



Town of Rye

Newsletter



Vol. 6, No. 4 A Publication of the Rye, New Hampshire, Board of Selectmen December 2003

Rye Holiday Parade

Sunday, December 7, 1:00 p.m.

The Rye Fire Department Association, the Rye Lions Club, and the Seacoast VFW Memorial Post 168 invite you to the annual Holiday Parade. This year the theme is "Holiday Wishes." The parade will march along Washington Road from Webster-at-Rye, 795 Washington Road, to Rye Junior High School.

Town Clerk Discusses Taxes and Upcoming Primary Election

Property tax bills for the second issue 2003 billing were mailed to all property owners on October 2. Payment was due by December 1. After that date, 12 percent APR interest is charged on any outstanding balance. Feel free to call us if you have any questions about your bill. We can be reached at 964-8562, Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

The **Presidential Primary Election** is scheduled for Tuesday, January 27, 2004 at the Elementary School on Sagamore Road. Polls are open from eight o'clock in the morning until seven o'clock in the evening. Absentee ballots will be available for those voters who are unable to get to the polls on Election Day.

Undeclared Voters: Because this is a Primary Election, voters must receive the ballot for the party in

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SELECTMEN'S MESSAGE

Fire Chief's Retirement, Foye's Corner Cancellation, Coalition Activity on Agenda

Fire Chief Leon Blaisdell has notified the Board of Selectmen of his plans to retire March 31, 2004. He will have served as Chief of the Rye Fire Department for four years, bringing his firefighting career service in Rye to a total of 32 years, 10 years as a call fireman and 22 years as a permanent firefighter.

Lee has thoughtfully provided us with more than four months advance notice regarding his plans. As we contemplate the retirement of a dedicated and faithful public servant, we must also look forward in order to provide a smooth transition for the department that he leaves behind. The Board of Selectmen is exploring the advantages and disadvantages of adjusting our current work force to establish a single position as administrative safety officer responsible for fire, police, and safety personnel.

Museum to Hold Holiday Open House

The Museum will be open on Saturday, December 6 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and after the Holiday Parade on Sunday, December 7, from 1 to 4 p.m. Plan to visit after the parade, have some cookies and punch, and do a little holiday shopping! You will find Parson's *History of Rye*, Varrell's *Rye and Rye Beach*, Jessie Herlihy's poetry, and the travel diary of a young turn-of-the-century woman. There are reprints of old maps of Rye and Star Island, postcards made from old photos in our collection, and a new collection of notepaper made from prints of old postcards. The proceeds from the sales of all items benefit the Museum.

The Town Museum is located just inside the entrance of the Library parking lot off Olde Parish Road.

The Museum will close after the Open House until January. **Happy Holidays from the Rye Historical Society!**

On October 22, Rye Selectmen Jenness and Moynahan met Peter Britz, Portsmouth Environmental Planner, and an intern from his office for the purpose of complying with RSA 51:2 "which provides that the lines between towns in the state shall be perambulated and the marks and bounds renewed once every seven years forever by the selectmen or by such persons as they shall in writing appoint for that purpose." All Rye/Portsmouth marks and bounds were located beginning with a granite post marked "GPR" (the meeting point of Greenland, Portsmouth, and Rye, located in 1929 as 7 rods and in 1977 as 1,524 paces north along the railroad track from Breakfast Hill Road) and ending with an iron ring in a boulder on the edge of Sagamore Creek off Harbor View

See Selectmen, page 2

**MARK YOUR
CALENDARS NOW!
Town of Rye
Deliberative
Session to Be
Held Jan. 31**

The first session of Rye's town meeting, the Deliberative Session, will be held on Saturday, January 31, 2004. (Snow date Saturday, February 7) The session begins at 9:00 a.m. and is held at the Rye Junior High School.

All of the important issues you will be asked to vote on in the Town Election on March 9 will be presented for citizen input.

This is your chance to be a participant in the process and an informed voter. We urge you to attend.

Town Clerk's Report

Continued from page 1

which they are registered. Undeclared voters (aka Independents) can request a ballot for either the Republican or the Democratic party. Once the undeclared voter has received that ballot and voted, however, he or she is considered to be a member of that party. To regain undeclared status, the voter may immediately go to the Supervisors of the Checklist, who are seated just outside the polling area, and fill out a brief form. The last opportunity to change party affiliation prior to the Primary Election was October 31, 2003.

Dog owners: When the first of the year rolls around it will be time once again to license your dog. You should take care of that chore anytime between January 1 and April 30 of each year. Simply bring in a copy of your dog's rabies certificate.

Selectmen's Message *Continued from page 1*

Drive. The language of the 2003 perambulation will replace "rods" and "paces" with highly accurate GPS (Global Positioning System) designations.

It is our intention to contact the selectmen of Greenland and North Hampton to complete the perambulation process along our remaining perimeter.

The long-awaited reconfiguration of Foyes Corner intersection by the State of New Hampshire Dept. of Transportation has been withdrawn at this time by Governor Benson. Over the past ten years traffic concerns have been voiced, the need for remediation established, four plans designed with one selected and approved, and fourteen affected properties have been notified and prepared for the change. About a year ago, we requested that the culvert under Sagamore Road on the easterly approach to the intersection be enlarged from 24" to 36" to avoid repetition of the spring flooding and road closure we have experienced in the past. This request had been integrated into the DOT plan. A letter has been sent to the Governor requesting reconsideration of his decision.

Rye continues as a member of The Coalition Communities, now 34 strong. As a House-Senate study committee attempts to fine-tune the new education funding bill, they have heard from some speakers seeking a return to the "donor town" situation. The Coalition is renewing its campaign "to persuade the Legislature to adopt a common-sense approach similar to other states that truly target aid to needy students." Coalition Communities believe this can be done successfully without a statewide property tax. Among the Coalition Communities, Portsmouth has shouldered the greatest financial burden, in excess of \$20.00 per capita. To date Rye has contributed \$32,000, which represents \$6.27 per capita. To carry on

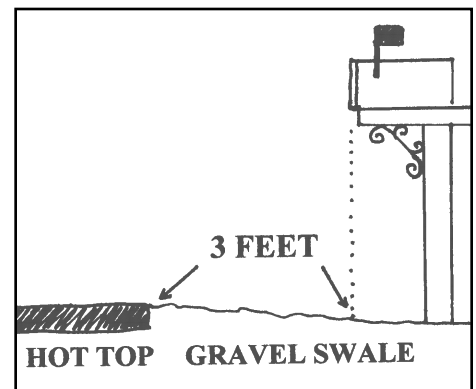
the fight to rid the state of the donor town concept and pursue a targeted aid approach, we believe continued financial support of the Coalition is necessary.

Priscilla Jenness, Chairman
Joe Mills, Vice-Chairman
John Moynahan, Selectman

Time to Prepare

On a recent site walk, the Selectmen, accompanied by Bud Jordan, Director of Public Works, visited more than a half-dozen areas where snow removal was or could become a problem if this winter replicates last year. Please be reminded that residents cannot place obstacles (rocks, shrubs, pipes, fences, planters, sprinklers, etc.) in the Town Right of Way.

Last winter's snow volume resulted in damage to or destruction of a number of mail boxes. In order to provide your mail box with its best chance for survival, IT (THE MAILBOX, NOT THE POST) MUST BE PLACED THREE FEET FROM THE EDGE OF THE HIGHWAY. The Town will not accept responsibility unless mailboxes are installed at the proper distance from the plowed surface.



The Town of Rye Newsletter is produced by
Beckwith Bookworks
2075 Ocean Blvd., Rye, NH 03870
(603) 964-4800

Planning Board Activities Explained

NEW TECHNICAL REVIEW COMMITTEE (TRC) MEETING FORMAT

A change to the Technical Review meeting, proposed by board member Bob Hablutz, was put into effect at the November meeting. The TRC was originally set up to check applications for completeness before they entered the formal approval process. The technical meetings will still fulfill this role but a new second part of each meeting will be devoted to long-range planning on topics such as zoning changes, Master Plan revisions, and compliance with regulations.

LONG-RANGE PLAN

Our first focus with this new TRC approach is the Master Plan because all other changes flow from it. There are several areas in the Master Plan that currently need updating. The updating is being led by member Kim Reed with alternate Gary Dodds. The first area being reviewed is the proposal from the Citizens' Committee on Land Use chaired by Bill Veazey. As has been previously reported, they have come up with proposals for sidewalks, realignment of streets in Rye center, open space zoning, and revisions to make better use of the town common areas.

Major changes in the Master Plan

that will be considered are modifications to address the unique characteristics of the different areas of our town. The Master Plan needs to recognize the essential differences in three major areas: (1) the "built-out" area along the coast; (2) the area along Lafayette Road that has potential for commercial development and open space residential development; and (3) the major inland parts of Rye where maintenance of a "semi-rural" environment is the major factor. The very different needs of these areas are not currently addressed by the Master Plan and the Zoning Ordinance.

PAST AND PRESENT AS PROLOGUE TO THE FUTURE

The experience the board has gained during the past years in administering the Land Development Regulations is, of course, the prime input to any long-range planning. So far in 2003 the Planning Board has ruled on many kinds of applications:

- 12 New Home Sites
- 2 Lot Line Adjustments
- 1 Minor Subdivision
- 1 Condo conversion
- 3 Major Site Developments
- 2 Minor Site Developments

A new experience this year that expanded our viewpoint, however, was the Capital Improvements

Program (CIP) Committee led by Priscilla Jenness for the Selectmen and Bob Brown for the Planning Board. The CIP (analogous to the Capital Budget that a city such as Portsmouth has) collects and displays Rye's six-year plan for all kinds of items and projects costing \$10,000 or more. All items that the town departments and the School District are planning are required to be listed and explained in this program. Current examples are the new public safety building, recycling center improved facilities, and replacements for Highway, Fire, and Police equipment. The CIP committee's view was expanded by the contributions of Joan Sweeney, an independent consultant in Rye, who contributed her time pro bono. You can review the CIP report on the town website for a look into Rye's future.

INVITATION

Regular Planning Board meetings are on the second Tuesday of the month. The TRC meets on the Tuesday two weeks before the regular Planning Board meeting. As with all our meetings, notice is posted on the web site and town bulletin boards. We hope you will take time to drop in and give us your input.

Bob Brown, Vice-Chairman

Please Do Not Be Cold This Winter

Rockingham Community Action (RCA) is taking applications for their fuel assistance program. Households who are responsible for paying heating bills, have yearly heating costs of at least \$100.00, and meet the household income levels are eligible.

Please call the agency at 436-3896 or 1-800-639-3896. Fuel assistance brochures detailing the fuel assistance program are available at the Selectmen's office.

RCA will also take your application for the **NH Electric**

Assistance Program. Depending on your income, households may be eligible for a discount on their monthly electric bills. The Selectman's office has the brochure for the Electric Assistance Program.

As a reminder, the Welfare Office is opened Mondays, 8:30 a.m. to noon and during the week on an as-need basis. Please call for an appointment before coming to the office, **964-5523.**

Abatement Applications Are Available in the Assessing Office

By now, you have received your second issue 2003 tax bills, which means appeal season is upon us. If you would like to challenge your valuation, applications for abatement are available in the Assessor's Office at Town Hall. The deadline is March 1, 2004.

As a reminder, we assess property as it stands on April 1. Any structural changes that occurred after that date will be picked up next year. What you pay on the first issue acts as a credit or down payment to what your true tax is, which is determined with the annual tax rate generally set in October. Items you vote on at the Town Meeting this March will be funded/added into the fall tax rate next year thus having an effect on your tax bill. Stay part of your community! Have a say: V O T E !

As we have touched on in the past, Rye's valuations will be subject to annual reviews. Commencing in 2004, there will be a four-year cycle in which one-fourth of the structures in town will be inspected annually. The purpose is to verify or correct measurements and interior features for purposes of accuracy so that no taxpayer is erroneously assessed. With the State of NH's certification requirements, it is very important that we strive to keep our assessments as close to 100% as possible. Besides making valuation practices more uniform throughout New Hampshire, we are hoping to see fewer spikes or shockers to our assessment base, thus hopefully contributing to a more stable annual rate. As our base rises, the tax rate generally drops, providing spending is carefully monitored.

If you have any questions about veteran's credits and/or exemptions, feel free to call Bea in the Assessor's Office at 964-5523.

Howard Promer
Bea Marconi

News from the Senior Issues Committee

Come join the group on the **TUESDAY SHUTTLE**. The van will stop at your home to pick you up and take you to Market Basket, Brooks Pharmacy, and the Bank of New Hampshire, then drop you off back at your home.

Call Nancy or Bea at Town Hall at **964-5523** by noon on Monday to arrange for Tuesday pickup.



SNOW ALERT: Please be aware of your "senior" neighbors this winter by checking to see if they need your help in keeping the ice and snow off their steps and walkways.

SENIOR SURVEY RESULTS

A special "thank you" to all those who completed and returned the senior services survey. The information you provided will help the Senior Issues Committee to determine how best to be of service to seniors in town. Six issues were asked to be ranked in their order of importance. Of highest priority for seniors was the daily phone check, followed by transportation service, senior housing, adult day care services, structured recreation programs, and lecture series.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Senior Issues Committee has decided to try to become a nonprofit organization. We are looking for individuals who have experience in working with nonprofits and people who have an interest in helping us write grant proposals. If you are willing to help or if you know of someone with this experience, please call Chairman Kimberly Reed at **964-2109**.



Katherine Rowlings and Barbara Cavaretta enjoy both the ride and the good company every Tuesday.

SENIOR SERVICES AVAILABLE

Transportation: Available on **Tuesdays** to Market Basket/ Brooks Pharmacy. (Call Town Hall **964-5523** by noon on Monday to be on the "pickup" list.)

Free Cell Phone: For use in case of a 911 emergency. (Call the Police Department **964-7450**.)

☆ If you have an old cell phone that is not in use, please consider donating it for use by seniors and drop it off at the police station.☆

Contact Information: A variety of information for seniors has been gathered together in one place at the Rye Library just next to the elevator on the second floor. (Call the Library **964-8401** for assistance.)

Library Materials: Available for delivery to your home when needed. (Call the Library to request delivery **964-8401**.)

Medical Equipment: Available for loan from the Rye Lions. (Call Don Osborne 431-4749, Bob Vincent 964-4211, Norm Ayotte 964-8430, or Peter Ryan 433-6212.)

The Senior Issues Committee meets at the Rye Library on the first Thursday of each month at 4:30 p.m.

New members are MOST welcome. Please, come join us!

Police Department Now at Full Strength

The Police Department is happy to report that we are at full strength for the first time since last December. This was accomplished with the hiring in late August of Officer Blais, whom I introduced in the last newsletter, and the hiring of Officer B.T. Conlon in mid-September. Officer Conlon has three years of experience with the Rochester Police Department, with his last assignment being that of School Resource Officer. We were lucky to get Officer Conlon because he is already state certified and has the required minimal field training. Running shorthanded for the summer put a strain on all our officers because six officers were required to do the work of eight. I commend them for a job well done.

Our speed trailer grant has been completed and forwarded to the state. We hope to be hearing some good news shortly. Speaking of speed enforcement, please remember that winter driving conditions will be upon us shortly. Give yourself some extra time to clear windows and slow down as you drive. Stopping distances increase in the winter and visibility at intersections/driveway entrances is poor. As you clear your driveways of snow, please remember that shoveling snow into the road or plowing it across the road is against the law.

I would like to remind our senior citizens to give me a call if you would like an emergency cell phone to keep in your car. These can be particularly helpful during the winter months. As a final reminder, please be sure your house is clearly numbered so that emergency crews can see your address from the street. This can save precious time as we try to locate you or a neighbor in need of emergency services.

Alan Gould
Chief of Police

Seasonal Cautions Urged by Fire Chief

Winter is upon us again and with it the safety issues related to it. For your safety and the safety of your neighbors, clear your walkways of snow and ice. Adopt a hydrant near your house and keep it shoveled. Be sure your house number is visible and not obscured by snow. Review your house exit drill plan for any changes that winter may require. If you haven't changed your smoke detector batteries, do it now. Have all heating appliances checked for proper operation prior to heavy usage. Give yourself time to properly and completely clear your vehicle of snow and ice.

Christmas will be here too soon for many of us and it has its particular safety issues. Check all extension cords for condition, and use care when routing them to your tree, decorations, or other electrical equipment. Many Christmas decorations are stored in areas that may be visited by rodents, which may gnaw insulation. If you have a live tree, be sure to keep it well-watered and use only low-heat-producing lights.

The Public Safety Facility Committee has worked very hard to have revised plans and cost figures ready for review before the deliberative session in January. Hopefully it will meet with everyone's approval and become a reality next year. The Safety Facility Committee deserves a lot of praise for seeing this project through for the last several years.

I would like to thank everyone for their support of the Fire Department over the last year. There have been many personnel changes and additions during that time and many of you may not have met all the new faces. Please feel free to visit the station and introduce yourself; ask any questions you might have about safety or our general operations. May each and every one of you have a safe and happy holiday season.

Leon C. Blaisdell
Chief, Rye Fire Department

Warning! Swap Shoppe May Be Closed!

The Swap Shoppe is a much-loved and valuable resource for many Rye residents. However, some residents are abusing this privilege by leaving TVs, VCRs, and computers at the Shoppe in defiance of the posted signs. It costs the town, and ultimately you, the taxpayer, a fee to dispose of each one of these prohibited items. In addition, the signs also state that cans of oil paint and varnish must not be left at the Shoppe. **Residents need to check with an attendant about disposal of these items, or wait for one of the semi-annual toxic waste collections on the Seacoast.**

At this time, I am documenting the number and types of prohibited items left at the Shoppe. If this situation does not improve, the **Town will be forced to close the Swap Shoppe.** Your cooperation will avoid a sad end to a town institution.

Everett E. "Bud" Jordan
Director, Public Works
Department

STORM CLOSINGS DELAYED OPENINGS

Watch WMUR Channel Nine for closings or delayed openings caused by weather conditions.

The School Ticker runs continuously at the the bottom of the screen. The General Ticker for word on Municipal, State, County and Federal offices runs twice an hour at 15 and 45 minutes.

TOWN OF RYE RECREATION DEPARTMENT NEWS

10 Central Road Rye, NH, 03870, Tel. 964-6281, Fax 964-1516, E-mail larthur@town.rye.nh.us Town Website www.town.rye.nh.us/ Winter 2004



PROGRAMS SIGN-UP NIGHT

RYE RECREATION HOUSE, 55 RECREATION ROAD
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2003, 6:00 P.M. - 7:00 P.M.



RYE & NEW CASTLE RESIDENTS ONLY

Registrations for programs are limited to a first come, first serve basis. When registering for tennis you will only be able to sign up for one session and have your name go on a waiting list for a second. This is in response to the overwhelming interest in our tennis program. Registrations will not be accepted prior to sign-up night commencing at 6:00 p.m.

Enjoy The Emerald Isle

is a colorful slide presentation by Allan & Sheila Swenson. From the Cliffs of Maher to the Giant's Causeway, this program offers glorious scenery, gracious homes and gardens, mountains, valleys, glens, the rock-bound coast, quaint villages, in a traveler's dream visit to Ireland. Held in the Activity Room at Webster at Rye on Wednesday, January 14, 2004, 6:30-7:30 p.m. **No charge** to the public and open to all ages.



New England Safari

is a unique presentation by Lenny Thomes. Explore New England's many natural wonders and wildlife. Travel to Baxter State Park in Maine, the White Mountains of New Hampshire, coastal salt marshes, Boston Public Garden, Booth Bay Harbor, Pawtucketaway State Park, and more. Get a birds eye view of seagulls, hawks, egrets, herons, moose, swans, peepers, loons, turtles, and many more New England birds and mammals. Held in the Activity Room at Webster at Rye on Wednesday, February 18, 2004, 6:30-7:30 p.m. **No charge** to the public and open to all ages.



Home of the Worst Weather on Earth:

New Hampshire's Mt. Washington is a slide show presented by Dreams Unlimited's Michael Perry looks at the beauty of Mt. Washington through the seasons, with special emphasis on the winter months. Tuckerman Ravine, the Alpine Garden, Lakes of the Clouds, and more. See the magic of the summit buildings frozen in rime ice under brilliant blue sky, the greenery of Spring in the Great Gulf, inspiring views of this grand old matriarch from all angles. Held in the Activity Room at Webster at Rye on Wednesday, March 31, 2004, 6:30-7:30 p.m. **No charge** to the public and open to all ages.



Youth Recreational Basketball

starts December 13, 2003 and ends February 14, 2004.

Adult Pick-Up Basketball will be held November 23, December 7, 14, 21, 2003 and January 4, 11, 18, 25, February 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, March 7, 14, 21, 28, April 4, 11, 18, 25, 2004 and will be held Sundays 9:00-11:00 a.m. at Rye Elementary School. There will be no basketball on November 30 and December 28, 2003. (Other black-out dates may be added latter).

Winter Day Camp this program provides participants with a week of jam packed fun based activities. For grades K-5.

Campers need to bring a drink, lunch and snack each day.

Held at the Recreation House on Recreation Road.

M-F, February 23-27, 2004, 8:30 a.m-4:30 p.m.

Fee: \$100/wk (Limited to 20 participants)



Hearty Winter Fare is a cooking class offered by great chefs of the Carriage House Restaurant. Join the trio of Paul Mackey,

Proprietor, Jim Lancaster, Executive Chef and Adam Olsen, Sous Chef for a dynamic cooking class. Adult participants will have fun while learning valuable cooking techniques and tips on cooking hearty meals for the cold winter months. Held at the Carriage House Restaurant, 2263 Ocean Boulevard, Rye, Tuesday, February 3, 2004, 12:00-2:30 p.m. Fee: \$40.00

DONATIONS REQUESTED!



The Rye Recreation Department again this year requests your assistance in providing **Cross Roads House, Inc.** with items they are in need of this Holiday Season. Items can be dropped off at the Recreation Office located in Town Hall. The following items are desired: Non-perishable food items, Laundry Detergent, Cleaning Supplies, Toilet Paper, Personal Hygiene Products, White Twin Size Sheets, Blankets, White Bath Towels etc.

Knitting Workshops are instructed by Lisa Farley.
Held in the NH Room of the Rye Library.



Knitting Next Steps - Felted Bag: Knit a great little bag. Combine colors and spice up your design with a selection of novelty yarns. Techniques include knitting in the round on circular needles, slip stitches, changing colors, i-cord, i-cord bind off, weaving in ends and felting. Prerequisites: Beginner knitting skills – casting on, knitting, binding off. Tuesdays, January 13, 20, 2004, 6:00-8:00 p.m. and January 27, 2004, 7:00-7:30 p.m. Fee: \$90 (includes pattern, yarn and needles)

Knitting Next Steps - Felted Mittens: Learn the basics of knitting mittens while creating a cozy, waterproof pair to keep hands warm this season. Techniques include: knitting in the round on double-pointed needles, increasing, decreasing and short-row shaping. Prerequisites: Casting on, knitting, purling. Wednesday, January 14, 21, 2004, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. and January 28, 2004, 10:00-11:30 a.m. Fee: \$95 (includes pattern, yarn and needles)

Advanced Beginner Knitting - Self-Fringing

Novelty Yarn Scarf: Combine five different novelty yarns to make a gorgeous scarf that is knit lengthwise, changing yarns every row according to your taste. No purling or finishing necessary. Prerequisites: Beginner knitting skills (casting on, knitting, binding off). Wednesday February 4, 2004, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m., February 18, 2004, 11:00-12:00 p.m. and March 3, 2004, 9:00-10:00 a.m. Fee: \$95 (includes pattern, yarn and needles)

Beginner Knitting - Garter Stitch Hat: Create a warm and stylish hat from hand-dyed variegated wool. Techniques include casting on, knitting, measuring gauge, reading a pattern, decreasing, sewing a seam and weaving in ends. Completion of this class will prepare you to move on to felted bags and other projects. Prerequisites: None. Thursday, February 5, 12, 2004, 6:00-8:00 p.m. and February 19, 2004, 7:00-8:00 p.m. Fee: \$80 (includes pattern, yarn and needles)

Knitting Next Steps - Socks: Learn to knit socks on double-pointed needles. Socks are an ideal advanced beginner project and are more fun than ever to knit with so many choices of super wash (machine washable and dryable) wool yarns that create cool striped or Fair Isle patterns as you knit. Techniques include knitting in the round on double-pointed needles, turning the heel, shaping and grafting. Prerequisites: Casting on, knitting, purling. Wednesday, March 3, 10, 2004, 10:00-12:00 p.m. and March 17, 2004, 10:00-11:30 a.m. Fee: \$90 (includes pattern, yarn and needles)

Group Tennis Lessons provided by John Marlowe
at the New Castle Recreation Facility.



Session 1 - Tuesdays, January 20, February 3, 10, 17, 2004
Grades 1-2, 4:30-5:30 p.m., Grades 3-4, 5:30-6:30 p.m.,
HS, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Session 1 - Thursday, January 22, 29, February 5, 12, 2004
Grades 5-6, 4:30-5:30 p.m., Grades 7-8, 5:30-6:30 p.m.,
Adult, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Session 2 - Tuesday, March 2, 9, 16, 23, 2004
Grades 3-4, 4:30-5:30 p.m., Grades 1-2, 5:30-6:30 p.m.,
HS, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Session 2 - Thursday, March 4, 11, 18, 25, 2004
Grades 7-8, 4:30-5:30 p.m., Grades 5-6, 5:30-6:30 p.m.,
Adult, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Fee: \$40.00 per session (4 lessons) and rackets are not provided.
When registering for tennis you will only be able to sign up for one session and have your name go on a waiting list for a second.



Yoga instruction is provided by Karin Backstrom
(Tuesday Evening) and Jeanie Ryan (Tuesday
Morning). This program is designed to link breath
and movement, connecting body, mind and spirit. This adult program
will be held at the Recreation House on 55 Recreation Road.

Session 1 - Tuesdays, January 13, 20, 27, February 3, 10, 2004,
Level 1, 9:00-10:00 a.m. or Level 2, 10:00-11:00 a.m.,
or Level 1-2, 7:00-8:00 p.m.

Session 2 - Tuesdays, March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, 2004,
Level 1, 9:00-10:00 a.m. or Level 2, 10:00-11:00 a.m.,
or Level 1-2, 7:00-8:00 p.m.

Fee: \$55.00 each session



After School Program is open to
grade K, 11:10 a.m.-2:30 p.m., M-F. The
cost of the program is \$52.50/week and there is a 20% discount for
each additional child in the same family. Participants are also
welcome to register for the afternoon program that operates for
grades K-5, 2:40-5:50 p.m., Monday-Friday. The cost of the program
is \$52.50/week for full time, \$10.50/day for part time (2 day min.),
and there is a 20% discount for each additional child in the same
family. Limited space available.

To Register for Programs: Registrations will not be accepted
prior to sign-up night on December 10, 2003 commencing at 6:00
p.m. When registering complete a Rye Recreation Department
Registration Form indicating specific program(s). If paying by check,
make it payable to Rye Recreation. Submit both registration form and
payment to the Town of Rye Recreation Department, 10 Central
Road, Rye, NH 03870. Forms are available on the Recreation
Department Bulletin Board outside Town Hall or at the Recreation
Department during business hours Monday-Thursday, 8:00 a.m.-4:30
p.m. Programs are not refundable and offered to all Rye and New
Castle residents. For more information, contact the Town of Rye
Recreation Department at 964-6281. **ACTIVE, ALIVE AND LIVING IN RYE!**

News from the Library

Sherry Evans has resigned as Director of the Rye Public Library and has accepted a position as Director of Public Relations at the Portsmouth Public Library. The Friends of the Rye Library hosted a farewell reception for Sherry on October 21. A search committee has been formed in order to find a new Director. Members of the committee include the three Trustees, David Brown, Victor Azzi, and Deborah Genestreti; a member of the Library staff, Pam Jautais; and a representative of the Friends, Joan Sweeney. It is hoped that a new Director will be selected by the first of the year.

We wish to extend a special thank you to the following town organizations for their generous support of the Library these past few months. This is just a small example of a town community helping one another to make things better. Again, we thank you so much.

- **Rye Lions Club** donated a walker with four wheels, brakes, a seat, and a basket for use by our patrons here in the Library.

- **Friends of the Library** granted our "wish" and will be purchasing a number of much-needed items for the library, including new book trucks, youth department seating, and a fax machine for public use.

- **Rye Driftwood Garden Club** decorated the Library with beautiful dried-flower arrangements.

- **Rye Women's Club** renewed our subscription to the Museum of Fine Arts. Passes allow two people into the museum and are available whenever you want to go. Just call the Library at 964-8401.

- **Library Art Committee** arranged for a display of a new art exhibit in the meeting room entitled "Artists of Rye II," which will be available for viewing through January 8.

- **Highway Department** under the leadership of Bud Jordan has agreed to plow the snow again this year, saving our taxpayers money.

- **Fire Department** loaned us the use of their equipment in order to replace a burned-out pole light in the parking lot.

- **Library Volunteers** continue to donate many hours of their time helping

to shelve and straighten books, mend and process library materials, and search for overdue items.

Upcoming Events

Adult Book Discussions (Third Tuesday of each month)

December 16. *The Bookshop* by Penelope Fitzgerald

January 20. *Small Wonder: Essays* by Barbara Kingsolver

February 17. *By the Light of My Father's Smile* by Alice Walker

Military Book Discussion (First Thursday of each month)

Call the Library for more information at 964-8401

Health Clinic (Fourth Tuesday of each month 1-3 p.m.)

Free health screening provided by Compass Care

Women's Writing Group Discussion

Thursday, December 4 from 7 to 8 p.m.

The authors of *A Group of One's Own: Nurturing the Woman Writer* will be here at the Library to discuss and read from their book. This book chronicles the activities and wisdom of five local authors and provides a path to help women meet their writing goals through the establishment of a writing group. Their book will be available for purchase.

Library Art Committee Exhibit

"Seacoast Senior Open" will begin on January 8. Seniors over the age of 60 are invited to come by the Library and pick up an application form this month. For more information, please call the Library at 964-8401.

Friends Speaker Series continues (no speaker in December) on Thursday evenings once a month from 7 to 8 p.m.

January 8. "What Makes Chinese Art Chinese?"

Bruce MacLaren, Assistant Curator of Chinese Art
Peabody Essex Museum

February 5. "Yin Yu Tang"

Nancy Berliner, Curator of Chinese Art
Peabody Essex Museum

March 4. "The China in America's Future"

Dr. John Watt, Director
New England China Network

Jazz Speaker Series

The New Hampshire Humanities Council will again sponsor their Jazz series here at the Library this winter. Dates are not available yet. Call the Library after the first of the year for more information.

The Friends of the Library wish to thank everyone who participated in their recent membership drive. Not only did people renew their memberships, but many new names were added to their membership list as well. The Friends meet on the first Tuesday of each month here in the Library from 7 to 8 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, December 2. All members are welcomed and encouraged to attend!



Library Youth Department Announces Upcoming Events

What a great fall we've had! Busy students and teachers are taking advantage of our new **Assignment Alert**. All teachers in both the Rye Elementary School and the Rye Junior High were given Assignment Alert Sheets to assist us in giving the students exactly what they need. Some teachers have really been taking advantage of this and the results have been extremely gratifying. Students are not always sure of the exact assignment and if they do not have it with them, it can be a really interesting process to find out exactly what they need. With the Assignment Alert we know what they need before they walk through the door! A big thank you to all the teachers taking advantage of this unique service.

Local New Hampshire children's author **Diane Mayr** came to Rye Public Library in the fall and read her book, *Little Bat's Halloween Story*, and told some very interesting bat facts to a rapt audience. Afterwards she signed books.

Our annual **Halloween Storytime Parade** was one of the best yet. (I know, I say that every year, but truly the children were spectacular.) Over 40 attended this fun event. We had a unicorn, a fireman, Dorothy from The Wizard of Oz, a bunch of grapes, and so many others I couldn't possibly name them all. Martha was a Grand Duch-



Halloween Storytime paraders show off their costumes.



An interesting if not scary sight, part of the Rye Public Library Staff in costume: Sharon Macdonald dressed as Autumn, Patricia Quinn as a dog, Martha Jones as a Dutchess, Stefania Metalious as a Cowhand, and Jon Ramsay as a tennis player.

ess, and I was supposed to be a season—Autumn, but the children kept calling me a tree... Hope you can join us next year.

The Rye Public Library is finally making a return to the annual **Rye Holiday Parade**. Yay! We need a few vital items: truck and driver, patrons dressed as book characters, and help decorating. If any of these jobs appeal to you, please contact Martha or Stef for further information.

TAB returns! The Rye Public Library Teen Advisory Board will meet November 18 at 3 p.m. at Rye Public Library. If you are in middle school or high school, and you want a voice in planning programs for teens and raising money for the Young Adult Room, be sure to attend this very important first meeting of the season.

Cindy Baker, our wonderful Storytime volunteer, is creating another Storytime for different ages. Be on the look-out for this change.

Governor Benson issued a Proclamation for **Children's Book Week**, which the selectmen read on Monday, November 17, the first day of Children's Book Week. One of the exciting aspects of that week was that children preschool through grades three had an opportunity to vote for their favorite picture book from a list called Ladybug Award books. For the first time the State of New Hampshire, through the Children's Library Association, put together a list of highly respected picture books. Look for the books in the Library. They are designated by a small ladybug sticker on the spine. How many of you know the ladybug is New Hampshire's state insect?

Sharon Macdonald
Director of Youth Services

Be a Friend!

If you missed the opportunity to become a Friend of the Library, please complete and return the following:

I want to be a Friend

Annual membership dues ☐ \$10 Family ☐ \$5 Individual
Donations gratefully accepted

☐ \$100 ☐ \$50 ☐ other _____

Payable to: Friends of the Rye Public Library.

Send to : Rye Public Library

581 Washington Road

Rye, New Hampshire 03870

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Can you help with:

☐ Special events ☐ Baking ☐ Book and Bake Sale

Thank you !

Public Safety Facility Committee Reports on Ongoing Progress

Of the three Warrant Articles voted on in March that were directly related to this important town project, the residents voted strongly (1) in favor of purchasing the real property adjacent to the existing fire station, and (2) in favor of providing additional monies to continue with the design process and the production of Construction Documents, which will be required when the Town decides to build this facility.

The third Warrant Article, which would have permitted the raising of funds by bond and by gifts and grants to build the project, although receiving more than a simple majority approval, did not receive the required three-fifths super majority. Based on the voters' approval of the first two items, the Committee understood that the voters supported the creation of a combined public safety facility in a central location in the Rye Town Center, but were not prepared at that time to underwrite its estimated cost. Thus the most important parts of the process were allowed to proceed, and the Committee is doing just that.

The focus of the Committee continues to be to create a combined public safety facility that will serve the needs of all the citizens of Rye from an optimum geographic location in the Rye Town Center, with a building having an architectural presence befitting the character of Rye. The Selectmen consummated the terms of the Purchase and Sale Agreement on April 30, 2003, and the Town is now the owner of the property, known as the "Govoni House," located at 551 Washington Road.

Proceeding along the previously established timeline, the Rye Public Safety Facility Building Committee has worked with HKT Architects through further revisions to the Schematic Design documents. The Committee has been eager to find

additional means by which the required size, the massing, and the estimated cost could be further reduced. Further refinements of, and a reduction in, the required floor area have been accomplished by a further critical review of programmatic needs by the Fire and Police Chiefs. This effort has focused on reducing the area and apparent mass of the building by placing more of the net assignable space on the level below the first floor and on the second floor of the building, and to preserve developable space above the apparatus bays. With such changes, the massing and length of the building along the Washington Road streetscape have been significantly reduced.

The Schematic Design phase is now complete, and the design team is moving on to the Design Development phase, during which the details of the project, along with details of an estimated cost, will be developed. This will be followed by the Construction Documents phase, during which the details of construction, including drawings and specifications and bidding documents, will be created.

The Committee and HKT continue to meet with members of the Historic District Commission and all other interested townspeople to receive their further input. Further meetings will take place with all interested parties as the design evolves.

The Building Committee continues with its plans to save the Govoni House by considering all possible alternatives and focusing on a plan to integrate the house into the set of rental properties, now known as The Parsonage Apartments managed by the Housing Partnership, nearby on the streetscape of Washington Road in the Rye Town Center.

Victor D. Azzi
for the RPSF Building Committee

Rye Water District News

Harbor Road Main Repair

We would like to thank the residents affected by the August water main break and resulting main replacement on Harbor Road for their patience and cooperation throughout this project. Special thanks also to Saunders Restaurant for accommodating the construction equipment and workers. A repair would have been a temporary solution to the problem, with a high probability for continued leaks in the same area. The superintendent and commissioners evaluated the options and decided replacing the section of main involved would be the best long-term solution. We are pleased with the resulting upgrade in this area and thank all involved for their understanding.

Please Help

As winter approaches we once again ask people within the District for help keeping fire hydrants cleared of snow. In the event of a fire emergency, every minute counts in saving lives and property, and a cleared hydrant will certainly help! Your help will be greatly appreciated.

Open Space Committee Seeks Land for Conservation

The Open Space Committee is continuing to speak to landowners about placing open space land into conservation. The committee is also seeking gifts and grants to offset town funding to preserve open space. In the face of strong pressure to develop available land, Rye's goals are to preserve its water resources, create wildlife corridors to allow animals to migrate in search of food, and protect its historic, beautiful semi-rural character. These measures should also lower the rate of future tax increases by controlling the growth of town services resulting from a growing population. If you own land and wish to preserve it, and perhaps obtain tax relief, please call Jim Raynes at 431-6962 or Ray Jarvis at 436-2137.

Town of Rye Board Meetings

December 2003

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

	1 4 pm, Water Dist. 60 Sagamore 6:30 pm, Board of Selectmen	2 7 pm, Recreation Commission	3 7 pm, Zoning Board of Adjustment	4	5	6
7	8 9 am, Sewer Commission	9 7 pm, Planning Board	10	11 Budget Comm. Town Budget 5:30 School Budget 7 pm Rye Jr. High 7 pm, Open Space Comm.	12	13
14	15 6:30 pm, Board of Selectmen	16	17 6:30 pm, School Board, Rye Jr. High	18 7 pm, Conservation Commission	19	20 <i>Hanukkah</i>
21	22 <i>First Day of Winter</i>	23 6:30 pm, Library Trustees at Library	24	25 <i>Christmas Town offices closed</i>	26	27
28	29 6:30 pm, Board of Selectmen	30 7 pm, Planning Board Tech. Review	31	January 2004		
				1 <i>New Years Day Town offices closed</i>	2	3

4	5 4 pm, Water District 60 Sagamore	6 7 pm, Recreation Commission	7 7 pm, Zoning Board of Adjustment	8 7 pm, Open Space Committee	9	10
11	12 9 am, Sewer Commission 6:30 pm, Board of Selectmen	13 7 pm, Planning Board	14 6:30 pm, School Board, Rye Jr. High 7 pm, Land Use Comm. at Library	15 7 pm, Conservation Commission	16	17
18	19 <i>MLK Civil Rights Day Town offices, Library closed</i>	20 7-7:30 pm, Supervisors of the Checklist	21 7 pm, Historic District Commission	22 7 pm, Open Space Committee	23	24
25	26 6:30 pm, Board of Selectmen	27 Primary Election 6:30 pm, Library Trustees at Lib. 7 pm, Planning Board Tech. Review	28	29	30	31 9 a.m. Deliberative Session Rye Jr. High

February 2004

1	2 4 pm, Water District 60 Sagamore	3 7 pm, Recreation Commission	4 7 pm, Zoning Board of Adjustment	5	6	7
8	9 9 am, Sewer Commission 6:30 pm, Board of Selectmen	10 7 pm, Planning Board	11 7 pm, Land Use Committee at Library	12 7 pm, Open Space Committee	13	14
15	16 <i>Presidents' Day Town offices, Library closed</i>	17	18 6:30 pm, School Board, Rye Jr. High	19 7 pm, Conservation Commission	20	21
22	23 6:30 pm, Board of Selectmen	24 6:30 pm, Library Trustees at Library 7 pm, Planning Board Tech. Review	25	26	27	28 11-11:30 am, Supervisors of the Checklist
29	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.					

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

Additional Civic Meetings

Resplendent in Its New Coat



Painting of Town Hall was completed in October. Rainy weather delays, dismissal of one contractor, discovery that no insulation was present in much of the first floor exterior wall area, etc. contributed to the length of the project.

Don't Miss
Rye's Holiday Parade
Sunday, December 7, 1 p.m.

TOWN TELEPHONE DIRECTORY

Fire/Police Emergency: 911

Assessor's Office: 964-5523, Ext 13

Building Inspector: 964-9800, Ext 20

Finance Office: 964-5523, Ext 12

Fire Dept.: 964-6411 (non-emergency)

Highway/Recycling: 964-5300

Library: 964-8401

Planning/Zoning: 964-9800, Ext 21

Police Dept.: 964-7450 (non-emergency)

Recreation Dept.: 964-6281, Ext 25

Selectmen: 964-5523, Ext 10

Sewer Commission: 964-6815

Town Administrator: 964-5523, Ext 11

Town Clerk/Tax Collector: 964-8562

Water District: 436-2596

Town of Rye
Rye, NH 03870

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