



# Town of Rye Newsletter



Vol. 15, No. 3

A Publication of the Rye, New Hampshire, Board of Selectmen

September 2012



## Please Vote in the September 11<sup>th</sup> Primary and the November 6<sup>th</sup> General Election



### MODERATOR'S MESSAGE

### Bring Your Photo ID With You!

The Declaration of Independence states that a government's legitimacy derives "from the consent of the governed." The right to vote makes our government "of the people, by the people, and for the people", and it is guaranteed to every citizen, 18 years of age or older, by both the United States and New Hampshire constitutions. Franklin Roosevelt once said that "nobody will ever deprive the American people of the right to vote except the American people themselves by not voting."

### The Primary and the Election

**This year's State Primary is on Tuesday, September 11<sup>th</sup>. The polls at Rye Elementary School will be open from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.** With an open seat, there are 3-way races for Governor on both the Republican and Democratic ballots, as well as

several other contested races in both primaries. If you are registered as "undeclared" you may vote in either party's primary. If you vote in a primary but want to stay undeclared, see the Supervisors of the Checklist after you vote. **The General Election is on Tuesday, November 6<sup>th</sup>. Again, the polls are open at RES from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.**

### The New Voter ID Law

The New Hampshire Legislature recently enacted a voter identification law which, to prevent possible voting fraud, requires voters to bring photo IDs to the polls. This law may confuse some voters not only because it marks a change from past elections, but also because the ID requirements will evolve from election to election. Here's what you need to know for the next two votes:

### September 11<sup>th</sup> Primary

All voters will be asked to present an authorized photo ID to the Ballot Clerk. **Voters who do not have an acceptable ID will still be allowed to vote**, but will also be given a flyer explaining the new law.

### The following IDs are acceptable

(1) a driver's license from any state, even if it has expired; (2) an ID card issued by the NH Director of Motor Vehicles; (3) a US armed services ID card; (4) a US passport, even if it has expired; (5) a valid photo ID issued by a federal, state, county, or municipal government; (6) a valid student ID; or (7) a legitimate photo ID as determined by the Town Moderator, the Town Clerk, or the Supervisors of the Checklist. **Have your ID out and ready to show the Ballot Clerk when you check in your help will keep waiting lines short!**

*See Moderator's Message, page 5*

### SELECTMEN'S MESSAGE

## Summer 2012: Busier Than Usual Stress

Summer arrived with unusual stress for our Emergency Response Team. In separate incidents, a police standoff and a suicide were followed by an accident caused by the misuse of sparklers that took most of a teenager's hand.

On July 16<sup>th</sup>, U.S. Senators Jeanne Shaheen and Kelly Ayotte honored the Rye Fire Department and other responders for bravery in fighting the fire aboard the submarine USS Miami docked at Portsmouth Naval Shipyard on May 23, 2012. On that date, upon descending into the sub, fire flashed over the heads of firefighters driving the dense smoke and heat downward. Rye Firefighter Scott Hirtle was thrown to the deck and collapsed, overcome by smoke and steam burns. Rye Fire Lt. Chuck Gallant became aware of his plight and managed to get him to the ladder and, with

assistance from Portsmouth firefighters, lifted him to safety. At the Board of Selectmen's meeting of July 23<sup>rd</sup>, Fire Chief William Sullivan presented a commendation to Lt. Charles A. Gallant for this actions and heroism on the night of May 23, 2012 in the rescue of Firefighter Scott Hirtle. Firefighter Hirtle was present at the meeting. Chief Sullivan also displayed the U.S. Senate Resolution presented during the July 16th ceremony. The framed Resolution will hang at the Public Safety Building.

### Accomplishments

#### Geothermal Installation

Anyone driving through Rye Center the first week of May was aware of the activity on the slope of Center Hill abutting the Town Hall to the north. The eight wells required for installation of the geothermal heating/cooling system for Town Hall were

*See Selectmen's Message, page 2*

# Selectmen's Message

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being drilled at that time. Members of the Public Works Department supplied a portion of the "in kind" grant match funding by drilling the requisite holes through the 14" Town Hall concrete foundation and backfilled the excavation. By mid-July, Town Hall employees, residents utilizing Town Hall services and the members of our numerous boards, committees and commissions were enjoying the comfortable temperature provided by the completed geothermal installation.

It should be noted that this long awaited improvement did not come without sacrifice as space for the mechanical portions of the system had to be found within our already overcrowded facility.

The system is remarkably quiet. Vents, such as those in the Great Hall, are unobtrusive thanks in large measure to Mike Magnant, our Town Administrator, who has been sensitive to the historic nature of the building throughout this process.

Installation of a solar attic fan is part of the same energy grant as the geothermal installation. Mike Magnant, Building Inspector Peter Rowell, and DPW Director Dennis McCarthy were able to utilize the cupola to hide the most obtrusive part of the fan. There is a small solar panel on the roof of the first addition that powers the fan.

## Town Hall Roof

The original bidding process for Town Hall roof replacement did not work out as the successful bidder was unable to obtain the required bonding and insurance. Consequently, the roof work was rebid. The single bid received was from S & W Roofing, LLC of Concord, N.H. with a bid price of \$26,750, substantially less than the first bid prices. Reference checks produced excellent recommendations and the company met all criteria for bonding

and insurance. S & W Roofing was not among the original bidders.

While workmen were on the roof, photographs were taken to document the condition of the cupola and spire which will require attention in the near future.

## Public Safety Complex

Testing last year revealed that the mildew, visible on the exterior of the Safety Building Complex, was on the surface only. Power washing preceded painting of the seven year old complex in July. Two coats of Tnemec, a product formulated to combat mildew problems, have been applied.

## Space Needs Committee Launched

In July the Board of Selectmen was pleased to announce the formation of a Town Hall Space Needs Committee. In putting the committee together, we sought a combination of Rye residents knowledgeable and experienced in the business conducted by the Town and/or having a demonstrated interest in its history.

Our committee is as follows: Mel Low (Planning Board, Long Range Planning/Master Plan); Gregg Mikolaities, P.E. (former Recreation Commissioner); Paula Merritt (Historic District Commission); Curtis Boivin, architect (Planning Board); Ned Paul (Budget Committee and CIP member); Phil Winslow (Historic District Commission); Peter White (Heritage Commission); Tom McCormick (Planning Board); Paul Goldman (Budget Committee Chairman); Peter Kasnet, builder (Sewer Commission); Lucy Neiman, assisted with submission of the Geothermal Grant; Beth Yeaton, Employee Representative (Town Clerk/Tax Collector), Priscilla Jenness, Selectmen's Representative; Mike Magnant, Town Administrator; Cyndi Gillespie, Assist. Town Administrator/Financial Director and Dennis McCarthy, Public Works Director. The Selectmen's Charge to the Committee includes the directive to "seek an economically sound proposal to resolve the space needs of the Town as an integral part of preservation/renovation of our historic Town Hall, giving equal weight

during deliberations to the Town Hall as a historic entity and to Town Hall as the center for the conduct of the business of the Town of Rye including ease of access by the public and accommodation of the Americans with Disabilities Act."

A packet of materials composed of data compiled to date such as the Needs Assessment and Structural Analysis was prepared for members in advance of the first meeting which was held on July 25<sup>th</sup>. At that time the Committee toured the Town Hall and the apparatus area of the Public Safety Building where the possibility of a second floor exists.

This is a Selectmen's Committee. As such no alternates were named and no subcommittees will be added. Unless the selectmen decide otherwise, this committee will sunset following elections in March and, if the work of the Committee's deliberations calls for a vote, only residents may vote. The Selectmen were in agreement that this committee should elect its own chairman and other officers. The July 25th meeting laid the foundation for the work ahead. Ned Paul was elected Chairman, Curtis Boivin was elected Vice-Chairman and Beth Yeaton volunteered to serve as Clerk, an offer that was quickly accepted unanimously. Meetings are planned for an every other Wednesday schedule.

## Staff Retirement

Nancy Weiland, Executive Secretary to the Board of Selectmen, notified the BOS in July of her plans to retire effective September 30, 2012. A search for Nancy's successor will be a daunting task. Nancy has served in this position at the hub of Town activity for more than a decade managing a myriad of details simultaneously, able to locate quickly whatever is needed in files or on line and completing both special and regularly assigned tasks in a timely manner. All this has been accomplished week in and week out with a smile, unwavering patience and the immediate

# Selectmen's Message

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world passing through her office. She will be greatly missed by selectmen, staff, and members of our boards, committees and commissions as well as residents utilizing this office. We wish Nancy a long, healthy and happy retirement.

## Updates

### FEMA Summary

As you may already know from newsletters and media reports, FEMA conducted an audit in 2009 of homes built in the floodplain in Rye. They discovered a number of homes that were not constructed in accordance with Rye's Floodplain Ordinance. FEMA has instructed the Town to bring these homes into compliance or run the risk of losing its National Floodplain Insurance Program (NFIP) status. If that happened, no one living in the floodplain in Rye would be able to receive FEMA subsidized flood insurance. There are approximately 350 homes that could be affected. Additionally, the Town would not be able to receive disaster funding or reimbursement for expenses for responding to storm related events such as the ice storm of 2008, or the Mother's Day floods of 2006.

We have made significant progress working with the homeowners and FEMA and continue to strive to bring all of the non-compliant homes into compliance without having to resort to enforcement action.

### Job Summaries Reviewed

Over the past several months, all Town of Rye Job Summaries have been reviewed and updated.

### Historic Town Hall

In response to a letter from the Heritage Commission, on July 23<sup>rd</sup> the Board of Selectmen agreed to support the Commission in its proposal to complete the application to register the Town Hall in the New Hampshire State Register of Historic Places. The Heritage Commission

will complete the required State Survey. Completion of the process will make the Town eligible for the Conservation License Plate Program and L-Chip grants. No restrictions are incurred on alterations of the building as a result of placement on the State Register.

### Energy Report

Following renewal of our charge to the Energy Committee earlier this year, the Town of Rye 2011 Municipal Energy Report was compiled by Michele Sopher, a member of the Committee. In Michele's words, "This report represents an inventory and analysis of the energy use and greenhouse gas emissions of the municipal sector of Rye for the year 2011. " In addition to Town buildings, the municipal sector of this report includes the schools, the precincts/village districts and the water district.

Michele's report provides a useful tool to all Town officials who assess current energy use, prioritize energy-saving projects and track energy reduction. A copy of the report may be seen on the Town's website or in the Selectmen's office. Thank you, Michele, for a tremendous job well done.

## Policy Changes

### Bikes and Pedestrians

As a result of the expanding popularity of bicycling, walking, running and jogging on Rye roadways, on May 29<sup>th</sup>, the BOS voted to adopt a Selectmen's Ordinance on Bicycle and Pedestrian Regulations amending Ordinance #3 subject to approval of the 2013 Town Meeting.

These amendments require bicyclists to ride single file in the travel lane as near to the right side of the road as practical and pedestrians to run, jog or walk single file as near to the left side of the road as practical.

This proposal caused considerable debate; but, in the long run it heightened awareness of all involved: drivers, bicyclists and pedestrians. We believe that heightened awareness will translate into greater safety for all using Rye roadways.

## Link Policy

After considerable research into respond to requests to establish links to their websites, the Board of Selectmen signed into effect a policy which will allow external links to the Rye Town Website to provide information of a factual nature about the Town of Rye including services and resources.

Under this policy, the Town will provide links for governmental and educational institutions serving Rye residents, organizations with a working relationship to the Town, generally recognized community service organizations, organizations providing information about arts, cultural and recreational activities in the community and organizations providing information about tourist attractions in and around the Town.

The Town's website will not provide links to websites for candidates for local, state or federal offices, political organizations or other organizations advocating policy positions on local, state or federal issues, individual or home pages, and corporate or other for profit organizations (unless they fit the criteria in the paragraph above), with the exception of the third party firm selected by the Town to accept credit card payments for Town taxes and fees.

The Town of Rye will maintain these links at its sole discretion and may add or remove links at any time without notice, written or otherwise, or the consent of the link's sponsor.

### Petitioned Articles

Two petitioned articles on the 2012 Warrant contained serious flaws that have affected their implementation:

**Lack of Appropriation:** Warrant Article 20 requesting the Selectmen to televise or on-line stream meetings of Selectmen, ZBA and Planning Board was passed. Although the article was approved by the voters, because no appropriation was included it cannot be implemented

## Selectmen's Message

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unless it is free of cost to the Town. We do not have the authority to expend on this article. The Board of Selectmen will propose funding to allow implementation next year.

At the meeting of July 23<sup>rd</sup>, Selectman Musselman commented that had this proposal been brought to the Board for discussion last November a line item could have been placed in the budget or a proper warrant article prepared.

**Appointed to Elected:** Article 28, requesting change from appointment to election of Board of Adjustment members, was doubly flawed: (1) No date was provided in the article for initiation of this change and (2) petitioners expected that once Article 28 was approved by voters, Board of Adjustment members would be elected en masse.

In fact, under these circumstances State Statutes (RSAs) call for currently appointed members to serve out their terms. As each term expires, the vacancy is filled through election by ballot. This provides for an orderly transition.

By way of further explanation we have only to look to our neighbor to the south. In 2008, the Town of North Hampton voted to elect rather than have Selectmen appoint BOA members with the following article: "**Article 27** To see if the Town will vote to elect the members of the Zoning Board of Adjustment (ZBA) in the manner provided in RSA 669. If this article is adopted, the members of the ZBA will be elected beginning in 2009, as the terms of the members expire. *Submitted by Petition*"

A smooth transition was completed in North Hampton. In keeping with the provisions of the state statute, some of the seats on the Rye ZBA will be filled by elections next March, and others will be filled by elections in later years as terms expire.

## Congratulations

### FEMA Grant

A special Selectmen's meeting was held on July 30 to hold a public hearing for the purpose of hearing public comment on a FEMA grant under the FEMA Assistance to Firefighter Grant Program in the amount of \$343,760 to be expended over a 3 year period for recruitment and retention of on-call volunteer firefighter/EMT personnel.

This grant was prepared by Firefighter Lt. Ron Hordon and is one of the largest Recruitment and Retention Grants awarded in the northeast by the Staffing for Adequate Fire & Emergency Response (SAFER) Program. Congratulations Lt. Hordon.

### Award to Town of Rye

At the Northeast Resource Recovery Association (NRRRA) Annual Recycling Conference and Expo held in June, Rye was presented with an award for the 2012 Greatest Number of Programs Utilized through NRRRA for a Population between 5,001 and 10,000. NRRRA is a non-profit organization.

## Thank You

### Memorial Day Observation

A special thank you to Lee Arthur and the Recreation Department for assuming full responsibility for the Memorial Day observation when Jim Cullen was no longer able to do so. The gathering has grown with each passing year and was once again well attended. Appreciation is extended to all of the participants including our guest speaker, Bruce Valley.

### July Fourth Celebration

Also under the direction of the Recreation Department, entertainment and fireworks were enjoyed by all in attendance.

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

## Town Clerks Message

**The State Department of Safety has asked us to obtain a photo ID for anyone registering a motor vehicle even if they are doing so for another person.** There has been a fair amount of fraud associated with motor vehicle registrations across the state in the last year. Capturing ID's will help in apprehending those responsible for the crimes. Please have your driver's license handy when registering any vehicle.

Absentee ballots are now available for the Sept. 11<sup>th</sup> State Primary Election. Any absentee ballots must be received in this office by 5PM on Sept. 10<sup>th</sup>. For those voting in a primary election, please remember that you may only vote in the party you are enrolled in. Only those voters who are undeclared may choose either a Democratic or Republican ballot. You will then be enrolled in that party unless you see the Supervisors of the Checklist after you vote to put yourself back to being undeclared.

Unfortunately, the date for changing one's party affiliation has passed. Therefore no changes will be allowed until after the State Primary Election. Voting will take place at the Elementary School from 8AM until 7PM. New Election Laws have been passed which require photo ID in order to vote. Please see the Moderator's message for the details.

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

Elizabeth M. Yeaton  
Town Clerk/Tax Collector

**~Remember to Vote!~**

in the New Hampshire State Primary on  
Tuesday, September 11<sup>th</sup>

# Moderator's Message

(continued from page 1)

## November 6<sup>th</sup> Election

As in the Primary, all voters will be asked to present an ID card to the Ballot Clerk. **However, voters without acceptable IDs will not be able to vote unless they fill out and sign a Challenged Voter Affidavit.** In that affidavit, a voter must swear, under the penalties of voter fraud, that he or she is who they say they are, is a qualified Rye voter, and is domiciled in Rye. **Once a voter submits the required affidavit, he or she may vote.** Acceptable IDs are the same as those listed above.

## Future Elections

After September 1, 2013, the law changes again. The types of acceptable IDs will be reduced, and voters who do not have the right ID will have to (1) fill out a Challenged Voter Affidavit and (2) have their photo

taken by the Town Moderator taken by the Town Moderator, unless they fill out a religious exemption affidavit.

## ID Cards from the Department of Motor Vehicles

If you don't have an acceptable ID card, you may get one from the NH Department of Motor Vehicles. If you only need an ID for voting, you can get one free if you first obtain a voucher from the Town Clerk or the Secretary of State.

## Registration and Absentee Ballots

You can register to vote at the Town Clerk's office during normal business hours on any day through September 4<sup>th</sup> for the Primary, and through October 26<sup>th</sup> (or with the Supervisors of the Checklist on 10/27 between 11 and 11:30 a.m.) for the November election. The Clerk's office is open Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. **You can also register at the polls on primary or election day and still vote.**

If you can't get to the polls, **you can get an absentee ballot application at the Town Clerk's office as late as the day before the election.** However, under State law, you may get an absentee ballot only if (1) you will be out of town on election day, (2) a physical disability prevents you from voting in person, or (3) observance of a religious commitment prevents you from going to the polls. You may not get an absentee ballot because you don't want to wait in line. In the 2008 presidential election, Rye had the largest percentage of absentee voters in the State, which made for a long night for volunteer election workers and a delay in reporting the vote in Rye. Please help us avoid another long night.



SEE YOU AT THE POLLS

Bob Eaton  
Town Moderator

# Town Hall Space Needs Committee Begins Deliberations

## July 25 marked the first meeting of the Town Hall Space Needs Ad Hoc Study Committee.

The goal of this committee is to seek an economically sound proposal to resolve the space needs of the Town as an integral part of the preservation/renovation of our historic Town Hall giving equal weight during deliberations to the Town Hall as a historic entity and to Town Hall as the center for the conduct of the business of the Town of Rye including ease of access by the public and accommodation of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

This committee has been formed by the Rye Selectmen in response to Article 27 which passed in March of this year. The article states, "Prior to funding the completion of the design of the potential multi-million dollar expansion of Town Hall, shall the Board of Selectmen address the space needs of the town employees, boards and commissions by comprehensive pro and cons analysis of all possible options? This could include publicly or privately owned property or renovation of existing facilities, for examples: Town Hall, Public Safety Building (7,000 sq ft build out on 2<sup>nd</sup> floor), Rye Recreation facilities, Rye Recycling Center Facilities, and the former Police Station. In addition to possible locations, the Board of Selectman must consider the number of employees and the number

of sq ft per employee of similar facilities in other US towns and the reasons, if any, why the needs of Rye may be different."

In the first meeting reference materials were organized so that Town citizens have the same access to information as this committee. The following three reference materials are available

1. Needs Assessment Report-A.G. Architects' Full Report on the Rye Town Hall
2. Town Hall Space Needs-Committee Binder
3. Town Hall Space Needs-Meeting Notes

These reference materials, for all Rye citizens, are located in three locations:

1. The Rye Library
2. The Town Hall
3. The Rye Town Website

The condition of the Town Hall is at a critical point. The physical aging, deterioration and lack of space for Town Hall business operations within our Town Hall is a problem that we, as a town, need to come together and address as a community. The first step toward a solution is identifying the space needs for the Town of Rye. We need the community to come together in support of this effort and we invite you to attend our meetings, read our reference materials, and help identify the space needs for the future business center of the Town of Rye.

Ned Paul, Chairman











# Rye Water District News

## Water Conservation

The Water District would like to thank its customers for using water wisely! By following our suggested outdoor watering/lawn irrigation times during the early morning hours and not during the heat of the summer's day, water bans were not needed this summer.

## Fall Flushing

The semiannual maintenance of flushing the water mains is expected to begin at the end of September through October. This is done to reduce any sediment that may collect in the mains and valves. A notice of flushing dates and times will be published in the Portsmouth Herald and posted at public locations in town before flushing begins.

## Seasonal Water Customers

The District highly recommends that all seasonal services be disconnected and drained by November 1<sup>st</sup>. Water meters belong to the District and should not be removed or tampered with by others. Please call in advance to have your service disconnected at the street and the meter removed for proper storage.

## Freeze Prevention

As a fall and winter precaution, please ensure your water meter is in a warm, dry, accessible location protected from freezing as required by the District By-Laws. Copies of the By-Laws are available at the District's office at 60 Sagamore Road. Remember to drain and winterize outside faucets, remove/store all outside hoses. Lawn irrigation systems should be winterized prior to the first freeze, which can occur in October.

## No Hunting Signs

The District's well site properties are posted with "No Trespassing" and "No Hunting" signs. Enjoy the hunting season, but please do it responsibly.

Rye Water District Commissioners

# Rye Historical Society Notes

## Abenaki NH Program

RHS and the Friends of the Library will co-sponsor an event relating to Indian history in NH. It is entitled "Digging into Native History in New Hampshire. The presentation will be given by Robert G Goodby, Associate Professor, Dept of Anthropology of Franklin Pierce University, Rindge NH. It will be held in the Rye Library on Oct. 22, 2012 at 7 PM. Peoples of the Abenaki nation settled in what is now NH thousands of years ago and archaeologists have traced the earliest settlements back 30,000 years on the Seacoast. In 1623, when the first Europeans settled in what is now Rye in 1623, they were very much latecomers. Refreshments will be served.

## Rye History Trolley Tour in October

Watch for publicity for the third Rye History Trolley tour given by Board member Sue Reynolds. Participants receive a tour guide for the 90 minute excursion down Central Road, north on Ocean Blvd. and back to center via Brackett and Washington Roads.

## New Saturday Museum Hours

The Town Museum is now open Saturdays through October from 10 - 1. Most Wednesdays it is open from 2-4. Those who want to visit at other times should call the director and request a visit (997-6742). What will you find? Layer upon layer of Rye stories, its history, its heritage, its rich maritime past, thousands of historic photos, ten films relating to Rye and a variety of printed material that is a veritable treasure trove for research or simply perusing. The museum has even found space to show the "Hotels and Boarding Houses of Rye" exhibit that was recently on view at the Seacoast Science Center.

## Town Museum Resources to Connect to Rye Schools Curriculum

Through updated use of the RHS web site, students and teachers of both Rye schools may soon be able to easily access Town Museum resources directly related to their curriculum. It is hoped this formalized connection between the schools and the museum will be in place later this year.

Alex Herlihy, Chairman RHS

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## Rye SERVE Youth Corps

Hundreds of seniors in Rye live independently in their own homes and need just a little help now and again. Rye SERVE (Serving Elder Residents through Volunteer Efforts) fills that role for many with weekly trips to the shopping center, wellness daily check-in calls and more. After volunteering for SERVE last summer, Tommy Griffiths, a Rye resident and high school student, has organized a new Rye SERVE Youth Corps this summer to encourage Rye teenagers to help our town's seniors. Tommy has been working with the Rye SERVE board of directors to identify needs in the community and then match them to students who are interested in lending a hand. Students have been riding the senior van to help with grocery shopping and doing yard work and lawn mowing.

Any interested and responsible teens at least 13 years old looking for a rewarding experience should contact [ryeserve@comcast.net](mailto:ryeserve@comcast.net) or (603) 433-2214.

## Police Chief Offers Important Reminders

### School Opens

School opens on August 28, 2012. Please be aware of children riding their bikes and walking to and from school. During the hours of 7:45 AM and 2:45 PM, driver's speed must not exceed 20 MPH while traveling through school zones. Parents who drop off and pick up their children at the Junior High, please remember to 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.

### Dogs

Please remember the ordinance for dogs on the beach is in effect until September 8: No dogs between 9 am and 7pm. Police officers have picked up several loose dogs in the street. We are concerned for their safety and remind you to keep your dog under control and/or secure on your property. Always have your dog licensed. When an officer picks up a dog with no license, the officer is unable to notify the owner and must take the dog to the kennel.

Rye and other area police departments are taking reports of items stolen from unlocked cars parked in driveways and along the beach parking areas. Please consider taking these items in every night or lock your car. Even if your wallet, purse or cell phone is under your seat, thieves always seem to find them. Enjoy the rest of summer and thank you for your continued support.

Chief of Police, Kevin Walsh

## Assessing News

Within a few days of this newsletter the new assessed values will be mailed out. Informal taxpayer hearings will then take place. The taxpayer hearings allow for "cleaning up" possible errors on interior information or to answer questions homeowners may have. Once we have completed the hearings tax bills will be mailed out. The usual process for filing an abatement will be the next course of action for homeowners. After a valuation update is complete, the general rule of thumb is 1/3 of values increase, 1/3 remain the same and 1/3 decrease.

The Assessing Department followed state guidelines and worked closely with KRT Appraisal and the

Department of Revenue to ensure the most accurate figures would be provided to each homeowner. We also held a taxpayer informational meeting on the evening of August 14<sup>th</sup> to go over the Valuation Update process. Hopefully you were able to attend. It was very informative.

Once we have completed the update I will continue with the yearly cyclical review of 25% of Rye properties. Todd Haywood will also be assisting us with this project.

I hope all of you enjoyed the summer of 2012 and I look forward to meeting many of you while I am out reviewing this fall.

Norm LeBlond C.N.H.A.  
Joanne Drewniak Assessing Assistant

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## Fire Department Receives New Protective Gear

The members of the Rye Fire Department recently received their new protective coats and pants otherwise known as "turnout gear" that was approved by the voters at the March town meeting. The fire resistive suits were custom fitted to each firefighter and are actually manufactured right here in Pittsfield New Hampshire by Globe Manufacturing Co. The firefighters are required to wear the protective gear whenever they are responding to reported fires or automatic fire alarms,



automobile accidents and hazardous materials incidents. Under normal conditions, the new protective clothing should have a life span of approximately ten years before it has to be replaced. *Shown wearing the new gear: Fire Lieutenant Ronald Hordon and Firefighter John Cots.*

Fire Chief, William (Skip) Sullivan

## Historic District Commission

With the political election season upon us we thought that it would be timely to update everyone on the rules for posting political signage within the Historic District of Rye and on Rye Town property.

By vote of the Rye Board of Selectmen on April 5, 2010: To reinforce NH State law regarding placement and removal of political advertising.

Political Advertising is prohibited from and adjacent to Town-owned property, including highway rights of way in accordance with and subject to the requirements of NH TITLE LXIII ELECTIONS, Section 664:17, Political Advertising, which is printed in its entirety below:

### 664:17 Placement and Removal of Political Advertising:

*"No political advertising shall be placed on or affixed to any public property including highway rights-of-way or private property without the owner's consent. All political advertising shall be removed by the candidate no later than the second Friday following the election unless the election is a primary and the advertising concerns a candidate who is a winner in the primary. Signs shall not be placed on or affixed to utility poles or highway signs. Political advertising may be placed within state-owned rights-of-way as long as the advertising does not obstruct the safe flow of traffic and the advertising is placed with the consent of the owner of the land over which the right-of-way passes. No person shall remove, deface, or knowingly destroy any political advertising which is placed on or affixed to public property or any private property except the owner of the property, persons authorized by the owner of the property, or a law enforcement officer removing improper advertising.*

## Invasive Plant Workshop

The Rye Conservation Commission is sponsoring a workshop on Invasive Plants in Rye. Come and learn first hand about these alien plants that have become an overwhelming problem in the seacoast. These plants cause impacts to the natural environment and managed landscapes too, including private properties. Learn from Doug Cygan, Invasive Species Coordinator of the NH Department of Agriculture, Markets & Food, and Tracy Degnan of the Rockingham County Conservation District about the invasive plant populations in Rye. You will also learn about ways you can help control the spread of invasive plants on your own property, and possibly assist on town-properties too!

Anyone interested in additional information, please contact the Rye Conservation Commission or email Tracy Degnan at [rcdted@comcast.net](mailto:rcdted@comcast.net) for additional information. A hands-on demonstration of plants, tools, and techniques is tentatively scheduled to take place on Saturday September 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Goss Farm, on Harbor Road (9-12). Join us for both, and take the information learned to control these non-native plants on your property!

**Rye Public Library  
September 19, 2012, 6-8 pm**

*Political advertising placed on or affixed to any public property may be removed by state, city, or town maintenance or law enforcement personnel. Political advertising removed prior to election day by state, city, or town maintenance or law enforcement personnel shall be kept for one week at a place designated by the state, city, or town so that the candidate may retrieve the items."*

Rye Historic District Commission

## OXYMORON OR SIMPLY MORON?

The Public Works Department was called on the last week in July to clean out catch basins along the lower end of South Road. One alone, which could have caused flooding in the area, contained 35 plastic bags with dog feces. Many of the bags had paw prints on them indicating they had come from the mutt mitt containers at the beach.



## RYE FIRE DEPARTMENT OPEN HOUSE



**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 14TH  
12 NOON-3PM  
555 Washington Road**

Rye Police Providing  
Child I.D. Kits!

**FREE PIZZA!!!!**

Come experience the Fire Safety Trailer. Learn fire safety tips and procedures.

Meet Your Fire, Police, And  
Emergency Medical Professionals

**Event is held rain or shine.  
Bring the whole family.**

## POLITICAL SIGNS

As the political season heats up, please be reminded that political signs placed on Town property will be removed. They may be placed on private property with permission of the property owner.

## Rye Recreation Active, Alive and Over 55 Club

In May, The Rye Over 55 Club decided to disband after thirty two years in operation. Leadership has been transferred to Rye Recreation and the 2012-2013 Program has been set. The Club meets September - May on the second Thursday of each month at Rye Congregational Church. Lunch is at 12:00 p.m. followed by entertainment at 1:00 p.m. The club also conducts bus trips and has special interest groups. The Annual Dues are \$15. Reservations for lunch are taken and the cost is \$10 for a complete lunch and \$3 for a beverage and dessert only. Non-residents are welcome to join. For more information contact the Rye Recreation Department at 964-6281 or E-mail: larthur@town.rye.nh.

<b>Active, Alive and Over 55 Club: 2012-2013 Program</b>	
Thursday, September 13, 2012	Hey What's The Story?: Crafting and Telling Tales from Life Experiences by Pat Spalding
Thursday, October 11, 2012	Mary Todd Lincoln: Wife and Widow by Sally Mummey, sponsored by The NH Humanities Council
Thursday, November 8, 2012	Birding and The New Hampshire Audubon by Beverly Youree and Kelly Dwyer
Thursday, December 13, 2012	Your Hit Parade: 25 Years Presenting Americas Top Popular Songs by Calvin Knickerbocker, sponsored by The NH Humanities Council
Thursday, January 10, 2013	Live Your Passion: by Scott Trudo, a UNH Speakers Bureau Presentation
Thursday, February 14, 2013	Crosscut: A Spoken Documentary by Rebecca Rule, sponsored by The NH Humanities Council
Thursday, March 14, 2013	Kayaking with the Whales: Alaska's Glacier Bay National Park by Michael Perry
Thursday, April 11, 2013	Identity Theft by Police Chief Kevin Walsh
Thursday, May 9, 2013	Spring Fling Fashion Show: Thrift Shop Style

## Rye Sewer Department

### Mission Communications – SCADA System

The Sewer Commission is focused on utilizing technology to become more efficient and effective in its operations and maintenance. The pump metering and monitoring between the pumping stations and the WWTP in Hampton has been upgraded. The phone line communications has been replaced with Mission Communications–SCADA System. This system operates on the data (not voice) side of cellular system. The data can be accessed online and in real time. Critical reports can now be generated easily and the stations can be monitored offsite.



### CCTV Inspections

The Rye collection system was constructed in the early 1990's and consists of 6.9 miles of gravity sewer. This past spring Closed Circuit Television

(CCTV) Inspections were conducted on approximately 3.3 miles of sewer line in the Jenness Beach Area. The remainder of the line will be inspected over the next couple years. These inspections provide a benchmark in regards to the condition of the line as well as identifying areas that need attention.

### Flat Rate

The Sewer Commission is working towards implementing a new user fee system (flat rate). Currently, this equivalent use based system is being examined and tested. Changes would take place in 2013. The capital recovery charge will no longer be billed after the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter billing in 2012.

The Sewer Department Office is located on the second floor of Town Hall and is opened Monday–Friday, 8:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. For more information contact the Sewer Department at 964-6815.

## Events at the Goss Farm

The Rye Conservation Commission is excited to be partnering with the New Hampshire Preservation Alliance to co-sponsor a **Barn Preservation Workshop & Tour at the Goss Farm** in Rye. (*For those of you who have missed our many plugs for the Goss Barn, it is an early 19th century barn that is listed on the NH State Register of Historic Places, is owned by the Town of Rye and is being restored as part of an effort with the Conservation Commission to preserve the 10 acres now under a conservation easement for use as a community farm.*)

Participants will join noted timber framer **Ian Blackman**, Ian Blackman LLC, Restoration and Preservation, for an exploration of the Goss Barn focusing on framing issues and roof repairs he will be undertaking prior to the installation of a new metal roof. Ian will also explore other common problems of antique barns including: foundation problems, drainage issues, sill deterioration, framing failures and siding concerns.

**This event will take place on Saturday October 13<sup>th</sup> from 9:30 to 2:00 pm** and will include a boxed lunch and guided tour of two additional historic barns in Rye. This is a unique opportunity to learn about and assess historic barns with an expert. For more information call the NHPA at 603-224-2281 and more details are available at <http://www.nhpreservation.org/>.

### Other happenings at the Goss Farm:

**Joe Goss**, a member of the Goss family from whom the farm was purchased has donated trees from his property across the street to be contributed toward the barn restoration.

Rand Lumber has been preparing the trees into useable lumber, at cost, to help in our endeavors to keep costs down. **Joe Allen**, as part of an Eagle Scout project is busy constructing a public picnic area using some Norway maple trees cut on site as tables and stools as well as the donated lumber to construct fencing. As part of this project his group is also splitting and chopping the maple to sell for fire wood to raise money for the barn restoration.

We want to express our gratitude for these generous contributions. Any and all donations to help in this community restoration effort are deeply appreciated. The community and school gardens are thriving on the property. Please pack a picnic and come enjoy this town treasure.

See you at the farm!

Sally King, Rye Conservation Commission

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## Outpouring of the Town Support for Rye Heritage Commission

The Mission Statement of the Rye Heritage Commission is to promote the preservation, protection, and recognition of the town's historical and cultural resources and locations. In July, the Commission won the approval of the Board of Selectmen to move forward with the application for State Department of Historical Resources recognition of our Town Hall as a Historic Building. Such recognition would make our Town Hall eligible for state funds for renovations. We celebrate the improved air conditioning of the building with its new geothermal system made possible with grant funding. Controlling the interior temperature and the protection provided by the new roof has furthered the preservation efforts.

The Heritage Commission reached out to every citizen of Rye with an informational brochure, costs for which were generously contributed by a local resident and businessman committed to the preservation effort. That outreach has raised funds for the Commission to advance its mission. The Commission thanks all those who have donated and continue to donate to support our goals of preservation and protection of Rye's historic landmarks.

The Heritage Commission, in conjunction with the Conservation Commission, will seek funding for the restoration of the Goss Farm barn. The Goss Farm barn is the focus of a project proposed to the Capital Improvement Program for the Town in the planning over the next six years. The barn was recognized in the New Hampshire State Register of Historic Places in May 2011.

The Rye Heritage Commission has openings for three more alternates. Skills in web page design and management, fundraising, real estate management and in architecture would be especially helpful. If you possess any of these skills or have interest in the work of the RHC and its mission, please contact RHC Chairperson Mae Bradshaw at 603-964-6545 or [Mae@AttorneyBradshaw.com](mailto:Mae@AttorneyBradshaw.com).

**Any donation to increase our Town Heritage Fund, in furtherance of the Commission's mission, is tax deductible.**

Mae Bradshaw, Chair

# Town of Rye Board Meetings

Sunday      Monday      Tuesday      Wednesday      Thursday      Friday      Saturday

Selectmen's meetings are held in the Rye Hall Courtroom (first floor), 10 Central Road. Other board meetings are also held at Rye Town Hall, 10 Central Road, unless otherwise noted. Because meeting schedules are subject to change, check the bulletin board at the Town Hall for up-to-date information.					<b>September 2012</b>		1
2	3 Labor Day Town Offices Closed	4 7 pm to 7:30 pm Supervisors of the Checklist	5 9 am Rye Water District 60 Sagamore Rd. 7:00 pm Zoning Board of Adjustment	6 6:30 pm Heritage Commission 7 pm CIP Committee At the Rye Library	7	8	
9	10 6:30 pm Board of Selectmen	11 STATE PRIMARY ELECTIONS 7 pm Planning Board	12 6:30 pm Town Hall Space Needs Committee	13 7 pm CIP Committee	14	15	
16	17	18 6:30 pm Mosquito Control	19	20 7 pm Conservation Committee	21	22	
23	24 6:30 pm Board of Selectmen	25 7 pm Tech Review Committee	26 6:30 pm Town Hall Space Needs Committee	27 8:30 am to 4 pm Board of Selectmen 2013 Budget Work Session 7 pm CIP Committee	28	29	
30	<b>October 2012</b>						
	1	2	3 9 am Rye Water District 60 Sagamore Rd. 7:00 pm Zoning Board of Adjustment	4 6:30 pm Heritage Commission	5	6	
7	8 Columbus Day Town Offices Closed	9 7 pm Planning Board	10 6:30 pm Town Hall Space Needs	11 6:30 pm Board of Selectmen	12	13	
14	15	16	17	18 7 pm Conservation Committee	19	20	
21	22 6:30 pm Board of Selectmen	23	24 6:30 pm Town Hall Space Needs	25 8:30 am to 4 pm Budget Committee 2013 Budget Work Session	26	27 11 am to 11:30 am Supervisor of the Checklist	
28	29	30 7 pm Tech Review Committee	31 6:30 pm Town Hall Space Needs	<b>November 2012</b>			
				1 6:30 pm Heritage Commission	2	3	
4	5	6 GENERAL ELECTION	7 9 am Rye Water District 60 Sagamore Rd. 7:00 pm Zoning Board of Adjustment	8	9	10	
11	12 Veterans Day Observed Town Offices Closed	13 7 pm Planning Board	14 6:30 pm Board of Selectmen	15 7 pm Conservation Committee	16	17	
18	19	20	21	22 Thanksgiving Town Offices Closed	23 Town Offices Closed	24	
25	26 6:30 pm Board of Selectmen	27 7 pm Tech Review Committee	28	29	30		

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, 7 pm at the Library

# Remember to Vote



- **Primary-September 11th**
- **General Election–November 6th**

*For more information refer to Moderator's Message, Page 1*

**Bring Your Photo ID With You!**

NOTICE TO ALL  
GHOSTS GOBLINS & GHOULS  
**HALLOWEEN**

“Trick or Treating”  
in Rye is  
Wednesday,  
**OCTOBER 30TH**  
5-7PM



## **Back to School**

Quick Reminders

.....  
School opens on August 28, 2012.  
Please be aware of children riding  
their bikes and walking to and from  
school. During the hours  
of 7:45 AM and 2:45  
PM, driver's speed  
must not exceed 20  
MPH while traveling  
through school zones.



Chief of Police, Kevin Walsh

Town of Rye  
RYE, NH 03870

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

**POSTAL PATRON**  
**RYE, NH 03870**