2005. This summer, we hired summer intern Kendra O'Roak to help us with water quality testing, watershed testing, and septic system/storm drain mapping around the watershed of Goose Rocks Beach. We increased the number of water sampling days this summer and performed watershed testing up the rivers feeding Goose Rocks to try to pinpoint triggers

that are causing exceedances of 104 enterococci per 100 milliliters of water sampled. This is the maximum limit for safe water contact set by the EPA. Our efforts will continue well into the fall. Our team of volunteers have been busy this summer with the added testing. You can visit www.theswimguide.org for the status of our beaches or any other beach along the coast of Maine that participates.

We would like to thank our volunteers who have tested Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday this whole summer from Memorial Day to Labor Day, and those who helped with the watershed testing up the rivers. We could not have done it without your help! Thank you: Kendra O'Roak, Paul Hogan, Judy Barrett, Don Tarr, Barbara Emmons, Linda and Steve Hanna, Seth Kenneway, Harvey Flashen, Pete Bennett, John Kraeuter and John Barbour. Thank you all for your help this season!!! See you next year!

Septic Tanks: Do you know when your septic tank was last pumped? As part of your fall preparations, have your septic system pumped and inspected. This is an important preventative task which could protect our watershed and save you money in the long run.



Healthy Heart Community: Kennebunkport is one of the few communities in Maine that has earned the Healthy Heart Community distinction. As part of this nationwide program, the public health department has joined with KEMS to offer cardiac prevention programs. Community CPR and first aid courses will be offered. If you are interested in learning these lifesaving skills, contact the public health department for more information on upcoming classes.

We are also supporting the "Little Hats, Big Hearts" program through the American Heart Association. If you knit or crochet and want to participate in making **RED** premie/newborn baby hats, call our office or check out our website for more information. All hats need to be back to our office by December 1. Supporters are knitting and crocheting red hats to be given out to babies during February, American Heart Month to empower moms to live heart-healthy lives and to help their children do the same.



Stuff the Backpack: A special **THANK YOU** to the Health Council and all those who helped us reach our goal of purchasing and filling backpacks for our local children in need. It was a huge success. We couldn't have done it without your generosity! Thank you!!!



Secret Santa: The holidays are coming up. Please contact the public health department for a Secret Santa application if you need some help meeting your child's special wish list. Applications are to be completed by parents or legal guardians only. The child must reside in Arundel, Kennebunk, or Kennebunkport to qualify for this program. Secret Santa's goal is that every child in our tri-town area has a special holiday.



Stuff the Bus: Help us fill the shelves of the local food pantry. On November 6, Election Day, the Kennebunkport Health Council will

again sponsor Stuff the Bus. Please bring nonperishable food or household/personal care items with you to the polls. **YES**, we do accept cash donations. All checks are to be made out to Community Outreach Services. Cash donations are used to purchase food from the Good Shepherd Food Pantry.

Fuel Assistance: Have you signed up for the LOW-INCOME FUEL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM yet? If you need help to meet your winter heating expenses, please contact York County Community Action at 1-800-965-5762 for an appointment. Kennebunkport residents are fortunate to have the Kennebunkport Emergency Fuel Program. Remember, this is an **emergency only** program. This program is **not** intended to cover your entire winter heating needs. Residents are responsible for monitoring the level of fuel in their tanks and notifying the General Assistance Administrator in a timely manner if fuel is needed.



Holiday Dinners: Community Harvest volunteers are again providing holiday dinner baskets. The volunteers are also offering a free community dinner on Thanksgiving and Christmas at Saint Martha's Church, Route One, Kennebunk. Please contact the public health department if you wish to sign up for these programs.



Home Medical Equipment Loan Closet: Are you in need of a walker, wheelchair, cane or commode? Visit our **FREE**, durable, medical equipment closet. **Kennebunkport residents only please.**

Summer at the cemeteries

By Lydia Elwell, Intern, and the Cemetery Committee

This past summer, Lydia Elwell worked with the Town of Kennebunkport as the cemetery and property intern. She is a third-year student at the University of Maine in Orono studying history and education. She worked with the Cemetery Committee to finish projects that focused around historical preservation, research, and improved access to the town's 76 private cemeteries.

One of Elwell's main undertakings was to create GPS coordinates for each cemetery using GIS technology. You might have received her letter explaining this project or met her out in the graveyards with the rest of the committee!

Preparing for this project by gathering contact information for property owners and then going out into the field took

most of Elwell's time this summer and was ultimately a success, ending with the product of a working map listing each cemetery in the town. The goals of this project were to map each cemetery to preserve town history and avoid completely losing the location and information of the cemeteries to time and deterioration, to flag the cemeteries for future construction sites, and to create easier access to the cemeteries for historical research and respect to those who came before us.

The rest of Elwell's summer was spent updating historical records of the cemeteries, doing some small historical research, and organizing records of town-owned properties and their restrictions through deed research with great help from town Tax Assessor Becky Nolette.

Overall, Elwell said she had a fantastic summer working in these burial grounds and she learned a lot about the history of Maine and its people. She hopes that the work she completed will help to preserve the historical significance and location of the cemeteries for years to come. The Cemetery Committee will continue this important work which helps us to remember our past and keeps the stories and people of this town alive into the future.

The members of the committee are: Ruth Fernandez, Ann Sanders, Rita Schlegel, Lynda Bryan, and Greg Pargellis. Elwell appreciated the committee giving her their time and the opportunity to work in the town's cemeteries, gaining experience in working with historical records and

conservation. She said to make sure to say hello to them if you see them out in the field this year!

Also, the Cemetery Committee would like to thank those involved in its endeavors throughout the year such as the town's selectmen and people for funding an internship opportunity for Elwell and for enabling them to continue their work. The committee would also like to greatly thank the homeowners with cemeteries on their properties for allowing access to their land for their projects and records. And, a very special thanks to those homeowners who do an outstanding job of upkeep and maintenance of the cemeteries on their land as well. They appreciate the part that everybody has in keeping the town's cemeteries in good condition!

Shade Tree Committee

By John Ripton, Shade Tree Committee

The Shade Tree Committee has had a very productive year. You may have seen the most obvious of its summer activities inoculating nearly 20 elms for Dutch elm disease. Newly-contracted Bartlett Tree Experts drilled tap holes at the base of the largest elms around town and fitted a thin poly-fiber feeding tube with multiple branching arteries through which each elm received a measured dose of fungicide. And yes, it did seem like a kind of medical procedure done in plein air. But, Kennebunkport's storied elms deserve such care. With 90-100 elms still lining the settled sectors of the town, they are highlights of the "town as arboretum" idea mentioned now and then among committee members. The elms are only the best known of many large and beautiful trees casting streets, lawns and homes in luxurious shade. The committee will continue its contract with Bartlett to periodically inoculate all the town's elms in the coming years.

The Committee has arranged the pruning of a variety of other tree species in town. We realize that this is an ongoing task and is never really done. Committee members are always considering which trees need priority attention and work. Town tree warden Pat Briggs and new contracted arborist Kurt Woltersdorf oversee what needs to be done to ensure the health of the various species of trees gracing Kennebunkport. Once a decision is made, Kurt contacts Noah Tucker of Bartlett Tree Experts and he and his crew(s) quickly and effectively respond. Bartlett's arborist, Noah, has strengthened the town's care of its trees, augmenting the superb work of veteran arborist Bob Palmer (see Bob's photograph accompanying this report).

Nina Pearlmutter and Kim Gurski met with Consolidated School students and teachers for the Arbor Day celebration on May 18. They have visited the school annually to participate in the event, speaking about Kennebunkport and its trees and planning activities to do with the students. Arbor Day at Consolidated fosters a renewed consciousness of tree conservation in upcoming generations of town residents. For this and other reasons, Kennebunkport again received coveted recognition as one of Maine's

Tree City USA towns. Approximately 20 towns in Maine are recognized as "tree cities." Representatives presented the certificate to the Shade Tree Committee at this year's August committee meeting (see top photo).

Veteran arborist Bob Palmer served as the town's arborist again this year as he has for several decades. This summer he continued his role as "elm expert." His expertise and knowledge of the character and habits of each elm in Kennebunkport inspires confidence in the town's Elm Watch team. The 16 members of this summer's team were very vigilant and Bob's responsiveness to their alerts and questions enabled each member to learn to spot disease and to become familiar with the character and behavior (e.g., early yellowing) of the elms in his or her charge.

Unfortunately, a few elms were taken down this summer. The first was on Beachwood Avenue on the stretch between North Street and Old Cape Road. Two others were near the Post Office, across the road leading toward North Street, one of them to the side of the first house past the church and another behind the Masonic Lodge building. In August, one of the elms at 5 School Street was removed (see photos of the Bartlett crew accompanying this report). All were infected with Dutch elm disease. One diseased branch was removed from another elm on North Street. Also, a dead cherry was removed from North Street.

The Shade Tree Committee welcomed new member Bob Mills to the committee earlier in the year. He, along with Nina Pearlmutter and John Ripton, are also Elm Watch volunteers. The other members of the Elm Watch team are volunteers: Carol Boyd, David Doubleday, Bruce Donath, Barbara Emmons, Robert Gordon, Peter Hussey, Allyn and Norma Lamb, Lianne James, Mary McLaughlin, Beverly Soule, Steve Powell, and Suzanne Stohlman. Their collective dedication to the health of the town's elms is a critical service to the community.

The Shade Tree Committee further reports that it is considering how best to address the inquiries some town residents have made concerning the

also with us, offering their photo booth for pictures with special pups.

The weather was fantastic, and we got a lot of foot traffic. In partnership with Launch: A Maritime Festival, there were more people coming to see a variety of events. The caliber of art from the professional artists and



Bonita Pothier from the office of Senator Angus King presents the Certificate of Special Recognition to Kennebunkport for earning Tree City USA again in 2017. Left-Right: Kurt Woltersdorf, arborist; Bob Mills; Kimberly Gurski; Bonita Pothier; Patrick Briggs, tree warden; Nina Pearlmutter; and Michael Claus, director of public works.



An elm on Chestnut Street.



Bob Palmer (Photo by Patrick Ouellette in 2015)



Bartlett Tree Experts crew cutting down elm at 5 School Street.



Bartlett Tree Experts (Note broad cut around elm which confirmed its infection.)

pruning and/or replacement of roadside trees. It welcomes residents' questions and comments about the trees as they help the committee in its work. Since the cost of tree work has significantly increased over the years, committee members are currently deliberating on what financial arrangements might be appropriate. The committee plans to develop a plan in the coming year. As it stands now, a resident who wishes to replace a tree on his or her property, needs to pay for half of the costs. This cost-sharing is unlikely to change, but commit-

tee members are considering some creative ways to address these concerns. In the meantime, some pressing pruning has been nevertheless accomplished this year.

A very fascinating book for those interested in the ways trees communicate, how they activate a collective alert system, how they feel and respond to their environment, and other "secrets" of trees and forests is *The Hidden Life of Trees* by German naturalist and forester Peter Wohlleben (a 176-page illustrated hardcover was published in August 2018).

Chalkfest

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candy, lobster rolls, hotdogs, and clam chowder. Crafters shared their expertise, displayed their wares, held demonstrations, and answered questions. Lucky Pup Rescue was

our local artists was unbelievable, and we were very pleased with the results. Works were left until rains naturally washed them away.

On behalf of the Town of Kennebunkport I would like to thank our amazing volunteers and sponsors: Kennebunk Savings,

Boathouse, Sandy Pines, Nonantum Resort, Rhumblin Motor Lodge, Allison's Restaurant, Port Lobster, Cape Porpoise Lobster, The Chowder House, The Clam Shack, and the Chamber of Commerce. We had such a great time and hope to see everyone again, next year!