



# Town of Rye Newsletter



Vol. 26, No. 3

A Publication of the Rye, New Hampshire, Select Board

September 2023

## Selectmen's Message:

### Beaches, Parson's Creek, Town Hall Annex Conference Room Naming & More!

**Beach Issues:** The town beaches have been relatively quiet this year, in large part due to the rainy weather during June and July. As you know, we increased the number of beach parking permits this year to three in response to your concerns. Both the number of permits and total revenue have increased over last year. As of 8/21/23 we have already sold 2,779 parking permits and brought in \$84,025 in revenue. At this same point last year we had sold 2,651 parking permits and brought in \$65,150 in revenue. The increased revenue is largely because the Select Board voted in the Beach Committee's recommendation of three beach parking permits per property with a price increase from \$25 to \$30 for the first two parking permits and the third being \$35. These funds help pay for maintaining our beaches and services including cleaning the beaches, porta-potties, and garbage collection through the Beach Cleaning Fund.

In 2023, warrant article #26 was passed to allow 75% of the funds raised to go into the Beach Cleaning Fund (Fund 12). Previously only 50% of the revenue received from the beach parking permits went to support beach cleaning operations. However, with the rising cost of maintaining our beaches additional resources were necessary. These additional funds will ensure

that Rye, with the largest coastline in NH, is able to maintain its beaches.

The NH Department of Environmental Services (DES) performs testing of our beaches during the summer and we have added a nominal amount of funds to do additional tests beyond those done by the state. The testing is for the presence of coliform bacteria and advisory notices are posted by the test sites if standards are exceeded. This has occurred already this season, primarily at the southern half of Wallis Sands beach. Please read the accompanying article on Parson's Creek Watershed for related information. Although the causes are unknown, numerous beaches in NH, MA and RI have been closed at various times this season, so it is not just a problem in Rye.



#### Town Hall Annex Conference Room Naming:

At our meeting on January 23, 2023, the Select Board agreed to have Rye residents submit letters of nomination for consideration of a possible name for the conference room at the Town Hall Annex. While several names were submitted for consideration, at our July 24<sup>th</sup> meeting the board unanimously voted to select Mel and Jean Low for the dedication. Mel and Jean are both long-time Rye residents and have served the community in countless ways over the years. It is our pleasure to recognize them through the naming of the conference room as the "Mel & Jean Low Conference Room".

#### Parson's Creek Watershed and Wallis Sands Beach:

In May, the Town received the results of the eagerly anticipated "PhyloChip" analysis as part of the annual study to determine the source of fecal contaminants in the Parson's Creek Watershed. Unfortunately, the results were inconclusive. As it turns out, this "new and innovative" technique is not suited to saltwater

marsh environments. This larger study has been ongoing since 2008 with FB Environmental as our contract partner. The ongoing data collection over the years has shown an increasing level of contamination and has previously tested at levels that exceed safety standards set by NH Division of Environmental Services (DES). As such, advisory notices have recently been posted at the culvert under lower Wallis Road and at the RT1A bridge just north of Concord Point.

Testing performed by NHDES has recorded exceedances of fecal contamination on the southern half of Wallis Sands beach twice so far this summer. Notices are posted accordingly in locations that have tested positive for elevated bacteria. Although there are no definitive currently known links between these two issues, it is a fact that Parson's Creek empties into the Atlantic Ocean at the southern end of Wallis Sands beach. We are discussing this issue with NHDES and FB Environmental.

In 2016, the Town created a septic pump-out ordinance for this watershed as a recommendation from these on-going studies. This requires approximately 643 properties in the watershed to provide proof of septic pump-out every three years. There are a small number of property owners who have never adhered to this health ordinance and in fact have refused to acknowledge repeated attempts to engage on the subject. The Select Board has followed a long path to ensure that every property owner's rights have been protected, but the time has come for more active measures to protect our environment. The town is beginning the final steps to start additional legal action needed to enforce this ordinance. Ultimately, our goal is to see all properties brought into compliance with the ordinance.

We anticipate applying for another DES grant for next year to continue investigating the sources of contamination in this watershed. There

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### Back to School

#### Quick Reminders

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School opened August 29, 2023.

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.



Kevin Walsh,  
Chief of Police

# Selectmen's Message

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are numerous reports on this subject on the town website under Departments/Parson's Creek Watershed, including the full report of this 2022 PhyloChip analysis.

**TAP Grant:** On June 26, 2023, the Town and NHDOT both signed an agreement for the awarded TAP (Transportation Alternatives Program) Grant. The goal of the federally-funded Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) is to provide choices for non-motorized users that are safe, reliable, and convenient. TAP was created under a federal law known as Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century (MAP-21) to consolidate many stand-alone programs into a single, more flexible program.

This project will construct sidewalks, bicycle lanes, road shoulder expansion, cross walks, and lighting for 1,900 linear feet of Washington Road in the center of Rye. The improvements made through this project will significantly help with pedestrian, bicycle, and vehicular safety. The project will begin just north of the Rye Junior High School and end just beyond the Rye Public Library. The total project estimate is \$1,016,691.47 with 80% of the project funding coming from the federal TAP grant.

Rye's TAP proposal was approved by the voters in July of 2021 with a town commitment of \$300,000 in Town funds. The town budgeted more than the minimum required amount of 20% to allow for additional improvements that may not be covered by the grant. The genesis for the Town Center safety improvements came from recommendations made during the townwide charrette held in 2019.

This project has now reached a significant milestone as three engineering firms have expressed interest in this project, and their qualifications will be reviewed by the TAP Grant Committee. Once a firm is selected, they will work with the TAP Grant Committee and the town on achieving the project goals over the next 2-3 years, until the project is complete. We are excited to have this project underway.

**Pease Air Cargo Update:** Thanks in large part to significant pushback from surrounding towns,

including Rye, initial threats for the development of an air cargo facility at Pease were greatly diminished when developers last year pivoted away from a large air cargo development project and began focusing on other aeronautical related opportunities at Pease. However, the threat for increased air cargo flights remains and the town is closely monitoring the development proposals presented to the Pease Development Authority (PDA).

While there have been several ideas for developments at Pease that have been discussed, including high-end aeronautical manufacturing, to date no air cargo development projects have been fully approved.

In 2022, one air cargo broker at Pease stated their interest in possibly developing a 465,000 square foot facility. If brought to completion, this would likely need to be serviced by numerous flights in and out of Pease throughout the day and night. Additional proposals, bringing increased air traffic, could be presented in the future so we will continue to monitor the development proposals being submitted and reviewed by the PDA. We will also continue to advocate for smart development at Pease that does not substantially increase the number of flights over Rye.

**Rye Day:** Rye Day was a great success! While many helped contribute to the day's success, we want to recognize and thank Recreation Director Dyana Martin and the rest of her staff in the Rye Recreation Department for their many contributions to the event. We would also like to thank all who sponsored, supported and volunteered their time to make Rye Day what it was, with a special thanks to the Rye400 Committee for all their work on this event as well.

Rye Select Board,  
Tom King, Chairman  
Bill Epperson, Vice-Chairman  
Bob McGrath, Selectman

## Rye400 Fall Happenings!

We hope you've been enjoying the many activities over the past few months. There's more coming and here's what you need to know! As

always, reservation, ticket, date-change and cancellation information may be found on the Rye400 website at [www.ryenh400.org](http://www.ryenh400.org).

- Sept 4: Rye Historic Trolley Tour, Rye Town Museum, 10:00am-12:00pm; Reservations required. [www.ryenh400.org](http://www.ryenh400.org)
- Sept 5: Tickets go on sale via Eventbrite for October 19, 2023, Rye400 Playground Fundraising Party. [www.ryenh400.org](http://www.ryenh400.org)
- Sept 6: Rye Owls — come experience live owls and other educational birds through the Tailwinds Raptor Education and Conservation program, Rye Public Library Common, 6:00pm. [ryepubliclibrary.org](http://ryepubliclibrary.org)
- Sept 14: Author J. Dennis Robinson presents his new book, "1623 Founding Family," Rye Congregational Church, 7:00pm-8:30pm.
- Sept 16: Rye Century Walk, "History of Farming: Brown Lane Farm," 81 West Road, 1:00pm-2:30pm; Registration required. [www.ryenh400.org](http://www.ryenh400.org)
- Sept 17: Wallis Sands Triathlon, Wallis Sands State Beach; 9:00am-1:00pm; Registration required. <https://tri-maine.com/wallis-sands-triathlon/>
- Sept 21: Live interview with author Dan Brown, Rye Junior High School, 6:30pm-8:30pm; Registration required. [www.ryenh400.org](http://www.ryenh400.org)
- Sept 26: Student-only program with author Dan Brown, Rye Junior High School, 10:00am-12:00pm.
- Sept 27: **CANCELLED:** Former NH Governor of NH and U.S. Senator, Judd Gregg: "An Evening of Reflection and Predictions," Rye Public Library, 6:30pm – 7:30pm.
- Oct 8: Valerie Fagin presents, "African Americans in Rye," Rye Congregational Church, 1:00pm-3:00pm.
- Oct 14: Rye Scavenger Hunt by Car, meet at Rye Congregational Church, 1:00pm-4:00pm. Registration required. [www.ryenh400.org](http://www.ryenh400.org)
- Oct 14: Arts En Plein Air, Rye Public Library Green, (time TBD).
- Oct 15: Tickets go on sale via Eventbrite for December 2, 2023, Historic House Tour. [www.ryenh400.org](http://www.ryenh400.org)
- Oct 19: Rye400 Playground Fundraising Party, Atlantic Grill, 5:30-8:00pm.; Reservations required (see September 5, above).

# Rye400 Happenings

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- Oct 24: An Evening with Roger Philbrick, "Memories and Stories of Rye," Rye Congregational Church, 6:30pm.
- Nov 8: Anne Jennison presents "The Impact of 500 years of colonization on the Abenaki-Wabenaki People of the NorthEast." Rye Public Library 6:30pm – 7:30pm.
- Dec 2: Historic House Tour: 4 Historic Houses/1 Barn in Rye will be open for visitors, 1:00pm - 4:00pm. Tickets required (see October 15, above). [www.ryenh400.org](http://www.ryenh400.org)
- Dec 2: Holiday Tree Lighting, 4:15pm, Parsons Field. Sponsored by Tate & Foss|Sotheby's International Realty.
- Dec 3: Rye Holiday Parade sponsored by The Town of Rye.



## Message from the Police Chief

Every day the Rye officers take poor driving behavior complaints like following too close, not stopping at stop signs, and driving too fast. Rye residents send letters to the Police Department expressing how they feel unsafe due to vehicles speed and other poor driving behavior. Some of the points highlighted in a letter included South Road, Washington Road, the center of town, Central Road, and Wallis Road being used as an access to get from one end of town to the other. The most frequent motor vehicle violations were noted daily between the hours of 6:00 - 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 - 6:00 p.m.

Traffic flow directly contributes to the quality of life within our neighborhoods. Speeding is not simply about fines and endorsements upon a license, it is an aggravating factor in many deaths, or serious injury collisions. Speeding is a neighborhood issue that has a direct effect on our children's ability to safely play in neighborhoods, in addition to our pets and our own

safety. Often drivers who speed through our neighborhoods are unaware of the impact that their actions could have on the peace and comfort of neighborhood streets and residents.

The officers and I are asking all drivers to take an active role in changing driver behavior on our streets by helping raise public awareness about the impact that unreasonable speeds have on our neighborhoods. Recently an officer stopped a Rye citizen for driving over the posted speed limit on the street they live on and complained about speeding vehicles. Help us help you by talking with your family and friends about the speed and driving habits of vehicles on Rye roads.

School reopened on August 29, 2023. The police officers and I would like to thank the Rye School Board, SAU 50 Supernatant Steve Zadravec, SAU 50 staff, Principals Gilbert and Pitts, all Rye Teachers, Custodian Supervisor Jim Gordon and custodial staff for moving forward with building safety plans.

*Here are some important reminders for parents:*

- 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. when the school zone light is flashing, driver's speed must not exceed 20 mph while traveling through school zones. Please make sure your vehicle slows down before entering the school zone.
- Always stop for school buses loading and unloading students.
- It would be 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.

*Here are some tips for students:*

- Always buckle up when you're riding in a car.

- Always wear a helmet and follow traffic safety rules when riding your bike.
- If you ride a bus, learn, and practice the safety rules for waiting at the bus stop, getting on and off the bus and riding the bus. Please stay in your seat.
- If you walk to school, learn, and practice the safety rules for pedestrians. Always cross at crosswalks and obey all traffic signs.
- Most important is to be a good role model for your younger brothers, sisters, and friends, to help them learn and practice safety rules.

Types of distractions that are being noticed by your police officers include: use of cell phones and other electronics; eating, drinking and smoking; reaching or looking behind while in motion; grooming and reading.

**Remember: Slow Down. Stay Alert. We all have a responsibility for safe practices behind the wheel.**

Thank you for your continued support.

Kevin Walsh  
Chief of Police



## Town Clerk/ Tax Collector's Message

Congratulations to all the 2023 Rye Graduates. For those graduates that have turned 18 years old, please stop by the Town Clerk's Office, located across from Rye Junior High School, to Register to Vote. There will be four elections in 2024; two Primary elections, the Town election and a General election. It is important for graduates that are going away to college to register prior to leaving. A copy of your driver's license or passport is required to be able to register. You are the upcoming generation; it is important that you vote. You may also email our office and we can guide you on how to register through the mail. Our office hours are Monday–Thursday 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Motor vehicle transactions shut down at 4:00 p.m. and Fridays 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. (noon).

We do have a drive-up window for the convenience of dropping off tax or sewer payments and vehicle registration renewals. Please note that drive-up transactions close at 4:00 p.m. and credit

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## Town Clerk's Message

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cards are not accepted through the drive-up window. For all other transactions you must come inside the building.

All unpaid 2022 Property Tax and Sewer bills were liened on August 16, 2023. You may visit the town website ([www.town.rye.nh.us](http://www.town.rye.nh.us)) and click on the red icon to view any unpaid Property Tax and Sewer bills. Any unpaid 2020 taxes that were liened in 2021 are in jeopardy of being deeded on November 1, 2023. Please contact our office (603)-964-8562 if this affects your property. Delinquency notices have gone out to residents with any outstanding balances.

All dogs had to be registered by April 30<sup>th</sup>. As of June 1<sup>st</sup>, if any dog is not registered, a delinquent fee of \$1.00 will be added each month thereafter. When registering your dog, please make sure you have an updated rabies certificate. If your dog has passed, please inform our office so we can update our records.

We expect the new tax rate to be set sometime towards the middle of November. Once we set the tax rate and the Property Tax warrant has been compiled, December tax bills will be due 30 days from the day tax bills are printed. We accept check, cash or credit card. If paying by credit card there is a 2.79% surcharge that goes to the credit card company and the charge is reflected on your credit card statement.

Renewal of Vehicle Registrations may be done online, through the mail, or in person. Please go to the town website and click on the color icon that pertains to what you are doing for business.

Due to the high cost of postage, if you would like a stamped paid receipt or you are mailing in your registration, you must supply a stamped self-addressed envelope.

Summer is at an end, please watch signs 'Parking by Permit Only'. Parking is enforced until signs are removed.

We are here to serve you as residents and property owners of Rye. If you need any assistance or have questions, please refer to our office. I would like to thank Amy and Lindsay for all their support and help in the office.

I hope you all enjoyed your summer. It is a pleasure to serve as the Town Clerk/Tax Collector in our beautiful town.

Donna M. DeCotis  
Town Clerk/Tax Collector

## Rye Fire Rescue Update

**Shark receiver buoys:** We have still received several inquiries as to how the town shark receiver program works. As a reminder, this is how the program works:

- We have and maintain 4 shark detection data receivers each on a buoy. They are in approximately 20 ft of water at high tide. Locations are in front of Sawyer Beach, Cable beach, Foss Beach, and Wallis Beach.
- These are data buoys. This means that they are for research and do NOT provide real time data to our lifeguards.
- The intent is to see if real time receivers (much more expensive) are necessary by examining the data from year to year. This is the same methodology used on Cape Cod which has a much bigger challenge with sharks.
- Our data is retrieved every November and sent to UNH and the Atlantic Shark Conservancy to be read over the winter. Last year there was a single great white shark detected well off Foss Beach. Results from this season will be available in January or February.

I hope this helps to answer the questions folks have. Feel free to call the Fire Chief at 603-964-6411 with any further questions you may have.

**Personnel Changes:** We have recently had a few staffing changes due to retirement and the staffing of a Deputy Fire Chief position which had been long vacant. There were several staff changes this past quarter which we would like to acknowledge:

- Lieutenant Jeff DiBartolomeo's Retirement. After many years of service to Rye, Jeff retired on June 1<sup>st</sup>. Jeff was not only one of our shift commanders but perhaps best known for his fire prevention efforts as our Fire Inspector. We congratulate Jeff on his well-deserved retirement and wish him and his family many years of health and happiness!
- Firefighter/Paramedic Mike Rivet was promoted to Lieutenant to fill the vacancy created by Lieutenant DiBartolomeo's retirement. LT Rivet came to Rye 5 years ago after

serving with the Portsmouth Fire Department. LT Rivet coordinates our ocean rescue program and serves on the regional hazardous materials response team.

- Per-Diem Firefighter Paramedic Kaitlyn Pidgeon was hired full-time in July to fill the vacancy created from LT Rivet's promotion. Kaitlyn had originally come to us as a paramedic student and quickly became an integral part of our team.
- Lieutenant Kevin Wunderly has been promoted to Deputy Fire Chief effective October 1st. Kevin has been in the fire service 16 years (8 years with Rye), previously serving with Chester Fire Department.
- We are currently running a lieutenant promotional process to fill Deputy Wunderly's prior assignment.
- Per-Diem Firefighter/EMT Becca O'Brien was hired full-time effective October 1<sup>st</sup> to fill the vacancy which will be created by the upcoming Lieutenant promotion. Becca came to us one and a half years ago and has since finished her EMT and firefighter I and II certifications! She also has an interest in ocean rescue and the lifeguard program.

Mark Cotreau  
Fire Chief

## Public Works Message — "GET PUMPED - RYE"

Don't let lack of knowledge of where your septic disposal system is, or how it works, spell disaster for you or your family; learn the basics. Don't wait for failure, be proactive. A little system maintenance periodically may forestall future system failure.

**Where Does My Wastewater Go?** The first question you should ask yourself is do you have a septic system. This question is quite simple to answer in Rye. The only homes in Rye which do not rely on septic systems are located in the southeast corner of the Town generally bordered by Locke Road on the north, the Atlantic Ocean on the east, Causeway Road on the south and Central Road on the west; and the Mobile Home Park on

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# Public Work's Message

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Lafayette Road (Route 1). Also, if you receive a sewer bill from the Rye Sewer Commission or City of Portsmouth you do not have a septic system and do not need to be as concerned as do those relying on an in-ground septic disposal system.

Once you determine you have a septic disposal system you should determine its location. Often it is not apparent exactly where the system is located although manhole covers, vent pipes and large flat lawn expanses are all indicators. Should you not be aware of your system location one may contact your local septage hauler, code enforcement department, or New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) for assistance.

**How Does It Works?** Whatever water goes down the drains in your bathrooms, kitchens and laundry room is your domestic wastewater. Typically, all the drains within one's home lead to a single drainpipe which exits the home and empties into a septic tank.

The septic tank is a buried, watertight container usually made of plastic or concrete. It holds the water long enough for solids to settle to the bottom and fat, oils, and greases to float to the top. Special compartments keep the top and bottom solids from flowing out of the tank.

Liquid wastewater leaves the tank and enters the leach field where special pipes and piping allow the water to slowly seep into the surrounding soil, naturally removing harmful bacteria, viruses, and nutrients before it reaches the groundwater.

**Protect Your Family.** If your septic system gets clogged with too much solid waste, it can force the wastewater to back up into the house or overwhelm your leach field and break out onto your lawn, creating a soggy mess.

**Protect Your Community.** The bacterium in wastewater is not just smelly, it is also a health hazard. System failure may allow wastewater to run off into local streams, lakes, ponds and/or the ocean, negatively impacting water quality, wildlife, and community enjoyment.

**Protect Your Wallet.** Proper system maintenance costs between \$250 and \$500 every 3 to 5 years. A failed

system could cost between \$6,000 and \$15,000 to replace or repair.

**Proper Maintenance.** There are a number of simple acts which one may perform to maintain a healthy and properly functioning system.

- **Conserve water:** Fix leaking faucets and toilets to prevent flooding or overloading your system.
- **Space Out Heavy Water Use:** Spreading out showers, clothes washing, dishwashing, etc. will give your system a better chance to work between high loads.
- **Only flush human waste and toilet paper into your system:** "Flushable" only means it will fit down the drain, not whether it will breakdown in the tank. If in doubt throw it into your trash.
- **Don't park or drive on your septic system:** Heavy concentrated ground loads on the system have a high probability of damaging the system.
- **Pump the tank regularly.** Don't wait for failure. Septic tanks should be pumped and inspected every 3-5 years. Visit [getpumpednh.com](http://getpumpednh.com) to find a New Hampshire Association of Septage Haulers (NHASH) member in this area.

**Why Should I Pump?** Every home with a septic system generates wastewater which deposits solids in the septic tank which must be removed periodically. The regularity of the solids removal is predicated on the system loading, i.e., how many people live in the house, how often laundry is done, are there are number of persons taking frequent showers, is the kitchen equipped with a garbage disposal, etc.

## **Don't Wait for a Failure to Schedule a Septic Tank Pump Out.**

This outreach message helps our community meet US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) requirements associated with the public outreach component of the Town of Rye's Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) NPDES permit and is provided as a public service of the Rye Public Works Department.

For more information, please visit: <https://getpumpednh.com/>.

## **Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Collection:**

**This year's collection is scheduled for Saturday, September 16, 2023.** The hours are 9:00 am to 12:00 pm and will be strictly

adhered to.

As in prior years, the collection will be held at the Brentwood DPW site at 207 Middle Road, Brentwood, NH.

The collection is paid for, and open to residents of the 53B Southeast Regional Refuse Disposal District consortium. The six towns making up this consortium are Rye, North Hampton, Brentwood, Fremont, Kensington, and Sandown.

This will be the only time this year that residents may dispose of their Household Hazardous Waste (HHW). These wastes consist of domestic hazardous wastes in small quantities (less than five gallons), which are commonly purchased at a grocery or hardware store and used in your home. They do not consist of any industrial or commercial chemical products used outside the household.

For more information, please go to the website: <https://srrd53.com/>

**Transfer Station:** The Transfer Station is open for the disposal of yard waste on Tuesday through Saturday from 7:30 am. to 3:45 pm. Grass clippings and leaves should be separated from branches, twigs, and limbs, and deposited in the identified appropriate location, at the rear of the facility. In addition, limbs and tree branches should be less than four feet long and less than eight inches in diameter.

The Transfer Station attendants want to remind you that this time of year we experience a surge in honeybees and yellow jackets drawn to the recycled container bins. The attendants at the facility request that residents please rinse out their recyclables, prior to dropping them off at the Transfer Station. This will cut down on the number of stinging insects and assist the attendants in maintaining the cleanliness of the facility.

## **Town Hall Weatherization**

**Project:** The Rye Town Hall is an 1800's church that has been converted into a municipal office building. An energy audit of the Town Hall was conducted in 2011 by Lakes Region ThermalScan. This audit found significant heat loss through air infiltration/loss and lack of proper insulation. In 2023 the Select Board approved \$50,000 for the Town Hall Weatherization Project. Completion of the Town Hall Weatherization Project will result in significant annual energy savings through the creation of an air barrier and proper insulation. Some areas of the Town Hall lack insulation

# Public Work's Message

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completely. During 2023 the old insulation in the attic space was removed and a closed cell foam was applied providing an airtight barrier. Blown in cellulose insulation installed on top will increase the insulation value. The insulation of the walls will be evaluated in 2024.

## Welcome to our New Staff:

This year the Select Board approved a new Highway position for the Public Works Department.

Mathew Paugh is the new Highway Division's truck driver, equipment operator, laborer. Matt has an impressive resume and 15 years experience in the highway maintenance field. Matt also possesses numerous certifications in proficient heavy equipment operations, as well as a wealth of experiential knowledge.

Jim Chase is our new full-time transfer station attendant. Jim brings 15 years experience in facilities management from Portsmouth Country Club. Additionally, he possesses a Commercial Drivers License, heavy equipment experience, mechanical aptitude, and a strong work ethic.

Please join me in welcoming both of our new additions to the Public Works Department. Both are personable, and great additions to our incredible team!

As always, the Public Works Department appreciates all the assistance and cooperation we receive from the town residents and the public in general.

Jason Rucker  
Public Works Director

## Planning Board Update

### **Rye Housing Survey Results Released – Next Up A Public Input Event on 9/27**

The Rye Planning Board is seeking input via a survey on how housing options can be integrated into Rye in a way that reflects the existing fabric of the community. The first task was to conduct a survey to seek feedback from residents, businesses, and officials on

housing to help guide potential actions and future engagement. Between May 30, 2023 and July 6, 2023, 316 individuals took the Rye Housing Survey and provided nearly 5,000 responses or comments.

### **Full survey results are available on the town website and at: [publicinput.com/RyeFuture](http://publicinput.com/RyeFuture)**

During the coming months, the Rye Planning Board, with the Long Range Planning Committee, will continue working with Rockingham Planning Commission to continue the discussion of housing in Rye. Next steps include:

- **Develop a housing needs assessment** that evaluates the housing status, demographics, and housing-related issues within Rye. This assessment will include guidance about tools and potential changes to local regulations, their impact on housing opportunities, and their relation to Rye residents' priorities and community goals.
- **Hold a public input event** to present the background information, discuss housing preferences in Rye gained from the survey and other sources, and allow for facilitated discussion related to housing that may fit Rye's needs and desires. **This event will be held on September 27, 2023, 6:30 p.m. at the Rye Jr. High School.**
- **Continue the conversation** by integrating housing preferences and information into the Rye Master Plan update and Buildout Analysis.

The Town of Rye is looking for residents, business owners, and community leaders to get involved in shaping the community's path into the future!

Rye is currently updating its 2013 Master Plan to respond to the emerging needs, priorities, and desires of the community, while identifying coastal resiliency efforts to preserve the unique qualities that make Rye a special place. A Master Plan is a community-driven vision for the future of the town and serves as a roadmap of strategies and actions the town will use to achieve that vision. The purpose of the Master Plan is to help guide decision making around growth, infrastructure improvements, regulatory initiatives, and natural resource protection for the next ten to twenty years. In order to be eligible for state and federal funding, a Master Plan is required to be updated. In June, the

Master Plan Committee began working with the Town's consultant, Resilience Planning and Design, on this initiative. Over the next year, there will be a variety of opportunities for community members to provide their thoughts on how Rye should address important community issues, opportunities, and challenges related to natural resources, housing, development, coastal resiliency, transportation, community services, and more.

For more information on the planning process and how to get involved in Rye's Master Plan update, please visit the website at: <http://www.publicinput.com/RyeFuture>.

### **Rye 2035: Planning Today for Tomorrow's Future**

**What is Rye 2035? How Does it Affect You? What Can You Do?** Rye 2035 is the Town of Rye's new Master Plan update and once adopted it will act as a road map for the town's path forward into the future. It considers the shared vision and goals for our town and will set forth a recommended set of strategies and actions to achieve them for the next ten years. A Master Plan Subcommittee has been formed to help guide this update and they will work closely with the consulting firms Resilience Planning and Design, FB Environmental, and the Rockingham Planning Commission over the next eighteen months.

**The Master Plan Process:** The Master Plan process is broken into three phases: Analyze Rye Today and What's Changed, Envision the Future of Rye, and Create the Plan. Throughout the Fall, the consultants will continue to analyze the existing conditions of Rye and provide a snapshot on what the issues, opportunities, and challenges are in Rye today.

During this first phase of the planning process, the Subcommittee, Town Staff, and consultants are reviewing local and regional plans and available data to better understand conditions, trends, challenges, and opportunities in Rye.

**Be a Part of Rye 2035!** Want to know more about this Master Plan project and ways to get involved? Make sure your voice is heard by submitting a comment to the Rye Future project website [publicinput.com/RyeFuture](http://publicinput.com/RyeFuture).

Stay tuned for more ways to get involved as the first phase of this project wraps up this winter!

Pat Losik, Chair  
Rye Planning Board

## Conservation Commission Update

**You're Invited to a Workshop for Rye Municipal Staff, Volunteer Board Members, and Community Members!**

**Workshop Details: Connect to Protect: Rye's Role in Protecting the Coastal Watershed**

**When: Tuesday, October 24, 2023, 4:30-7:00 p.m.**

**Where: Rye Junior High Cafeteria, 501 Washington Road**

**Light dinner provided from 4:30-5:00 p.m. Program will begin promptly at 5:00 p.m.**

**Registration is required. To register, go to the "RSVP Link" on the Conservation Commission page on the Town website [town.rye.nh.us](http://town.rye.nh.us).**

Rye Conservation Commission (RCC) installed a purple martin pole and nesting gourds at the Goss Farm a couple of years ago, mentored by John and Linda Cavanaugh, who have a purple martin colony at their residence off of Washington Road. This is the second year the martin gourds have been up and the first year we have had successful nesting. As hoped, purple martins found the site and started a new colony. This year, the new colony boasts five nests and produced about 27 eggs. All five nests produced at least one fledgling with total fledglings believed to be 21. RCC members who monitored the site noted that there was a lot of feeding and young birds sitting on the perches above the gourds. Encouraged by the near capacity use of the original six gourds we plan on adding an additional six to our existing pole. NH Audubon is excited by the successful nesting and has offered to partner with RCC and fund the expansion!

A risk for the purple martins is that north of the Goss gourd nesting site is a big draw for hawks. Red tail hawks perched in the snag for long periods of time during the martin fledgling period. The adult martins did not seem at all concerned about their presence until the hawks flew. Every time the hawks would fly, the martins accompanied them, sometimes diving at them until they were a safe distance from the nesting site.

Near where the martin gourds are located are blueberry bushes. This

first year of having the martins nesting at the farm we have been delighted as we are serenaded in our berry picking by the soothing chortle song that the females make. Listening to the martins' sometimes boisterous voices and throaty chirps is a welcome addition to the singing of the long-established barn swallows.

We hope there is continued interest in the success and expansion in the Goss colony.

Finally, welcome to new RCC alternate member Paula Mahoney, who will serve out the remainder of the term of the position vacated when Karen Oliver became a full member of the Commission.

Once again, to volunteer with the Conservation Commission for trail work, contact any Commission member: Mike Garvan, Joe Tucker, Sally King, Susan Shepcaro, Danna Truslow, Karen Oliver or alternates Jeff Gardner and Paula Mahoney. You can also email the RCC Chair, Suzanne McFarland, at [Suzanne.ryeconservation@gmail.com](mailto:Suzanne.ryeconservation@gmail.com) or RCC Vice-Chair Sally King at [sally.ryeconservation@gmail.com](mailto:sally.ryeconservation@gmail.com).

Karen Oliver, Member  
Conservation Commission

## Rye Senior SERVE is here to serve Rye Seniors.

Hopefully you are aware of Rye Senior SERVE's fundraising drive to raise money for the purchase of a new 13 passenger van to replace our 17 year old van. Our current van unfortunately is becoming too costly to maintain and no longer provides the level of reliability and comfort our seniors deserve.

Over the past 2 months, individual Rye residents, local businesses and civic groups have pledged and donated close to 60% of our goal. We are truly grateful for these donations. Not only do they move us closer to our goal, they show the community believes our services are needed.

But we still need your support in reaching 100%. All donations to Rye Senior SERVE are tax deductible. We are a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. Any amount donated gets us that much

closer to our goal. If you have any question about Rye Senior SERVE and what we do, please feel free to call Jim Delaney, Rye Senior SERVE President at 603.436.6041. With your help, we can continue our efforts and serve Rye's senior population in a manner they deserve.

If you would like to donate, please send your tax deductible donation to: Rye Senior SERVE, PO Box 902, Rye, NH 03870

Jim Delaney, President  
Rye Senior SERVE

## Rye Recycling Education Committee - How to Improve Recycling

The Recycling Education Committee (RREC) has been busy with several projects including publicity about our field trip to Turnkey Landfill, upgrading and trying to keep the Swap Shop clean and further efforts at public education about recycling in Rye and the nation.

The RREC encourages participation in our video contest about how you recycle in your home. See the RREC page on the Town website.

The 2022 Rye annual report by the Public Works Director revealed the following information:

- 1157 tons of household rubbish and 560 tons of demo debris went to the landfill.
- wood bin - material is too dirty to sell - town has to pay for removal.
- Mixed paper, glass, plastic, and tires - town has to pay for removal.
- electronics - some is salvaged
- waste oil is used for heating the facility
- Metal, newspapers, cardboard, and aluminum, - town makes money.

The 400 tons that were recycled "represents a cost avoidance of approximately \$32,000 in tipping fees and a recycling rate of approximately 30%. In addition, the facility realized approximately \$120,000 in revenue from transfer station receipts and sale of recyclables, a decrease of approximately 4% over last year."

The recycling rate in Rye was down 4% in 2022 from 2021 and it looks as if it will be dropping again this year

Readers are encouraged to search online: "Status of Recycling in the US"

## Recycling Committee Update *(continued from page 7)*

for these 2023 articles:

- "America's Broken Recycling System" by California Management Review
- "Six Waste and Recycling Trends to Watch in 2023" by Waste Dive
- "State of Recycling Today" by Recycle Track
- "US National Recycling Goal" by EPA

Consumers need to stop buying single use plastic and buy in bulk. Consumers can have a huge influence on recycling by purchasing only products that can be recycled, because the industry will not change unless consumers demand it.

Alex Herlihy, Chair  
Recycling Education Committee

### Rye Water District News

The Commissioners and staff of the Rye Water District are thankful for all the rain we've received this year. Yes, we know it might have gotten in the way of beach days and golf tournaments, but after the last few years, it is quite a relief.

Despite all the rain, the Rye Water District is committed to our conservation efforts because we know we cannot count on this level of precipitation every year. In addition to our ongoing education efforts, we are installing smart meters for all customers to better monitor usage. Additionally, we will be instituting a new rate structure designed to incentivize conservative water use.

**Public Meeting on September 28<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM:** The Rye Water District will hold an informational meeting on Thursday, September 28<sup>th</sup>, at the Rye Junior High School at 6:30 PM. We will discuss a range of issues related to the district, including many of the items discussed below. We are looking for your input into how we can make the district better support your needs. Please join us on the 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Search for New Water:** Even if our conservation efforts are successful, we know we still need to continue searching for new water sources. In fact,

RWD, in collaboration with the Rye Conservation Commission (RCC), just applied to the Natural Resource Conservation Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture to explore the potential of a new water source on the Brown conservation property off of West Road. We are planning to drill a test well because the hydrogeologic work indicates that the geologic conditions hold promise for finding water. However, we won't know about the quality and quantity of the water until a test well is drilled. If all goes well, we plan to drill this winter. We will make every effort to minimize the impact, and we will work with RCC to restore the area to its natural condition. If the test is successful, it will still be several years until an operational well can add to our water supply.

**Strategic Planning:** In addition to searching for new water supplies, RWD is engaged in a range of strategic initiatives. We are pleased that we just received a \$40,000 grant from the NH Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) to help support this work. This includes understanding and enhancing our level of service, conducting a rate study, and ensuring our staffing levels match our current and future needs.

Speaking of staffing, the RWD is hiring a new operator to better support our field operations. This position was approved at the last annual meeting.

**Current Projects:** While we don't look forward to the end of summer, it will mean that we can finish the water main replacement project at the east end of Wallis Road. Our crews will be out there again a week or two after Labor Day, and we will have this completed this fall.

The "point of entry" facility is essentially finished. This building was originally designed to address the levels of iron and manganese in the system, but the change in the NHDES rules (see below) allowed us to repurpose this building as a site for efficiently blending the water from all three wells before distributing the water to you. This single point of entry will allow for more efficiently treating the water for various contaminants, including bacteria, and for better monitoring the quality of the delivered water

Speaking of monitoring, our ongoing tests for total coliform bacteria and fecal coliform bacteria indicates that chlorinating our system is working as

intended. All of our regular testing continues to document that these bacteria levels remain below detection levels.

**PFAS and Manganese:** The NHDES recently proposed lowering the maximum contaminant levels (MCL) allowable for manganese to 0.3 milligrams per liter (mg./L). The rule has been suspended, but DES still recommends that all systems work to achieve levels lower than 0.3 mg./L. Excessive levels of manganese can lead to neurological problems, particularly in children. Our current levels slightly exceed this new MCL. Therefore, we will have to treat our water to reduce the manganese levels.

Additionally, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) proposed new rules for perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), often referred to as "forever chemicals," have been linked to a wide range of health concerns. The previous EPA MCL was 70 parts per trillion (ppt), while the NHDES MCL ranged between 12-18 ppt for the various PFAS compounds. The new proposed EPA rule is 4 ppt for PFOA and PFAS, which is essentially the minimum detectable level. EPA also introduced a "Hazard Index" (HI) that will be used to regulate four additional PFAS compounds – GenX, PFBS, PFNA, and PFHxS. A total HI above 1.0 for these compounds individually or in combination would exceed the MCL.

While there is a long way to go until the proposed rule is enacted, the RWD commissioners and district professionals are planning for a treatment plant that can address iron, manganese, and PFAS contamination. Importantly, a plant to treat for both sets of chemicals needs the iron and manganese to be removed prior to treatment for PFAS. This is a very expensive undertaking, so we are approaching this challenge thoughtfully to ensure that we are protecting the health of our citizens while being as fiscally prudent as possible.

Again, please join us on **Thursday, September 28<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM at the Rye Jr. High School** to hear more about these and other RWD issues.

Rye Water District Commissioners,  
Ralph Hickson  
Scott Marion  
Dr. Rosalie Lopresto



## Rye's 400<sup>th</sup> Celebration - Rye Day!

With all the rain that the summer of 2023 brought, it was touch and go as to whether Rye Day was going to happen....but with a little luck and a lot of wishful thinking, the Town of Rye did end up with the perfect weather day for their 400<sup>th</sup> Celebration.

On Saturday, August 19, 2023, the Town's Recreation Department, with the help of the 400<sup>th</sup> Committee, was able to put together a fantastic day for the residents and friends of Rye. The day began with a small procession from the Rye Library to the entrance to Parsons Field. The procession was led by Andy Stecher, the Rye 400<sup>th</sup> Committee Chairman and consisted of the Piscataqua Rangers Jr. Fife and Drum, the Fire Department antique truck, and other residents and dignitaries from Town. Once on the field the Rangers played for about another half an hour for the crowd. Following the Rangers on stage was the Town Band (pictured below) led by 400<sup>th</sup> Committee member Ginna Macdonald. While the Town Band played, the craft



and civic vendors opened for sales and information and the games opened as well. The mini golf course, blow-up axe throwing, and the photo booth were real big hits with the crowds. There were three food trucks there that were also open for the day including The Big Bad Food Truck, Curb Appeal Meals, and Kona Ice- there was something delicious there for everyone!

The other features that were a real hit throughout the day were Sages Entertainment, who kept the children engaged with bubbles and a foam party as well as balloon animals and magic! And with them on their side of the field was our own Rye Recreation employee Kierny Hewitt painting all the faces in the crowd! Childrens eyes lit up when they learned that they were able to touch and sit inside of trucks from the DPW, Fire and Police Departments! Characters appeared during the afternoon to visit with the children including Captain America, Spiderman, Wonder Woman, Belle, Woody, Buzz Lightyear, Minion Bob, Paw Patrol and Alice from Alice in Wonderland!

The Dunk Tank was a huge hit and the aerial photo had everyone all a buzz in the afternoon while the Rockingham Groove Band lit up the airwaves and had the place dancing. The Dunk Tank had some real good sports hit the water – The Town Administrator was the first to take a dive while taunting the crowd with his fishing pole.... next up was Police Chief Kevin Walsh. Kevin threatened to give out parking tickets but that did not deter the crowd from dunking him. The Fire Chief Mark Cotreau was next...Mark pulled out his super soaker and taunted the crowd, but again to no avail.....he hit the water too. Our Town Library Director was the next victim, and you know the children could not wait to dunk him! Select Board member Bill Epperson came to the Tank at 12:20 p.m. sporting his super soaker taunting the crowd with higher taxes should he get dunked, but once again the threats were a failure and down he went. The last two to be dunked were the two

school principals, Michelle Pitts of the Elementary School, and Anne Gilbert of the Jr. High School, both were good sports to go in that cold water- the children loved dunking their school principals!

The day ended with the TONYMACK Band, led by Town resident Paul Mackey. The band got a little late start due to a sound glitch, but they made up for that with the cool sounds of the 70's and 80's...it was a beautiful way to end a perfect, fun day!

I would like to send out special thanks to the Rye Lions Club for all of their help throughout the day, as well as the volunteers and of course the Rye 400 Committee for all of their help and sponsorship. Thanks also goes out to our major sponsor Carey and Giampa. Special thanks also to Rye Police, Rye Fire, Rye Public Works, Rye Library, Sages Entertainment, Events United, Blast Party Rentals and Party Solutions for their participation in the event. Thanks also goes out to those that were victims of the Dunk Tank and those that signed up for the aerial photo. Special thanks also to our own Rye resident Bud Perry of Memories Studio for taking the aerial photo and to Select Board member Bob McGrath for helping to facilitate the photo. Our department could not have put together the special day that we did without all of your help. I hope all that attended the event had a wonderful day celebrating Rye's 400<sup>th</sup> Anniversary!



*(Rec Director Dyana Martin with Woody, Belle and Buzz!)*



# FALL PROGRAMS

Mailing: 10 Central Road Rye, NH 03870 Physical: 55 Recreation Road, Rye, NH 03870  
Telephone: (603) 964-6281, Fax: (603) 964-1516, E-mail: dmartin@town.rye.nh.us  
Town Website: www.town.rye.nh.us

2023

## FALL PROGRAMS SIGN-UP COMMENCEMENT

Rye Recreation Office, 55 Recreation Road, Rye, NH  
or by USPS mail as soon as programs are publicized to the public. Programs are limited to a first-come, first-serve basis.

## THE WAVE LUNCH PROGRAMS AND DAY TRIPS

The lunch programs are held at The Wave at Rye Congregational Church the second Thursday of each month except when there is a holiday. Lunch is at 12:00 p.m. followed by entertainment at 1:00 p.m. Reservations for lunch are required and the cost is \$15 for a complete lunch/entertainment or \$5 for a beverage and dessert/entertainment. If you are not having lunch, you can still attend, but we just ask that you notify us in advance. Space is limited for the day trips so it is important to register early. No refunds will be given unless funds can be recovered from the contract provider. Prior to the trip, you will receive correspondence confirming the departure time and location as well as a schedule.

## LUNCH PROGRAMS

**IN THE EVIL DAY: A SMALL TOWN IN NH AND THE CRIME THAT STUNNED THE NATION** is presented by author Richard Adams Carey.



**Date:** Thursday, September 14, 2023  
**Lunch:** Shepherds Pie, Salad, Bread and Dessert  
**Reservation Deadline:** Thursday, September 7, 2023  
**Fee:** \$15 complete lunch/entertainment or \$5 beverage and dessert/entertainment



**SOUTHERN NEW HAMPSHIRE UKULELE GROUP** If you're not smiling when the Southern New Hampshire Ukulele Group is in the room, check your pulse.

**Date:** Thursday, October 12, 2023  
**Lunch:** Mac-n-Cheese (Chicken or Plain), Salad, Bread and Dessert  
**Reservation Deadline:** Thursday, October 5, 2023  
**Fee:** \$15 complete lunch/entertainment or \$5 beverage and dessert/entertainment



**SAGES ENTERTAINMENT'S** Wayne Moulton will again join us for another fun magic show as well as make balloon structures for your entertainment. Come join us for an afternoon of food, fun and silliness!

**Date:** Thursday, November 9, 2023  
**Lunch:** Thanksgiving Dinner w/all the Fixings, Bread and Dessert  
**Reservation Deadline:** Thursday, November 2, 2023  
**Fee:** \$15 complete lunch/entertainment or \$5 beverage and dessert/entertainment



**NORTH RIVER MUSIC** North River Music performs as an acoustic duo or trio, a four piece group or full band. The group, from the Rochester, NH area, features long time seacoast area musicians Dan Poland, Tom Kesel, Pete Leavenworth, Bob Thibodeau, Carolyn Hutton and Vicky Poland. North River has an Americana sound with strong harmonies and expressive musicianship. Playing covers of rock, bluegrass and country songs, a North River set is fun to listen to with something familiar for everyone. From the Eagles and Dylan to the Indigo Girls and Grateful Dead come to dance, come to listen—you'll like what you hear!

**Date:** Thursday, December 14, 2023  
**Lunch:** Ham Dinner, Salad, Bread and Dessert  
**Reservation Deadline:** December 7, 2023.  
**Fee:** \$15 complete lunch/entertainment or \$5 beverage and dessert/entertainment

## DAY TRIPS



### SPLISH SPLASH—The Music of Bobby Darin

**Meal Choice:** Apple cranberry cornbread stuffed chicken or vegetarian lasagna, salad, potato, vegetables, breads, dessert, coffee/tea  
**Date:** Thursday, October 19, 2023

**Reservation Deadline:** September 19, 2023 (space based on availability)  
**Departure Time:** TBD  
**Location:** Castleton Banquet Center in Windham, NH  
**Fee:** \$115 (includes transportation, admission and lunch) or self-drive for \$85 (includes admission and lunch)



### ABBA Tribute Band—Dancing Dream

**Meal Choice:** Thanksgiving Dinner with the Fixings and Sides or Vegetable Lasagna, Dessert, Coffee/Tea

**Date:** Thursday, November 16, 2023  
**Reservation Deadline:** October 16, 2023 (space based on availability)  
**Departure Time:** TBD  
**Location:** Danversport Yacht Club in Danvers, MA  
**Fee:** \$120 (includes transportation, admission and lunch) or self-drive for \$94 (includes admission and lunch)



**FALL BASEBALL INSTRUCTION** is co-rec and provided by Stephen McManus, former coach at the University of Rhode Island and pro player in Europe.

Learn basic skills for the beginner to advanced player. Players in grades 1-7 will be broken out into groups based on age and ability. Held on Sundays at the Rye Recreation Area, 55 Recreation Road, Rye, NH. Please bring your glove, drink and apply bug spray.  
September 17, 24, October 1, 8, 15, 22, 2023; 8:30-10:30 a.m.  
Fee: \$200



**STRENGTH & BALANCE** is instructed by Kim Rivest. This group fitness class will help you strengthen major muscle groups using weights and work on balance. A combination of exercises performed standing or seated will challenge you and allow you to work at your own pace. Class begins with a warm-up and finishes with a series of stretches to leave you feeling refreshed and energized. Please wear sneakers and comfortable clothing. Classes are held on Wednesdays, 9:30-10:30 a.m.

**Dates:** September 20, 27, October 4, 11, 18, 25, November 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, December 6, 13, 20, 2023 (14 classes)

**Location:** The Wave at Rye Congregational Church, 580 Washington Road, Rye

**Fee:** \$70 (Prorated to start date)



**CHAIR YOGA** is instructed by Amelia McKenney, Rye resident, and life-long athlete. This gentle form of yoga is practiced sitting in a chair or standing using a chair for support. Build inner and outer strength while relaxing

and centering the mind. Have fun with others while learning postures that help you build strength, flexibility and balance. Focusing on the relaxation response to reduce stress and promote health. Please wear comfortable clothing. Classes are held on Tuesdays and/or Thursdays, 10:00-11:30 a.m.

**Dates:** September 5, 7, 12, 14, 19, 21, 26, 28, October 3, 5, 10, 12, 17, 19, 24, 26, 31, November 2, 7, 9, 14, 16, 21, 28, 30, December 5, 7, 12, 14, 19, 21, 2023

**Location:** The Wave at Rye Congregational Church, 580 Washington Road, Rye

**Fee:** Free



**ADULT YOGA & MEDITATION** is instructed by nationally-certified classical yoga teacher Jeanie Ryan. Build core strength, flexibility and balance while gaining relaxation tools and healthy living

tips. Learn the ancient practice of combining yoga and meditation to harmonize the mind, body and spirit. This is a multi-level class. Beginners welcome. Please bring your own yoga mat. Classes are held on Thursday, 9:00-10:30 a.m.

**Session 1:** September 14, 21, 28, October 5, 12, 19, 26, 2023

**Fee:** \$115.50 per session (7 classes)

**Session 2:** November 2, 9, 15, December 7, 14, 2023

**Fee:** \$82.50 per session (5 classes)

**Location:** The Wave at Rye Congregational Church, 580 Washington Road, Rye



**BASKETBALL SKILLS CLINIC** is instructed by Pat Quinn, Rye resident and former collegiate and high school basketball coach. Sign-up and participate in this skills clinic to learn and work

specific game-ready skills through targeted exercises, games, and live play. **Fee:** \$200.00

**Dates:** Wednesdays, September 27, October 4, 11, 18, 25, November 1, 8, 15, 2023

**Grades/Times:** Girls, Grades 3-5, 6:00-7:00 p.m. and Girls, Grades 6-8, 7:00-8:00 p.m.

**Dates:** Thursdays, September 28, October 5, 12, 19, 26, November 2, 9, 16, 2023

**Grades/Times:** Boys, Grades 3-5, 6:00-7:00 p.m. and Boys, Grades 6-8, 7:00-8:00 p.m.

*This program will be offered pending facility availability.*



**GRADES K-2 BASKETBALL LEAGUE** is co-rec and open to grades K-2. Held December 2, 2023 to February 17, 2024. Grade K meets once a week (possibly a weekday) to practice and play as a group at Rye Elementary. Grades 1-2 meet twice a week, once for practice and once for games (possibly weeknights for both days). Held at Rye Elementary School.

**Fee:** \$50 per child (includes uniform shirt). **Late fee of \$45 will apply to registrations received after the Friday, October 27, 2023 deadline.** *\*Please note the Recreational Basketball League will be offered pending Rye Elementary School availability and approval.*



**GRADES 3-6 BASKETBALL LEAGUE** will be a different format this year depending on whether there are enough participants in each group. Practice will be one evening during the week and play on Saturday in a local league. If there are not enough participants for this format, Rye Recreation will pivot back to the format as it has been in previous years. The four groups will be as follows:

- \* Grades 3-4 Girls—**Fee TBD depending on local league**
- \* Grades 3-4 Boys—**Fee TBD depending on local league**
- \* Grades 5-6 Girls—**Fee TBD depending on local league**
- \* Grades 5-6 Boys—**Fee TBD depending on local league**

*Please note the Recreational Basketball League will be offered pending Rye Elementary School availability and approval.*



**ADULT CO-REC PICK-UP BASKETBALL** is open to ages 18+. Held Sundays, November 5, 12, 19, December 3, 10, 17, 2023, January 7, 21, 28, February 4, 11, 18, March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, April 7, 14, 28, May 5, 12, 2024 from 9:00-11:00 a.m. at Rye Junior High School.

**Fee:** \$66.00 for entire season. All participants must register with Rye Recreation. *\*Please note the Adult Pick-up Basketball will be offered pending Rye Junior High availability and approval.*



**YOUTH SKI/SNOWBOARD LESSONS or FREE SKI/SNOWBOARD @ KING PINE** Join Dennis Okyere and friends for a fun-filled Thursday afternoon of hitting the slopes for four weeks!

**Cost Options:**

- \*Four-week lift ticket (no lesson) w/transportation is \$320/pp
- \*Four-week ski/snowboard lesson w/transportation is \$320/pp
- \*Four-week ski/snowboard lesson or free ski/snowboard w/transportation and rentals (including helmet) is \$356/pp

**Dates:** Thursdays, January 4, 11, 18, 25, 2024 with pick-ups at RES and RJH @ 2:00 p.m. and 2:15 p.m. respectively.

**Grades:** 2-8 only

Deadline to register is Wednesday, November 15, 2023 and there is **no wiggle room on the deadline. Space on the coach bus is limited to 50 participants. Last year the bus was full!**



**KIDS IN THE KITCHEN WITH MISA** is a fun, four-week cooking series for children who are 3 and 4 years old and children in grades 3-5. Participants will develop their kitchen skills while being exposed to nutrient dense foods, such as veggie sushi rolls and more.

**Grades 3-5:** Mondays, September 18, 25, October 2 and 16, 2023, 4:00-5:00 p.m.

**3 and 4 year olds:** Tuesdays, September 19, 26, October 3 and 17, 2023, 10:00-11:00 a.m.

**Location:** Rye Recreation House, 55 Recreation Road, Rye

**Fee:** \$144.00 for 4 classes

## Rye Public Library Events: Fall 2023

*“In seed time learn, in harvest teach, in winter enjoy.”* — William Blake.

### Ongoing Activities:

**Adult Book Discussion:** Please sign up to join these lively discussion groups.

**Fourth Wednesday of each month at 2 pm!**

9/27 *Black Cake* by Charmaine Wilkerson

10/25 *Killers of the Flower Moon* by David Grann

11/22 *Crying in H Mart* by Michelle Zauner

<b>Coloring for Adults:</b> 11am on Mondays! Materials provided.	<b>Military Book Discussions:</b> First Thursday of each month at 6:30 pm. 9/2, 10/6, 11/4
<b>RPL Knitters:</b> By the Fireplace at 10 am on Thursdays! All skill levels are invited to join this welcoming group.	

### Monday Movie Matinees – shown in the Community Meeting Room on the second Monday of every month at 1:00 pm

<b>Sept 11</b> <i>A Man Called Otto</i> PG-13 126 min	<b>Oct 10</b> <i>Everything, Everywhere, All at Once</i> R 139 min
<b>Nov 14</b> <i>Armageddon Time</i> R 115 min	<b>Dec 11</b> <i>Barbie</i> PG-13 114 min

### FRIENDS OF THE RYE PUBLIC LIBRARY

New members welcome!

The FRPL meet monthly on Third Tuesdays at 6:00PM

Museum memberships supported by *The Friends*:

Children’s Museum of NH, Dover	Museum of Science, Boston, MA
Currier Museum of Art, Manchester	Strawbery Banke, Portsmouth
Historic New England	Ogunquit Museum of Art, ME
Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, Boston, MA	Peabody Essex Museum, Salem, MA
Portland Museum of Art, Portland, ME	Seacoast Science Center, Rye
Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, MA	Woodman Museum, Dover

*Museum Passes Donated by the Friends of the Rye Public Library*

**ASK A LIBRARIAN about Technology** – Drop in every Wednesday from 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. with questions about your electronics. These sessions are process oriented and not meant to troubleshoot device functionality. If you wonder how to download books and other library materials to your device, create an e-mail account, or manage storage, etc. this session is for you. If your device just crashed or won't boot up, that's beyond the scope here.

## Rye Public Library Youth Department

### Programming Sept – November 2023

More details at [ryepubliclibrary.org](http://ryepubliclibrary.org) or (603) 964-9551

<u><i>Youth Programs</i></u>	
<p><b>Middle Grade Book Boxes</b> Available the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of the month</p> <p><b>Teen Book Boxes</b> Available the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month</p> <p><b>Playtime Party (18m – Pre-K)</b> Mondays 10:30am</p> <p><b>Games and Snacks (Grades 6+)</b> Tuesdays After school - 4:00pm</p> <p><b>Teen Afternoons (Grades 6+)</b> Every Wednesday After school - 4:00pm</p> <p><b>Crafternoon (Grades 5+)</b> 1<sup>st</sup> Thursdays of the month After school – 4:00pm</p> <p><b>Story Time</b> Fridays 10:30am</p>	<p><b>Saturday Story Times</b> 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month 10:30am</p> <p><b>Pokémon Night</b> 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month 5:00 - 6:00pm</p> <p><b>Lego Night</b> 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month 5:00- 6:00pm</p> <p><b>Minecraft Night</b> 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month 5:00 - 6:00pm</p> <p><b>K - 3 Book Club</b> <i>Check website for book titles</i> 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month 11:00am – 12:00pm</p> <p><b>Graphic Novel Book Club (Grades 4-6)</b> <i>Check website for book titles</i> 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month 4:00 - 5:00pm</p>

#### Rye Public Library Personnel Update

In 2023, we welcomed Krista Atwater, Tyler Merrow, and summer page Amelia Tabit to our dynamic Youth Department. Sadly, Director of Youth Services Jess Ryan and family experienced a house fire and though all are safe, there are lingering challenges related to that sad event. Thanks to the many in town who have offered support to Jess. Claire Beihl, along with the youth crew recognized above, have expertly managed our busy youth summer reading program as Jess manages her affairs. We continue to recognize the importance of competitive pay and merit based compensation in recruiting and retaining staff.

Andy Richmond, Director  
Rye Public Library

## Rye Library Board of Trustees Update

The Board of Trustees of the Rye Public Library has been very busy since our last submission. In May, we began a discussion regarding the process of hiring a landscape architect firm to complete the Library Common project. We further launched an effort to find a landscape architect to work with us on designing the common. After meeting with multiple consultants, we have committed to Terra Firma Landscape Architecture, a highly respected Portsmouth firm, which was established in 1993.

As a landscape architect and a sculptor, Terrance Parker has brought his vast experience to Terra Firma's work in education, commercial, institutional, residential, and public spaces. Many of you have enjoyed Terrance's design within the Seacoast such as Chestnut Street & The Music Hall gathering area, The Foundry Garage, and 3S Artspace in Portsmouth. They are credited with design at The Center for Wildlife, York Public Library, and the York Hospital in York, ME. Terra Firma is also responsible for the exquisite courtyard design and plantings at The Mayer Arts Building at Phillips Exeter Academy.

The Board of Trustees are pursuing a design, drawing upon public input, which we developed with our Advisory Committee of Rye community volunteers prior to selecting Terra Firma.

Some of that Committee input included incorporating design features which correspond with planned Rye Town Center improvements like sidewalks, and traffic calming. We will work to offer welcoming entry points to the Common while mitigating traffic noise carrying into the space using landscape features and plantings of native trees and shrubs. Our Advisory Committee planning also includes developing a comfortable interface with the Rye Library building, offering outdoor seating and leading to the Common. The Common itself will feature a designated main performance area, while maintaining an open sense of space. Walkways will connect to select seating areas for smaller library programs or public gatherings. Further plantings will offer

shade and partition for these areas. The Library Common plan will provide additional functional space for RPL programming as well as non-directed public gathering.

In the words of Terrance Parker: "The Library Commons project is fascinating. The diverse goals and program that the library committee has established in combination with the site history and the prominent location of this space in the town has created an exceptional opportunity to develop an important community gathering place with the Rye Library at the core. As a landscape artist and landscape architect, Terra Firma Landscape Architects is dedicated to the process of ideation with the intent of making layers of history more visible while creating spaces with high function in the present. This parcel of land offers itself up as a quintessential New England common and an interpretive landscape. The possibility exists in this space to combine historic layers with contemporary function to create an iconic space that can facilitate its use as an outdoor classroom and as a hub for gatherings and performances with an idyllic campus aesthetic".

The Board of Trustees of the Rye Public Library anticipates that our partnership with Terra Firma Landscape Architecture will lead to a gathering space that resonates with Rye citizens for many years to come!

Library Board of Trustees,  
Michael Moody  
Victor Azzi  
Jeff Ross  
JoAnn Hodgdon  
Rachel Bradt McCann

## Sewer Department Update

The annual flushing of the sewer lines and cleaning of the wet wells recently took place and the Abeniqui Pump Station upgrade is nearing completion. The Department's next priority is the replacement of the Church Road Pump Station generator and structural maintenance and repairs at each pump station.

The Sewer Commission would like to remind residents that in the Sewer

Use Ordinance under section 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 building services that leads in any way to a public sewer without first obtaining the written approval of the Sewer Commissioners or their authorized representative." Therefore, a sewer permit is required for both reconstructions and new connections as well as anytime the sewer service on the exterior of the house is disturbed.

In addition under section 404 Licensed Sewer Installers, 404.1 General "no person engaged in laying building sewers and building services and/or making connections to public sewers shall engage in or work at such business within the Town of Rye until they have obtained a Sewer Installer License from the Town." The Sewer Commission is the licensing authority and the fee for a Sewer Installers License is \$100, paid annually.



If you require a Sewer Permit and/or Installers License please contact Lee Arthur, Sewer Director, at (603) 964-6815. The Sewer Commission Office located on the second floor of the Rye Beach Village District Building, 830 Central Road, Rye Beach, NH, above the U.S. Post Office. The Sewer Commission consist of three commissioners David Kohlhase, Chairman, Susan Labrie and John McCune.

## Town Historian Launches New Website

In 2022 I stepped down from the board of the Rye Historical Society which I had been part of since the organization was established in 1976. On that occasion RHS gave me the title of "town historian." I appreciated this gesture while at the same time recognized that there are several people in town with deep knowledge of Rye history.

In 2011 I began to write a new Rye history, updating and expanding on

## Town Historian News

(continued from page 14)

Langdon Parsons' "History of Rye, NH," 1905. It will be published by next year. I have spent a lot of time listening to Rye history stories, reading the written record, writing for the RHS newsletter and working on the draft of the book: "Rye, New Hampshire: A Town at the Crossroads of American History." I have gone deep into Rye's past and the Rye Civic League has taught me about its present.

In the fall of 2022, new Rye Junior High principal Anne Gilbert, a 4th generation Kittery resident, invited me to meet the faculty and engage with them and their students on over 90 different Rye history topics I wrote. History is not usually presented in such an easy and digestible form and after many visits to RJH classes they, along with RHS, encouraged me to create a web site to share these topics with the public. Portsmouth historian J Dennis Robinson did the same and said – where else could you find such random accessible topics such as the Farragut hotel, salt marshes, surfing and the 1623 Thomson settlement?

Ryehistoryrocks.com is up and running and will continue to be built, especially with historic photos and more content. The most important feature is a link in the first sentence on the Home page taking you to the topics where they are listed A-Z and by category. Some of the content is on the site and longer narratives will be sent on request.

People are encouraged to offer me additional topics they have created in which they will be the author. If you are interested in a topic that is not on the list, I will create a short history with the information I have and send it to you. I am regularly adding to these topics as I learn more, most recently at Rye Day when Marion Barron said that Esther Parsons told her a developer wanted to buy a fifty-foot strip of the Barron's land in order to build a housing development on Esther's property. The Barrons refused and spread the word of the pending sale and that was the origin of the Parsons Park Corporation which made possible the property becoming public land.

I have a few short biographies but many more could be created. I welcome contributions of more content and topics. There are many historic photos

of Rye to be found on the Rye Historical Society web site under the "resources" tab – image catalog ([www.ryenhistoricalociety.org](http://www.ryenhistoricalociety.org)) and many other unpublished photos from the 1900s to accompany these short narrative histories. The content on this new web site complements what is on the RHS web site, [www.ryenhistoricalociety.org](http://www.ryenhistoricalociety.org) a rich repository of primary and secondary sources.

My main goal with Rye History Rocks is to engage with those interested in Rye's past and present and share what I have compiled. I may know more about Rye history than anyone else, but the more I learn the more I realize what I don't know. Rye history, just like American history and all history, is endlessly interesting, disturbing, inspiring and exciting. It rocks!

Alex Herlihy,  
Town Historian

## Rye Historical Society News

The Rye Historical Society Annual Member Meeting took place at outgoing board member Debbi Toohey's home and featured a presentation by Rye resident Owen Hyland, owner of the Faraday Rum Company. The membership voted on the following directors: Ginna Macdonald, president; Jan Olmstead, vice president; Steve Cash, treasurer; Lew Karabatsos, secretary. Officers for this year are Mike Berry, Jean Briggs Badger, David Caswell, Cathy Hodson (pro tem for Rye400), Becky Marden, and Andy Stecher. The board is grateful for all the hard work and energy Debbi has brought to the organization and she will be sorely missed.

The society and Rye400 committee remain hard at work collaborating with the Rye community to celebrate the 400th anniversary of David Thomson's settling in Rye. Rye Day brought good weather, fun and games, and music to Parsons Field (thanks Rye Rec!), and we are now looking at the next few months which include the RHS Labor Day trolley tour,

an interview with Dan Brown, a fundraiser at the Atlantic Grill to raise money for the elementary school playground, and much more. For a full listing of what is going on, visit [RyeNH400.org](http://RyeNH400.org). Sign up for the historical society newsletter on our website, [RyeNHHistoricalSociety.org](http://RyeNHHistoricalSociety.org) to receive emails about upcoming events.

Are you an RHS member yet? We have not reached our membership goal for the year and would love to expand our membership so we can bring more interesting events and programs to you. Visit our membership page on our website to sign up.

Our museum is open every Saturday morning from 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. through the end of October. You can also make an appointment online for any time during the week to suit your schedule. Our current exhibit is **Rye Family Connections: How the threads of life connect us through Home, Economics & Community.**

Ginna Macdonald, President  
RHS Board of Directors

## Historic District Update

The Rye Historic District Commission (HDC) is excited to announce that we were recently awarded a CLG (Certified Local Government) grant from the FY23 NH CLG grant round. The grant was a priority 1, which means it is fully funded without requiring matching funds from the town. The project the HDC applied for funding was to have an area form survey completed of the current Historic District in the Rye Center which consists of thirty (30) properties as well as a proposed expansion of that District to include an additional eight (8) properties on Central Road.

The reason for the survey of the original Historic District is because any records relating to that original application cannot be located because, at that time, everything was done manually, and electronic record keeping was not yet invented. The proposed expansion of the Historic District down Central Road is important because there are several historic structures which the Rye HDC feels the need to be protected. The Rye

(See Historic District Update, page 16)

# Historic District Update

(continued from page 15)

HDC recently produced a comprehensive set of Design Guidelines which will serve as a baseline for all applications for both the current District and the proposed expanded District.

The Historic District Commission meets monthly on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month and is currently seeking volunteers to serve as alternate members. If you are interested in learning more about the HDC please come to our next meeting.

Kaitlyn Coffey, Chair  
Rye Historic District Commission

## Heritage Commission Update

The Rye Heritage Commission (RHC) is encouraging people to adopt one of the over 60 historic family graveyards in town. As caretaker of a graveyard, you will assume responsibility of keeping the site free of brush and notifying the RHC if there are any issues you need assistance with. By adopting one of these historic sites you will be contributing to the preservation of the town's heritage.

The RHC is also reminding people what an asset it is to adorn your home with a house plaque. Currently there are 70 buildings that display their history with these handsome plaques, but there are over 300 buildings in Rye constructed before 1905 and another 800 between that date and the 1950s.

To purchase a plaque, search: Rye Heritage Commission and click on the "house plaques" tab to make your purchase online. If you need help with the name of the house builder and date built, contact Rye Advocates for Historic Preservation member Alex Herlihy for assistance. [alexherlihy@comcast.net](mailto:alexherlihy@comcast.net)

The RHC is continuing its discussions with the Friends of Pulpit Rock Tower (FOPRT) and will keep the public abreast of any changes in status. FOPRT should again be commended on over a decade of steadfast fundraising, repairs, upgrades and stewardship of what has become Rye's WWII museum.

RHC still has openings for three alternates and welcomes your participation. We also have plenty of town hall themed caps, tote bags and umbrellas, all now selling for \$10 each.

Contact RHC chair Alex Herlihy or stop by the Town Hall and see Janice in the Selectman's Office if you are interested in purchasing any. It was great to have so many people stop by our table at Rye Day.

Alex Herlihy, Chair  
Rye Heritage Commission

## Energy Committee Update

In June, the Energy Committee presented an update to the Select Board regarding Rye Community Power (RCP). As of June 13, a total of 2,736 RCP customers have been enrolled. Notably, 99% of these customers are enrolled in the Granite Basic default service, with 16 individuals opting for higher percentage renewable rates.

New lower rates came into effect on August 1 and will continue until January 31, 2024. Following the Committee's recommendation, the Select Board voted to maintain the Granite Basic rate as the default electric supply. The Granite Basic rate has been reduced to \$0.109 per kWh, less than Eversource's rate of \$0.12582 per kWh. This rate is the lowest priced option and offers the lowest 23.4% of renewable energy which is the same as the Eversource product. While Basic remains the most economical choice, residents have the option to select higher priced rates, which feature higher percentages of renewable electricity. The Granite Plus rate provides 33% renewable energy, Clean 50 offers 50%, and Clean 100 offers 100% renewable energy. Granite plus and clean 50 are both priced below Eversource's product. To switch to Rye Community Power or to upgrade to higher renewable rates, call 1-866-603-7697 or visit the website at [rye.communitypowernh.com](http://rye.communitypowernh.com).

The Rye Junior High solar array is now generating electricity as initially projected following the successful

repair of one of the solar inverters by ReVision Energy. The sunny days of May yielded an impressive 13.5 megawatt hours of electricity, marking the highest monthly level of generation so far. However, rainy weather impacted June and July production, resulting in only 9.8 and 10.7 MWh, respectively. Despite this, the RJS has saved over \$2,000 on electricity during the first seven months of 2023 compared to the same period last year. For those interested, real-time RJS solar production can be monitored at <https://tinyurl.com/RJSsolar>.

We reviewed four proposals from ReVision Energy for an elementary school solar array. Among these, two are for power purchase agreements (PPAs), with one being larger than the other. PPAs require no upfront cost. The remaining two proposals are for "turnkey" systems, which would take advantage of generous cash incentives for outright purchase, offered by the Inflation Reduction Act. Our analysis led us to recommend the smaller turnkey solar array to the School Board. A final decision on which proposal to accept is expected now that the elementary school roof replacement has been completed.

Responding to the offshore wind activities of the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, the Select Board voted to establish a subcommittee, chaired by Tom Sherman, to report to the Select Board about BOEM activities. Carl Nicolino will represent the Energy Committee on this new sub-committee.

We continue to investigate a potential solar array at the Breakfast Hill landfill. Developing at the former landfill is more challenging but offers the potential to utilize a location that has limited other uses.

Rye Energy Committee,  
Tom Pfau & Howard Kalet, Co-Chairs  
Lisa Sweet, Carl Nicolino, Rob Spork,  
Frank Melanson & Silas Proft

## Rye Beach Committee Update

The Beach Committee is delighted to present a wonderful collection of RES Grade 4 beach eco-posters. The posters can be seen at beach access



## Beach Committee Update

(continued from page 16)

points from north to south and at the following locations: Common Roots, the Rye Library, the Town Hall, the Town Hall Annex, the Rye Post Office, the Rye Beach Post Office, the Rye Beach Precinct and Sewer Office. Many of the posters survived this summer's heavy rain and wind but sadly, some were damaged. Fortunately we always keep a few posters in reserve to use as replacements in August.

The Beach Committee will hold a site walk in September to review specific beach access points, based on concerns that beachgoers sent to the Select Board and/or the Beach Committee. Another concern of beachgoers is the inherent danger in crossing Route 1A at times. Issues range from crosswalks with faded paint to areas with no crosswalks. The State of NH is responsible for Route 1A, and there are very specific rules about pedestrian crossings on the NH DOT website: (<https://www.dot.nh.gov>). Roads are not directly a part of the Beach Committee's responsibilities; however, we are interested in hearing about any related issues, because we want everyone to have safe access to our beaches.

The Beach Committee will continue to partner with the NH Chapter of Surfrider for shoulder season testing at Sawyers. More details to follow in the next newsletter.

At the present time, the Beach Committee has no vacancies. Vice-Chair Mary Connolly Mitchell, Anne Baker, Joan Zofnass, Select Board Representative Tom King, and I welcome new member, Tom Mack, and alternates Doug Beattie and Mike Hammond.

We encourage community members to join a meeting or send concerns and suggestions by email to: [beachcommittee@town.rye.nh.us](mailto:beachcommittee@town.rye.nh.us). Our meetings are held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month in the Town Hall at 5:30pm and agendas are posted on the Town's website.

Links to Partners and Eco-Information:

<https://nh.surfrider.org>  
<https://www.blueoceansociety.org/>  
<https://bwtf.surfrider.org/explore/65>  
<https://www.des.nh.gov>  
<https://marinedebris.noaa.gov/partnerships/marine-debris-tracker>

Mary-Ann Sullivan, Chair  
Rye Beach Committee

## Rye Mosquito Control Commission Update

Initially, we welcomed the rain in hopes of avoiding another drought. However, nobody enjoys a rainy summer. The record setting rain in June and July continued into August. It has continually replenished the water on salt marshes, fresh water habitats, catch basins and backyard containers resulting in an overabundance of mosquitoes. Dragon crews have been tirelessly treating larval mosquito habitats all season.

Greenhead fly activity was down this year. They prefer to fly when it's sunny and that has been infrequent. New greenhead fly traps were built last winter; existing ones repaired and over 200 traps were set out on the salt marshes in time for the hatching of greenhead flies in July. Traps are removed in September.

The Rye Elementary School, Junior High, Parsons Field and the Recreation Area are sprayed for mosquitoes prior to the start of the school year. Tick monitoring and control takes place at the Recreation Area and the trails between the Recreation Area, the Cemetery and Parsons Field. Public Notices are posted whenever spraying is planned at the schools, trails and athletic fields.

Due to warmer winters, New Hampshire is becoming more hospitable to ticks including the Lone Star tick. The bite of a Lone Star tick is associated with the development of a meat allergy called Alpha-gal Syndrome (AGS), giving us yet another reason to avoid tick bites. Nationwide, more than 110,000 cases of AGS have been detected since 2010. Centers for Disease Control (CDC) suspects that the number of people affected may be as high as 450,000. Check out the CDC website for more information on the Lone Star tick and Alpha-gal Syndrome at <https://www.cdc.gov/ticks/index.html>.

As of August 21, 2023, no mosquitoes have tested positive for disease in Rye this season. No Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE) or West Nile Virus (WNV) has been detected in New Hampshire. Mosquitoes from New Castle, Kingston, Kensington, Brentwood, Fremont, Nashua and Keene have tested positive for Jamestown Canyon Virus (JCV). The State Lab in Concord stops testing mosquitoes on October 15<sup>th</sup>.

The best way to prevent infection from JCV and other mosquito-borne illnesses like Eastern Equine Encephalitis and West Nile Virus is to prevent mosquito bites. Mosquitoes will be active until we have a hard freeze or snow on the ground. Stay vigilant when you are outside. Protect yourself by using an EPA approved mosquito repellent, avoid exposure at dawn and dusk when mosquitoes are most active, wear long pants and long sleeves, and remove standing water from around your home that mosquitoes need to lay eggs. Use air conditioning or screens on windows and doors to keep mosquitoes outside. If you're traveling to Maryland, Florida or Texas, you'll want to avoid mosquito bites in those states too. Recent cases of locally acquired malaria have been reported.

Tim Sanborn, Chair  
Rye Mosquito Control Commission

## Rye School Board Update

The Rye School Board met for its summer retreat on August 16th and began to develop a Portrait of a Learner that will inform future strategic plans for the district and for each teacher and student. The Portrait of a Learner describes the effective Rye student – the characteristics and learning behaviors they emulate, as well as the skills and knowledge they engage with through the Rye schools. By developing a clear understanding of this student, the district creates its "north star" and can define the strategies and approaches that the schools will take to work toward that aspirational vision. Community members will be invited to contribute to the creation of the Portrait of a Learner this fall.

RES saw the installation of a new roof this summer and RJH families will enjoy the new landscaping on the grounds. With student safety at the forefront of our concerns, we are preparing to replace the Elementary School playground with a modern, safe, intriguing, and physically inclusive new playground in the near future. It has been a busy and fulfilling season for the Rye School Board.

Susan Cole Ross, Secretary  
Rye School Board

# ANNUAL RYE HOLIDAY PARADE DECEMBER 3<sup>RD</sup>

The Town of Rye and The Rye Lions Club would like to invite your organization to participate in the annual Rye Holiday Parade.

Date/Time: **Sunday, December 3, 2023 at 1:00 p.m.**

The parade will form behind **Webster at Rye, 795 Washington Road at 11:00 a.m. and will march along Washington Road to the Rye Junior High School.**

Trophies will be awarded to the winning entries following the parade at the Rye Junior High School.

This year's theme will be:  
**"HOLIDAYS OF YESTERDAY, TODAY AND TOMORROW".**

***Please return entry forms as soon as possible to:***  
*Attention: Parade Chairman, Rye Fire Department,*  
*555 Washington Road, Rye, NH 03870.*  
*For additional information call (603) 964-6411.*

Thank You,

Chuck Gallant  
Rye Holiday Parade Chairman



---

Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Contact person \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Type of entry - Please circle:** BUSINESS NON-PROFIT FIRE APPARATUS FLOAT BAND  
WALKING UNIT EQUESTRIAN

**\*\*ANY FLOATS CARRYING CHILDREN MUST HAVE ADULTS ON BOARD TO SUPERVISE CHILDREN. NO EXCEPTIONS. \*\***

This parade is a town event coordinated by the Rye Fire Department.

# Town of Rye Board Meetings

**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 or the Town website: [www.town.rye.nh.us](http://www.town.rye.nh.us) for up-to-date information.

## September 2023

<b>September 2023</b>						<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> Labor Day Town Offices Closed	<b>5</b> 1:00 pm Master Plan Steering Committee	<b>6</b> 9:00 am Rye Water District 60 Sagamore Road 5:30 pm Town Center Committee 7:00 pm Zoning Board of Adjustment	<b>7</b> 5:30 pm Heritage Commission	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	
<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> 6:30 pm Select Board	<b>12</b> 8:00 am Sewer Commission 1:00 pm Long Range Planning 3:00 pm Energy Committee	<b>13</b> 5:30 pm Historic District Commission	<b>14</b> 5:00 pm TAP Grant Committee 6:30 pm Conservation Commission	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	
<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 5:30 pm Beach Committee 6:30 pm Budget Committee Jr. High School	<b>19</b> 10:00 am Long Range Planning 5:00 pm Mosquito Control 6:00 pm Planning Board 6:30 pm Recycling Education Committee	<b>20</b> 9:00 am Rye Water District Work Session 60 Sagamore Road	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> First Day of Autumn	
<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> 6:30 pm Select Board	<b>26</b> 5:00 pm CIP Committee	<b>27</b> 6:00 pm Long Range Planning	<b>28</b> 5:30 pm TAP Grant Committee	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	

## October 2023

<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 1:00 pm Master Plan Steering Committee 3:00pm Energy Committee	<b>4</b> 9:00 am Rye Water District 60 Sagamore Road 5:30 pm Town Center Committee 7:00 pm Zoning Board of Adjustment	<b>5</b> 5:30 pm Heritage Commission	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> Indigenous Peoples' Day Town Offices Closed	<b>10</b> 8:00 am Sewer Commission 5:00 pm CIP Committee 6:30 pm Select Board	<b>11</b> 5:30 pm Historic District Commission	<b>12</b> 5:00 pm TAP Grant Committee 6:30 pm Conservation Comm.	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> 5:30 pm Beach Committee	<b>17</b> 5:00 pm Mosquito Control 6:00 pm Planning Board 6:30 pm Recycling Education Committee	<b>18</b> 9:00 am Rye Water District Work Session 60 Sagamore Road	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> 6:30 pm Select Board	<b>24</b> 5:00 pm CIP Committee	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> 5:30 pm TAP Grant Committee	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>

## November 2023

<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> Trick-or-Treat 5:00-7:00 pm	<b>31</b> Halloween 5:00pm CIP Committee	<b>1</b> 9:00 am Rye Water District 60 Sagamore Road 5:30 pm Town Center Committee 7:00 pm Zoning Board of Adjustment	<b>2</b> 5:30 pm Heritage Commission	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b> Daylight Savings Time Ends	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> 1:00 pm Master Plan Steering Committee 3:00pm Energy Committee 5:00pm CIP Committee	<b>8</b> 5:30 pm Historic District Commission	<b>9</b> 5:30 pm TAP Grant Committee 6:30 pm Conservation Comm.	<b>10</b> Veterans Day (Observed) Town Offices Closed	<b>11</b> Veterans Day
<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 6:00 pm CIP Comm. 6:30 pm Select Board	<b>14</b> 8:00 am Sewer Commission	<b>15</b> 9:00 am Rye Water District	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 6:30 pm Beach Committee	<b>21</b> 5:00 pm Mosquito Control 6:00 pm Planning Board 6:30 pm Recycling Education Committee	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> Thanksgiving Town Offices Closed	<b>24</b> Town Offices Closed	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> 6:30 pm Select Board	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 9:00 am Rye Water District Work Session	<b>30</b>		

Library Trustees, first Thursday every 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, 7pm at the Library

## HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION DAY

FOR THE TOWNS OF  
KENSINGTON, FREMONT, RYE,  
BRENTWOOD, SANDOWN &  
NORTH HAMPTON

Saturday, September 16, 2023  
9:00 am - 12:00 Noon

Place: Highway Garage  
Route 111A  
207 Middle Road  
Brentwood, NH



Driver's License Required  
as Proof of Residency

## RYE FIRE RESCUE DEPARTMENT OPEN HOUSE



Date: Sunday, October 15, 2023  
12:00 to 2:00 p.m.

Public Safety Building  
555 Washington Road

COME TOUR THE STATION  
AND MEET YOUR FIRE,  
POLICE and EMT'S



## 40th Annual Rye Lions Car Show

Sunday, September 17, 2023

Parsons Field, Washington Road, Rye, NH

Registration 8:00-11:00 a.m.

Trophies & Awards at 2:00 p.m.

\$10.00 entry fee for car and driver

\$3.00 for spectators

Great Food and Music!



For updates visit the website  
at [www.rye.nhlions.org](http://www.rye.nhlions.org) OR on Facebook.

If you would like to learn more about the Lions Club, please come  
and visit us at a meeting, the first Wednesday of every month in  
the Rye Public Library at 6:30 p.m.

Town of Rye  
RYE, NH 03870

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