



# Town of Rye

## Newsletter



Vol. 13, No. 3    A Publication of the Rye, New Hampshire, Board of Selectmen    September 2010

### RYE RESIDENTS ALERT

White Birch at Rye, a Retirement Community Development located on Airfield Road off Route #1 in Rye, expects to send out applications on September 15. If you have questions or wish to apply, contact Marty Chapman, Executive Director, Housing Partnership, 1555 Islington Street, P.O. Box 466, Portsmouth, NH 03801 Telephone (603) 766-3125.

### MODERATOR'S MESSAGE Please Vote in September 14th Primary and November 2nd General Election!

The Declaration of Independence states that 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 the right to vote except the American people themselves . . . by not voting." Yet, in the last two State primaries, *only 17% of Rye's registered voters cast a ballot.*

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. It is essential to the

*See Moderator's Message, page 3*

### SELECTMEN'S MESSAGE

## Selectmen Discuss the Myriad of Items that Cross Their Desks

### Change in Lifeguard Oversight

Based on a proposal put forward by Fire Chief Skip Sullivan last spring, Rye lifeguards opened the 2010 beach season under the direct supervision of the Rye Fire Department. This change provides the lifeguards with organization, support, and backup the entire time that they are on duty. Many New Hampshire communities now align their lifeguard staffs in this manner, thus including them with Town emergency services. The change also eases pressure on Beach Commissioners, who are volunteers, many of whom are not available during every day.

### Notes from the Town Clerk/Tax Collector

Now that summer is almost over, I want to remind you that Beach Parking Permits will still be required until Saturday, September 11. Beginning on Sunday, September 12, dogs will again be permitted on the town's beaches during the day. Be sure to clean up after your dogs; it's the law. For those of you who are waiting to ride your horses along the beach, you'll have to wait until October 1 to do so.

I hope everyone checks out the new town web-site ([www.town.rye.nh.us](http://www.town.rye.nh.us)). Our area, found under the Department listings, is full of valuable information. You can download absentee ballot applications, look up town ordinances and town officials, register your vehicles, license your dog, and order your beach parking stickers—all from our web-site. We are very excited to have all these things available to you.

We expect the new tax rate to be set sometime later in September or Octo-

*See Town Clerk's Notes, page 3*

### Long Hot Summer

As the hottest decade on record draws to a close, several beach area concerns appear to have been exacerbated by the heat and some will require study prior to the summer of 2011.

Sunny days historically increase our summer population, accompanied by added pressure on limited beach access and parking. Beach signage, parking, and other areas of concern will be reviewed with Police Chief Kevin Walsh at the close of the season.

Although shark sightings elsewhere along the New England coast did not close our beaches, we did have our own jellyfish incident at Wallis Sands State Park on July 21. During hot weather, pink jellyfish known to sting or cause a rash have been common on Rye beaches over the years; but the large jellyfish of the lion's mane variety with its long barbed tentacles that came ashore in July was unusual. Its stings sent several people to the hospital, many others required first aid and

*See Selectmen's Message, page 2*

## Selectmen's Message (Continued from page 1)

we learned yet another use for the common white vinegar on our kitchen shelves as it was used to soothe irritation from contact.

### Signage Refresher Course

If you are planning a yard sale, open house, or other personal endeavor, please review the following information regarding placement of signs on Town property: Selectmen's approval is required for all signs on Town-owned property. Commercial identification or logos on signs are not permitted. Sign duration is limited to 7 days. Size may not exceed 4 square feet. State Law prohibits signs on utility poles. Signs at Parsons Field will be considered only from nonprofit entities holding approved events on Town or School property.

Placement of political signs is governed by RSA 664:17 Placement and Removal of Political Advertising. Full text of the State of New Hampshire revised statutes may be found online.

### Beach Access

Most Rye residents are aware that the Town has a number of beach access points/rights of way along our coast, such as E Street, F Street, and Old Town Way in the Jenness Beach area. Fewer may be aware that over the years some abutters have attempted to close them off to the public. The Town has gone to court in the past to protect and maintain these points of public access and we believe that it is imperative that the Board of Selectmen, the Jenness Beach Precinct Commission, and interested citizens continue to remain alert in this regard.

### Rejoice But Don't Relax

Lack of rainfall this summer may have limited mosquito and tick populations, but continued vigilance is warranted. Statistics from the New Hampshire Dept. of Health and Human Services available through the first week in August indicate that no mosquitoes tested positive for either Eastern Equine Encephalitis or West Nile Virus so far this year. However,

the NHDHHS continues to urge all to take preventive measures as the most likely period for the appearance of mosquitoes carrying EEE and WNV is between late August and a killing frost.

### Parsons Creek Watershed

The triangular area generally encompassed by Wallis Road, Marsh Road, and Washington Road is known as the Parsons Creek Watershed. Water within this area drains toward and then exits via Parsons Creek at Concord Point.

With the assistance of the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (DES), we have entered into a Coastal Bacteria Source Identification Study of the Parsons Creek Watershed. The purpose of the project is to identify and mitigate sources of bacteria within this watershed. The ultimate goal of improving water quality at the beach will be attained as pollution sources are identified, water quality goals are set, and actions to achieve them are determined, prioritized, and carried out. It is the focus of the Town to determine individual problems and resolve them with individual solutions.

### Future of the After School Program

As you know, the Rye Recreation Department falls under the purview of the Town, while student education is the responsibility of the School Board. A crucial overlap of community services occurred some years ago with establishment of the After School Program, which is administered and supervised by our Recreation Department but held in facilities at the Elementary School overseen by the School Department.

As classroom numbers have crept upward, uncertainty regarding continued available space within the school for the After School Program has also increased. Sixty children, representing approximately 25 percent of our families with elementary students, now use and depend on the After School Program.

Anxiety regarding assurance of space for the program in the future led to a joint meeting of the School Board, Recreation Commission and staff, and the Board of Selectmen at our meeting on June 14. Recreation Director Lee Arthur summed up the reason for the meeting when she asked for assurance that the After School Program is a priority for the Town as a whole.

It was clear by the end of the meeting that the school cannot predict population accurately more than a couple of years ahead, that neither parents of After School Program students nor the Board of Selectmen would condone transport of students to another facility at the close of the regular school day, and that the After School Program requires a certain amount of dedicated space to house equipment and supplies in addition to the use of two classrooms at the close of the school day.

The School Board has committed to provide the After School Program with two rooms for the next two years. In the meantime, at the suggestion of SAU 50 School Superintendent George Cushing, a committee has been formed to explore the problem and seek resolution on a long-term basis.

### Pulpit Rock Tower

Since the June newsletter, discussions have continued regarding the proper means to convey the World War II Tower at Pulpit Rock from the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department to local control. The Friends of Pulpit Rock approached the Conservation Commission last spring regarding the possibility of ownership; but it was determined by Town Attorney Michael Donovan that while acquisition of the Goss property (which incidentally has a barn on it) is appropriate according to the RSAs governing the Conservation Commission, acquisition of the Tower, with ownership of the structure as the primary purpose, is not.

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

## Selectmen's Message

(Continued from page 2)

Attorney Donovan further advised that the most appropriate means by which the Town can acquire the Tower is through establishment of a Heritage Commission. This idea has been proposed to the Friends of Pulpit Rock Tower. While there are still questions to be answered and details to be explored, votes on both establishment of a Heritage Commission and acquisition of Pulpit Rock Tower could be placed simultaneously on the March 2011 ballot.

### Statewide Education Property Tax (SWEPT)

The Coalition continues to seek means to prevent the return of Donor towns in July of 2011. At this writing, it is also realistically working on fall-back positions.

One of the Coalition working groups is proposing legislation that would have Towns receive SWEPT estimates from the Department of Revenue Administration by April 1, 2011 in order to have the tax amounts divided between first and second billings. Such a plan would ease the burden on taxpayers and prevent serious problems for many mortgage holders.

### Virtual Town Hall

The Rye website ([www.town.rye.nh.us](http://www.town.rye.nh.us)) became a virtual town hall as of July 26, 2010. The major change is an expansion of online town services as departments within the town are now responsible for their own online information.

We remain indebted to Drew Doherty who, as a volunteer, developed and maintained the Town of Rye website and served as our Website Director for more than ten years. Few volunteers have devoted this much time, literally week in and week out, to any cause.

Thank you, Drew, for your service to our Town.

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

## Moderator's Message

(Continued from page 1)

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!**

**This year's State Primary is on Tuesday, September 14. The polls at Rye Elementary School will be open from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.** There are five contested races on the Republican ballot and a three-way race for Governor on the Democratic ballot. If you are registered as "undeclared," or "independent," you may vote in either party's primary. Just see the Supervisors of the Checklist (they are at the polls) after you vote if you want to keep your undeclared status.

**The General Election is on Tuesday, November 2. Again, the polls are open at RES from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.**

### Registration and Absentee Ballots

You can register to vote at the Town Clerk's office during normal business hours on any day through September 7 for the Primary, and through October 22 for the November election. You can also register at the polls on primary or

## Town Clerk's Notes

(Continued from page 1)

ber. Tax bills should be mailed by the end of October and will be due on December 1. New this year is your ability to pay your tax and utility bills directly from the new web-site. Similar to doing your car registrations online, you will provide your bank routing number and your checking account number. We print your checks here in the office and apply your payment. I hope you make use of this new feature; it's sure to save you some time.

This office will be closed on Thursday, October 14 to allow for staff training. The office will re-open on Friday, October 15 at 8 a.m.

Elizabeth M. Yeaton  
Town Clerk/Tax Collector

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election day and still vote. If you can't get to the polls, you can get an absentee ballot application at the Town Clerk's office as late as the day before the election. The Clerk's office is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

**THANK YOU FOR VOTING!**

Bob Eaton  
Town Moderator

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**Rye Senior SERVE volunteers continue to help seniors** by providing transportation to the Market Basket Plaza on Tuesday mornings; making wellness calls each morning; giving rides to appointments; and visiting with seniors in their homes. Additional volunteers are most welcome! Please call 964-1728 if you would like to be a volunteer for Rye Senior SERVE.

Margaret Carroll  
President



Louise Tallman, Bill Rogers, Roberta Lannie, and Olga Mitchell enjoy a Monday visit at the Rye Public Library with Librarian Gwen Putnam-Bailey.



# Fall Programs at the Rye Public Library

Rye Public Library, 581 Washington Road Rye, NH 03870 • 603-964-8401 • [www.ryepubliclibrary.org](http://www.ryepubliclibrary.org)

Thanks to all who participated in our tremendously successful Summer Reading Program for all ages! We are extremely grateful to the many area businesses that supported our program through their generous donations. Thanks to all!

This Fall, Rye Public Library continues to offer a wide variety of programming and resources for all ages. As the school year begins, remember you'll find homework help resources through our website, and other supporting materials in our collection. The Friends of the Rye Public Library will offer an Autumn programming series in support of the museum memberships they sponsor for the Library. We'll have speakers representing some of the many regional museums for which we offer passes to borrow. Plan a fall visit to one of these local institutions using our free or reduced-price passes!

We'll present our customary spectrum of cultural experiences from music to speakers; from hands-on crafts to book discussions. Remember the wealth of resources, entertainment and experiences available to you through the simple ticket that's always in your pocket: your library card!

## PROGRAMS AND EVENTS for Fall 2010

### Movies at Rye Public Library:

#### Join us for a movie and popcorn!

Wednesdays each week: 1 p.m. Community Meeting Room

9/8—*An Education*

9/15—*It's Complicated*

9/22—*Crazy Heart*

9/29—*Sense and Sensibility*

10/6—*Nine*

10/13—*The Young Victoria*

10/20—*A Single Man*

10/27—*The Last Station*

11/3—*The Messenger*

11/10—*Everybody's Fine*

11/17—*Date Night*

### Adult Book Discussion:

#### All are welcome to join this lively discussion group!

Third Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. Community Meeting Room

9/2—*Olive Kitteridge* by Elizabeth Strout

10/19—*Forger's Spell: A True Story of Vermeer, Nazis and the Greatest Art Hoax of the Twentieth Century* by Edward Dolnick

11/16—*Liar's Club* by Mary Karr

### Job Networking Meetings

Every Friday, 10–11:30 a.m. in the Community Meeting

Room. Join fellow job seekers for informational discussions of employment search strategies and networking. Learn about available library resources to support your search.

### Wentworth Health Clinic

Fourth Tuesday of each month at 1–3 p.m. 9/28, 10/26, 11/23, New Hampshire Room

Flu Shots available at October Health Clinic: Tuesday October 26 1–3 p.m.!

### Military Book Discussions

First Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m.

### Knitting with Mary

By the Fireplace at 10 a.m. every Thursday

**Monday afternoon senior visits** to the library with pick up by the Rye Senior SERVE van. Please call the library if interested in joining the group! 2 p.m., each Monday through September. *Sponsored by The Friends of the Rye Public Library.*

**Discounted Museum Passes!:** Borrow our passes for reduced or free entry to the following:

Museum of Fine Arts, Boston

Museum of Science, Boston

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, Boston

Museum of Art, Portland, Maine

Peabody Essex Museum, Salem, MA

Strawbery Banke, Portsmouth

Childrens Museum of NH, Dover

Seacoast Science Center, Rye

Historical New England

Currier Museum of Art, Manchester

*Donated by the Friends of the Rye Public Library*

### Friends of the Rye Public Library

Meetings on the second Tuesday of every month at 6 p.m. New members welcome! The Friends continue with their 2010 series of speakers in support of the museum memberships they sponsor for the Library. See details below:

**AUTUMN PROGRAMS** at Rye Public Library include:

- Tuesday, 9/7, 7–8 p.m.

"Remembering Rye Through Poetry" Bruce Valley, Poet/ Author. *Co-sponsored with the Rye Historical Society.*

- Tuesday, 9/23, 7–8 p.m.

"Winslow Homer at the Portland Museum of Art" Tom Denenberg, Chief Curator, Portland Museum of Art. *Presented by the Friends of the Rye Public Library.*

- Tuesday, 9/28, 7–8 p.m.

"Dating Historic Homes", Sandra Rux, Historian. *Co-sponsored with the Rye Historical Society.*

# Fall Programs at the Rye Public Library

- Thursday, 10/7, 7–8 p.m.

"The Emperor's Private Paradise, Treasures from the Forbidden City" Nancy Berliner, Curator, Peabody Essex Museum. *Presented by the Friends of the Rye Public Library.*

- Thursday, 10/21, 7–8 p.m.

"Isles of Shoals: The Eternal Sound of the Sea," Pontine Theater. *Made possible, in part, by a grant from the Isles of Shoals Historical and Research Assoc. (ISHRA)*

- Thursday, 11/4, 7–8 p.m.

"Highlights of the Currier's Collection". Andrew Spahr, Curator, Currier Art Museum. *Presented by the Friends of the Rye Public Library.*

All programs are free and open to the public!

## ART EXHIBITS at Rye Public Library

Currently showing:

- Exeter Painters Club—Art display upstairs through October.

- Rye Public Library Art Committee "Black, White and Shades of Gray" Exhibit in the Community Meeting Room, September through December. Submissions invited.

## COMPUTER CLASSES @ Your Library

with Technology Librarian Sharon Foster, Thursdays at 4 p.m.

Weekly computer classes for Fall 2010 include Computer Basics, Files & Folders, Downloadable Books, A Tour of Our Website, Intermediate Word Processing, Introduction to Spreadsheets, Free Software & Services on the Web, and Email Basics. These are lecture and demonstration classes, open to everyone, and no pre-registration is required. A few laptop computers will be made available for using during the lecture, and you are welcome to bring your own. Tell us what other topics you're interested in by completing a survey at <http://www.ryepubliclibrary.org/computer-class-survey.html>

## COMPUTER TUTOR with Technology Librarian

Sharon Foster, Mondays at 9:30 a.m.

This is your chance to bring in specific computer-related questions you may have, anything from learning how to do a Mail Merge in Microsoft Office, to getting individual coaching in moving and copying files and folders or using the mouse and the keyboard.

## Fall 2010 Youth Department Programs

[www.ryepubliclibrary.org](http://www.ryepubliclibrary.org)

### Friday Flicks

Second and fourth Fridays of the month 3:10 p.m.

Movies begin at 3:10 in the Community Meeting Room, popcorn and drinks included! *PLEASE NOTE:* Occasionally a film will be longer than our 5 p.m. closing time, so be sure to arrive accordingly. Check the library

website for featured films and ratings. For ages 8+; 7 and under must be accompanied by a parent.

### Garden Club: Meets All Year 'Round—in all weather!

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

Pat Ritter of Nature's Wonder continues offering her time and energy to work with families in our beautiful 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! Sign up is required: 964-8401.

### YAttitudes Book Discussion Group

Third Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m.

Let's talk about books! Students in grades 6–8 meet to snack and "yack!" Parents are invited, if they wish to read the books and join in on the discussion. Check our website for each month's titles and dates. First group meets in October.

### Story Time for Preschool-Aged Children

Wednesdays 11 a.m.

Please join Margaret, Lisa, and Puppeteer Pat Spalding for story time! These engaging story times include finger plays, songs, stories, a craft, and FUN!! No sign-up is required. See our website for story time dates.

### Teen and Youth Knitting with Pam Anthony

First and third Fridays of the month 3–4:30 p.m.

Make a fun project of your own—we're starting to work on hats. Make one for yourself or as a gift for a family member or friend. 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!

### Lego Mania Wednesdays

First and third Wednesdays of the month 3:30–4:30 p.m.

All ages are welcome to create fun Lego structures each Wednesday afternoon. We'll occasionally offer a "challenge" each session, but you can make whatever you want! We supply the Legos; no sign-up required!

### Teen and Youth Beading Euphoria

Check our website for upcoming beading workshop dates, times, and projects!

### Pajama Story Time for Children ages 3 – 5

First Tuesday of the month 6:30–7 p.m.

Join Lisa or Andy for bedtime stories for your children! Kids may attend story time in their jammies, and can bring along a bedtime friend. Oh what fun it is to BE at the Rye Public Library!!

### Chess with Mike Sullivan

Check our website for dates and times of our next fall sessions with Mike Sullivan.

# Mosquito Commission: Fewer Mosquitos But Caution Advised

The lack of rain this summer has resulted in a couple of benefits: far fewer mosquitoes to pester us and less lawn mowing.

Mosquito counts have been low all season. To date, no mosquitoes have tested positive for diseases in New Hampshire. That is not the case in southern Massachusetts, where record numbers of mosquitoes have been found carrying Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE), prompting aerial spraying (adulticiding) in Bristol and Plymouth counties. West Nile Virus (WNV) has also been found in parts of Massachusetts. Typically, hot dry summers favor WNV while cool rainy summers favor EEE.

This is the time of year when EEE and WNV show up in New Hampshire, with peak activity occurring near Labor Day. (In 2009, two samples of mosquitoes collected in Rye on September 1 tested positive for EEE.) Residents are encouraged to:

1. Avoid being outdoors in the evening when mosquitoes are most active.
2. Apply bug spray and wear long pants and long-sleeved shirts.

3. Repair holes in window screens and doors.
4. Empty containers around the yard, looking for anything that holds water such as wading pools, dog bowls, bird baths, tarps, boats, and trash barrels.

Dragon Mosquito Control has treated catch basins in Rye to combat mosquitoes that carry diseases. Salt marshes continue to flood during high tides and thus, treatment of those marshes for mosquitoes takes place every month using a bacterium that targets larvae in the water. Samples of adult mosquitoes trapped weekly at five locations in Rye are sent to the State Lab in Concord to be tested for EEE and WNV. As of mid August, none of the mosquitoes from Rye have tested positive.

Have you ever wondered about those interesting looking square boxes

standing in the marshes around Town? They are greenhead fly traps, 37 strong, placed in high concentration areas and maintained regularly by Dragon. The RMCC recommends doubling the total number of these highly effective, environmentally friendly devices in the future.

The changing seasons bring an end



to the mosquitoes and deer flies. As summer wanes we lament the dwindling daylight but enjoy the fall foliage and fewer bugs.

Charles Moore  
Rye Mosquito Control Commission

## Rye Water District News

### Leak Detection Survey

A leak survey of the complete water distribution system was conducted this past spring by Heath Consultants Inc. at no cost to the District. We were fortunate to have this survey funded by a grant provided by the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services.

The survey located eight leaks in the system at various locations with an estimated amount of leakage of 40 gallons per minute. Three of the eight leaks were on customer service lines and were promptly repaired by homeowners. The District is very appreciative of your quick response. Three of

the five remaining leaks have been repaired by the District, and the last two are scheduled for repair early this fall. The benefit to the District is water conservation and cost savings in treatment and pumping.

### Meter Replacements

Meter replacements are our ongoing project. If a letter is delivered to your home from the District notifying you that an updated meter is needed, please respond within 10 days to schedule an appointment.

### Freeze Prevention Reminder

As a fall and winter precaution, please ensure your water meter is in a warm, dry, accessible location protected from freezing as required by the District By-Laws. Copies of the By-Laws are available at the District's of-

fice at 60 Sagamore Road. Draining of all irrigation lines should be completed before the first freeze, which can occur in October.

### 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. Enjoy the hunting season, but please do it responsibly.

Rye Water District Commissioners



# Rye Energy Committee says "Honor Your Home"

The Rye Energy Committee is continuing with its annual summer energy and art program. This summer the program is called "Honor Your Home." The committee is asking Rye residents to take three actions to tighten up their homes and/or to walk more lightly on the earth. When a household takes these actions a seacoast artist will "honor" those actions by painting a rendition of these homes. Twenty-five house-

holds have signed on to take three actions, one of which will be to take the New England Carbon Challenge.

This project is being co-sponsored by the Rye Energy Committee, Clean Air Cool Planet and the Seacoast Science Center where a series of Green Saturday morning lectures have been held. The last program will feature John Carroll who will talk about local food and food security. Please

join us on September 11 at 10:30 a.m. at the Seacoast Science Center for this very important talk.

All the paintings for the Honor Your Home project will be "honored" on November 12 when a gala opening and show of these works will be on display and for sale at the Seacoast Science Center. All are welcome and encouraged to join us.

Mimi White

Rye Energy Committee

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## Rye Historical Society News

The Town Museum has started a new monthly exhibit focused on Rye artifacts.

For August it is early toys from the Brown family and for September it will be needlework from the same family. Be sure to stop by to see these monthly exhibits before they change. Hours are Saturday 10 a.m.-2 p.m. through October and Wednesday 2-4 p.m. year round.

On Tuesday September 7 at 7 p.m. at the Library, **Bruce Valley**, author of *Rye Harbor* and *Seahawk: Confessions of an old Hockey Goalie*, will present "Poetry inspired by Rye and Recollections of a Rye Youth." Bruce, a Rye native, will read some of his poems, talk about growing up in Rye, and be available after the event to sign copies of his books that will be for sale.

Historic photos from *Rye Harbor*, recently republished, will also be shown.

The public is invited to share their 1940s and 50s memories as well. Co-sponsored by the Rye Historical Society and the Rye Public Library.

"Dating Your Old House" will be presented by **Sandra Rux**, on Tuesday Sept 28 at 7 p.m. at the Library. Sandra is curator and manager of the Portsmouth Historical Society/



John Paul Jones House/Discover Portsmouth Center. Aside from a life-long interest in dating old houses, Sandra created and taught a course on this topic in Guilford, CT for several years. On this occasion, the Rye Historical Society will reintroduce an expanded version of the "Old House Plaque Project" to the public, which was started by the Every Other Tuesday Club in the early 1970s. Co-sponsored by Rye Historical Society and Rye Public Library.

### Barn Inventory and Tour

Rye Historical Society, in conjunction with its farming in Rye programs of the last two years, is contemplating a barn tour in Rye. This has proven to be an educational event that also raises much needed funds for historical societies in the seacoast area. It is our hope to include approximately eight barns of

different style, ages, or stages of their lives, in a self-guided tour, probably in the fall of 2011 or 2012.

We are looking for barn owners who would like to participate and help organize this tour. With success, we would repeat with different barns in later years. It is hoped we can document not only the tour buildings, but all of the barns in Rye over the next several years. We hope collect the info on the age, type of barn, additions through the years, and ownership history.

Also, it is hoped that there will be many interesting stories from owners, or previous owners, of the day-to-day activities and what animals, crops, or other family events happened there. The information will be kept in a permanent file at the Town Museum. It is NOT necessary for each owner to be a "barn expert." We have some access to individuals with expert knowledge.

ALL barn owners, please contact board member Corinne Goss Carignan by email at pullthewool@comcast.net. Otherwise, mail to P. O. Box 92, Rye, NH 03870, or call 207-439-6524 evenings.

Alex Herlihy, Chairman  
Rye Historical Society

## Notes From the Beach

This was the summer that beach lovers dreamed of. Sunshine, gentle breezes, and precious little rain welcomed them to our pristine shores. In contrast, last year rained almost daily well into August causing frustration not only among the sunbathers but with the lifeguard crew as well. This year they had all the sun-filled shifts they could handle and were guided by our young but stalwart new supervisor, Collin Drake. Collin wasn't new to our crew this year. He was with us last year and proved himself worthy with his loyal service and arduous, action-packed guarding the weekend that Hurricane Bill came to town. As you may recall, the visit by Bill tested all of our guards on duty, and it was due in large part to their tireless efforts that lives were likely spared.

Hurricane Bill was the catalyst for more than one change on Rye beaches. It ultimately tested and failed the lifeguard supervisor on duty that weekend, opening the position for Collin who can be seen most mornings beginning at 9 a.m. training and exercising our guards at Wallis Sands Beach. He is responsible for scheduling guards and making sure they properly enforce and abide by the rules set by the Beach Commission and the Selectmen. Though they are an impressive group of young men and women, it is not always an easy task to keep a crew of late teens and early twenty-somethings honed. He must be their taskmaster and drill sergeant.

Another change hastened by Bill was a partnership between the Fire Department and the Beach Commission. It became apparent that events like summertime storms that can bring large waves and strong rip currents on an otherwise beautiful beach day need the coordination, manpower, and the visible presence of authority beyond what our guards can bring to bear. Talks between the Fire Department and the Commission led to a petitioning of the Selectmen to form a partnership



Exhultation!

Photo by Michael Labrie

that would not only allow for storm event coordination but for a role by the Fire Department in the day-to-day administration, supervision, and support of the lifeguard crew.

This role, in particular, is undertaken by Lieutenant Chuck Gallant. He makes sure that payroll is handled and particular needs of the guards are taken care of, and provides a layer of oversight in support of the supervisor. This role has proven to be critical in the proper staffing of our lifeguard crew, allowing the Beach Commissioners, who are strictly volunteer, to escape some of the day-to-day administration of the guards during the summer and focus on other big picture items like dog waste and porta-potties. The Selectmen approved a one-year test of this partnership.

Each year seems to bring unique occurrences and new trends to the beaches. Of course, what summer wrap-up would be complete without mention of the jellyfish which thrust our town into the national headlines? (We even made the *Drudge Report*.) Most of you know about the Lion's Mane Jellyfish that even in its death managed to sting up to 150 beachgoers. With no lack of compassion for those affected, I am happy to report that it occurred on the state section of Wallis Sands Beach and that the act of scattering the million or so poisonous barbs into the water currents was done by a state lifeguard. I will leave it to the

*Portsmouth Herald* and Professors at UNH to debate whether any intervention on the part of the lifeguard was appropriate, but you may be comforted to know that it is currently the policy of the Rye lifeguards to leave dead lions lie.

Beachgoers like to play, and it seems that the evolution of beach playthings is constant. This year we got complaints about such tried-and-true toys like skim boards, which are one of the main reasons for a trip to the emergency room from the beach for dislocated shoulders, sprained ankles and wrists, not to mention the annoyance and terror they inflict on mature couples trying to walk the water's edge. But we also had to scratch our collective heads and decide what to do about youths launching themselves into the waves on a skim board using an anchor and a bungee cord. It's a fine line between someone's right to injure themselves and putting others at risk. I didn't see it myself, but I'm told it looked like fun. They were told to keep a distance from other swimmers.

Lastly, I want to talk about the newest trend in surfing. Surfing itself continues to explode in popularity. As I've mentioned before, the advent of inexpensive boards and wetsuits has led to its extreme popularity. One major drawback has been a need for waves to draw out surfers in large numbers, though we have all seen the dozen or so sitting out there on a flat day just floating.

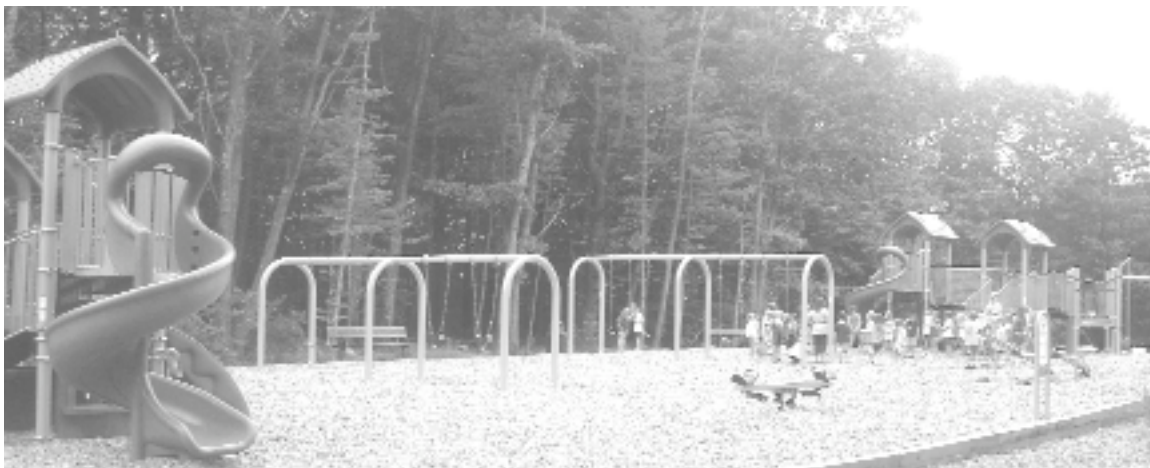
This new trend in surfing, which started with a trickle over the last couple of seasons, has become a torrent of late. Stand-up paddleboards are everywhere. They are very large boards providing a stable platform for paddling and surfing. They give the rider a unique vantage point on the water. They remove the most difficult part of learning to surf standing up. And the length of the board makes even the smallest of waves surfable. In general,

*Continued on next page.*



# Rye Recreation Opens a New Playground

A new playground has been installed at the Recreation Area, 55 Recreation Road. The playground is designed for children 2 to 12 years of age. Join the Rye Recreation Commission for a ribbon-cutting ceremony on Saturday, September 11, at 12 noon on site.



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## Notes from the Beach *Continued from preceding page.*

anything that gets people out of the house doing physical activity is a good thing, though my responsibility is safety at the beach. What I'm seeing more and more with these craft is large numbers of them surfing in close proximity to swimmers on the small waves close to the water's edge where the bulk of the swimmers are. Many of these boards are being used by begin-

ners with no experience and who don't seem to know the surfing rules about keeping distance from others in the water. The size of the board means that it has weight behind it and it will hurt when it collides with someone.

With each new activity or toy on the beach, lifeguards, participants, and the public in general need to be aware and

vigilant to keep injuries from occurring. The job for the lifeguards is constantly evolving and they need your help to keep beachgoers safe. Please let them know if you see unsafe activities occurring at the beach, either on the sand or in the water.

Michael Labrie, Chairman  
Rye, Beach Commission

## Fire Department Report

**SUMMER IS NEVER LONG ENOUGH!** All good things must come to an end, as they say and the summer of 2010 is about to do just that. Let's hope that the next season brings us a typical New England fall and after that, a winter that dumps all the snow on the ski areas and none here in Rye.

At any rate, home heating season is fast approaching and now is the time to think about your heating system and chimney. Regardless of how you heat your home, you should have a qualified service person check your heating system to ensure that it is operating efficiently and safely. And if you are heating with wood, have the chimney checked and cleaned as necessary. Improperly installed or maintained heating equipment can not only be a fire hazard, but also can result in some serious medical problems such as carbon monoxide poisoning.

If you are making modifications to or replacing your oil or gas heating system, make sure that the heating contractor has obtained the necessary permits from the Rye Fire Department. The fire department can then inspect to ensure the work was done properly.

As far as your chimney is concerned, if you have any doubt as to its integrity or condition, the Rye Fire Department can look at it for you and give you an opinion.

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

Know what to do when that smoke detector sounds an alarm. Practice two ways out of every living and sleeping area of the home. As soon as you discover a fire, get everyone out of the house and call 9-1-1, preferably from a neighbor's house.

Lastly, a reminder: All buildings in the Town of Rye are to display a street number as issued by the building department. Signs must be in Arabic nu-

## Police Chief Issues Seasonal Reminders

**SCHOOL OPENS:** School reopens on August 31. Please be aware of children riding their bikes and walking to and from school. **During the hours of 7:45 a.m. and 2:45 p.m., driver's speed must not exceed 20 mph while traveling through school zones.**

It would be greatly appreciated if parents who drop off and pick up their children at the Junior High, drive past the school, turn around at Grange Park then enter the school parking lot. This will enable the morning and afternoon commutes to continue moving without creating a traffic jam.

In addition, please check to make sure your child has his or her seat belt buckled. For your child's safety, we ask that you remind your child to remove his or her backpack before he or she attempts to buckle up.

**BICYCLES:** As a reminder, 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 his or her helmet. If you do not have one, the police department has spare helmets.

**DOGS:** Please remember the ordinance for dogs on the beach is in effect until September 11. Police officers have picked up multiple dogs running and walking in the street. We are concerned for their safety and remind you to keep your dog under control and/or secure on your property. Always have your dog licensed and pick up after him or her. When an of-

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feral only, a minimum of three inches high and one-half inch in width. The number is to be displayed at the side of or over the front door if readily visible from the street or on a sign or marker at the street end of the driveway.

If we cannot find you, we cannot help you.

Have a great rest of the summer.

William H. Sullivan  
Chief, Rye Fire & Rescue

ficer picks up a dog with no license or owner-information tag, the officer is unable to notify the owner and must take the dog to the kennel.

**TAIL-GATERS:** There have been some complaints from resident drivers who feel they have been followed too closely through town. If you are traveling through town and feel that a vehicle is tailgating you, please let the police department know. If you find yourself tailgating, check your speedometer. The person in front of you is probably going the speed limit.

**KEEPING VALUABLES SAFE:** For several years there have been numerous reports of credit cards and cash being removed from locked and unlocked cars parked along the beach. These credit cards are used at the large chain stores long before the victim knows they are missing. A good way to keep thieves from using your credit card is to write "photo ID required" on the backs of your credit cards. Also, please lock your vehicles even when parked in your driveway.

Rye Police and area police departments are taking reports of GPS systems and satellite radio systems being taken out of unlocked cars parked in driveways and along the beach parking spaces. You may want to consider taking these items in every night or not taking the items to the beach. Even if your wallet, purse, or cell phone is under your seat, these thieves always seem to find them.

Thank you for your continued support.

Kevin Walsh  
Chief of Police

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.

## Assessor Discusses Exemptions and Valuations

It is a pleasure to once again express the appreciation of the assessing office staff to residents who qualify for senior citizen and/or war service exemptions. Both benefits are processed by this office under the aegis of the State's Department of Revenue Administration (DRA), which oversees assessment laws enacted by the Legislature. The statutes regarding the exemptions specified herein require that the qualifications of the applicants must be updated and verified *once every five years*. Particularly in regard to the senior citizen exemption, much detailed data is required. Office clerk Joanne Drewniak has spent considerable time assisting residents in completing the necessary forms, both in the office or at the home of the applicants when they do not have transportation.

On the subject of five-year updates, there is similarly a statute which requires an analysis of property assessments. Needless to say, values of real estate have changed significantly since the previous review in 2005. The update mandated for 2010 will reflect the open market transactions between willing buyers and willing sellers. It is a real estate characteristic that prices typically fluctuate in periods ranging from five to seven years and generally in price ranges from five to twenty-five percent up in good times or down in difficult periods. However, the spread in Rye is about five to fifteen percent. The flip side is that despite the excellent job that the voters and Board of Selectmen do in maintaining a tax rate that ranged from \$8.66 to \$9.82 between 2006 and 2009, any significant decrease in total valuation would produce a tax rate higher than those years, but still among the lowest in the state.

Should you require further information on real estate valuations, exemptions, or other responsibilities of this office, please call (603) 964-5523.

Howard Promer, CNHA Assessor  
Joanne Drewniak, Clerk

### RYE SAFE ROUTES



Fall is an exciting time of year when school starts yet the weather is still warm and inviting to play outdoors and play soccer or football. It is also time to think about Safe Routes to School.

Thank you to everyone for all the support for our Safe Routes to School program as we enter our third year in existence. We have had some successes including the design of the logo, a travel plan, and the safe routes brochure. The logo was made into stencils for the purpose of painting it along the newly expanded shoulders of the Rye roads pointing out the safer routes. A heartfelt thank you to the Jr. High students who tried to paint it on the road way, your efforts and time was greatly appreciated. The design has been given to the new DPW Director; Dennis McCarthy and they will be stenciled along the roads between the Jr. High to the Elementary school later this summer by the Highway Department.

Well, Mother Nature did not agree that May was the month to hold the

Annual Bike Rodeo. It poured with threatening thunder on that day, so we have re-scheduled it for Saturday, September 11, 2010 in the Rye Congregational Church parking lot from 1-4 p.m. Let's hope for better weather this time around. This is a community event held by Rye Recreation, Police, Fire, and Safe Routes to School (SRTS). We have sponsors lined up with the return of Exeter Hospital for helmet checks. There are also gift certificates from the Kittery Trading Post and Exeter Cycle Bike Shop, and bike grips from Pedros, which will be raffled off. There will be the activities of an obstacle course, bike safety, face painting by the Girl Scouts, and a parade. Rye Airfield will be hosting a demonstration, weather permitting.



Save the date for the International Walk to School Day to be held on Wednesday, October 6, 2010. Did you know that this event is not just in the United States; kids

from around the world participate. If you would like to learn more, visit the Safe Routes to School website at <http://www.walktoschool.org/>.

If you would like to organize a bike train or walking group, please contact Kimberly Reed, Planning Administrator, at 964-9800.

### THE RYE LIONS CLUB 27th ANNUAL CAR SHOW Sunday, September 19, 2010 Parsons Field



Registration: 8 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Trophies awarded at 2 p.m.

Car entries: \$10 Spectators \$3, under 12 Free

**Great food! Entertainment!**

(Rain date: Sunday, September 26)



# A Thank You and Report from the New Director of Public Works

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the many residents who have stopped in to meet me and introduce themselves. I look forward to eventually meeting everyone over the coming years. I have found everyone to be most welcoming and extremely community-minded.

Many of the concerns that I have heard from the residents relate to storm water runoff and drainage. I will make every effort to mitigate your concerns and problems, but in this age of ever-increasing environmental concern it is getting more difficult to address these issues in a timely manner. Long gone are the days when the Highway Department could just divert the storm water into the woods or install a catch basin and drain line to shift the drainage to another location.

Due to the population density and urbanized development pattern of Rye, the EPA has designated that the town falls under their National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES), Phase II, permitting authority. This program is the EPA's effort to preserve, protect, and improve the nation's water resources from polluted storm water runoff. Phase II is intended to reduce adverse water quality and aquatic habitat conditions by instituting controls on the unregulated sources of storm water discharges that have the greatest likelihood of causing

environmental degradation. This means the Town must implement a number of programs in an effort to comply with the permit conditions. In the coming newsletter issues I will endeavor to explain a number of these programs.

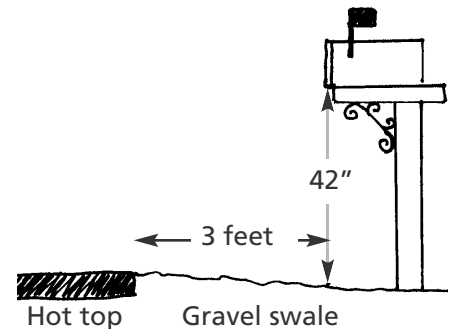
The prior Director had budgeted a number of yearly maintenance tasks to be implemented this year. His retirement and my recency has resulted in some of these tasks to be delayed somewhat. However, I fully anticipate completion of all the budgeted work before the snow flies. To date, the sweeping, traffic marking, and mowing of the roads has been completed.

The paving contract for this year has been awarded to Suburban Paving of Bow, NH. I anticipate they will complete the repaving of Sea Road, Triton Avenue, Eagle Rock Road, Robin Road, Manor Drive, Glendale Avenue, and Central Road (between South & Ocean Boulevard) in the month of September.

Since my arrival there have been a number of after-hour call-outs for trees down in the road. I believe this is due in part to the overgrown nature of the trees lining the roadways. You can anticipate a greater emphasis in the future on tree trimming by the Highway Department.

I have also noted a great many obstructions within the town's road right-of-ways: rocks, fences, posts, etc.,

which do not belong within the right-of-way limits. The only objects approved to be within the right-of-ways are properly licensed utility poles and mailboxes. Residents can anticipate receiving notice to relocate any other offending items. With regard to mail boxes: In order to reduce potential for damage by snow plows, the face of your mailbox must be 3 feet from the edge of the pavement and located 42" from the ground. (See diagram)



The Transfer Center has been operating at full capacity this very hot summer. We appreciate the resident's patience when we have to close the facility's gates in order to safely switch the rubbish containers.

I encourage anyone with road, solid waste, or storm water questions to contact me by calling 964-5300.

Dennis G. McCarthy  
Public Works Director

## Town of Rye Sewer Department



Please note per Sewer Use Ordinance §400 Permits: 400.1 General, No unauthorized person(s) shall uncover, make any connections with or opening into, use, alter, or disturb any public sewer or appurtenance thereof without first obtaining a written permit from the Sewer Commissioners. No person shall construct, add to, alter, or replace any portion of a building

sewer or building service that leads in any way to a public sewer without first obtaining the written approval of the Sewer Commissioners or their authorized representative.

The current Sewer Commission consists of David Kohlase, Chairman; Peter Kasnet, Vice Chairman; and David M. Adams, Commissioner. Staff include Walter Parienteau, Clerk of the Works and Lee Arthur, Administrative Assistant.

The Sewer Commission Meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month in the courtroom at Town Hall and the public is encouraged to attend. The Sewer Commission Office is located on the second floor of Town Hall and is open Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-12 p.m. For more information contact the Town of Rye Sewer Department at (603) 964-6815.

Rye Sewer Commissioners

# Town of Rye Board Meetings

## September 2010

**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.

			<b>1</b> 9 am Rye Water District 60 Sagamore 7 pm Zoning Board of Adjustment	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> Labor Day Town offices closed	<b>7</b> 6:30 pm Board of Selectmen	<b>8</b> Rosh Hashanah	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 9 am Sewer Commission 7 pm Planning Board	<b>15</b> 6 pm School Board Rye Junior High	<b>16</b> 7 pm Conservation Commission	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> Yom Kippur
<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 6:30 pm Board of Selectmen	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 7 pm Technical Review Committee	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>October 2010</b>	
<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 6:30 pm Board of Selectmen	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> 9 am Rye Water District 60 Sagamore 7 pm Zoning Board of Adjustment	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> Columbus Day Town offices closed	<b>12</b> 9 am Sewer Commission 7 pm Planning Board	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 6:30 pm Board of Selectmen	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 6 pm School Board Rye Junior High	<b>21</b> 7 pm Conservation Commission	<b>22</b> First day of Autumn	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> 7 pm Technical Review Committee	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> Trick or Treat in Rye 5–7 pm
<b>31</b> Halloween	<b>November 2010</b>					
	<b>1</b> 6:30 pm Board of Selectmen	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 9 am Rye Water District 60 Sagamore 7 pm Zoning Board of Adjustment	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> 9 am Sewer Commission 7 pm Planning Board	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> Veterans Day Town offices closed	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> 6:30 pm Board of Selectmen	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 6 pm School Board Rye Junior High	<b>18</b> 7 pm Conservation Commission	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b> <b>28</b>	<b>22</b> 6:30 pm Board of Selectmen <b>29</b>	<b>23</b> 7 pm Technical Rev. Comm. <b>30</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> Thanksgiving Town offices closed	<b>26</b> Town offices closed	<b>27</b>

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

## Please Vote

**in the September 14th State  
Primary and the State General  
Election on November 2. Polls  
are open 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the  
Rye Elementary School, 461  
Sagamore Road.**

**NOTICE TO ALL GHOSTS,  
GOBLINS, AND SPIDERMEN:**

## HALLOWEEN

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

## SUPPORT OUR LOCAL FARMERS!

The Rye Farmers' Market is having a very successful second season. Our summer market is every Wednesday, 2:30–5:30, and it continues through October 6. This year we have added more meat vendors (beef, pork, chicken, bison, and lamb) and Jewell Towne Wines in addition to all the vendors we had last year. Go to our website, [www.ryefarmersmarket.com](http://www.ryefarmersmarket.com) for links to all of our vendors. We also have a "What's for Dinner Wednesday" feature where we offer a menu with recipes that can be made from products bought at that week's market. The menu is on our website as well as our Facebook page, <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Rye-Farmers-Market/>

Our winter markets will begin with a November market in mid-November at the Rye Junior High, 10 a.m.–2 p.m., date to be announced on our website and Facebook. We will also have markets in mid-January, February, and March. Come support your local farmers.

Susan Anderson  
Rye Energy Committee



## NOTICE

**ELDERLY EXEMPTION APPLICATIONS FILING  
DATE DEADLINE HAS BEEN CHANGED TO  
APRIL 15th, *EFFECTIVE IN 2011.***

The optional date of August 1st will no longer apply.  
Per revision of State law

Town of Rye  
Rye, NH 03870

Bulk rate  
US Postage  
**PAID**  
Permit No. 10  
Rye, NH 03870

**POSTAL PATRON  
RYE, NH 03870**