



Town of Rye

Newsletter



Vol. 9, No. 3 A Publication of the Rye, New Hampshire, Board of Selectmen September 2006

Fuel Assistance Is Available

Winter is almost here and so are the higher fuel costs. If you are in need of fuel assistance, please call Rockingham Community Action 436-3896 or 1-800-639-3896 to get your application. Assistance is provided to eligible households from December 1 through April 30. Also, Public Service of New Hampshire offers a Statewide Electric Assistance Program. This is a discount on your monthly electric bill. The discount is based on the household gross income and the type of space heating used in the home.

You may call one of the phone numbers listed above for further information and to see if you meet the income qualifications.

Town Clerk's Report

Ballot Will Look Different in Upcoming Elections

With all the TV ads and news coverage going on, it's probably not news that there are two elections coming up. The State Primary will take place on September 12, and the General Election follows on November 7. In Rye we vote at the Rye Elementary School on Sagamore Road. The polls are open from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Absentee ballots for both elections will be available at this office. For those who obtain absentee ballots, some words of caution. The marked ballots must be returned to the Town Clerk's office **in person** no later than 5 p.m. the day *before* the election. Absentee ballots delivered **by mail** can be accepted no later than 5 p.m. on Election Day. This means we cannot

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SELECTMEN'S MESSAGE

Rye Public Safety Building Now Home to Fire and Police

Over the past few months, much controversy has been generated by a few over the progress of the new Rye Public Safety Building. While the Rye Board of Selectmen believes it important to inform the public about the project, the Board also believes that it would be remiss to do so at the expense of the Town's best interest.

In mid-March of this year, the Town received a written "notice of claim" from the general contractor, Horne Construction. In summary, this claim alleges that the Town is responsible for the delay in the completion of the project and that Horne is seeking damages from the Town for that delay.

Assessing Office Report

Items to Consider Before Filing for Abatements

The mandate from the State's Department of Revenue Administration to update property valuations in the 2005 tax year produced, as anticipated, more than the customary amount of applications for abatements. Typically, about 40 such forms are requested and approximately 20 to 25 are filed annually. Last year, 207 forms pertaining to valuation were requested, with 126 completed returns. Of those, 76 were granted and 50 denied.

Reflecting upon our review of those submissions, we offer some suggestions on what constitutes a meaningful appeal. The governing statute is RSA 76:16, stating that taxes may be abated "for good cause shown." To that end, Section E of the application form requires the owner to state the fair market value as of

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At that point, the Town found it necessary to move forward along parallel tracks. One course of action was to remain dedicated to completion of the building in an acceptable manner and in accordance with the contract documents while the second was to prepare the Town's defense against the claim. The Board recognized that actions on the building side would impact the legal side and vice-versa. The interpretation and application of the contract documents are entangled with the claim itself.

The Board's desire to keep the public informed while avoiding an adverse effect on the Town's legal defense against the claim presented a quandary. Every word, written or spoken, on this matter by anyone representing the parties involved has the potential to influence the outcome of the claim. Town Officials, on advice of legal counsel, must be very careful in public discussions to protect the Town's greater interest.

Although inspection of our new facility prior to issuance of a

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RPSB Now Home to Fire and Police *Continued from page 1*

Certificate of Occupancy could have been handled at the local level, due to the circumstances Town officials deemed it important to have this inspection conducted by the State. The State Fire Marshal's Office ruled that there were several code violations. These code violations are a result of code misinterpretations and resulting design flaws. Consequently, despite the fact that the safety complex was "substantially complete" on June 16 according to the terms of the construction contract with Horne, these problems had to be resolved before the Fire Department could move in.

During the period of December 21, 2005 through June 16, 2006, when the architect determined that the project was "substantially complete" pursuant to the architectural firm's responsibility under the contract, the Town has withheld \$169,000 in liquidated damages.

Most residents are aware that a phased occupation of the building was planned from the start. The code violations have been dealt with. All systems were operational before Chief O'Brien and his department moved trucks and equipment. As we go to press, asbestos abatement in the old fire station has been completed, that building has been prepared for demolition and our Police Department is moving into its new quarters. The remaining site work will follow.

It is our plan to hold an Open House for the community during the fall.

Adopt a Catch Basin

Since the last newsletter, Rye has been severely affected by excessive water and wind. The prolonged rain events of May/June, with more than 22 inches of rain falling within the period of a few weeks, caused many to have flooded yards and basements.

Our Fire Department's primary responsibility is focused on the safety of the residents of Rye. With that in mind, they responded first to calls for assistance where rising water threatened to cause electrical fires. These calls were

numerous over a number of days.

As a result of the deluge, many drainage complaints have been received at the Town office and the Board has scheduled and carried out a large number of site walks. The torrential rush of water eroded and flooded many areas not generally under threat. While solutions were found for some drainage issues, some problems occurred near the coast in areas so close to sea level there is no reasonable solution.

It should be noted that in a number of instances the backup of water was exacerbated by debris such as lawn clippings, leaves, and sticks covering catch basins. In one instance, autumn leaves deposited by abutters on a vacant lot had formed a mat over the openings of a catch basin. The Town has hundreds of catch basins along 60+ miles of road. It is to the homeowner's advantage to make certain that the catch basins nearby are running freely in times of heavy rain.

The Board is looking into ways to lessen the impact of reoccurrence of a similar rain event, including the feasibility of lowering existing bodies of water such as Brown's Pond, Burke's Pond, and Eel Pond in advance of a predicted catastrophic storm system.

Flood Insurance

Rye is a participating community of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). As such, all residents are eligible to purchase flood insurance regardless of whether they live in areas with the greatest risk of flooding, called special flood hazard areas on the town's Flood Insurance Rate Map. For further information contact Planning Administrator Kim Reed.

Most recently, the flush of fresh water into Eel Pond and our marshes resulted in the posting of our beaches as unsafe for bathing when State testing revealed excessive enterococci in the water samples. The presence of enterococci is an indication of animal and/or human fecal matter. The beaches were never formally closed. Posting is an advisory warning of the

dangers of swimming or ingesting the water. We have been assured that in the future, if we post the beaches on a Friday, the State will continue to test throughout the weekend to allow people back into the water safely at the earliest possible time.

The nightly TV news film of children's toys and other items cast ashore on Plum Island, near Newburyport, Massachusetts, from a New Hampshire town 60 miles inland was a reminder to all of us that, due to storm water runoff and drainage systems, lawn chemicals, pesticides, and effluent from faulty septic systems released far inland will eventually reach our shores.

The majority of Rye homes are on private septic systems. In order to protect our groundwater, septic system maintenance is extremely important. This includes regular pumping and caution with regard to materials disposed of via the septic system. An improperly maintained system that fails is also a huge expense.

The Microburst

On the evening of August 3, the southern half of the town suffered severe damage as the result of sudden winds with force akin to a tornado. We were fortunate that no lives were lost. Lasting only about five minutes, this microburst snapped off many hundreds of trees and damaged thousands more. Building, vehicle, and motor home damage was caused primarily by falling trees. No relief will be forthcoming from FEMA because 1.2 million dollars in public aid is the minimum threshold figure.

The Town contracted several chipper crews that went street by street to chip and remove brush brought to the roadside in the affected area. Our own chipper and crew were also working constantly during this time. We are grateful to those willing and able to transport their own brush to the recycling/brush dump area.

Continued next page

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Beckwith Bookworks
2075 Ocean Blvd., Rye, NH 03870
(603) 964-4800

Life Goes On

While the new Public Safety Building and the extreme weather garnered most of the headlines, other events have taken place since the last newsletter.

On behalf of the Town, the Selectmen would like to express our thanks to Jim Cullen, our Recreation Department, and the numerous participants for this year's well-attended Memorial Day ceremony with guest speaker Shannon Keane, sister of the Navy Seal from Exeter who lost his life in Iraq.

We would also like to express our thanks to Craig and Denise Benson for their generous gift, which has provided new flags, poles, and sturdy brackets for the display of American flags throughout Rye Center.

On June 8, the State Department of Transportation held a public hearing seeking input regarding the preference of residents for a signalized intersection or roundabout at Foyes Corner. On that evening, only one person spoke in favor of traffic signals; but, at this writing, no decision has been received from DOT.

Those traveling from Rye Center toward Portsmouth on Wallis Road should have noticed a change in the roadway. Although the final road surface will not be applied until next year, the undercoat has been laid down and temporarily lined to provide a bike path/pedestrian walkway in keeping with our plans to do so where possible as roads are repaved.

In closing, on behalf of the Town, we wish to recognize Louise Tallman for her extraordinary research efforts with regard to local cemeteries. On Tuesday, July 25, Louise was honored at the Point of Graves Cemetery by the City of Portsmouth for her decades-long project on cemetery research and restoration within the city. The extensive work on Rye cemeteries compiled at an earlier date by Louise is available at the Rye Library.

Rye Selectmen
Joe Mills
Priscilla Jenness
Craig Musselman

Ballot Will Look Different in Upcoming Elections

accept any hand-delivered absentee ballots at the polls on Election Day.

Primary elections evoke confusion for many voters when it comes to party affiliation. Presently this state recognizes just two political parties, Republican and Democrat. At a Primary a voter can get a ballot *only* for the party in which he or she is registered. (The deadline for changing affiliation was June 6.) As an example, if you are a registered Democrat, you can only receive the ballot for the Democratic Party candidates. If you are undeclared or independent, you can choose whichever ballot you prefer; however you should know that action immediately "registers" you in that political party. You can regain your independent status by proceeding to the Supervisors of the Checklist table (at the polls) right after you vote. You'll need to fill out a short form. If you're not an independent or undeclared voter on primary day but want to become one, you can come to our office *after* Election Day to change your party affiliation. If you have any questions, please call our office at 964-8562.

If you have not yet registered to vote, you can do so at our office at any time. The deadline for voter registration in our office in order to vote in the Primary is September 5, the day after Labor Day. Should you miss that deadline, you can register and vote at the polls on Election Day. Bring photo ID and proof of your residency.

When you go to the polls on Election Day you'll notice a couple of changes. In order to comply with HAVA (the Help America Vote Act), all the cities and towns in New Hampshire will now use the Accuvote system of voting. This new system has been provided to us at no charge. As before, we'll be using a paper ballot. The difference for us will be that instead of connecting the arrow to indicate our choice, we will be filling in a small circle. The ballot will then be fed into the Accuvote machine, which will scan it in much the same manner as our now retired OpTech machine did. There will also be a new handicapped voting booth

and machine, provided to us by the State of New Hampshire in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Also in keeping with HAVA, New Hampshire has initiated a statewide voter checklist system. As you might imagine, this has been a huge initiative and our office, along with the Supervisors of the Checklist and the Moderator, has been working in tandem with the Secretary of State's office and other New Hampshire cities and towns in order to have the new system in place and working properly by the September Primary. It has been an enormous challenge for everyone involved, and in Rye we are fortunate to have Beth Yeaton (Deputy Town Clerk and Tax Collector), who possesses the knowledge and the skills to accomplish this work, and was willing to accept the major responsibility for it. Thank you, Beth!

Look for your second issue property tax bills around the end of October. Normally the Department of Revenue Administration sets the town's tax rate sometime in September or October and once that is done we'll be sending out the bills. Your bill will reflect the total billing for the year, minus whatever you paid on the first issue bill. So long as we're able to mail out the bills before the first of November, the due date will be December 1. Should anything delay the mailing, then they would be due in 30 days.

If your property tax dollars are escrowed through your mortgage company, be sure to send them a copy of your bill. Many mortgage companies contact us through a property tax payment service, but we cannot be sure your bank or mortgage company is included. And, of course, with all the mortgage changes that are happening, you'll want to be sure *your* mortgage company is alerted.

Our office is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Feel free to contact us with any questions.

Jane Ireland
Tax Collector
Phone 964-8562; Fax 964-4132
Email janei@town.rye.nh.us

Planning Board Discusses Personnel Changes and Activities

Who's Who: Good news for Planning and Zoning—and for the Town of Rye. Kimberly Reed has accepted the job of Planning and Zoning Administrator. Kim hits the ground with a wealth of background since she has been a member of the Planning Board (PB) for over four years. As a member she served as Clerk of the Board and chaired the Long Range Planning Committee rewriting the Master Plan. Kim is a seacoast native and thus no stranger to our area. Kim and her husband Tim moved to Rye in 1995 and live with their two daughters and their dog. Although we will miss having Kim as a colleague on the Planning Board we will profit from having her “watch the store” for us as Administrator. Please welcome Kimberly when you are in Town Hall.

The Planning Board has additional good news in that Judy Sponaule (nee Brown), another seacoast native and currently a PB Alternate, has volunteered to serve as a member of the PB replacing Kimberly until the March election. Judy has a real depth of knowledge having been an alternate for the last 15 Years. She will be a prized asset for the Board. However, Judy's serving means that additional Planning Board Alternates are needed. Please call Bob Brown, Chairman or Kimberly M. Reed, Rye Planning & Zoning Administrator at 964-9800 to become an Alternate.

Land Development Activities: The “Planned Continuing Care Retirement Community” (PCCRC) Committee has been discontinued due to Ciborowski Associates announcing at the July Planning Board meeting that they are rethinking the details of their development of their land west of Lafayette Road (Rt. 1). Part of this reexamination led to their terminating their relationship with the New England Deaconess Association and going back to an earlier approach of extensive research. The Ciborowskis stated that their property may still be a potential site for Webster's needed expansion but if so would have different parameters. Their plan now involves an in-depth market analysis to be managed by Webster at Rye. This analysis, involving surveys, focus groups, and information meetings, will dig deeply into ques-

tions about density, assessment methods, traffic, safety protection, water supply, and sewerage among others. At the PB meeting Webster reiterated that “. . .the future of traditional nursing homes has been severely impacted by the significant underfunding of Medicaid, which represents 60 percent of [our] current resident population. . . .”

The town appreciates the PCCRC Committee's work since the full analysis of the impacts would not have happened if it were not for the dedication of the Committee. Ultimately any decisions on changes to the zoning ordinance will, as always, be up to the electorate at the next Town Meeting.

The first major subdivision since White Horse Farms in 2002 was also

approved in July. This five-residence project will not be very visible to most Rye residents since it is off Winslow Way, which is itself off Washington Road by the intersection with Ocean Boulevard (think “Rye on the Rocks”). Many of the lots on the new site will have ocean views.

We are pleased to report that a commercial property was approved by Site Review on Lafayette Road between Dow Lane and Washington Road. This will be the headquarters for the home fuel oil business of Jon Savage. This development supports our Master Plan guidance for promoting nonresidential uses of our limited Commercial Zone land.

Bob Brown
Chairman

Assessing Office Report *Continued from page 1* Items to Consider Before Filing for Abatements

April first of the tax year and why the assessed valuation is inequitable or disproportionate in comparison to the assessment ratio of the community. In comparing your property to others, try to reflect recent sales in your own neighborhood. There is a tendency toward overkill: Avoid the “laundry list” approach of an unreasonable and lengthy sampling. Three to five comparisons are sufficient and they should be reasonably similar: Do not try to match a 1990 ranch of 1,000 square feet living area to an 1890 colonial of 3,000 square feet.

Many applications are approved on the basis of correcting data errors. Our records may contain inaccuracies such as age and number of bedrooms and bathrooms, particularly if there has not been a recent interior inspection. When such is performed, the data is revised as warranted. Some owners have submitted bank or fee appraisals. These are good indicators of current fair market value by comparing a property with recent sales of similar homes. This is mentioned only as an option because of the expense involved.

There are a number of techniques submitted that are not effective. Comparison to a prior assessment factored by that year's ratio is not reflective of current market value. The reason is

that values fluctuate at different rates in different neighborhoods, based upon sales therein. Thus, the ratio is a median not applicable to all properties uniformly. Likewise, not every sale is a valid comparable. Such factors as family transactions, foreclosures, duress, or price significantly below or above similar neighborhood transfers may disqualify a property.

Other frequent submissions are land analysis charts and spreadsheets based on averaging. While the applicant obviously put much time and thought into such presentations, they tend to not be market-oriented. Land does not sell on a straight-line mathematical square foot or acre basis. A half-acre lot will typically not sell for 50 percent of the price of a one-acre parcel, but rather in a 70 to 90 percent range. The concept is actually an everyday occurrence: a supermarket in Portsmouth sells a half-gallon of milk for \$1.49 and a gallon for \$1.99. Thus, the greater quantity costs 1.55 cents per ounce while the lesser amount is 2.33 cents per ounce. Similar to the half-acre versus acre comparison, the half-gallon sells not for 50 percent but rather 75 percent of the gallon price.

In summary, the most successful appeals are those that address the issue of fair market value.

Howard Promer, CNHA-Assessor
Heather Austin, Assessing Clerk

Signs, Signs, Everywhere Are Signs

Popping up in the scenery and breaking my mind! The Town of Rye has regulations on signs, so please be respectful of those who do follow the regulations. Get a permit for any sign you wish to erect! The town has become cluttered with signs, especially at multi-tenant properties and restaurants, giving the town a negative appearance. And of course it raises my blood pressure seeing constant violations.

If you have sign violations on your property, and have not yet received a letter regarding the violations, you may soon receive one. We encourage you to call Town Hall and find out first if what you have is legal. If you plan on doing any more signage, even temporary, we can help you understand what is permitted.

Properties in the Commercial District are permitted to have up to three signs, each no larger than 25 square feet; properties in the Business District are permitted to have one sign no larger than 16 square feet. There are no provisions in the sign ordinance for temporary signs or sandwich board signs. Only temporary real estate signs are permitted. A more extensive listing of the regulations can be found online in the Zoning Ordinance, Section 501 (www.town.rye.nh.us/zoningordinance.pdf). The permit application for signs can also be found on the website, along with applications for building, electrical, plumbing, Board of Adjustment, and Planning Board.

Permits and right-of ways

Remember that fences, sheds, patios, and other outside structures require a permit. We need to know if you are on a corner of a street so we can make sure anything you erect will not interfere with the State and Town rules on site distance.

Although the town and your neighbors appreciate your maintenance of the town right-of-way located between your property line and the edge of pavement of the roads, it is the Town's property and no landscaping, trees, or bushes can be planted. Residents don't always understand that if someone becomes injured because of a fence or tree located in the right-of-way, the Town is liable since it is Town property. Also, plow drivers have to be able to assume the right-of-ways are clear so they can ade-

quately plow the roads to avoid accidents. If there are fences or trees planted in a right-of-way, they can affect or even damage a town plow, or the fence of tree can be damaged by the plow.

As always, I welcome your comments, feedback, and questions. We are open for walk-ins Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., and by appointment in the afternoons. I may not always be available in the mornings but both Sue Dunfey and Kimberly Reed are competent and eager to assist or to help direct you, or make an appointment with me. I can always be reached through e-mail.

Board of Adjustment Needs Volunteers

We are staying busy with requests from residents who are attempting to improve their homesteads. The dedicated members of the Board are incredibly knowledgeable on both the Town regulations and State statutes. We are currently looking for alternate members. This is a great way to learn more about the Town regulations and projects going on in town. Put your request in writing to the Board of Selectmen for consideration. Please contact the Building Inspector for more information.

New updated zoning books are available on the website and from our office for \$10 each. We have zoning maps for sale also for \$5 each.

Susan Zarlengo
Building Inspector

Report of the Rye Water District Commission

Fall Flushing

The semiannual water main flushing is expected to begin at the end of September and run through October. This is done to reduce any sediment that may collect in the mains and valves. A notice of flushing dates and times will be published in the local papers before flushing begins.

No Hunting

Our property is posted with No Trespassing and No Hunting signs in order to protect the equipment that provides your water. Enjoy the hunting season, but please do it responsibly.

Projects

The extension of a new water main for the entire length of Odiorne Drive is complete. Three emergency water main repairs occurred during the last three months—Ocean Boulevard by Cole Noyes, Ocean Boulevard by Rye Harbor, and Wallis Road.

Publications

Newly printed booklets of our By-Laws and Regulations are available at the District's office at 60 Sagamore Road. All residents of the District should have received in the mail our Annual Rye Water Quality Report. Additional copies are available at our office.

Rye Water District Commissioners

Report of the Rye Historic District Commission

The following has been read into the minutes of the Selectmen's meeting held on June 26.

"It was the unanimous opinion of the Rye Historic District Commission at its meeting on Wednesday, June 14th, that the lighting at the Safety Complex is intrusive, far too bright and incompatible with the residential neighborhood in which it is situated.

"While some subdued limited exterior lighting might be necessary at night and with the understanding that lighting will increase during times of emergency, use of every available outside light all night long is disturbing for neighboring residents and qualifies as extreme and unnecessary light pollu-

tion in the Historic District. It is wasteful of our energy resources and expensive for the town taxpayers. Also the splash of the various lamps appears to exceed what was promised after many town committee meetings during the planning stages of the building.

"We urge you to investigate and confront these issues while the contractor is still on the premises and before the town takes possession of the Complex."

A new sign at Star Island has been installed on the island to replace the plaque damaged last year. This sign identifies the island as being in the Historic District in the Town of Rye, NH.

Jane Holway, Chairman

Happenings at the Rye Public Library

MONDAYS

Military Book Discussion

First Mondays at 6:30 p.m.

Call the Library for book title (964-8401).

Writing Group

Second Mondays at 10 a.m. (Call the Library for new date and time beginning in the fall.)

Film Discussion

Fourth Mondays at 1 p.m.

9/25 *Marion Bridge* observes the psychological tensions of three grown-up sisters attending their dying mother in a small Nova Scotia town.

10/23 *The Color of Lies* is a superb sociological mystery set in a small Breton village.

11/27 *Artemisia* tells the story of a determined young artist who became the first female artist to be admitted to the Academy of Fine Arts in Florence.

TUESDAYS

Friends of the Rye Public Library meetings

Second Tuesdays at 7 p.m.

Book Discussion

Third Tuesdays at 7 p.m.

9/19 *The Passion of Artemisia* by Susan Vreeland

10/17 *The Bookseller of Kabul* by Asne Seierstad

11/21 *Snow Flower and the Secret Fan* by Lisa See

Compass Care Health Clinic

Fourth Tuesdays from 1 to 3 p.m.

9/29, 10/24, and 11/28

WEDNESDAYS

Knitting by the fireplace with Mary Smith

10 a.m. every week beginning September 13

THURSDAYS

Rye Reflections online magazine

writing and publishing sessions

1 p.m. every week

Rye Senior SERVE meetings

First Thursdays
at 3:30 p.m.

LIBRARY SERVICES

Home delivery

Call the Library (964-8401) to request home delivery of library materials.



Librarians Pam Woods and Martha Jones created a wonderful garden along the sidewalk with donations from patrons' gardens.

Computer classes begin on September 5

Judy Underwood has scheduled three Digital Photography classes for the fall. The cost for the three-session class is \$50. Class size is limited to eight participants.

Tuesdays September 5, 12, and 19 (1 p.m. to 3 p.m.)

Thursdays September 7, 14, and 21 (10 a.m. to 12 p.m.)

Thursdays September 7, 14, and 21 (6 p.m. to 8 p.m.)

It is not essential that you own a digital camera, as there will be some discussion of recommended features. If you own one, bring your camera and everything that comes with it to class. Pick up applications at the Library or go to the Library website at www.rye.lib.nh.us. November classes are being formed so if you would like to request a specific computer course for Judy to teach, please call the Library at 964-8401.

CALL FOR ART

Artists are invited to participate in the next art display—"Any Type of Painting on Any Type of Surface"—sponsored by the Library's Fine Arts Committee. Included in this category and open to all painting media (oil, watercolor, acrylic, tempera, casein, pastel, etc.) are any type of artwork on any paintable surface (paper, canvas, stone, glass, fabric, plastic, metal, etc.). Experimental artwork along with traditional artwork will be accepted. All work must be framed and ready to hang or must have a display pedestal and not to weigh over 15 lbs. One piece of artwork per artist, please. Artwork will be accepted at the Library from September 27 through October 10. Applications are available at the Library (964-8401) and from the website: www.rye.lib.nh.us

Extended Library Hours

Monday, Wednesday, Friday 9 to 5

Tuesday and Thursday 9 to 8 **Open every day**

Saturday 9 to 3 **at 9 a.m.!**

Visit our website

Need our assistance in your hunt for information? Our website has online resources that include genealogy searches, magazine and newspaper articles research (EBSCO), car buying information, links to the NH State Library and the Town of Rye, reference tools, and lists of new books and movies recently purchased by your Library. Call us for a pin number and you can renew and reserve library materials from home!

Interlibrary Loan

Can't find what you need at our Library? We are happy to borrow material for you from another library. We'll even go out of state!

FRIENDS OF THE RYE PUBLIC LIBRARY
MONTHLY SPEAKER SERIES 2006-2007
"EMERGING POWERS"
7 p.m. on Thursdays

- October 19 "IRAN—an Emerging Power"
Dr. Massood Samii, Chairman/Professor
International Business Department
Southern New Hampshire University
- November 16 "CHINA—an Emerging Power"
Professor Gary H. Jefferson
Department of Economics and Inter-
national Business, Brandeis University

MUSEUM PASSES

The Friends of the Rye Public Library have generously donated free and discounted admission/memberships to the following museums for use by our patrons:

- Boston** Museum of Fine Arts, Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, Children's Museum, and Museum of Science
- Portland** Museum of Art
- Salem** Peabody Essex Museum
- Portsmouth** Strawberry Banke and Children's Museum
- Rye** Seacoast Science Center
- Manchester** Currier Museum of Art in Manchester (re-opening in 2007)

(You may call the Library to reserve an admission ticket up to two weeks in advance.)

Patrons are invited to join the Friends at their monthly planning meetings on the second Tuesday of each month. Book signings and trips to museums are being organized.

New Youth Librarian

Lisa Houde enthusiastically joins the Library staff full time in September. Lisa taught middle school language arts for seven years here in New Hampshire and has a deep love and appreciation for children's literature. She is a NH native but has lived all over the US, and even spent four years in Okinawa, Japan, in her youth. To be near her family she moved back to NH in 1999 from Seattle, where she lived for 14 years. Lisa adores her two standard poodles—Josie, a beautiful redhead, and Nickleby, a handsome silver boy. Lisa has already expressed her joy at being with us part-time this summer, and she has great ideas for the Youth Department, including expanding programs for high school-aged patrons, and adding an afternoon story hour for elementary school-aged children. As a former teacher, she looks forward to working closely with the Rye schools to get children interested in reading. Be sure to stop in to say hello and introduce yourself.

Happenings in the Youth Department

SEPTEMBER IS LIBRARY CARD SIGN UP MONTH!

Children who have reached their sixth birthday and/or graduated from kindergarten are invited to come visit the Library and sign up for a library card. Check your wallets. Do you have a card with us? Do all your children have library cards?



Come in to see us this month!

The SS JOLLY READER, on loan from Len Bernard, was used all summer by the Summer Reading participants and visitors.

STORY TIMES

Pre-school-aged story time and craft begins on WEDNESDAYS at 10:30 a.m. on September 13

Elementary school-aged story time begins on WEDNESDAYS at 3:30 p.m. on September 13

BOOK DISCUSSION

YAttitudes monthly book group resumes on second TUESDAYS

September 12 October 10 November 14
Check with school and town librarians for book titles and time for meetings.

SEASONAL DROP-IN CRAFTS

September 18 through 23

October 16 through 21

November 13 through 18

BANNED BOOK WEEK—September 25 through 30

TEEN READ WEEK—October 16 through 21

FRIDAY MOVIES—will return later this winter

Friends Yearly Membership Drive Will Begin in September

I want to be a Friend:	Donations gratefully accepted:
_____ \$10 Individual	_____ \$25 Patron
_____ \$15 Family	_____ \$50 Sponsor
_____ \$5 Seniors	_____ \$100 Benefactor
	_____ \$100+Literary Lion

Can you help with: Name: _____
_____special events Address: _____
_____baking _____
_____hospitality Phone: _____

Send information to: Friends of the Rye Public Library,
581 Washington Road

Floods, Storm Make for Busy Season for Both Police and Fire Departments

The Police Department is in the midst of another busy summer. Since the last newsletter we have been challenged by the floods and recent windstorm. Both of these events tested the Town's public safety response to natural disasters, the scope of which has not been seen in this area for many years. In both of these instances we were able to provide appropriate staffing levels and respond to calls for service as necessary. We also found that improvements made during the past few years to the public safety communication system really enhanced our ability to communicate with other Town departments and with those responding from out of town. The Town's response to major emergencies will be further enhanced with the establishment of the Emergency Operations Center at the Public Safety Building.

Beach Patrols

With grant funds from the State we have been able to conduct our beach alcohol patrols as in past summers. These patrols have been very successful and have resulted in 33 enforcement actions with several dozen more juveniles being detained and released to parents. These patrols also give us some limited visibility on the beaches in the afternoon and evening to enforce other violations such as littering and dogs on the beach. Certainly these patrols will not solve all our beach-related problems but they are the best we can do with the resources we have.

Motor Vehicle Law Enforcement

Enforcement of motor vehicle laws continues to be a priority but this enforcement activity can only occur between calls for service. As expected, our call volume increases drastically in the summer along with motor vehicle traffic through Town. In order to continue our motor vehicle enforcement initiative through the summer months we have received a number of grants that pay for target-

Wow! The Rye Fire Department has been busier than ever. To date, Rye firefighters can expect to respond to 30-40 percent more calls this year than last year. With the impact of major emergencies and natural disasters we have had to handle a wide range of emergency services to our community. Just the other week we were hit with one of the most severe thunderstorms the state has experienced in years. The National Weather Service classified the storm as a microburst. They stated that microbursts occurring in the region typically affect small areas at a time; Rye experienced a storm that affected nearly four square miles, knocking down or damaging over a thousand trees. During and after the storm hit, the Fire Department responded to over 80 storm-related emergencies.

New Public Safety Building

After the storm had passed, we were given the okay to move into the new Public Safety Building. Our personnel worked numerous hours moving and coordinating the transition of services over to the new building. The complex, critical functions of the Fire Department like telephones, radio systems, alarm systems, and computer systems were seamlessly cut over to the new building during the move on Friday, August 4. We are excited to be in such a modern station, which will help the Department provide more efficient service to the town. It is our hope to have an Open House event in the near future. Please look for any official announcements in the coming weeks.

In other Fire Department news, our fire department intern program

has been very successful. One of the interns has decided to continue his aspirations to enter into the emergency services field and has enrolled into a specialized college program out of state. Another intern has recently turned 18 years old and will become a member of our Call Firefighting force. With these changes, we have openings for high school students from Rye who may be interested in a future in firefighting or emergency medical services. Anyone wishing to learn more about the program or who would like to join our call firefighting force is urged to call the Fire Department at 964-6411.

Child Safety Seat Program

This summer one of our full-time firefighters, Chuck Gallant, completed a Child Passenger Safety Seat Program and now is certified to inspect all child seats located in vehicles. Studies show that most of the child passenger safety seats in vehicles are installed improperly and in a crash may not provide the level of protection designed for the car seat. Rye Fire Department would be glad to inspect your child seat and assist you with methods to install the car seat properly. If you would like to use this service, please call the Department to set up an appointment to stop by. Please call the business number at 964-6411.

In closing, I would like to thank all of the town residents who have supported the Fire Department during the major storms and during our transition to our new home in the Rye Public Safety Building.

Richard S. O'Brien
Fire Chief

ed enforcement patrols. During the first seven months of the year 1370 vehicles were stopped for motor vehicle violations. Approximately half those stops were made in the last three months.

Our schools will be opening by the time you get this newsletter. Please drive with care and watch for children on the roadway.

Alan S. Gould
Chief of Police

Town of Rye Board Meetings

September 2006

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. Other board meetings are held at Rye Town Hall, 10 Central Rd., unless otherwise noted. Because meeting schedules are subject to change, check the bulletin board at Town Hall for up-to-date information.

3	4 <i>Labor Day Town Offices Closed</i>	5 3:30 pm Water Dist. 6:30 pm Board of Selectmen 7 pm Recreation Comm., Rec House	6 4:30 pm Long Range Planning 7 pm Zoning Board of Adjustment	7	8	9
10	11	12 State Primary Polls Open 8am – 7 pm 9 am Sewer Comm. 7 pm Planning Board	13	14	15	16
17	18 6:30 pm Board of Selectmen	19	20 6 pm School Board RJH	21 7 pm Conservation Commission	22 <i>First day of Fall</i>	23 <i>Rosh Hashanah begins</i>
24	25	26 7 pm Technical Review Committee	27	28	29	30

October 2006

1 <i>Yom Kippur begins</i>	2 3:30 pm Rye Water District 60 Sagamore 6:30 pm Board of Selectmen	3 7 pm Recreation Commission Recreation House	4 4:30 pm Long Range Planning 7 pm Zoning Board of Adjustment	5	6	7
8	9 <i>Columbus Day Town offices closed</i>	10 9 am Sewer Commission 7 pm Planning Board	11	12	13	14
15	16 6:30 pm Board of Selectmen	17	18 6 pm School Board RJH	19 7 pm Conservation Commission	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29 <i>Daylight Savings Time ends</i>	30 6:30 pm Board of Selectmen <i>Trick or Treat in Rye 5 – 7 pm</i>	31 7 pm Technical Review Committee <i>Halloween</i>	November 2006			
			1 4:30 pm Long Range Planning 7 pm Zoning Board of Adjustment	2	3	4

5	6 3:30 pm Rye Water District 60 Sagamore	7 7 pm Recreation Comm., Rec Hse ELECTION DAY Polls Open 8 am–7 pm	8	9	10 <i>Veterans' Day Town offices closed</i>	11
12	13 6:30 pm Board of Selectmen	14 9 am Sewer Commission 7 pm Planning Board	15 6 pm School Board RJH	16 7 pm Conservation Commission	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27 6:30 pm Board of Selectmen	28 7 pm Technical Review Committee	29	30		

Library Trustees, first Tuesday of the month
6:30 pm at the Library

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

Mosquito Control Commission Report

Mosquito activity has been low this season for most of the Town with isolated pockets of moderate activity indicated by complaint calls from those locations. The decrease in the mosquito population has been attributed to the unusually high amounts of rainfall in the spring, which can drown or wash away the mosquito larvae. It may also be a result of better breeding site identification and larvaciding by the Town's mosquito control contractor, Municipal Pest Management.

Street spraying is being done throughout the Town on a weekly basis. Special care is taken not to treat around homes that have called and requested not to be treated.

On July 19 State health officials designated all of Rockingham County as being a public health threat due to mosquito-borne illness. Mosquitoes carrying Eastern Equine Encephalitis were found in Danville and more recently in the Manchester area. The State of NH is providing financial assistance (HB 1464) to towns for their mosquito control budgets. Rye is submitting an application for that assistance program.

George Cushing, Superintendent SAU 50, and the principals of Rye Jr. and Rye Elementary have been made aware of the increased health threat so that they may plan accordingly for their students.

The Rye Mosquito Control Commission in cooperation with the Rye Conservation Commission and the NH Coastal Program is actively investigat-

RYE LIONS ANNUAL CAR SHOW

Sunday, September 17 at Parsons Field

The Rye Lions Club will be hosting its 23rd Annual Car Show at Parsons Field on Sunday, September 17 with a rain date of September 24. There is no car raffle this year but the show will include a "cruise-in" for people who would like to enjoy the day by displaying their cars noncompetitively. There will be antiques, classics, hot rods, sports cars, tractors, and vehicles of all types. There will also be new car displays by local car dealers. As always, there will be great food served by the Lions and songs of yesteryear. For more information, call 603-436-6839. We hope to see you there!

ALL ABOARD! The new Rye Senior SERVE van is ready to leave its station, and the destination is up to its passengers.

In addition to the regular Tuesday morning trip to the Market Basket Shopping Plaza, the 14-passenger van is ready to be used for group trips this fall, and some already have taken advantage. The Rye Recreation Department (964-6281) and the Friends of the Rye Public Library (964-8401) are coordinating trips to such places as the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston and the Seacoast Repertory Theater productions in Portsmouth. Please call them for more information or to express interest. Volunteer drivers are willing to take small groups of seniors to local areas of interest during the day or early evenings. Please call the Library if you wish to schedule a trip on the van with some friends or an organization.

ing methods of marsh management that can effectively reduce mosquito problems without the use of chemicals.

Tom Aspinwall

Mosquito Control Commission

Meanwhile, there is room on the van for the shopping trips that occur every Tuesday. If you wish to be picked up at your home, please call the Town Hall (964-5523) before 1 p.m. on Monday.

If you are a senior citizen living alone or know of one in Rye, The Daily Call Program is a free daily service you ought to check out.

The Daily Call offers telephone contact seven days a week between 8:30 and 9 a.m. Volunteers place the calls each day for the purpose of providing reassurance. All Rye seniors are eligible and will be given a full explanation of the program at their home or apartment by a member of the Rye Police Department before deciding whether to participate. If you would like to be included in the program or if you know of a relative or neighbor who may need this service, please call the Rye Public Library at 964-8401.

Rye Senior SERVE meets on the first Thursday of each month in the Community Meeting Room at the Rye Public Library at 3:30 p.m. New members are most welcome!

Tricia Quinn

Secretary, Rye Senior SERVE

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