



Town of Rye

Newsletter



Vol. 11, No. 3 A Publication of the Rye, New Hampshire, Board of Selectmen September 2008

MODERATOR'S MESSAGE

Please Vote in September 9 Primary and November 4 General Election!

As set forth in the Declaration of Independence, a government's legitimacy derives "from the consent of the governed." The right to vote makes our government "of the people, by the people, and for the people," and it is guaranteed to every citizen, 18 years of age or older, by both the United States and New Hampshire constitutions. Franklin Roosevelt once said that "nobody will ever deprive the American people of

See Moderator's Message, page 3

Should Property Taxes Be Based on Affordability?

A recent letter to the editor of a local newspaper expressed concern that property taxes are not based upon the owner's ability to pay. The complaint is an accurate statement in the sense that the owner's financial resources are not the criteria by which real estate is assessed. Conversely, it is also an inaccurate observation in that it attempts to make a correlation which does not exist. The levy on real estate is "ad valorem" taxation, a Latin phrase literally meaning "at its worth." The phrase refers to the determination of

See Property Taxes, page 6

SELECTMEN'S MESSAGE

Dogs, "Big Pipe," Recycling, Shoreland Protection, Pulpit Rock, Street Name Changes—All Discussed

DOGS: It's Never Simple

Summer had not yet officially arrived when an alarming incident took place near Jenness Beach involving an attack on a leashed dog by other dogs, also leashed. The attacking dogs were said to have been agitated by a group of unleashed dogs. Following publicity of the incident, the Selectmen received a flurry of correspondence and contacts from residents many of whom defended the presence of dogs on the beach and others urging banning or further restriction.

The topic of dogs on the beach came up at the next Selectmen's meeting on June 16. Police Chief Walsh acknowledged that the number of dogs has increased dramatically during the past couple of years. A discussion ensued that centered largely on the meaning of the expressions "at large" and "under control" as found in the Standardized Dog Control Law for New Hampshire municipalities established by RSA 466:30-a and adopted by town voters on November 4, 1980.

RSA 466:30-a makes it unlawful for any dog to run at large, except when accompanied by the owner or custodian (or when used for hunting, etc.). Paragraph II of RSA 466:30-a defines the term "at large" as follows: "In this section at large means off the premises of the owner or keeper and not under the control of any person by means of personal presence and attention as will reasonably control the conduct of such a dog, unless accompanied by the owner or custodian."

On June 16, we attempted to more closely define "under control" via amendment as a temporary safety measure. Prior to the next BOS meet-

Life in Clerk's Office Different But It's Business As Usual

Life in this office is very different these days following the July 31 retirement of our long-time Town Clerk/Tax Collector, Jane Ireland. We hope she is enjoying her new found freedom and ability to spend more time with her family, friends, animals, and garden. As Robin and I take on new and different tasks, we will try to keep up "business as usual" for our citizens. Some reorganization has taken place and all are welcome to stop in to view the changes.

Absentee ballots are now available for the Sept. 9 State primary Election. Any absentee ballots must be received in this office by 5 p.m. on Sept. 8. For those voting in any primary election, please remember that you may only vote in the party you are enrolled in. *Only* those voters who are undeclared may choose

See Clerk's Message, page 5

See Selectmen's Message, page 2

Selectment Discuss Shoreline Protection, Pulpit Rock, Big Pipe . . . (Cont. from page

ing, it became apparent that it isn't that simple on several levels. For us, as a Town, to devise a sound, comprehensive response to this growing problem that will fully address legal issues, public input, environmental concerns, and public safety, considerable time and work will be required. To this end the Board of Selectmen is planning to form a committee dedicated to balancing the interests of dog lovers, the general public, and the environment for the purpose of studying current problems and proposing change in preparation for a public discussion. A committee and its charge will be announced after Labor Day.

Does RSA 483-B Pertain to You?

Known as the Comprehensive Shoreland Protection Act (effective April 1, 2008), RSA 483-B governs the use of land abutting rivers, ponds, and coastal shores within 250 ft. of the water in many areas of the state. Expansion of impervious surface area, removal of natural ground cover, and prohibition of chemical applications fall within the scope of this law. For full details visit the DES Shoreland Website at www.des.nh.gov/cspa.

The need for such legislation has been increasingly obvious. Many have read recent articles by Dr. David Burdick and several of his colleagues at the Jackson Estuarine Laboratory which contain urgent warnings that the Great Bay Estuary system could become a dead marine zone due to the expansion of impervious surface areas and the dumping/run off of nutrient-laden wastes (pesticides, herbicides, and fertilizers) into these waters.

What about our own Eel Pond? Formed in 1905 by the construction of Ocean Boulevard, for many decades residents and visitors enjoyed an unobstructed view across the pond with its fresh-saltwater ecosystem unique on the east coast. Today, the shore of Eel Pond is increasingly obscured by invasive species including phragmites, known as a sign of a dying marsh. Death follows as the result of algae growth and depletion of oxygen.

RSA 483-B aside, regardless of where you reside in Rye, if you have a

catch basin near you chances are high that nitrates from lawn fertilizers and pesticides applied on your property will reach the ocean. Dr. Burdick indicated that once in the estuary or the ocean excessive nutrients result in the loss of fish species and increase of large algae blooms. At a meeting co-chaired by our representative David Borden and Judith Spang, D-Durham, it was recognized that shoreland protection must begin with a massive education program that will enable individuals to understand how personal decisions impact water quality both near and far away.

Future of Pulpit Rock Tower Bright

The WWII Pulpit Rock tower, conveyed to the N.H. Fish and Game Department in 1978 by the General Services Administration, was considered a possible cell tower site in 2001. At that time permission to clean the tower (estimated at \$10,000) was granted with no guarantee of ownership. Cost to taxpayers plus neighborhood opposition moved the project to a back burner.

Early this year, Verizon Wireless approached Fish and Game seeking a cellular installation at the Pulpit Rock tower site. At a March meeting arranged by Rep. David Borden and resident Patricia Weathersby, Fish and Game Department representatives indicated that their department would welcome income from such an installation. Since then a group of Rye residents known as The Friends of Pulpit Rock Tower, chaired by Patricia Weathersby, has formed a nonprofit group for the purpose of removing the structure from cell tower consideration as well as cleaning, restoring, and protecting it for its historical significance.

Members of The Friends of Pulpit Rock Tower, Fish & Game Director Glenn Normandeau, Fish & Game Agent Betsey McNaughton, Evan Mulholland from the Attorney General's Office, and State Representative David Borden attended the selectmen's meeting on June 30. Ms. Weathersby reported on progress of the Friends group which included a membership of approximately 50 and

\$23,000 raised toward tower cleanup and repairs. Fish & Game Director Normandeau stated that his department does not have any use for the tower or the funds to keep it in repair and further proposed that a solution would be to transfer ownership of tower and land. However, ownership can only be transferred to another government entity such as the Town of Rye. The Town would be required to submit an application to the National Park Service. Unless an endowment was set up, future repairs would be the Town's responsibility.

Director Normandeau added that such a transfer would also place a historic preservation easement on the tower to protect it with Department of Historic Resources involvement, perhaps as the easement holder. The easement holder must monitor the property and file a biennial report with the National Park Service.

Change in title was estimated to take about one year since it requires approval at federal, state, and local levels, including Governor's Counsel and our own Town Meeting.

Big Pipe Still in the Mix

In the June newsletter, we reported passage of Senate Bill 523 which limits the broad powers of eminent domain in the EAST (Estuary Alliance for Sewer Treatment) legislation to those municipalities that join EAST. Joining EAST requires a favorable vote of the municipality's legislative body at the annual Town Meeting.

Since then, in its final report to the governor and legislature, the Great Bay Estuary Commission failed to endorse any of the four wastewater disposal strategies studied over the past several years (#1 no action, #2 treatment and discharge to the Gulf of Maine, #3 upgrade of existing facilities, and #4 treatment and discharge to land application). Alternative #2, the "Big Pipe to the Ocean", was the most expensive proposal (\$589 million), consumed the greatest amount of the

... Street Name Changes, WNV and EEE

commission's time and was the most divisive of the four alternatives.

At this writing, each of the 44 Great Bay Estuary watershed communities has been asked to name one representative to an EAST ad-hoc group that will discuss alternative regional approaches to wastewater treatment and septage handling within the watershed. The current goal is to work on a description of EAST, outline its function and, in the spring of 2009, allow voters in each community to decide at Town Meeting whether or not it will become a member of EAST.

Street Name/Address Changes

Planning, Police, and Fire Departments are working through Emergency Management to resolve several areas of conflict in our E-911 emergency response system such as names that duplicate or resemble each other too closely. Some street renaming or renumbering problems have been corrected easily while others have required additional hearings and compromise. Once changes are complete, new signage will be installed where appropriate.

The Town is taking the initiative to comply with emergency E-911 guidelines; but it remains the responsibility of homeowners to properly identify their residences **by posting house numbers clearly as numerals**, as opposed to script, and at a height that can be seen from the roadway regardless of snow drifts or dense foliage. Keep in mind that members of our Rye emergency responders may be familiar with your location; but some emergencies require mutual aid assistance from surrounding communities. Proper house identification helps when every second counts.

Single Stream Recycling

Following a Single Stream Recycling presentation by Jim Preshier and Liz Bedard of the Concord Solid Waste Resource Recovery Cooperative last May, we requested a financial analysis as the process would apply to our community. While ease of local storage, collection, and handling are selling points for the single stream process; costs associated with fuel,

labor, and trucking to Concord are negatives.

It was determined that the financial return would be far less with single stream than with our current recycling methods, despite assurance (but no guarantee) that single stream would encourage increased recycling participation.

WNV and EEE

The following September newsletter message has become an annual reminder and warning. August until killing frost is the high risk period for West Nile Virus and Eastern Equine Encephalitis. Although, at this writing, there have been no reported incidents of WNV or EEE in 2008, it is important to continue vigilance against these mosquito-borne illnesses by emptying or removing containers that hold standing water such as beach pails, wading pools, watering cans, and the like. Maintain bird baths. Protect yourself and your family. The New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services recently advised that in addition to previously approved repellants (those containing DEET, picaridin, or oil of lemon eucalyptus) a new type, IR3535, has been approved by the U. S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention as safe and effective in reducing risk of mosquito bites. For more information on WNV and EEE, go to the Department's website www.dhhs.state.nh.us or call the toll-free information hotline 866-273-NILE (6453).

Happy Retirement, Jane

On July 31, we said goodbye to Jane Ireland as our Town Clerk, a position she had held for 26 years. Due to her customary foresight and careful planning, Jane's retirement and the appointment of her Deputy Town Clerk, Beth Yeaton, to fill her vacated position, the transition was smooth. Jane, we wish you a long and happy retirement.

Board of Selectmen
Craig Musselman, Chairman
Priscilla Jenness, Vice Chairman
Joe Mills, Selectman

Moderator's Message

(Cont. from page 2)

the right to vote except the American people themselves . . . by not voting." Yet, in the 2006 State Primary, the voters of Rye did exactly that, when **only 17% of registered voters cast a ballot.**

It may sometimes seem like there isn't enough time in the day to vote, or a particular election is not important. However, voting only takes a few minutes—you can do it on the way to or from work, during your lunch break, or by absentee ballot; and it is essential to the functioning of a healthy democracy. If you have a young child, make a trip to the voting booth part of their civic education. Don't let somebody else choose your elected officials for you! Please join your friends and neighbors at the polls, and **VOTE.** Let's do better than 17%!

This year's State Primary is on Tuesday, September 9. The polls at Rye Elementary School will be open from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. There are contested races on both the Republican and Democratic ballots. If you are registered as "undeclared," or "independent," you may vote in either party's primary. **The General Election is on Tuesday, November 4. Again, the polls are open at RES from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.**

Registration and Absentee Ballots

You can register at the Town Clerk's office during normal business hours on any day through September 2 for the primary, and through October 25 for the November election. **You can also register at the polls on primary or election day and still vote.** If you can't get to the polls, **absentee ballots are available at the Town Clerk's office as late as the day before the election.**

Bob Eaton
Town Moderator

Police Department Lists Safety Reminders

SCHOOL OPENS ON AUGUST 26—Keep our children safe as they bicycle and walk to school!

- **Drivers:** Your speed must not exceed 20 mph while traveling through school zones during the hours of 7:45 a.m. to 8:10 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. to 3:10 p.m.
- **Parents:** We would appreciate it if those of you who drop off and pick up your children at the Junior High would drive past the school, turn around at Grange Park, and then enter the school parking lot. This will help to keep the morning and afternoon commutes moving without creating a traffic jam.
- **For your child's safety:** Before you leave your driveway, remind your child to remove his or her backpack before buckling up and check to make sure the seat belt is buckled properly.
- **When riding a bike, children under the age of 16 are required by state law (RSA 265:144-10) to wear a helmet at all times.** Please make sure your child is wearing a helmet. If you don't have one, the Police Department has spare helmets.

CELL PHONE SAFETY: Talking on a cell phone while riding a bike or driving a vehicle is unsafe. Please, if you must use your cell phone, pull over first.

SINGLE FILE FOR BICYCLISTS: This is a safety reminder to all bicyclists to please ride single file when on two-lane roadways. Riding a bicycle two or more abreast creates a risk for you and impedes the normal and reasonable flow of traffic.

DEER CROSSING: During this time of year, deer are on the move. We have several herds in town and they cross the roads frequently. Please use caution when traveling through town. Hitting a deer can damage your vehicle, seriously injure the deer, and most importantly, cause severe injuries to you and/or your passengers.

NOTES FOR DOG OWNERS: The ordinance for dogs on the beach remains in effect until October 1, so no dogs on the beach between the hours of 8 a.m. and 6 p.m.

Officers have been picking up loose dogs found running and walking in the street. The concern is that they could be hit by a vehicle. You can avoid this danger by keeping your pet secure on your property and under control at all times, as required by law. Additionally, your dog must have a license and must wear it. When officers pick up a loose dog with no license on its collar, the officer is unable to notify the owner and must take the dog to the kennel.

TAILGATERS: There have been some complaints from resident drivers who feel they have been followed too closely through town. If you feel that a vehicle is tailgating you, please record the plate number and let the police department know. Furthermore, we ask for your assistance in resolving this problem by taking note of your own driving habits.

Thank you for your continued support.

Kevin Walsh
Chief of Police

Fire Chief Offers Heating Safety Advice

Despite the fact that it is only the end of August and as much as we all dread the cost of filling our oil or propane gas tanks, it is inevitable that the heating season will be on us before we know it. With the skyrocketing costs associated with keeping ourselves warm, the Rye Fire Department is concerned that this coming winter may produce a spike in related fire problems such as improperly installed alternative energy sources and chimney fires.

Improperly installed appliances and heating equipment not properly maintained can also result in some serious medical problems such as carbon monoxide poisoning.

I am going to keep my message short and sweet with a few simple rules, but will also attach a recent press release from the State Fire Marshal and the president of the New Hampshire Association of Fire Chiefs dealing with the same subject.

Rye residents, please feel free to contact your fire department should you need advice or guidance when considering alternative heating installations.

If you are installing new oil- or-gas fired appliances, make sure your heating contractor has obtained the necessary permits.

If you are in doubt with regard to the integrity of your chimney, the Rye Fire Department will look at it for you and give you a recommendation.

Above all, make sure that you have at least one working smoke detector on each level of your home and also have at least one working carbon monoxide detector.

Anytime you suspect that you might have a problem, pick up that phone and dial 9-1-1. That is why we are here, to serve and protect you and your property.

William H. Sullivan
Fire Chief



Rye Safety Building

Heating Season Will Be Here Soon Now Is the Time to Check Your Heating System

We're getting to the end of summer and heating season will soon be here, and the high-energy prices concern fire officials, according to State Fire Marshal Bill Degnan. This is the time to check your heating systems. Having your heating system checked by a qualified professional will help insure the system is ready to operate safely, and also of great importance, will use the fuel efficiently. Heating unit fires are still the number one cause of fires in New Hampshire and they are preventable!

According to the President of the New Hampshire Association of Fire Chiefs, Lebanon Fire Chief Chris Christopoulos, heating fires are often the result of improper installations, use or maintenance of supplemental home heating appliances, such as wood stoves, coal stoves, and kerosene space heaters. Chief Christopoulos also warns that the use of these supplemental heating devices also increases the risk of dangerous accumulation of carbon monoxide in the home if not properly installed and maintained. Now is the time to have them checked.

Degnan also advises that it is critical that every home has interconnected smoke alarms on each floor level and that every family should develop and practice a home fire escape plan. Smoke alarms should be tested monthly and matches and lighters should be kept out of the reach of children at all times.

For further information concerning home fire safety, contact your local fire department or the state fire marshal's office.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY
State Fire Marshal M. William Degnan
(603-271-3294)

Clerk's Message

Cont. from page 1)

either a Democratic or Republican ballot. You will then be enrolled in that party unless you see the Supervisors of the Checklist after you vote to put yourself back to being undeclared. Unfortunately, the date for changing one's party affiliation has passed. Therefore no changes will be allowed until after the State Primary Election. Voting will take place at the Elementary School from 8 a.m. until 7 p.m.

The General Election on Nov. 4 promises to be a big one. We are gearing up to deal with a large election. There will be extra election workers on hand and portable election screens will be set up to deal with the volume of voters expected. Hopefully the extra planning will help keep your wait time to a minimum on Election Day.

This office will be closed on Thursday, Oct. 9 to allow the staff to attend a day of training at the NH City and Town Clerk's Association's Annual Conference. It is important that we keep up with all the changes happening concerning motor vehicle registrations, elections, and vital record processing.

One of the changes you'll be seeing soon will be the new format for vehicle registrations. The State of NH will be supplying us with two new laser printers to be used exclusively for the purpose of printing the new style of vehicle registrations. Gone will be the days of multipart forms and small-sized registrations. The new forms will be one-third of an 8-1/2 x 11" sheet of heavy paper. More changes to be coming down the road during the next year or so.

You can expect the second issue real estate tax bills to be in the mail sometime before the end of October. They will be due on December 1 so long as they are mailed from our office by Nov. 1.

Elizabeth M. Yeaton
Town Clerk/Tax Collector

Rye Water District News

Commissioner Joseph Kenney

We will greatly miss our good friend and colleague, Joe Kenney, who served the Rye Water District as Commissioner for over 14 years. Joe was instrumental in extending water service to the west side of Rye and increasing the District's water supply by bringing the Cedar Run well in service. Joe provided the District with both a wealth of knowledge and a sense of humor that made working with him enjoyable for all of us.

Garland Road Project

Approximately 1,800 feet of new water main, provisions for ten water service connections, and two hydrant assemblies were installed on Garland Road. Thanks to the area residents for their patience during this construction process.

Fall Flushing

The semiannual maintenance of flushing the water mains is expected to begin at the end of September 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 *Portsmouth Herald* before flushing begins.

No Hunting Signs

The District's well site property is posted with "No Trespassing" and "No Hunting" signs in order to protect our equipment that provides you with water. Enjoy the hunting season, but please do it responsibly.

Rye Water District Commissioners
John Murtagh
Ralph Hickson
Arthur Ditto
Patricia Owens, Business Manager

Property Taxes

Cont. from page 1)

value based upon the estimated worth as of a specific date.

Such estimate is based upon sales of similar properties in nearby proximity or upon replacement cost of the structure, less depreciation for age and condition, plus value of land. The first is known as the market approach, the second as the cost approach. A third means is most commonly utilized for revenue-producing realty, such as apartment, commercial, or industrial properties. It involves revenues, expenditures and interest rates and is known as the income approach.

The letter to the newspaper raises an issue that has long been a bone of contention in New Hampshire: whether taxes should be based on affordability considerations. The State Legislature has long resisted attempts to institute a so-called broad-based levy such as a sales tax (reflective of what one chooses to purchase) or an income tax (representative of annual earnings). The Legislature's solution was the creation of donor and receiver communities, based upon the presumption that all residents of Rye and New Castle, for example, are wealthy. After the State Supreme Court ruled it unconstitutional, the format was changed to payments from all communities and distribution of excesses to needy towns and cities. The result is that the so-called State Education Tax is still paid by local property taxation.

On another topic, between 2004 and 2007, the Assessing Office completed the first cycle of the four-year requirement to measure exteriors and verify interior data of all buildings. That function was performed by Todd Haywood, CNHA. The next four-year cycle commenced in 2008 for this contracted program and is being performed by Todd and his assistant Virginia Merrill, an experienced appraiser. We extend our appreciation to the property owners for their courtesy and cooperation.

We would also like to inform persons eligible to apply for the 2009 Elderly exemption that the application is available at the Assessor's office and

Building Department Warns New Regulations Can Impact Your Plans

Regulatory Challenges in 2008

New regulations may affect your plans for development. The most impactful regulations are the **DES Comprehensive Shoreland Protection Act (CSPA)** and **DES Subsurface (Septic systems) Regulations**. We welcome any questions regarding the relevance of these regulations on your future development plans.

The **DES Subsurface (septic system)** department changed its requirements as of February 1, 2008. To make any change to the ridge line, the footprint, or the living space, or to tear down a house, a new or amended septic plan must be submitted and approved by the State showing the proposed changes *before a building permit can be issued*. It does not matter how new your septic system design is; the objective of the State is to have an accurate plan. The State will have the opportunity to deny the proposed expansion. If any environmental waivers are required for the septic design, the State may not approve the expansion (or may even tear it down).

There is a reporting process now required by the State for "replacement in kind" septic systems. Previously,

must be submitted by August 1, 2009. The applicant must be at least 65 years of age as of April 1 of this year and have been a resident of New Hampshire for the prior three (3) years. Income limitations are \$40,000 for a single person, \$59,900 for married and total assets not in excess of \$199,000 exclusive of the residence.

The values and property information are available to you on line; please visit <http://data.visionappraisal.com/ryenh>. The web site is updated four times a year. Our department continues updating on a daily basis for all properties as necessary. For the most recent information please call the office at 964-5523.

Howard Promer, CNHA- Assessor
Heather Austin, Assessing Clerk

home owners could replace a failed septic system and build exactly what was there before. Unfortunately, that is no longer the case. A licensed septic designer must provide oversight for the project to ensure compliance.

Permits Required

For fences, pools, sheds (yes!!!!!!), roofs, additions, interior renovations, siding, gazebos and the like, decks, porticos, and the other obvious work. All work related to heating systems, i.e. pellet stoves, gas stoves etc., must obtain a permit from the Fire Department. When in doubt, call us!

Zoning Amendments

A committee was developed to look into the existing zoning ordinance and propose changes to the Planning Board. The State has recently passed regulations concerning wind turbines and wood stove boilers. These new regulations will be incorporated into proposed zoning changes.

We are here to serve you, and to provide you with the best information we can. The staff is knowledgeable on the regulations and will assist you in project planning. We are available to homeowners and real estate professionals to assist in deciphering the regulations specific to a property. It is best to make an appointment for after 1 p.m. or stop in any day between 8 a.m. and 1 p.m.. E-mail is a great way to ask questions at any time and get concise, written responses back.

Susan Labrie, Building Inspector

Tele: 603-964-9800

E-mail: slabrie@town.rye.nh.us



WANTED: Civic-Minded Volunteers

Do you appreciate the beauty and simplicity of the center of Rye which is designated as the Rye Historic District? Would you like to be part of the decision process to keep and protect this area of Rye history and other historic sites within the town? You may do so by becoming an alternate member of the Rye Historic District Commission.

Current members of the Commission are:

Paula Merritt, Chair

Daryl Kent

Art Ditto

Michael Mittelman

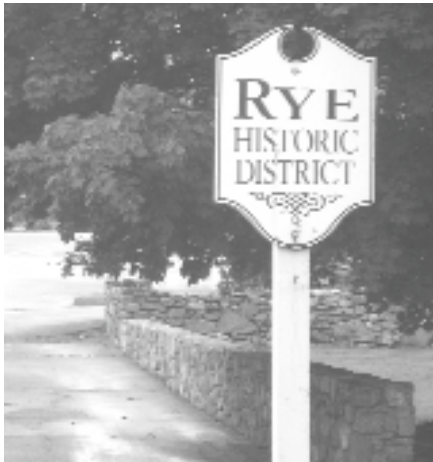
Jane Hutchinson

Craig Musselman, Selectmen's Rep.

Mark Josephs

Thomas King, alternate

For information, contact the Chair at 431-7852 or pemerritt@comcast.net



Visit the Town Web site
<http://www.town.rye.nh.us/>
for news and up-to-date
information about the Town,
including meeting notices,
agendas, and minutes.

Lifeguards Tackle Beach Challenges

The summer in Rye brings to mind many pleasant things from activity and exercise to a little rest and relaxation. While residents and tourists alike come to the beach in Rye for these things it is the responsibility of the lifeguards to maintain a safe environment for all patrons. It has always been our policy

that the safety of every patron in the water and on the beach is our number one concern. This presents many challenges. These challenges are only heightened by conditions like big surf, hot summer days, and hours spent in direct sunlight during peak hours of exposure.

Rye's town lifeguards train for such challenges every morning before they report to post at 10 a.m. Training includes reviews of rescue skills and response in the event of all sorts of emergency situations. It also includes physical training like running, swimming, and core workouts. For the past four years Rye's lifeguards have been putting this training to use not only on our beaches but at the New England Lifesaving Championships held in Ogunquit, Maine. This year's competition included 11 beaches from Salisbury, MA to Old Orchard Beach, ME. Rye placed fifth overall with stellar performances from all our participating lifeguards.



Rye Lifeguard Wellesly Costello competing in August at the 2008 Iron Guard Event at the Northern New England Lifesaving Championships. Photo courtesy of Don Clark/DCLARK@SEACOASTONLINE.COM

Even with constant training the beach can still present unforeseen challenges. For instance, on the morning of July 4 this summer the tide came in and left four men stranded on Rye Ledge. This is a jut of rocks that sticks out south of Sawyer Beach in front of where the old coast guard station once stood. Our lifeguards noticed emergency personnel from the Rye police and fire departments on the scene and were able to assist in the stranded men's safe return to shore with the aid of our paddleboards. This is just one situation on top of the many scrapes, cuts, lost children, and loose dogs that our lifeguards face on a daily basis. All challenges aside, it is our pleasure to watch over the lovely beaches Rye has to offer in hopes of providing a safe place for all to enjoy.

Jared Pease, Lifeguard
Supervisor

Upcoming Programs at the Rye Public Library

Rye readers of all ages demonstrated that every day is a good day for reading with 109 youth and 157 adult readers signing up for our 2008 summer reading program, "G'Day for Reading." The Library's young readers completed a total of 56 books, clocking over 1,605 minutes of reading! The Library received 242 book reviews from adult participants, which we have made into bookmarks and displayed on our web site to further promote these noteworthy titles. Both programs concluded on August 14 with festivities, including an ice cream social and book sharing party and a visit with Farmer Minor and Daisy the Pig, respectively.

Our sincere thanks to the following program sponsors for their generosity is supporting this summer's programs: Elizabeth Grady of Portsmouth, N.H., the Carriage House, the Outback Steakhouse, the Ice House, Bead Creative, the Potting Shed, and Lagos Lone Oak Ice Cream. A special thanks to the Friends of the Rye Public Library for underwriting the cost of the youth department's programming, the summer concert series, and the extremely popular travel mugs.

We have an exciting fall line-up of programs as outlined below and look forward to seeing you at the Library soon. For a complete listing of all Rye Public Library events, please be sure to visit our web site at www.ryepubliclibrary.org

Kerry Cronin, Library Director

Art Exhibits

9/20–1/14/09 Scenes of the Seacoast (All Medium) Sponsored by Rye Art Study (Community Meeting Room)

Now through 9/30 The Artwork of Doris Rice and students (Watercolors) (Upstairs at the RPL)

10/1–12/30 The Artwork of Mary Vermeersch and students (Upstairs at the RPL)

Author Visits

- 9/17 at 6:30 p.m. Harold Whitehouse, Jr., *Home By Nine: The Real South End*.
- 9/23 at 7 p.m. Stuart Wisong, *Angel Come Home*.
- 10/2 at 7 p.m. Christos Papoutsy, *Ships of Mercy: The True Story of the Rescue of the Greeks, Smyrna, September 1922*.

Special Fall Events

- 10/28 at 6:30 p.m. Pumpkin Carving for All Ages (*Sign-up and pumpkin required)
- 10/30 at 7 p.m. N.H. Gravestones Lecture by David Watters (Sponsored by the N.H. Humanities Council)
"Gravestones illustrate the religious beliefs, history, and community values of the dead and the living. Explore the development of Colonial New England traditions through a series of vignettes on New Hampshire burying grounds and cemeteries."

Friends of the Rye Public Library Speaker Series "On the Waterfront"

- 9/25 at 7 p.m. J. Dennis Robinson, author of *Strawbery Banke: A Seaport Museum 400 Years in the Making*. Book signing and remarks. Co-sponsored by the Friends of the Rye Public Library and the Rye Historical Society.
- 10/9 at 7 p.m. Molly Bolster, Director of the Gundalow Co., will speak on maritime heritage and coastal environment of the Piscataqua region and the gundalow, *Captain Edward H. Adams*.
- 10/23 at 7 p.m. Jeff Bolster, Author and Associate Professor of History at U.N.H. will speak about his recent book on maritime history, *The Way of the Ship*.
- 11/20 at 7 p.m. Steve Miller of the Great Bay National Estuarine Research Lab will share his knowledge of Great Bay.

Adult Book Discussion on Tuesday Evenings at 7 p.m.

- 9/16 *Loving Frank* by Nancy Horan;
- 10/21 *A Year of Magical Thinking* by Joan Didion;
- 11/18 *Water for Elephants* by Sara Gruen

Ongoing Events

- ★ "Knitting with Mary" resumes on Wednesdays at 10 a.m. beginning on September 10.
- ★ The Military Book Discussion will meet on 9/4, 10/2, and 11/6 at 6:30 p.m. in the N.H. Room.
- ★ The health clinic sponsored by Compass Care takes place the fourth Tuesday of the month from 1–3 p.m.

Movies Wednesdays at 1 p.m.

- 9/3 *Bucket List* Rated PG-13, 97 Minutes
- 9/10 *The Great Debaters* Rated PG-13, 126 Minutes
- 9/17 *August Rush* Rated PG, 114 Minutes
- 9/24 *December Boys* Rated PG-13, 105 Minutes
- 10/1 *Muriel's Wedding* Rated R, 106 Minutes
- 10/8 *Then She Found Me* Rated R, 100 Minutes
- 10/15 *Definitely Maybe* Rated PG-13, 112 Minutes
- 10/22 *Miss Pettigrew Lives For a Day* Rated PG-13, 93 Minutes
- 10/29 *Ann of a Thousand Days* Rated PG-13, 93 Minutes
- 11/5 *Drumline* Rated PG-13, 118 Minutes
- 11/12 *Honeydripper* Rated PG-13, 124 Minutes
- 11/19 *Bringing Down the House* PG-13, 105 Minutes

Fall 2008 Youth Department Programs

Friday Flicks 2nd and 4th Fridays of the Month 3:10 p.m.

This fun way to start the weekend returns this fall! Movies begin at 3:10 in the Community Meeting Room, popcorn and drinks included! First film shown:

Sept 12- *Nim's Island* Rated PG, 96 minutes

PLEASE NOTE: Occasionally a film will run longer than our 5 p.m. closing time, so be sure to arrange rides accordingly.

Library News continued

Garden Club—Meets All Year 'Round!

Second Tuesdays of the month at 3:30–5 p.m.

Pat Ritter of Nature's Wonder has generously offered her time and energy to work with families in our new children's garden. Each month will be featured some planting, garden maintenance, special nature projects, and the chance for your young ones to become botanists! Projects include making a journal to track garden progress or painting a birdhouse—among others! Sign up is required: 964-8401.

YAttitudes Book Discussion Group

Second Tuesdays of the month at 7 p.m.

This dynamic group of young people meets monthly to discuss a particular book. Join us! We always have snacks and an exciting discussion! Check the library's website for meeting dates and titles of books soon!!

College Admissions Evening October 16 at 7 p.m.

Have questions about college? This evening will help you to make decisions and will give you some insight into the process of applying. Our guest speakers will be on hand to talk with you personally and answer your questions. They include Anne Corriveau, Senior Assistant Director of International Admissions at Boston University, and Suzy Allen, Director of the University of New Hampshire Financial Aide Office.

Story Time for Preschool-Aged Youngsters

Wednesdays 11 a.m.

Please join Margaret and Lisa for story time! These engaging story times include finger plays, songs, stories, a craft, and FUN!! No sign-up is required. Guest readers may appear, so don't miss a single Wednesday!

Y-LA stands for Youth Library Advocates

Dates and times to be announced.

This Youth Advisory Board meets monthly to assist the library with collection development, planning of programs, and will often be present to help with programs. If you'd like community service hours or just want to have fun helping the library (and eating snacks)—join us! Call Lisa at 964-8401.

SAT Prep Assistance

Dates and times to be announced.

Everyone gets nervous about those SATs, but we can help you get over that! Please come to our special events to ease the pain of the SATs. More information will be announced and will be posted on our website.

Canine Assisted Reading Program

Dates and times to be announced.

Read to Hank continues! Join us once monthly for a 15-minute session of reading practice to our therapy-certified black Labrador retriever. Hank loves to hear your stories, and reading to a dog can really boost a youngster's confidence. When dates are determined, sign-up will be required, so check our website for more information or give us a call.

Teen and Youth Knitting with Pam Anthony

First and third Fridays of the month at 3–5 p.m.

Make a project of your own, or help us knit squares for dog blankets. The dogs at the SPCA will thank you! Statistics show that if there is a blanket in the dog's kennel, he or she is 50 percent more likely to be adopted. Let's help the dogs find families!! Pam Anthony will be on hand to help you learn to knit, or to help sharpen your skills if you have knitting experience. No sign-up required—just drop in!



Rye Senior SERVE Cites Three Goals: Transportation • Communication • Home Assistance

Here's how things are working:

TRANSPORTATION

Tuesday morning trips to Market Basket

Trips are now expanded to two groups to accommodate the number of requests for rides. (Call Nancy at the Town Hall by Monday morning at 964-5523 if you would like to ride the van)

Monday afternoon "Tea Time"

Seniors enjoy tea, cookies, and conversation at the Rye Public Library. Librarian Gwen Putnam-Bailey drives the van to pick up and return participants to their homes. (Call the Rye Public Library at 964-8401 if you'd like to join the group on Mondays.)

Subscribing to Sneak Peek

Dress rehearsal performances at Seacoast Repertory Theater—seven shows at reduced rates. Rides to and from the Town Hall in the van into Portsmouth. (Call Margaret Carroll at 964-1728 if you would like to subscribe to these performances.)

Monthly lunch at different restaurants

Details and plans arranged by seniors themselves.

Small (10-12 people) group trips

Trips can be scheduled using our van and a volunteer driver. (Call Alan Gould at the Town Hall (964-5523) for more information.)

COMMUNICATION

Daily Call Program

Wellness calls each morning of the week to check on senior friends. This program has been operating for four years and is welcomed by participants who are living alone. (Call Tricia Quinn at the Rye Public Library (964-8401) for more information)

HOME ASSISTANCE

We have fifteen volunteers matched with our seniors who want to stay at home, but need help sometimes or for an extended period. Our volunteers are doing a variety of things for senior clients:

- Giving caregiver some respite
- Driving to the doctor (**We are in need of additional volunteer drivers!**)
- Installing an air conditioner
- Light housekeeping for seniors who are at home after a hospital stay
- Drop off a meal once a week
- Light yard work

It is gratifying to see the friendships that develop and the satisfaction the volunteers and senior clients have. In the words of one helper: "I love what I am doing. These are great people (to work with). This is a great program. Keep it up! It's so simple, but really useful." Call Margaret Carroll (964-1728) for information or with your offer to be a volunteer!

Margaret Carroll, President
Rye Senior SERVE

Energy Committee News

At the July 14 Selectmen's meeting the Selectmen voted unanimously to extend the Energy Committee for another year.

Grant Received

The Energy Committee has received a grant of \$1500 from the New England Grassroots Environment Fund to continue the work of reducing Rye's carbon footprint through education and awareness and energy related projects.

Wash Day Project

The Wash Day Project is in full swing. Over thirty households in Rye have agreed to hang dry their clothes, saving over 5000 lbs of CO₂ emissions a year if each household line dried just 1 load a week. The clothes lines are being painted through the summer by local artists and there will be an art show and sale of the paintings at the Seacoast Science Center on November 14 from 5-8 p.m. Local and national news has provided coverage of the Wash Day Project. You can go to <http://www.abcnews.go.com/WN/story?id=5442780&page=1> for the ABC World News story (print and video), or http://www.boston.com/news/local/articles/2008/08/07/hanging_out/ for the Boston Globe article, or <http://www.seacoastonline.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AIID=/20080609/NEWS/806090313/-1/TOWN0102> for the Portsmouth Herald article.

Energy Audit

The Jordan Institute is conducting a comprehensive energy audit of the two schools in Rye that started the week of August 11. The work will consist of a facility analysis leading to development of energy-related projects/renovations including cost justifications.

If you have any questions or suggestions for the Energy Committee call Mimi or Steve White at 964-6586.



Planning Board Applications and New Issues

The Rye Planning Board has been working on the applications that have come before it over the last few months. The Lafayette Road (Route 1) corridor is continuing to be an area of activity. Just south of Washington Road on Route 1, construction has begun on an addition and changes to a building that will become the Interventional Spine Medicine practice. The Planning Board was also briefed on a Route 1 corridor study that is periodically performed by the State of New Hampshire. There is no specific time line for changes to Route 1, but potential widening, addition of median strips and the reconfiguring of intersections are all being considered. A conceptual consultation was also held to introduce the Planning Board to an idea for age-restricted condominiums on a large parcel bounded by Route 1 and north of Breakfast Hill Road.

The number of applications has decreased from the pace of 2007; however, new issues have compensated for this decrease.

Senate Bill 342, approved on June 30, 2008, is "AN ACT establishing a mechanism for expediting relief from municipal actions which deny, impede, or delay qualified proposals for workforce housing". The text of the bill can be found at www.gencourt.state.nh.us/legislation/2008/SB0342.html. The Town has applied for a grant so that the cost of implementing this legislation can be offset. The effective date is July 1, 2009. Workforce housing is becoming an issue in the state and there is concern that it could adversely affect the economic outlook in New Hampshire over the long run if workers, including entry level professionals, cannot find suitable housing. On a personal note, I know of engineers employed at the shipyard that once had to stay in area motels or camp out in a tent for lack of affordable housing in the area. That was some time ago, but housing remains tight on the Seacoast to this day. The

Planning Board is in the preliminary stages of determining how to address this new requirement. Any changes to Rye's zoning require public hearings and a Town vote. There will be opportunities for public input that the citizens of Rye can take advantage of.

House Bill 310, approved on July 11, 2008 is "AN ACT allowing municipalities to regulate small wind energy systems." Currently, structures are regulated by more generic zoning requirements that are not well suited for addressing small wind turbines. The text of the bill can be found at www.gencourt.state.nh.us/legislation/2008/HB0310.htm. Part of the regulation took effect on the approval date and part will take effect on July 11, 2009. Since Rye is on the coast and subject to sea breezes, and energy costs are increasing, wind turbines are being considered more frequently. The fact that Rye is partly in the flight path for air traffic to and from Pease International Airport, additional restrictions for any tall structures may apply to the Town. Public hearings and a Town vote will be required to enact any new zoning, as previously stated.

Before the Planning Board was starting to address new State regulations, it looked as though there was an opportunity to increase work on long-range planning efforts. These efforts include determining if the Town's zoning is still aligned with the current Master Plan, and to review the Capital Improvement Plan to ensure that Town infrastructure is aligned with potential growth in the future. The procedures that the Planning Board uses to conduct itself are being reviewed for improvements as well. The board is still focused on these efforts along with the new challenges it has been presented with. Please know that your Planning Board continues to look ahead, and to look out for the best interests of the citizens of Rye.

Donald A. Cavallaro
Chairman

Rye Mosquito Control on the Job

The Rye mosquito control program involves control and surveillance/ testing. The surveillance/testing program includes monitoring and GIS mapping of shallow, stagnant aquatic mosquito breeding habitats and the collection of adults (biting) for disease testing (West Nile Virus and Eastern Equine Encephalitis) at the state health laboratory in Concord. The control program includes treating mosquito breeding habitats and controlling biting mosquitoes. Truck spraying is completed along town roads as well around schools and the Recreation Area to control flying mosquitoes. The Recreation Area is also treated with a residual insecticide that affords three to four weeks of protection from mosquitoes as well as ticks.



Currently, mosquito control personnel are busy controlling mosquito breeding habitats. Rainfall is very important in mosquito control since mosquitoes require water for development. In other words, more rain equates to more opportunities for mosquito breeding. This spring had record low amounts of precipitation. The UNH weather station in Durham recorded only 8.22 inches rain between April 1 and July 17, 2008 (108 days). Conversely, the 27 days from July 18 to August 13 measured 13.14 inches of rain. The dry spring resulted in unusually low mosquito breeding. Since July 18 we are experiencing unusually high mosquito populations.

To date, no West Nile Virus- or EEE-positive mosquitoes have been identified in New Hampshire. In other New England states, West Nile Virus has been found in mosquitoes in Vermont, Massachusetts (including a border town, Merrimac) and Connecticut. Twenty Connecticut communities have had West Nile Virus-positive mosquitoes during the past month. Rye mosquitoes will continue to be tested on a weekly basis until the killer frosts of mid-October.

Rye Mosquito Control Commission
Michael Morrison, Entomologist

SEEKING INPUT: SCULPTURE AT THE ROUNDABOUT

The expression "gateway to Rye" was used on many occasions during the debate between roundabout and stop lights at Foyes Corner. As roundabout construction neared completion, an idea was put forward that installation of a public sculpture might be appropriate in the center of this entrance to our town.

The Board of Selectmen is in agreement that this idea cannot move forward without community support and would require the following steps:

1. Ascertain interest of Rye citizens in such a project.
2. Appoint an ad hoc committee of interested citizens with a specific charge for this purpose.
3. Fund the project through private donations with a specified financial goal to include artist award and cost of installation.
4. Devise a competition inviting submission of designs by sculptors to include specific parameters with regard to size, material, and theme.

* * * * *

Roundabout Sculpture: Your thoughts please:

Check one: Good Idea ☐ Bad Idea ☐ Don't Care ☐

Check one: I would ☐ I would not ☐ consider making a contribution toward installation of a public sculpture at the Foyes Corner roundabout.

Other comments:

Name and phone number/e-mail: (Only if you would like to be contacted in the event this project moves forward.) _____

Please return this form to

Rye Town Hall, 10 Central Road, Rye NH 03870 c/o Selectmen

Rye Historical Society Announces Upcoming Events

Dennis Robinson book signing and talk on his new book about Strawberry Banke.

Thursday September 25

- Book signing at Town Museum 6:15-6:45 p.m.
- Illustrated talk at Rye Library at 7 p.m.

Co-Sponsored with Friends of the Library. Refreshments will be served.

"Naughty and Nice," a Modern Folk vocal duo, will perform at the Rye Library on Thursday, October 16 from 7-8 p.m., preceded by Historical society business meeting.

Open to the public at 6:30 p.m.

Refreshments will be served.

Many thanks to those who came to the Antique Appraisal on August 9. This will become an annual August event sponsored by the Rye Historical Society.

Alex Herlihy
Rye Historical Society
10 Old Parish Road
(next to Rye Library)

e-mail: ryehistoricalsociety@comcast.net

AMBULANCE-FIRE-POLICE EMERGENCY 911

AMBULANCE OR FIRE EMERGENCY..... 911
Fire Department—Non-Emergency... 964-6411

POLICE EMERGENCY..... 911
Police (routine calls only)..... 964-5522

Be sure to give your name and address as well as the nature of your emergency clearly. **DO NOT HANG UP** until you are sure that your message has been understood.

DEPARTMENTAL DIRECTORY

Assessing Department.....964-5523
Building/Planning/Zoning Department.....964-9800
Building/Planning/Zoning Fax.....964-2964
Cemetery Superintendent, John Coscia817-0066

Library.....964-8401
Library Fax.....964-7065
Public Works.....964-5300

Recreation.....964-6281
Recycling Center (Recycle or Brush).....964-5300
Rye Water District.....436-2596
Selectmen.....964-5523
Selectmen Fax.....964-1516
E-Mail: nancyw@town.rye.nh.us
Town Website: www.town.rye.nh.us
Sewer Commission.....964-6815
Town Administrator.....964-5523
Town Clerk / Tax Collector.....964-8562
Town Clerk / Tax Collector Fax.....964-4132
Welfare (Portsmouth Welfare Dept.).....610-7267

Town of Rye Board Meetings

September 2008

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

Selectmen's meetings are held in the Rye Town Hall Courtroom (first floor), 10 Central Road. Other board meetings are also 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.

	1 <i>Labor Day</i> <i>Town offices closed</i>	2 7:30 pm Recreation Commission	3 3:30 pm Rye Water District 60 Sagamore 7 pm Zoning Board of Adjustment	4	5	6
7	8 6:30 pm Board of Selectmen 7:30 pm Recreation Comm.	9 State Primary Polls open 8 am–7 pm Rye Elementary 9 am Sewer Comm. 7 pm Planning Board	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17 6 pm Mosquito Control Commission 6 pm School Board Rye Junior High	18 9 am Board of Selectmen Budget Work Session 7 pm Conservation Commission	19	20
21	22 6:30 pm Board of Selectmen <i>First day of Fall</i>	23	24	25	26	27

October 2008

28	29	30 7 pm Planning Board Technical Review Committee <i>Rosh Hashanah</i>				
			1 7 pm Zoning Board of Adjustment	2	3	4
5	6 3:30 pm Rye Water District 60 Sagamore 6:30 pm Board of Selectmen 7:30 pm Rec Comm	7	8	9 <i>Yom Kippur</i>	10	11
12	13 <i>Columbus Day</i> <i>Town offices closed</i>	14 9 am Sewer Commission 7 pm Planning Board	15 6 pm School Board Rye Junior High	16 7 pm Conservation Commission	17	18
19	20 6:30 pm Board of Selectmen	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28 7 pm Technical Review Committee	29	30 <i>Trick or Treat in Rye</i> <i>5–7 pm</i>	31 <i>Halloween</i>	1

November 2008

2 <i>Daylight Savings Time ends</i>	3 3:30 pm Rye Water District 60 Sagamore 6:30 pm Board of Selectmen 7:30 pm Rec Comm.	4 ELECTION DAY Polls open 8 am–7 pm Rye Elementary 7 pm Sewer Comm.	5 7 pm Zoning Board of Adjustment	6	7	8
9	10	11 <i>Veterans Day</i> <i>Town offices closed</i>	12	13	14	15
16	17 6:30 pm Board of Selectmen	18	19 6 pm School Board Rye Junior High	20 7 pm Conservation Commission	21	22
23 30	24	25 7 pm Technical Review Committee	26	27 <i>Thanksgiving</i> <i>Town offices closed</i>	28 <i>Town offices closed</i>	29

Library Trustees, first Thursday of the month
5:30 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

☆

☆

V

O

T

E

☆

☆

September 9—State Primary.
Vote for party candidates.

November 4—General Election.
Vote for President and other federal offices.

In Rye we vote at the Rye Elementary School on Sagamore Road. The polls are open from 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

☆

☆

V

O

T

E

☆


☆

REMINDER

Saving energy with compact fluorescent light bulbs? The mission doesn't stop when the bulb goes out. Because CFLs contain a small amount of mercury, do not break them and DO NOT place them in household trash. Keep separate and give them to the attendant at the Recycling Center. Please educate your family on this matter.

The Rye Lions Club announces

The 25th Annual Car Show and Cruise-In!



Sunday, September 21, 2008

Parsons Field

Car entries: \$10—Register: 8 a.m.–11a.m.

Trophies awarded at 2 p.m.

Spectators: \$3—Kids under 12: Free

Raffles! Prizes! Great food!

—Rain Date September 28—

NOTICE TO ALL GHOSTS, GOBLINS, AND SPIDERMEN:

HALLOWEEN

"Trick or Treating" in Rye is on THURSDAY, OCTOBER 30, 5 to 7 p.m.

Town of Rye

Rye, NH 03870

Bulk rate

US Postage

PAID

Permit No. 10

Rye, NH 03870

POSTAL PATRON

RYE, NH 03870