



# Town of Rye Newsletter



Vol. 4, No. 4 A Publication of the Rye, New Hampshire, Board of Selectmen December 2001

## SELECTMEN'S MESSAGE

# State Property Tax Remains No. 1 Concern

Rye's New Chief of Police, Alan Gould



See story on page 3

## Assessor Outlines Formal Appeal Process

The revaluation of all real estate in Rye has been completed by Vision Appraisal Technology. Vision subsequently held informal hearings with any taxpayers who questioned their new valuations. Approximately 11 percent of the town's taxpayers scheduled appointments with the contractor. That percentage is typical following a revaluation, particularly inasmuch as it had been 15 years since the previous reassessment.

A common misconception is that the purpose of a revaluation is to increase revenue. In actuality, the total income required to operate the town is the same, with or without revaluation. Additionally, the tax rate includes apportionments for county funding and the statewide education tax, which categorizes Rye as a so-called donor town. The true purpose of a revaluation is to comply with state statutes requiring property to be assessed at fair mar-

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THE STRUGGLE CONTINUES. Currently, of the 55 "donor" towns, 27 are members of the Coalition Communities against the state property tax for education. A Coalition Communities meeting was held October 10 in the Portsmouth City Council Chambers. Support was clear for continuation of the fight against the state education tax. Coalition attorney Tom Closson explained

how the roadmap for future action is in the written majority finding of the September Superior Court decision.

Today, property taxes fund 75 percent of all government services in New Hampshire. As of July 1, 2002, 57 "receiver" communities will receive less education funding. To stay up to date on the Coalition fight against the statewide property tax, we urge you to visit the revamped Web site at [www.cityofportsmouth.com](http://www.cityofportsmouth.com). This site includes a Legislative Scorecard voting record of NH lawmakers on the property tax issue, a list of donor towns, answers to the most frequently asked questions on this tax, and more.

The reassessment of the Town of Rye by Vision Appraisal is now complete, the new appraisal figures have been sent to property owners, and the period during which owners may request informal hearings to address concerns regarding those figures has closed. Approximately 11 percent of Rye taxpayers questioned their reassessments and made appointments for review. This figure was lower than anticipated. We believe that tax bills reflecting the revaluation will be in the mail the

### For further information on possible tax exemptions, contact the following town offices:

**Jane Ireland, Tax Collector (964-8562):**

Education Property Tax  
Hardship Relief

**Bea Marconi, Assessment Office (964-5523):**

Elderly Exemptions  
Veteran Credits  
Blind Exemptions  
Current Use information/application

Elderly Tax Lien Program

**Jim Raynes, Conservation Commission (964-5523):**

Conservation Easement information

## Fuel Assistance Funds Available December 1

No need for your house to be as cold inside as outside!!! Rockingham Community Action is now taking applications for Fuel Assistance. The program, which runs from December 1 to April 1, provides grants to eligible households.

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## Appeal Process

(Continued from page 1)

ket value and to ensure equity and proportionality among all taxpayers.

Individual field cards for all properties are public record. Anyone who wishes to view them may do so at the assessing office on the second floor of the town hall during business hours, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. This information can also be accessed at <http://data.visionappraisal.com/ryenh/>

The formal appeal process commences upon receipt of the December tax bill. Anyone aggrieved by the new valuation may appeal in writing to the Board of Selectmen. Forms for this purpose are available at the town office and must be filed with the town on or before March 1, 2002. The assessing officials are then required to respond to the abatement request by July 1. Upon receipt of the town's notice to grant or deny, a taxpayer may make further appeal, if desired, to either the New Hampshire Board of Tax and Land Appeals or Rockingham County Superior Court (but not to both) no later than September 2, 2002. Forms for appeal to the state will also be available at the town office and require a \$65.00 filing fee. An abatement request must first be appealed to the town before any subsequent appeal to either the state or court.

Any property owner who does not receive a tax bill may contact the town clerk's office for a duplicate. **New owners please note:** Because of a backlog at the Registry of Deeds, real estate transfers are not current. There may be several months' delay, meaning changes in ownership will not be indicated on some mailings. It would be most considerate if the former owners of a property that has recently been sold would forward the bill to the new owner because the town does not have that information. It is important to note that the new property owner, like any property owner, is responsible for paying the property taxes, regardless of who got the bill or even if no one got the

## Selectmen's Message

(Continued from page 1)

first week of December and are due 30 days after mailing.

Be sure to read Assessor Howard Promer's article that begins on page 1 for in-depth information about the revaluation and the formal appeal process.

*Do not overlook possible ways of reducing your taxes!* Elderly Exemptions are available if age and income apply. Blind Exemptions and Veteran's Credits require application. Current use and/or Conservation Easements may enable those with larger acreage to lower their tax burden. An Elderly Tax Lien Program is available through the town. It is also important not to overlook the Education Property Tax Hardship Relief program offered by the State of New Hampshire. This application is available at the Rye Tax Collector's office and **must** be filed no later than 60 days after the tax due date. Example: If your taxes are due on December 28, you have until February 28, 2002 to file the completed application for Education Property Tax Hardship Relief with the State of New Hampshire.

Pride should not keep you from applying for these exemptions if you are eligible. Financial information provided is confidential. *The town will work with any homeowner to ensure that you do not lose your home due to the state tax burden.*

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bill. There are no exceptions.

The Board of Selectmen and the assessing staff express deep appreciation for the excellent cooperation of the townspeople in the revaluation process. We also extend our gratitude to Vision Appraisal Technology for its professionalism and to the New Hampshire Department of Revenue Administration for its competence in monitoring the revaluation project.

Howard Promer  
Assessor

In order to enhance communication among departments responsible for the safety of Rye residents, a safety committee has been formed that will bring fire, highway, and police department heads together under the direction of Police Chief Alan Gould to consider shared safety issues. Walkable roads is an example of an area of common interest and concern.

A search by the Planning Board committee chaired by Gary Dodds to find a possible site for a new fire station has been ongoing. At a recent meeting, we expanded the scope of that committee's work to include development of plans that will present to the voters a sound, economically feasible proposal for a safety facility to be shared by fire and police. Police are currently housed in what was originally built as a garage for the electric railway that ran through Rye at the turn of the last century. It was later used by the highway department until our current recycling/highway garage facility was built. Many will remember that when today's fire station was constructed, it was home to both fire and police personnel and vehicles.

Another kind of search is under way as we continue to seek possible sites within the town for cell towers that will service the coastal areas. Citizen requests and the need for dependable emergency response on our beaches make this a priority issue. Our goal is to provide the service without harming the view.

RYE BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
Joe Mills, Chairman  
Mel Low, Vice Chairman  
Priscilla Jenness

The photos in this issue are courtesy of  
Bea Marconi.

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## *Police Chief Alan Gould Introduces Himself, Shares Ideas*

As I write this article, I am just completing my second month as Rye's police chief. My thanks go out to the Board of Selectmen and Town Administrator Earl Rinker for the opportunity to be your chief. For those of you who have not met me, I served on the Salem Police Department for the past 21 years. The last nine years of service I held the rank of captain and functioned as the operations commander. My wife, Donna, and I have two children; our daughter is in her first year at Providence College, and our son is a junior in high school. You can imagine that the past two months have been very busy with major adjustments at home and on the job.

First on everyone's mind, I'm sure, are the events of September 11. These events and the continuing terrorist threats have police departments across the country scrambling to react appropriately. The Rye Police Department has been no different. Procedures are in place to deal with suspicious packages and mail. We are also part of an extensive network of intelligence-sharing that allows us to submit information to state and federal agencies and receive important information in return. With the help of Rye resident Jim Irish, we held an informational session on bioterrorism threats. Jim assisted us in assembling a panel of experts to answer many of the questions we had as first responders. This session was well attended by school department officials, who



Town Clerk Jane Ireland swears in Alan Gould as Rye's new police chief.

have been taking a proactive approach to the situation. I also have confidence in our fire and emergency management departments. They have demonstrated a high level of preparedness. Residents are encouraged to continue to contact us when they encounter anything suspicious.

As you may have read in the newspapers, we have been plagued with a number of burglaries. Although several of these were solved and the property recovered, several remain unsolved. We need everyone's help in preventing and solving burglaries. **Please** lock your

doors whenever you leave your home. Turn on your alarm if you have one. Keep a good inventory of your electronic equipment and jewelry. Pictures of jewelry are a great help to us in trying to solve burglaries. We will be glad to come to your home to give you some security tips or to photograph your valuables (leaving the pictures with you). We would also welcome the opportunity to meet with neighborhood groups to discuss security issues. One such neighborhood-watch meeting was held in mid-November. These gatherings are a great way to meet your neighbors, who may turn out to be your best protection. Please call us if something in your neighborhood doesn't look quite right. That's what we're here for!

Our newest officer, Alex Mitrushi, graduated from the NH Police Academy on November 16. With this position filled, we now have a second officer patrolling our streets every day. You should see a cruiser in your neighborhood more often than in the past. The position will also allow us to do more daytime traffic enforcement in an effort to keep our streets safe.

In closing, I would like to thank the community for my warm welcome. I look forward to leading the men and women of the Rye Police Department through the challenges we are sure to face in the years to come.

Alan Gould  
Chief of Police

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## **Budget Committee Now Reviewing Departmental Budgets**

The Rye Budget Committee began reviewing the 2002 departmental budgets on October 11. The objective is to lessen the workload at year's end when the books need to be closed and various year-end reports are due along with preparation for the annual audit. Although we start-

ed earlier this year, we still found it necessary to schedule an extra meeting for Thursday, December 6. The time will be posted on the Town Hall and post office bulletin boards, as will any other scheduling changes.

We remind the citizens that all work sessions are open to the public.

The School budget will be reviewed on December 13. Please be sure to note on your calendars that January 9 and 10, 2002, will be the public hearings on the Town and School budgets, respectively. If any citizen has any question, please contact any budget committee member.

# Fall News and Reminders from Fire Chief Blaisdell

In the last edition of the newsletter I introduced our newest firefighters. This month I ask you to join me in wishing veteran firefighter Mark Zartarian a happy retirement. For the past 22 years Mark has been an integral part of the Rye Fire Department machine. He has handled our ambulance billing as well as all his other firefighter duties since we received the ambulance in 1992. Mark's retirement will be effective on December 31. The good news is he plans on remaining in town and working occasionally for the fire department.

As the holiday season and cold weather approach, I would like to remind all of you to be careful with your sources of heat. Have your oil burner maintained by a professional; check your wood stove and chimney before the start of the season; and if you have a space heater, be sure it is approved and do follow all the instructions that came with it. Check all electrical Christmas decorations for hazards prior to putting them up. Check your smoke detectors for proper operation and replace batteries if needed.

Review your home exit drill to ensure it will still be workable in winter conditions.

November finds us able to report little progress toward a new building. However, the committee has several avenues of pursuit that look very promising. The bad news is it won't be this year. Plans for a new truck are still being considered, but without a new building, many of the decision makers have reservations. There should be more about both issues at the February 2 deliberative session and the in next edition of this newsletter. At the very least, I plan to add to both capital reserve accounts.

Since the events of September 11, we all have had to deal with many new emotions. The recent anthrax incidents have caused fear and uneasiness even in our own homes.



Twenty-two-year veteran firefighter Mark Zartarian, to retire at end of year.

The postal service has sent cards on the proper way to handle an unusual letter or package. Your fire fighters and police officers have received additional training in biological weapon response, and the Seacoast Chief Fire Officers Association maintains a Haz-Mat team to which Rye has access. Even with added training and other resources at our disposal, the best weapon each of us has is common sense, but when in doubt, do not hesitate to call us.

Leon C, Blaisdell  
Chief, Rye Fire Dept.

## Fuel Assistance Funds

*(Continued from page 1)*

Eligibility is determined by factoring the household's income AND the annual heating costs. Renters who are responsible for their own heating fuel bills are also eligible.

Please call 436-3896 to request an application.

If you are in need of other assistance, please call Public Assistance Administrator Paula Snyder at 964-5523, Mondays from 8:30 a.m. until noon or leave a message for Mrs. Snyder at that number any time during the week.

## Report from the Building Inspector's Office

*Hours: Monday-Friday 8-12  
or afternoons by appointment*

It looks as if residents are trying to beat the winter freeze because a rash of building permits have been applied for in the past couple of weeks! We do have a new, improved application with a checklist of items that you need to submit. If any of these items are omitted, you will hear from Sue Dunfey. No application will be processed until the submittal is complete.

Reminder: septic systems, fences, sheds and decks all require permits. Several residents have purchased sheds from a local shed company and neglected to get permits prior to placing them. This is tricky because if the shed does not meet setbacks, it will need to be removed. Please call first to find out where your shed can go.

Also, let's all work together to protect our water supply and water quality by NOT DUMPING ANY YARD WASTE INTO WETLANDS OR THE MARSHES. Here's why:

Yard waste unbalances the delicate and unique ecosystem we have in Rye. When the balance is disturbed, the marshes begin to choke, the "bad" plants soon eradicate the "good" plants, and within a short time there is no quality food or shelter for the animals living in the marsh. Our wetlands filter rainwater and runoff. If grass clippings and leaves are dumped into the wetlands, all the fertilizers that have been put into the grass will deteriorate the ground water quality, which may affect the water you drink. So please have courtesy and respect for these precious and important environments and help protect them by staying away from them!

If you are planning a large addition or renovation, or hope to build a new house, please make an appointment with me to review the regulations.

Susan Zarlengo  
Building Inspector

# Rye Historical Society Is Looking for New Members

On October 8, nearly 150 people came to the vestry of the Rye Congregational Church to take "A Walk Through Rye in the 20th Century" with Bill Varrell and Alex Herlihy. The slide show with stories and commentary marked the 25th anniversary of the founding of the Rye Historical Society. On display were exhibits of old photos, maps, and other artifacts of the town's history. Of particular interest were the historic photos of Rye that Louise Tallman has assembled under a grant from the Greater Piscataqua Foundation.

Co-chair Bonnie Goodwin updated the audience on the progress of the museum, which is scheduled for its formal opening next year. The granite steps have been installed and wrought iron railings will soon follow. Board member Ralph Morang III took us back to the mid-1970s when he served on the Rye Bicentennial Committee, which gave birth to the Historical Society. Several members of the audience added to our knowledge of the past 100 years.

While we were happy to see so many interested people attend, we did think about those who were not there. Some simply had conflicts, but others—especially people relatively



*We are just as interested in new people as we are in old timers!* Wherever we live, we put down roots, and you don't have to live here for generations to appreciate the town's past. Connecting to Rye through the Historical Society can help deepen your new roots. We welcome all Rye residents to become members (see below) or to participate at any level. We will certainly be having more programs like this one.

Old photos excite the imagination, but our most valuable resource is people. It's the stories, primary or

new in town—may have felt less welcome or perhaps didn't see the publicity. Please note:

secondary, that bring the past to life. So we would like to talk further with those who attended on October 8 and anyone else who can shed light on our past. If you have information, stories, any kind of anecdote (even if it is off-color), we want to hear it! We'd also like to borrow old photos to copy for slides or display, and we welcome artifacts either on loan or donated. Please contact co-chairs Alex Herlihy (964-9079, [alexposie@aol.com](mailto:alexposie@aol.com)) or Bonnie Goodwin (436-5101).

To visit the new museum, you need not wait for its formal opening; we will be happy to meet you there any time.

An open house will be held after the holiday parade on December 2, when our doors will be open until 4:30 p.m. with new exhibits, refreshments, and a chance to talk Rye history. Please join us!

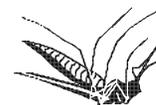
## Heres how to become a member of the Rye Historical Society:

Dues: \$5.00 per person.

Just mail to: RHS, Box 585, Rye.

Membership gets you our newsletter and notice of all special events

## MOSQUITO CONTROL COMMISSION SUMS UP ITS YEAR



Cooperation was the key to a successful 2001 mosquito control season. Many thanks to those who called to report untreated standing water and especially high concentrations of mosquitoes. As a commission, we are also appreciative of the communication necessary within neighborhoods to resolve differences regarding spray/no spray requests.

As you know, the West Nile virus was found in birds here at the sea-coast late in the season. As a result,

we extended the adulticide program until mid-October.

Although frost has ended the immediate mosquito problem for this year, the work goes on. Permits are being obtained to reduce mosquito breeding habitats through removal of beaver dams off Long John Road and in the Red Mill Lane area. This is also the perfect time for residents to clear underbrush on their own properties. Dense vegetation provided mosquitoes with pro-

tection throughout the summer months.

The work on the Awcomin Marsh restoration project across from Rye Harbor is under way. This project is in close proximity to the Rye Recreation Area, a highly sensitive area heavily utilized during mosquito season. Our commission supports the work of the Conservation Commission, and we will strive to integrate our mosquito control efforts with their restoration goals.

# Library Invites Rye Artists to Exhibit Work

The Library has been a beehive of activity this Fall with Storytimes for the young ones plus adult, young adult, and military history book discussions, two events in the Friends of the Library Speaker Series, a Halloween parade, health clinics, and the delivery of the aquarium from the Aquaculture Education Research Center. Activities will continue throughout the coming months. Check our newsletter online for a detailed listing of upcoming events:

[www.nh.ultranet.com/~ryepl](http://www.nh.ultranet.com/~ryepl)

A new committee has been formed; we call it the Rye Public Library Arts Committee. The theme for the inaugural exhibit in January will be "Artists of Rye." The committee invites all residents of Rye who are interested in exhibiting their original works of art to submit an application. Application forms are available at the library or on our Web site. Call us for more information at 964-8401.

Rand O'Brien, adult services librarian for three years, has moved on to devote all of his energies to his own business in Dover. I hope you had the opportunity to wish Rand all

the best and to let him know that he will be missed.

Please watch the local papers and the library newsletter for the winter lineup of the Friends' Speaker Series and (back for its second year) the four-part Jazz Series brought to us by the Seacoast Jazz Society and the New Hampshire Humanities Council.

The staff and trustees wish you a safe and peaceful holiday season

Sherry Evans  
Library Director

## Youth Department

The Youth Department has something for whatever age your child may be. First of all, we have a number of fantastic new books. New nonfiction includes some requested easy science books, also new Easy Readers, and some picture books that will make you laugh out loud. Check out *Widget* by Lynn McFarland. The young adult room's newest additions include the sequel to *The Princess Diaries*, *Gutsy Girls*, and *The Sin-Eater*. Of course, any book is a new book until you read it, and there are so many wonderful ones to choose from!

Storytimes are going strong. We have a lot of fun singing, reading, and making a craft. Every Tuesday at 1:30 and Friday at 10:30 the Youth Department is filled with little ones interacting, laughing, singing, and creating. All ages are welcome so long as they have an adult in tow. Storytimes will continue through December 14.

A visit to the schools is in the works to promote Great Stone Face books for Grades 4-6. The students in these grades read as many of the books on the list as possible and then vote for their favorite later on in the year. New Hampshire youth librarians choose the books that go on the list. It's the perfect list to go to if your child needs something great to read!

The YAttitudes book discussion group for teens and whatever adult they decide to bring along will be talking about the book *Stick and Whittle* by Sid Hite. We will be meeting at RJH at 7 p.m. on December 6.

Stop by the Youth Department in December (17 through 22) to make a holiday craft. Jolly Reading!

Sharon Macdonald  
Director of Youth Services

## Rye Water District News

### OFFICE MANAGER POSITION OPEN

That's right! After the month of March, you will no longer be greeted by the same friendly voice and personality when you call or visit our district office. After twenty-plus years of faithful and dedicated service, Mrs. Barbara Hansen will hang up her "Green Bay" cleats on April 1, 2002.

The position will be advertised in local papers in early December.

Those interested should send their resumés to Rye Water District, 60 Sagamore Rd., PO Box 56, Rye, NH 03870-0156. Resumés can also be faxed to Barbara at 436-6257.

Once again we wish to thank all of our customers for their diligent use of water in the year 2001. Every drop **does** count!

## REF Surpasses \$1M Fund-Raising Goal

"We are over our goal by \$20,000," reports Rye Education Foundation's fund-raising chairman Dan Hoefle, campaign chairman. "The anonymous donor's challenge to exceed the original \$500,000 goal encouraged us all to stretch not only our giving but our volunteer efforts."

The \$1,020,000, along with the current endowment fund balance, will permanently generate \$55-\$60,000 each year to support curriculum enhancement in math, science, and writing; foreign languages; arts and drama; and technology in the classroom. While preserving the integrity of educators to drive curriculum, these focus areas offer a defined framework for support by the REF.

Expressing his thanks to the community for its support, to the volunteers who worked tirelessly, and especially to Dan Hoefle and REF President Mark Forsyth for their campaign leadership, SAU 50 Superintendent Dr. George Cushing reflects the sentiments of many: "It is gratifying to be an educator in a community where parents work so hard for the schools."

## TOWN CLOCK A GIFT OF 1960 TOWN MEETING

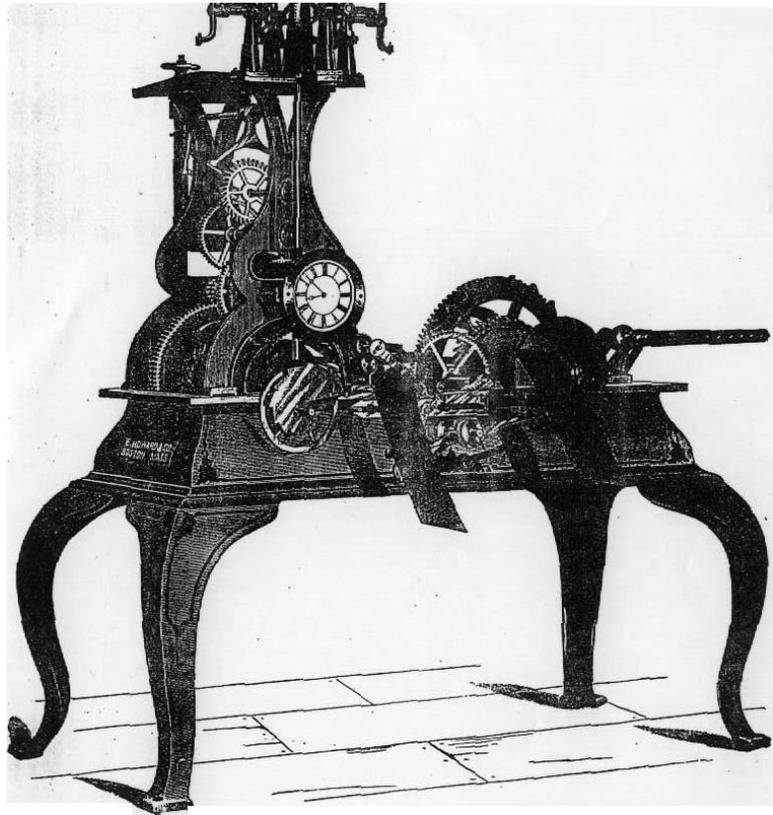
As promised in the summer issue of this newsletter, Historic District Commission Chairman Jane Holway has completed her research on the Town Clock and offers the following information.

In 1959, the Bethany Church in Rye Center was destroyed by fire. The replacement building was under construction in 1960, when Maynard L. Young and eleven others petitioned Town Meeting under Article 8 to raise the sum of \$3,000 for the installation of a Town Clock within the steeple of the about-to-be-completed Bethany Church building. The article, which passed, provided that ownership and maintenance of the clock would remain with, and be the responsibility of, the Town of Rye.

Article 9 of the same meeting voted to donate to Bethany Church of Rye the bell that was then hanging in the Town Hall belfry. All costs relating to that article would be the responsibility of the church, the article stipulated.

Manufactured in the late 1800s, the present three-faced clock was therefore venerable even at its time of installation in 1960. Viewed at close range after a climb up the tower, its mechanism is curious looking, as you can see in the illustration above. It stands 57 inches high, 42 inches long, and 18 inches wide. The clock is powered by an electric motor that measures only 6 inches by 3 inches.

Over the past 40 years, the town clock often suffered from lack of proper maintenance, resulting in frequent periods of working incorrectly or not working at all. Recently, thanks to the efforts of the selectmen's executive secretary Nancy Weiland, a tower clock specialist was located and a long-overdue cleaning and general overhaul was performed. Today the clock is running accurately, and from now on it will be inspected and serviced twice a year, when the time will be set to



correspond with changes from Eastern Standard to Eastern Daylight Saving Time and back. We plan to complete its restoration with some fresh paint for the faces.

The bell donated by the town in 1960 was cast in 1837 in Boston. For nearly 40 years it sounded the hour night and day when it could; but because the mechanism that controlled it was subject to frequent failure, there were extended periods of silence. Although the old bell is still hanging in the church steeple, it has finally been disconnected. (Just to clear up any confusion, the bell you see resting outside the front of the church today is the one that fell to the ground after striking "one" in the 1959 fire.)

This year the council of what is now Rye Congregational Church graciously agreed to have the newly installed carillon sound the hours in coordination with the clock. People who find themselves in the center of town at five o'clock of an afternoon are in for a special musical treat—

destined to be even more melodious when the church's new loudspeakers are installed.

In deference to neighbors of the clock, the carillon bell sounds only from 7 a.m. through 10 p.m.

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### Keep Lineworkers Safe

Signs that are tacked to utility poles can be very dangerous. Many people don't realize that putting signs on poles endangers lineworkers who have to climb those poles to make repairs. Staples, nails, and tacks used to hang signs from poles—as well as the signs themselves—can cause serious damage. Lineworkers risk injury to themselves and damage to their equipment and protective clothing. In addition to being dangerous, posting signs on utility poles is also illegal in New Hampshire!

So if you are planning a yard sale or other activity in your neighborhood, please do not post signs on utility poles to advertise it.

# Activity on the Increase at Rye Recycling Center

At a recent budget meeting with the selectmen, Public Works Director Bud Jordan requested an additional \$10,000 to cover the increased cost for disposing of trash at the Rochester landfill. The question asked by the selectmen was: Is this additional cost due to more Rye citizens using the Transfer Station/Recycling Center—or are the regular users bringing in more trash and recycling less?

After comparing the first nine months of 2001 with the year 2000, two things became evident:

- More citizens are using the Rye Transfer Station/Recycling Center. (Rising fees of private trash collectors, now at \$30 a month, may be part of the reason for this increase.)

- Recycling is at 50 percent of the total waste, which is approximately the same as last year.

Of all the recycled items, the largest increase (at 65 percent), is mixed paper, which includes magazines, catalogs, junk mail, office paper, and other types of shiny advertising and packaging. This product has been coming from private homes, the Rye Elementary and Rye Junior High Schools, all town departments, and other offices and businesses in Rye.

- During the first nine months of 2001, mixed

paper totaled 178 tons or 5 tons per week.

- The town receives \$20 per ton for this product.
- If we had to take this tonnage to the landfill, the cost would have been \$9,701. Not only is money earned, but money is saved. We are ahead \$13,261, thanks to recycling!

With the assistance of Northeast Resources Recovery Associates, a new program has been introduced to recycle additional items. These include computer components (printers, keyboards, and/or "mice") stereos, VCRs, copiers, telephones, and other electronic equipment. Large numbers of these products wear out or become obsolete each year, creating a challenge for their safe disposal. Recycling keeps hazardous materials out of the landfill.

Effective January 1, 2002, everyone will need a new Recycling Center sticker. These stickers are available now. If you haven't obtained one, our employees at the center will be glad to help you.

Our 50 percent recycling rate puts us ahead of most other communities in New Hampshire. We are proud of the enthusiasm and support from the citizens of Rye and the fine work of our employees at the Transfer Station/Recycling Center.

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## PLANNING BOARD PEOPLE, PLACES, and EVENTS

The year proceeds and, despite the September 11 attack, the seasons roll forward. For New England town governments, "getting back to normal" means it is time to get serious about preparations for the March 2002 Town Meeting.

**PEOPLE** - After 12 years of service to the town, Hank Cavaretta has stepped down due to the vastly increased time requirements in his new job with the Portsmouth Police Department. Taking over the remainder of Hank's term to March 2002 is alternate member Jim Irish, who has been elected a full member. Your Planning Board elected Gary Dodds to be vice-chairman until March 2002, replacing Hank.

We are pleased to announce the appointment of Kim Reed for a full term as she becomes our newest alternate member. There is now one

opening for an alternate member. We would like to hear from everyone interested in participating in planning our town's future.

**PLACES** - The previously reported application of Hemingway's restaurant to be demolished and replaced with 12 residential condominiums is continuing. A decision will be made when all the "on site septic system" questions are resolved. The conversion of the Pirate's Cove restaurant to a private beach club condominium is still under consideration as a preliminary application.

**EVENTS** - For the Planning Board, getting ready for town meeting also means considering amendments to the Zoning Ordinance. On the table so far are wetlands protection and protection of steep slopes

from construction disturbance.

To better reflect the will of the voters, we are hard at work on developing an opinion survey for all the town. We expect to have the survey out in both an interactive Internet form and as a written form before the town meeting. The responses to the survey will drive an update of the Rye Master Plan as well as the Zoning Ordinance. And remember, the definition of what Rye will "be," begins with the Master Plan and is later implemented by the zoning.

In closing, we note that planning can be problematic in northern New England where laissez-faire is such an article of faith. But these are the means by which we, as free people, determine our own economic future and define our cultural identity.

Bob Brown  
Chairman

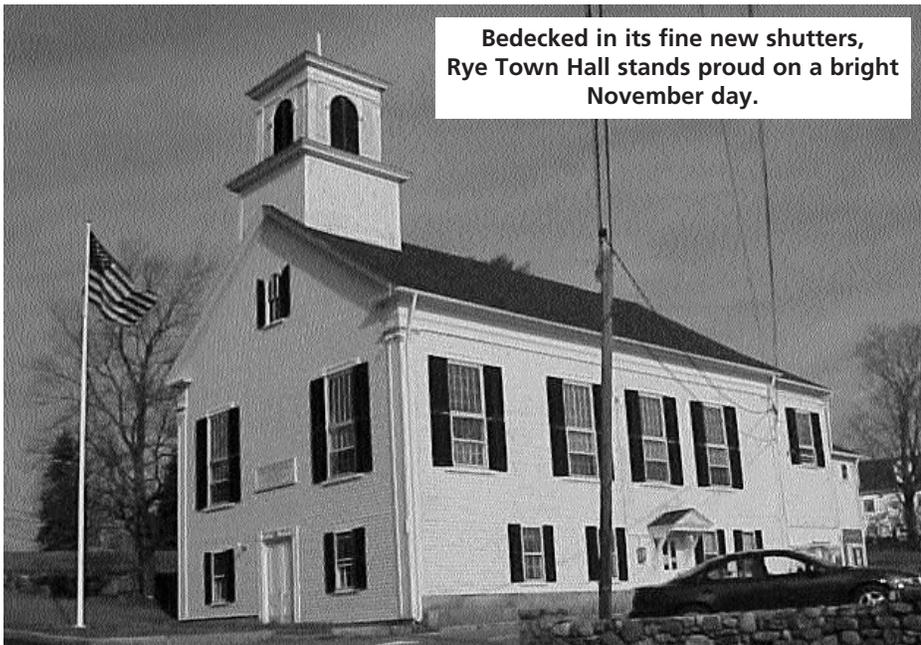
# Town of Rye Board Meetings

## DECEMBER 2001

Sunday      Monday      Tuesday      Wednesday      Thursday      Friday      Saturday

Selectmen's meetings are held in the Rye Public Library Meeting Room (handicapped accessible) at 581 Washington Road, Rye, NH. Other board meetings are held at Rye Town Hall, 10 Central Rd., Rye, NH, unless otherwise noted. Because meeting schedules are subject to change, check the bulletin board at Town Hall for up-to-date information.							1
2 <i>Holiday Parade 1 pm</i>	3 6:30 pm, <b>Board of Selectmen</b>	4	5 7 pm, <b>Zoning Board of Adjustment</b>	6	7	8	
9	10 6:30 pm, <b>Board of Selectmen</b> <i>Hanukkah begins</i>	11 7 pm, <b>Planning Board</b> 7 pm, <b>Recreation Commission</b>	12 7 pm, <b>Historic District Commission</b>	13 5 pm, <b>Library Trustees</b> at Library	14	15	
16	17 6:30 pm, <b>Board of Selectmen</b>	18	19 6:30 pm, <b>School Board,</b> Rye Jr. High	20 7 pm, <b>Conservation Commission</b>	21 <i>Winter begins</i>	22	
23	24 <i>Library closed</i>	25 <i>Christmas Town offices, Library closed</i>	26	27 2 pm, <b>Board of Selectmen</b>	28	29	
30	31	<b>JANUARY 2002</b>					
		1 <i>New Years Day Town offices closed</i>	2 7 pm, <b>Zoning Board of Adjustment</b>	3	4	5	
6	7 6:30 pm, <b>Board of Selectmen</b>	8 7 pm, <b>Planning Board</b> 7 pm, <b>Recreation Comm.</b>	9 7 pm, Jr. High <b>Public Hearing Town Budget</b>	10 7 pm, Jr. High <b>Public Hearing School Budget</b> 5 pm, <b>Library Trustees, Library</b>	11	12	
13	14 6:30 pm, <b>Board of Selectmen</b> Snow date for <b>Public Hearing Town Budget</b>	15 Snow date for <b>Public Hearing School Budget</b>	16 6:30 pm, <b>School Board,</b> Rye Jr. High	17 7 pm, <b>Conservation Commission</b>	18	19	
20	21 <i>Martin Luther King Jr. Day Town offices closed</i>	22	23	24	25	26	
27	28 6:30 pm, <b>Board of Selectmen</b>	29	30	31	<b>FEBRUARY 2002</b>		
					1	2 <b>DELIBERATIVE SESSION</b> 9 am, Jr. High	
3	4 6:30 pm, <b>Board of Selectmen</b>	5 7 pm, <b>Recreation Commission</b>	6 7 pm, <b>Zoning Board of Adjustment</b>	7 5 pm, <b>Library Trustees</b> at Library	8	9 Snow date for <b>DELIBERATIVE SESSION</b>	
10	11 6:30 pm, <b>Board of Selectmen</b>	12 7 pm, <b>Planning Board</b>	13	14 7 pm, <b>Conservation Commission</b>	15	16	
17	18 <i>Presidents' Day Town offices closed</i>	19	20 6:30 pm, <b>School Board,</b> Rye Jr. High	21	22	23	
24	25 6:30 pm, <b>Board of Selectmen</b>	26	27	28			

**Additional Civic Meetings**    Rye Lions Club, first Wednesday every month, 7 pm at the Rye Library  
 Friends of the Library, first Tuesday every month, 7 pm at the Library



Bedecked in its fine new shutters, Rye Town Hall stands proud on a bright November day.

**EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBERS**

**FIRE/POLICE EMERGENCY: 911**

Rye Police: 964-5521  
 Rye Fire: 964-8683  
 Ambulance: 964-8683  
 Poison Center: 1-800-562-8236  
 State Police: 1-800-525-5555  
 Portsmouth Hospital: 433-4042  
 Exeter Hospital: 778-7311  
 U.S. Coast Guard: 436-4414  
 Power outage: PSNH,  
 1-800-662-7764  
 Telephone outage : Verizon,  
 555-1611  
 Cable outage: AT&T Broadband,  
 1-888-633-4266

For up-to-date news about Rye, visit the Town's informative Web site at [www.ryenh.com/town/](http://www.ryenh.com/town/)

**ANNUAL RYE HOLIDAY PARADE THIS SUNDAY**

**Sunday, December 2, 1:00 PM**



The Rye Fire Department Association, Rye Lions Club, and the Seacoast VFW Memorial Post invite you to the annual Holiday Parade. This year the theme is "Patriotism." The parade will march along Washington Road from Webster-at-Rye to Rye Junior High School.

Town of Rye  
Rye, NH 03870

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