



# Town of Rye Newsletter



Vol. 23, No. 3

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

September 2020

## Selectmen's Message:

### PARSONAGE EXCHANGE, CELL TOWER UPDATE, RTE 1 SEWER LINE....

#### Parsonage/TD Bank Exchange:

For the past three months the Board of Selectmen and the Library Trustees have been trying to resolve concerns of the trustees relative to the exchange of the Parsonage property for the former TD Bank building which voters approved as Article 7 of the March 2020 town meeting.

The agreement between the Board of Selectmen and the owner of the bank building (500 Washington Road, LLC, a/k/a Daniel Philbrick), which was incorporated by reference into Article 7, required the town to convey a ±0.4 acres parcel containing the Parsonage and its Carriage House to Daniel Philbrick in an exchange at par for the former bank building and 3.71 acres. The ±0.4 acres had been calculated as the roughly rectangular area bounded by Washington Road, Olde Parish Road and the sidewalks accessing the library. The trustees objected to this configuration believing that it infringed upon library property under their control.

While discussions between the selectmen and trustees were going on Daniel Philbrick exercised his right to withdraw from his agreement with the selectmen because planning board approval of the ±0.4 acres subdivision had not been obtained by May 31, 2020.

The Board of Selectmen is pleased to report that a Conceptual Agreement in Principle among the Library Trustees, Board of Selectmen and Daniel Philbrick has been negotiated which allows the at par swap of the two properties to proceed. The key elements of the Agreement are:

- The planning board will be asked to approve a subdivision of the ±0.4 acres into two equally sized lots each having 100.3 feet of frontage on Washington Road.
- Both lots will be conveyed to Daniel Philbrick in an exchange

at par for the former bank property.

- When funds become available to the Library Trustees as a result of a bequest, Daniel Philbrick will convey the lot closest to the library back to the town for \$250,000.
- The lot will be legally merged with the present library lot and therefore become library controlled property.
- The lot will become a park/garden which may be used for library programs, gatherings and functions.
- The Parsonage building will be demolished. The expense of demolition will be shared equally by Daniel Philbrick and the Library Trustees.

This plan is markedly different from that authorized by Article 7 of the March 2020 town meeting which required Daniel Philbrick to renovate the Parsonage building into apartments. Because of this a warrant will have to be presented to the voters to authorize this change of plans. At the time of this writing it is still not decided if this warrant would go to the voters in our upcoming March 2021 election or to a special Town Meeting in the later part of 2020. (complications here are that we have two elections in September and November of this year and in addition we have the pandemic constraints to deal with---we want to move forward as soon as possible however we also want to minimize putting the public and election workers in harm's way).

The Board of Selectmen believes this change is in the best interest of the town for several reasons including:

- The town will acquire the former bank building which will then be used for town offices thereby alleviating the severe space shortage at town hall.
- This will allow the second floor of town hall to be restored to its former grandeur as much needed meeting/function space.

- The exchange remains at par. An appropriation is not required.
- The Parsonage will be demolished by the other two parties to the agreement. Since the March 2020 town meeting it has been discovered that the extent of disrepair of the Parsonage was greater than expected and renovation into modern apartments is not economically feasible. It is now vacant and will remain a financial burden on taxpayers unless it is demolished or sold.

A copy of the complete Conceptual Agreement in Principle is available on the Town of Rye website. The Board expresses its sincere appreciation to the Library Trustees and Daniel Philbrick for the good faith negotiations which led to the agreement. Both parties have acted with the interests of the Town of Rye as a paramount concern.

**Financial Update:** While we remain concerned about the impact state and local economies will have on our residents' ability to make timely payment of second issue tax, there have been a number of positive trends with respect to revenues. Although the 1<sup>st</sup> issue 2020 tax collection rate is slightly down from the 1<sup>st</sup> issue 2019 collection rate (96.36 vs. 97.67), the amount of liens placed in 2020, for prior period unpaid taxes are at an all time low. The Clerk's office has registered 245 more motor vehicles through July 31, 2020, than the same period in 2019. Local construction did not fall off as expected and as such the Building Department has issued 57 more permits for 2020, as compared to the same period in 2019, with revenues up \$21,577.00 from last year. The Town of Rye has been approved for municipal aid in the amount of \$129,627 and the first reimbursement of \$26,506 has been received.

# Selectmen's Message

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These funds will offset the unbudgeted COVID-19 related expenses incurred since March. Although the Recreation Department has been hardest hit by the COVID-19 pandemic, reductions in staffing, modified programming and the re-opening of the Rye schools will help to mitigate any losses. Finally, initial reports from the State indicate that there will be no significant impact to any State funding. This includes our Meals and Room, Highway Block grant and State Revenue Sharing. Conversely, on the expense side, the Board has frozen all non-essential spending through the end of the year. They have also postponed several capital purchases and projects until after the effects of second issue tax payments have been realized. Further they are working closely with the Finance Office to ensure that a Tax Anticipation Note (TAN) can be put into place this fall should it become necessary.

**Shoulder Widening Study:** By way of a brief background, the shoulder widening study recently completed for the Town by Rockingham Planning Commission (RPC) was the result of a larger scale study and 10-year plan that had been completed by RPC Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC). Because the Route 1A corridor in Rye is the most heavily traveled bike route in NH, the TAC had identified the shoulders on NH 1A in Rye from Seavey Creek Bridge to the south end of Odiorne Point State Park and NH 1B from NH 1A to the bridge as priority #1 in the revised set of projects for the 10-year plan. This prompted town officials to review other bike routes in Rye as well as the volume of pedestrian traffic on town roads. What resulted was a comprehensive study broken down into three categories: 1. Priorities for safer school and town center access; 2. Priorities for safer beach access on town roads; and 3. Priorities for shoulder safety improvements on Routes 1A and 1B; understanding that these are under the control of NHDOT but will require advocacy from Rye as the highway's host community. The final step in the plan is a community

survey slated to be sent out in the fall. This will provide data on what Rye residents feel are the priorities for shoulder widening. This data will be used to drive long-term budget/capital decisions.

**Cell Tower Progress:** The Town of Rye has been involved in negotiating with Verizon for a critical site to construct a much-needed cell tower. The original site was to be located on Brackett Road but through lengthy discussions and legal procedures, a new site off Port Way was approved by town voters. Planning board and Zoning Board of Adjustment approvals were granted earlier this year. Much of the success was due to the cooperation of the abutting property owners and their willingness to allow this to go forward. One of the conditions the Planning Board imposed on Verizon was that they were to get approval from NEPA (National Environmental Protection Act), part of which is clearance for the NH Division of Historic Resources. This application process is ongoing and should be complete soon. According to Verizon's attorneys, once the approval is received, they will begin their geotechnical work. They expect to be able to apply for a building permit toward the end of the year, with construction beginning in the spring of 2021.

**Lang Road/Lafayette Road Intersection Redesign:** \$900,000 has been allocated by State/Federal/City funding to complete a redesign of the Lang Road/Lafayette Road intersection. An easement has finally been negotiated with Service Credit Union that will allow Lang Road to run behind their building to connect with Longmeadow Road and to the existing traffic light at Ocean Road. This will allow traffic turning left onto Lafayette Road (US 1) to safely do so, with the protection of the traffic light, in lieu of having to turn left at the west end of Lang Road which is unprotected. The project is scheduled to go before the Portsmouth Planning Board for approval this fall, to have bids go out following their approval, and to have work begin in the spring of 2021. Motorists turning right from Lang Road onto Lafayette Road will continue to be allowed to do so at this intersection however,

no left turns will be allowed there. Although a long time in coming, this project will provide residents safer access to Lafayette Road as they exit Rye.

**TAP Grant Update:** Rye voters approved the expenditure of an \$800,000 plan, proposed by the Rye Town Center Committee, for construction of transportation safety improvements, including a sidewalk and a bike lane, in the Town Center from the intersection of Washington Road and Wallis Road to the intersection of Central Road and Washington Road. \$500,000 would come from NH Department of Transportation alternatives program grant (TAP) and the balance of \$300,000 to come from general taxation for the local match required for the grant. Initially TAP grant applications were to be submitted in June 2020; however, with the impact of the pandemic, the State DOT has delayed the program until they can advertise their current approved programs from last year. This delay has precluded our ability to submit our TAP application. To complicate matters the FAST Act, which funded the TAP program, expires September 30, 2020. NH DOT has stated that they are unclear what the TAP program may look like under a new reauthorization bill. We are in contact with NH DOT and expect to have an answer shortly as to whether the TAP program will be available this year.

**Route 1 Sewer Line:** In March 2019, the Town of Rye voters approved the construction of a sewer line from the end of Washington Road to the Portsmouth line, albeit at no cost to the Rye taxpayers. Most of the engineering has been done and DOT approval has been obtained, both paid for by one of the interested parties.

An inter-municipal agreement was approved by the Rye Sewer Commission and presented to the Portsmouth City Council but, as yet, has not been ratified.

An attempt to raise the approximately \$2.7 million dollars from developers and landowners fell short by about half and then the Covid pandemic hit. Unfortunately, the project in its present form has been

# Selectmen's Message

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effectively abandoned. The importance of the project cannot be overstated. The development and potential development along this corridor have become a significant target for developers. From the North Hampton line to Portsmouth there is a potential for 200 new residential units in addition to the 60 already approved and pending construction. All of these will be on septic. When layered over the Coakley land fill issue, this is not sustainable and is a potential hazard to our drinking water and overall regional environment.

One way to approach this issue is to create a TIF (Tax Incremental Financing) district from the North Hampton line to Portsmouth. A by-product will be a unified, cohesive and attractive gateway to the Town of Rye of which we could be proud. No longer are we apt to see dilapidated buildings and quasi-junk yards. The process is not overly complicated and does not affect the property taxes. Briefly the use of a TIF works like this. The Town of Rye would issue a bond to pay for the project. All assessments on properties included in the TIF district would be "frozen" at pre TIF amounts. As development occurs an increase in assessment will follow. The increase in tax that follows the assessment is set aside to pay off the bond. When the bond is paid for, the properties would be included in the full tax rolls. More on this project as we move forward.

**Rye Harbor Dredging: FINALLY**, after over five years of testing, plan development, local activism, outreach to our US Senators, Federal/State funding, prioritization by the Corps of Engineers and competitive bidding, Rye Harbor Dredging is scheduled to begin in November of this year with completion of the work in March of 2021. Letters have now gone out from our Harbor Master to mooring holders to ensure that their names and permit numbers are marked on their mooring ball to ensure that they can be returned to the correct position following the dredge.

Prock Marine, of Rockland Maine, is the low bidder and is expected to be doing the work. This work will ensure that Rye Harbor remains a vibrant working and recreational Harbor for years to come.

Board of Selectmen,  
Phil Winslow  
Bill Epperson  
Mae Bradshaw

## Police Chief's Message

Rye Police Department has a new team member, Officer Heather Cote. Heather was a full-time police officer with Rye from February 2000 to August 2013. Heather then worked for the Strafford County Sheriff's Office. Heather was promoted to Sergeant and then Captain. As support Captain, she oversaw criminal investigation. As operations Captain, she supervised approximately 70 county employees. Heather retired in July of 2020 and has returned to Rye as a part-time police officer.

We have more great news! The Rye Police Administrative Assistant is home because her family increased by one. This means the Rye police family has increased by one as well. Heather will be filling in while Jessica Doucette is out on leave time.

School reopens on September 9, 2020. The police officers and I would like to thank the Rye School Board, SAU 50 Superintendent Sal Petralia, SAU staff, Principals Soucy and Lull, all Rye Teachers, Custodian Supervisor Jim Gordon and custodial staff, Chief Cotreau, Rye Fire Department and Town of Rye Health Officer Dr. Gail Snow for coming up with a healthy school re-opening plan. The Officers and I are ready to adjust how police manage safety to ensure parents, students and staff, stay healthy and safe.

### *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 AM and 2:45 PM when the school zone light is flashing, drivers' speed must not exceed 20 mph while traveling through school zones. Please make sure your vehicle slows down before entering the school.
- Always stop for school buses loading and unloading students.
- It would be greatly appreciated if parents who drop off and pick up their children at the Junior High drive past the school, turn around at Grange Park then enter the school parking lot. This will enable the morning and afternoon commutes to continue moving without creating a traffic jam.
- In addition, please check to make sure your child has his or her seat belt buckled. For your child's safety, we ask that you remind your child to remove his or her backpack before he or she attempts to buckle up.

### *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 cross walks and obey all traffic signs.
- Most important is to be a good role model for your younger brothers, sisters, and friends, help them learn and practice safety rules.

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

# Police Chief's Message

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**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

## Rye Fire & Rescue Update

As the end of summer draws near we hope folks have found some way to safely enjoy the warm weather during this challenging time. At Rye Fire Rescue we continue to monitor the Covid-19 situation closely and continue to practice recommended precautions. The Emergency Operations Center (EOC) continues to be under a partial activation so we remain prepared to act as needed to minimize the transmission of this virus.

We also would like to extend warm wishes and thanks to Selectwoman Keriann Roman as she leaves the Select Board. It was apparent from the time she became selectwoman how hard she works for the folks in Rye. Good luck Keri!

There is much going on at Rye Fire Rescue. Here are a few updates: Pumper Ladder delivery update: Our Pumper Ladder is in production at the factory in Ocala, Florida. Completion testing is scheduled for the end of August with a Mid-September delivery date to Rye. After delivery there will be a training process with all personnel before placing the truck in service.



Roof Ventilation Training Prop donation: We are extremely grateful to **Don Cook and D.D. Cook Builders** for donating materials and labor to build a ventilation prop. Ventilating a roof at a structure fire is an important skill for any firefighter. This involves cutting a hole in a roof as part of the extinguishment strategy. This evolution is very dangerous and must be practiced to acquire the necessary skill level. Thanks again goes to D.D. Cook, you guys are terrific!



Water Rescue/Jet Ski program update: The Water Rescue/Jet Ski program continues to make a positive difference for Rye! I am very proud of the firefighters commitment to the training and excellence needed to make this program successful. Similar to last summer, this year we have responded to several water rescue calls most notably an overturned boat outside Rye Harbor with several persons in the water. Water rescues are resource intensive operations. Because of this we use a regional approach when responding to any reported water rescue. Agencies used so far this year include Coast Guard, Marine Patrol, Portsmouth FD Marine 1, North Hampton FD and Newcastle FD. Training is critical to a successful and safe rescue. We train regularly to keep our skills proficient. These are a few photos of us on mission and training with Hampton lifeguards and Marine Patrol.



Training with Hampton lifeguards and Marine Patrol.



Changing out crews during water rescue/search

Mark Cotreau  
Fire Chief

## Moderator's Message

**PLEASE VOTE, AND VOTE SAFELY**

There are two important elections coming up – the State Primary on September 8<sup>th</sup> and the General Election on November 3<sup>rd</sup>. Polls will be open at Rye Elementary School (RES) for both elections from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. As we cope with the unprecedented Covid-19 pandemic, Rye's election team is doing all it can to make voting safe. I ask you to do what you can too, not just to keep yourself safe, but also to protect your neighbors and poll workers, many of whom may be more susceptible to acquiring Coronavirus. Here's what we're doing and how you can help.

### Voting by Absentee Ballot:

New Hampshire has a long history of citizens voting by absentee ballot that has proven to be simple, secure and reliable. It will also make voting safer, not only for the absentee voter, but also, with fewer people at the polls, for our volunteer election workers and those who vote in person. We have made a concerted effort to encourage Rye voters to vote absentee. You can download an absentee ballot request at <https://www.town.rye.nh.us/home/news/2020-absentee-ballot>. Time is short for the Primary. To be counted, your ballot must get to the Clerk's office by 5 p.m. on Labor Day, September 7<sup>th</sup>, or you can deliver it to

# Moderator's Message

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the polls by 5 p.m. on voting day. There will be a monitored absentee ballot drop box outside RES that day. There is still plenty of time to get an absentee ballot for the November election.

**Pre-Processing of Absentee Ballots:** Governor Sununu recently signed a bill that permits moderators to “pre-process” absentee ballots. The law only applies to the two fall elections. It allows election officials to do much of the paperwork that is usually done on election day. Affidavit envelopes containing ballots cannot be opened during preprocessing, nor can they be cast. That must wait until 9 a.m. on election day. Hence, if you get to the polls before 9 o'clock, or before final processing of your ballot is complete, you can still vote in person. Rye will pre-process absentee ballots on Thursday, September 3<sup>rd</sup>, at the Rye Junior High School gymnasium, starting at 9 a.m. The process will be open to the public. All observers and election workers will be required to wear a face mask. Observers will be required to stay behind the guardrail.

**Registering to Vote / Election Day Registration:** I urge all voters to register to vote before election day, so as to minimize the time you spend at the polls, by visiting or calling the Town Clerk's office. Registration for the Primary closes on September 2<sup>nd</sup>. However, **at any election, you can register to vote at the polls on election day.**

**Election Day at the Polls**  
**Precautions to Combat Coronavirus.**

- All entry doors will be kept open to increase air flow and reduce touchable surfaces.
- Hand sanitizer will be available to voters upon both entering and exiting the polls.
- The pavement outside RES, and the floor inside, will be marked with blue tape, placed 6 feet apart, to assist in social distancing.
- **All voters, election workers, and observers will, at the least, be urged to wear face masks**

**inside RES. If you do not bring a face mask, one will be offered to you.** Election workers may be wearing additional personal protective equipment.

- **Voters who cannot wear face masks, or who choose not to, will be offered a place to vote outside the building that is fully accessible, safe from the elements, and subject to all the safeguards that apply to voting inside the building.** However, if a large number of voters opt to vote outside, the wait may be longer than inside.
- Clear plastic “sneeze guards” will be set up in front of the ballot clerks, the Supervisors of the Checklist, and the ballot distribution table.
- Single-use voting pens will be given to all voters with their ballots.
- Paper writing mats will be given to all voters to put their ballot on while marking it, so as to minimize contamination of voting surfaces. You may also use the mat as a privacy sleeve to put your ballot in as you walk to the counting machine.
- Entrance curtains to many voting booths will be removed to reduce touchable surfaces.
- All surfaces in voting areas will be regularly disinfected.
- Per the new RSA 659:43, the “no-electioneering corridor” will be extended from 10 to 16 feet, including a 6-foot buffer to socially distance voters from campaigners. Electioneering will be restricted to the left of the building to safeguard voters using the handicap access parking spaces. Reminder: the main parking lot is restricted to use by voters; unattended signs are prohibited, including along the driveway.
- Voters will be urged not to linger after voting. Please leave the building immediately.
- There will be no “community” tables.

## Other Changes at the Polls

- Registered in the Wrong Party? If you tried unsuccessfully to change your party affiliation before 5 p.m. on June 2<sup>nd</sup>, you may change your affiliation at the polls if you sign an affidavit.

- Undeclared Voter Change-Back. Undeclared voters who vote in the Primary automatically become a member of the party whose primary you voted in. If you want to change back to Undeclared, the ballot clerk will give you an Election Day Party Affiliation Change Form which you can fill out while you vote and drop off as you exit the polls.

Bob Eaton  
Moderator

## Public Work's Message

With fall just around the corner it is an appropriate time to mention proper handling, storage, and disposal of yard waste, and pool chemicals.

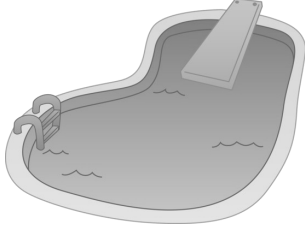
**POOL CHEMICALS:** Proper disposal of pool chemicals is very important to the environment and to you and your neighbor's health and safety. Pool chemicals should last a long time, with proper storage, and handling. Most are effective for three to five years. In general, liquids such as liquid chlorine have a shorter shelf life than powders and solids.

Pool chemicals are highly corrosive and reactive. It is not unusual for improperly stored or disposed of pool chemicals to cause health hazards and fires. If improperly stored or disposed of pool chemicals can cause skin irritation, respiratory issues, release poisonous gases and even cause chemical reactions resulting in fires or explosions. This time of year, it is not unusual to hear of rubbish collectors receiving skin irritation, being overcome by gases, or experiencing fires and explosions in transfer facilities and containers. To prevent such events please store and dispose of your chemicals in accordance with the recommended methods on the labels. Generally, your pool supplies should be stored in a dry cool space with consistent temperatures between 40 and 85 degrees,

## Public Work's

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in sealed containers with tight lids. Only purchase sufficient supplies each year for what you need and no more. Pool chemicals cannot be, nor are they, accepted at the Rye Transfer Station. The best way to dispose of pool chemicals and their containers is through a Household Hazardous Waste Collection. Surplus chemicals should be appropriately stored until a collection is held.



**YARD WASTE:** Dumping leaves in or near water bodies and wetlands is against the law, residents are being warned as part of a rollout of new storm water-management regulations set by the Environmental Protection Agency, warning that state law ([RSA 482-A:3](#)) “prohibits filling streams and wetlands with waste materials, including yard waste.” The law specifically states, “No person shall excavate, remove, fill, dredge, or construct any structures in or on any bank, flat, marsh, or swamp in and adjacent to any waters of the state without a permit” from the state.

Grass clippings may contain fertilizer and pesticides which can contaminate rivers and lakes and contribute to impairments of rivers and oceans. Decomposing yard waste uses up oxygen in the water that aquatic wildlife needs to live. It blocks sun and smothers plant life that is food for animals, including turtles, ducks, chipmunks, and deer. Yard waste can also stimulate algae and other nuisance weeds that “form foul-smelling, green mats on the water surface and degrade water quality”.

However, this regulation should not affect the majority of Rye residents, as the Transfer Station accepts yard waste and brush from residents on Tuesday and Saturday, between 7:30 a.m. and 3:45 p.m., throughout the year. In addition, local landscap-

ing contractors may obtain a temporary dumping permit for a yearly fee of \$150. Residents who contract with landscapers should ensure they are properly disposing of their yard waste and brush.

At the Transfer Station all yard waste received is pushed up into long piles called windrows. These windrows are turned over multiple times throughout the year, then run through a course and fine screener. Resulting in a high-grade compost/loam material. This material is available to the town’s residents, for as long as the stockpile lasts. The process is repeated each year.

While you are doing yard work, be aware of invasive species such as:

- Japanese Knotweed
- Burning Bush
- Giant Hogweed
- Autumn Olive
- Phragmites
- Purple Loosestrife

To learn more about invasive plants, go to NH Department of Agriculture:

<https://www.agriculture.nh.gov/divisions/plant-industry/invasive-plants.htm>

### **HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE (HHW) COLLECTION:**

It is anticipated the annual HHW collection day event will be postponed to the spring of 2021 due to issues related to the Coronavirus. This event is hosted annually by the Southeast Regional Refuse Disposal District 53B of which Rye is one of six community members. The other members are North Hampton, Fremont, Brentwood, Sandown, and Kensington. If you have ever attended any collections in the past, you probably already know the event is run by a large number of unpaid volunteers, almost all of whom are in the at risk group for contracting the virus. In addition, the collection contractor is from an out-of-state contractor, whose home state is currently designated as a “hot spot”. For these reasons and others, it is highly likely the event will be postponed until next spring.

Dennis McCarthy  
DPW Director

## Town Clerk/ Tax Collector's Message

**Reminder,** Town Clerk/Tax Collector’s office is open 8 a.m. – 2 p.m. to the public.

This fall we have two busy elections. On September 8th State Primary Election. Absentee ballots are available in our office. Absentee ballot applications are available in our office or can be downloaded from the town website. When applying for a ballot for the Primary Election, a party must be listed. As an example, if you want a Democrat ballot, you must be a registered Democrat or be listed as undeclared on the checklist to get that ballot. If you want a Republican ballot, you must be a registered Republican or be listed as undeclared. If you are undeclared you have a choice of Republican or Democrat. If you are Undeclared, remember to sign the **Reverse Back to Undeclared Sheet** on the table as you **exit the poll** to change yourself back to undeclared status. If you vote by absentee ballot, there is a form inside the envelope for ‘Undeclared Voters’ to change back. Last day to accept absentee ballots filed in person is September 8<sup>th</sup> at 5 p.m. The Town Clerk’s office will be open Monday, September 7<sup>th</sup> from 3 p.m. – 5 p.m. to drop off or pick up an absentee application along with your ballot. November 3<sup>rd</sup> is General Election Day. No party needs to be declared. If you have already applied for the General Election ballot, the ballot will be mailed to you as soon as we receive them in our office. Polls open at 8:00 a.m. and close at 7:00 p.m. at the Rye Elementary School. If you have not registered to vote, please come to the Town Clerk’s office to do so or you may register to vote at the polls the day of election.

Please take time to visit the town website [www.town.rye.nh.us](http://www.town.rye.nh.us). Icons will take you to the right place to register your vehicles, pay taxes and sewer bills, license your dog and apply for copies of vital records.

## Town Clerk/Tax Collector

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We expect the new tax rate to be set sometime in September or October. If all goes on schedule, Tax Bills should be mailed by the end of October and will be due on December 1<sup>st</sup>. We accept checks, cash or credit card. Be aware there is approximately a 3% surcharge for the use of a credit card that goes to the credit card company.

Summer is at an end, please watch for signs that say 'Parking by Permit only'. Parking is enforced until signs are removed.

I realize Covid has caused much stress for everyone. Remember, 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. It is a pleasure to serve as your Town Clerk/Tax Collector in such a beautiful town.

Stay Safe.  
Donna M. DeCotis  
Town Clerk/Tax Collector

## Conservation Commission Update

As the Rye Conservation Commission (RCC) continues its mission to protect important natural and water resources, enhance existing wildlife corridors, and expand outdoor recreational opportunities, we want to remind Rye citizens about the opportunities conserved properties provide for us to get outdoors. If you like to walk, bike, bird watch or just enjoy being outside, check out our RCC trails!

The Rye Town Forest may be the best known conservation area in town and is accessed from both Washington Road and Recreation Road. More information about this 220-acre area in the middle of town is available at <https://www.town.rye.nh.us/conservation-commission/pages/rye-town-forest-information>.

**Varrell Woods**, provides another entrance to the Town Forest next to 192 Washington.

Perhaps less well-known are the following conservation properties with hiking trails:

**Marden Woods** – At 309 Washington Road, an opening in a small stone wall and a bronze sign on a granite post marks the entrance to this 25.4 acre parcel. The Marden family owned this land from 1735 to 2005, when RCC acquired and protected it against development. An old woods trail, marked with orange diamonds, provides an easy-to-follow and wide path, beginning at the opening in the stone wall on Washington Road, looping to the left or right and coming back to the looping point. The trail utilizes only a small portion of the parcel due to the wetlands that cut through the property, allowing for a wildlife corridor on the other undisturbed portion of the parcel.

**Seavey Acres** – Off of Pioneer near the intersection of Brackett Road is a small parking lot and a stone wall marking the entrance to two trails: the green trail is a straight shot through the parcel ending at the end of the Berry Brook Lane development. The orange trail is a loop. The Town of Rye purchased this 70-acre property in 1992. The original Seavey ownership dates back to the late 1600's. Berry's Brook, also known as Seavey Creek near its mouth, originates in Greenland and North Hampton off Breakfast Hill Road and runs through Seavey Acres on its way to the ocean. Vernal pools (seasonal bodies of water that provide habitat for plants and amphibians) abound, providing an important food source for small carnivores as well as large game species.

**Rand Forest** - These trails can be accessed from either Sea Glass Lane or at the cul de sac at the end of Liberty Common. Parking is available on the left after you enter Sea Glass Lane. To access the trail, go behind the houses, stay on the left of the metal marking posts and walk towards the woods. There are two loops – one orange and one yellow. The first Rand arrived in Rye in 1641 and settled on what is now Wallis Road. This land was in the Rand family for generations until 2014 when 71 acres was purchased through a bond warrant article.

**Cedar Run Woods** – This is a short trail on 28 conserved acres at the end of Cedar Run off South Road. Parking is available at the gravel/grass area.

**Airfield Woods** – At the end of Airfield Drive, past the "Road ends" sign, a path takes you to the entrance of the woods with a trail to the left that borders the beginning of Berry's Brook and goes past an old mill pond studded with lily pads and loops back to the beginning. Staying straight at the woods entrance takes you behind the Whitehorse Farms cul de sac out and back. The trails are not marked but well groomed and easy to follow. This 110-acre property also connects to the smaller eight acre Moody Woods that continues to Mountainview Terrace off Washington Road.

Don't forget:

- There are no trash cans on site at our trails, so please be prepared to take home what you took in (and if you've got room, feel free to pick up stuff that others may have left behind); and
- As you take to the trails, if you think that the trail signs may be incorrect or confusing, please don't feel you need to do some DIY and fix them yourself. Instead, snap a photo, tell us your suggestion, and send it to [rcc.chair@gmail.com](mailto:rcc.chair@gmail.com)

This is a time to acquaint yourselves with all of the parcels of land that the many collective town efforts have conserved. As townspeople of Rye we are very fortunate to have an abundance of outdoor public spaces to enjoy. Stay safe and well.

Rye Conservation Commission

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

## Planning Board Update

Planning Board (PB) activity has been robust throughout the summer; Agendas and Minutes are posted to the Town Website: <https://www.town.rye.nh.us/planning-board>. Two site walks and two public hearings have recently occurred regarding the Major Site Development Plan for Webster at Rye. During July, a public hearing and a site walk regarding a Minor 3 Lot Subdivision by Jack Nadeau Revocable Trust for property at 711 Long John Road were held to review the application. Both of these applications have been continued to September.

This summer has been particularly active as Rye residents, families, and friends have sought time in the outdoors. We are reminded of important connections between these treasured environments and the PB's work. Our Master Plan points to the delicate balance between our natural resources and land development. Specifically, the goals and priorities of Chapter 4- Existing & Future Land Use and Chapter 7 – Natural Resources lay the groundwork for partnerships within our Land Development Regulations and Zoning Ordinance.

The Land Development Regulations, recently revised and adopted as of February 11, 2020, are codified in Chapter 202 of the Code of the Town of Rye. While standards such as the Preservation of Natural Features and the Environment are little changed, expanded standards encompass Erosion and Sediment Control, Post-Construction Storm Water Management, Outdoor Lighting, Landscaping, and Climate Adaptation. Goals of landscaping and screening include (per LDR Article XI):

- Define areas for pedestrian and vehicular circulation
- Break up the mass of buildings and impervious areas
- Incorporate existing native vegetation and other natural features into the site design
- Manage and control storm water at its source to minimize off-site runoff

- Conserve water and reduce outside water use
- Provide screening and buffering between residential and nonresidential uses that are highly impactful to the surrounding area
- Reduce heat island effects and improve air quality

Landscaping, plant selection, and planting specifications are incorporated into a landscaping planting plan prepared by a licensed landscaper or landscape architect. A maintenance plan for landscape, screening, and buffering components is included in the final site plan set.

During recent years, many low-impact development techniques such as raingardens, bio-retention areas, and swales have been incorporated into planting plans as approved by the PB. These techniques have been effective in assisting storm water management, reducing pollution, and protecting vegetated buffers. These facilities have included a myriad of plant selections including: blueberry bushes, dogwoods, viburnums, and winterberry bushes. Combining sound land use planning strategies with relatively natural solutions has achieved practical goals associated with land use changes interspersed with the beauty of nature.

Per Master Plan Chapter 7: “The balance between preserving natural resources and developing land is delicate and a vital function of municipal long-range planning.” The PB continues its dedication to finding this balance. In the meantime, hope you will all continue to enjoy your outdoor pursuits - have a great Fall!

Respectfully submitted,  
Patricia Losik,  
Planning Board Chair

## Rye Senior SERVE Update

During these difficult and uncertain times, Rye Senior SERVE volunteers continue to provide needed services to our community seniors. Individual drivers are shopping for

groceries and providing transportation for medical and dental appointments. Both the volunteer drivers and the seniors they assist are making sure to continue to follow CDC guidelines regarding Covid-19.

The Rye Senior SERVE Board of Directors is aware of the great work provided by our volunteer drivers and appreciates their efforts and dedication.

Jim Delaney  
Rye Senior Serve

## Sewer Department

**Sewer Permit:** 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. (*Chapter 129-4A, Town of Rye, NH Town Code*)

**Sewer Installers License:** 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. (*Chapter 129-4E, Town of Rye, NH Town Code*)

The Sewer Commissioners shall be the licensing authority and shall examine and pass on all applicants who seek a Sewer Installer License. The license, once granted, may be revoked, upon notice, for poor workmanship, safety violations, failure to comply with the requirements of this ordinance and any other rules, regulations and specifications incorporated herein by reference or inept or fraudulent business practices. (*Chapter 129-4E, Town of Rye, NH*)





# JULY 4TH FACES OF RYE PHOTO CONTEST 2020

To celebrate Independence Day, the Town of Rye hosted a photography contest

## FINALISTS



**1st, Uliano Family**  
by Dawn Uliano



**2nd, American Gal (Sophie)**  
by Janice Ireland



**3rd, Celebrating Rye's History**  
by Adam Goodine (Friends of Pulpit Rock Tower)

## HONORABLE MENTIONS



**USA Birthday Suit** by Lauren Kalil



**Patriotic Backyard** by Kim Gardiner



**Hwang Family** by Frank Hwang



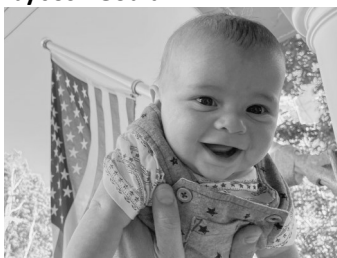
**Seacoast Strength & Conditioning**  
by Josh Gould



**Rye Lobsta** by Cheryl Eberhardt



**Proud to Serve** by Dennis McCarthy



**Baby with Flag** by Dawn Uliano



**Patriotic Resident**  
by Beverly Levesque



**Huck's First 4th of July**  
By Susan Shepcaro

## Rye Public Library Fall Events 2020

*It always seems impossible until it's done.*

--Nelson Mandela (1918-2013), South African anti-apartheid leader

Rye Public Library never missed a beat during the COVID-19 pandemic. During the first week we were forced to close to the public, we offered a daily live-streamed reading of *Endurance* by Ernest Shackleton. [You can still view those sessions at our website]. Our service expanded quickly to offer countless downloadable library resources and instruction on using them, along with a weekly Booster edition of our newsletter to stay in touch, and a rapidly assembled line-up of virtual programming. After stay-at-home requirements ended, we began offering foyer pick-up service. Just request your selection[s] and we prepare them and have them waiting for you in our all-weather foyer.

As our successful foyer service continues, we have also begun to offer appointments for in-house access. If you need to use a computer, copier, or scanner or just want to browse the shelves, we can arrange an appointment for you Monday thru Friday. Just call the Library at 603-964-8401 for details. We'll ask a few health related questions at the time of your booking and upon your arrival. Please don't book an appointment if you have an active fever or flu-like symptoms. More details on in-house visits are available on our website.

We've also continued to offer virtual programming. Our summer reading program for kids just wrapped up, but ongoing regular and special activities continue—including our first outdoor drive-in concert on August 19! Next up will be a cooking demonstration by **Liz Barber** of *The Creative Feast*. On **Wednesday, September 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:30PM**, Liz will offer her program **Feasting on 15-Minute Meals**. Just register in advance at the RPL website. As you can imagine, many of the programs we planned early in the year have fallen through. Some presenters are less facile than others when it comes to shifting to virtual format. Watch our website and now bi-weekly Booster newsletter for updates as available.

### Ongoing Activities:

**Adult Book Discussion:** All are welcome to join these lively discussion groups via Zoom [or other platform as notified] Last Friday of each month at 1 pm!

9/26 *Writers and Lovers* by Lily King [available on Hoopla]

10/30 *Girls Weekend* by Jody Gehrman [available on Hoopla]

11/20 *The Ungrateful Refugee* by Dina Nayeri [available on Hoopla]

**Armchair Adventure Bookclub :** A new monthly book discussion offering!  
Join First Thursdays each month at 2 pm. via Zoom [or other platform as notified]

9/10 *The Lost Cyclist* by David Herlihy [available on Hoopla]

10/8 *Summit* by Harry Farthing [available on Hoopla]

11/ 5 *Eat Sleep Ride* by Paul Howard [available on Hoopla]

# FRIENDS OF THE RYE PUBLIC LIBRARY

**New members welcome!**

**Zoom meetings resume in September. Second Tuesdays at 6:00PM [call RPL for details]  
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            | NH State Parks parking pass     |
|  | Woodman Museum, Dover           |

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

Many of the Museums listed above offer virtual tours of their collections during the COVID 19 restriction. Just search for the museum by name in any search engine and click to find tour options.

**ASK A LIBRARIAN** – If you have questions about technology or how-to on your device [computer, phone, or tablet] call RPL at 603-964-8401 or email Lisa Breton [tech@ryepubliclibrary.org](mailto:tech@ryepubliclibrary.org). to set up a Chat or Zoom session for a Thursday afternoon slot. These sessions are process oriented rather than to troubleshoot device functionality. If you wonder how to download books and other 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 September – December 2020**

*more details at [ryepubliclibrary.org](http://ryepubliclibrary.org) (603) 964 – 8401*

*We know how important Summer Reading services will be for parents this year. The following list will grow as new programming is added. Please watch our communications for updates!*

All of the following events will be held remotely. For access links and information please contact us by email [contact@ryepubliclibrary.org](mailto:contact@ryepubliclibrary.org), visit [ryepubliclibrary.org](http://ryepubliclibrary.org), or call (603) 964-8401

<u><b>Youth Programs</b></u>	
<p><b>Story Time for Toddlers &amp; Preschoolers</b> Thursdays 10:30am</p>	<p><b>RPL Writers’ Group, 1st &amp; 3rd Tuesdays</b> Starting Tuesday, June 2 6:00-8:00pm</p>
<p><b>Tutoring Grades K-8</b> Starting Monday, June 8 10:00am-11:00am  Subjects and target grades will vary, please check our website for details</p>	<p><b>YAttitudes Book Club</b> <i>Check website for book titles</i>  Tuesday, June 9 and July 28 6:00-7:00pm  Grades 6+</p>

# Sewer Department

(continued from page 8)

## Town Code)

The fee for a Sewer Installers License shall be \$100, paid annually. (Chapter 129-4E, Town of Rye, NH Town Code)

If you require a Sewer Permit and/or Installers License please contact 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 at 964-6815.

The Sewer Commissioners are David Kohlhasse, Chairman; Peter Kasnet, Vice Chairman; and David Adams, Commissioner, Lee Arthur is the Sewer Administrator.

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## Rye Water District News

To all Rye Water District Residents, during the past several months the Rye Water District has experienced higher than normal water usage. Water usage can be viewed on our Pumping Flow Graphs under Forms & reports on our website at [www.RyeWaterDistrict.com](http://www.RyeWaterDistrict.com). This is presumably due to low precipitation (i.e. increase use of irrigation) and additional water usage due to the Covid-19 stay at home order. As a result, some of you may be receiving a water usage bill during this period of time (June billing) or later this year (September or December billing) that is not typical for your past billings. To understand our billing structure the following explanation of our billing system is provided.

All customers, other than some seasonal customers, receive an annual bill during the month of April which gives a set allotment of water usage for the year (Jan.1-Dec.31)

before going into a tiering billing system for water use overage fees. Please see our Rate Schedule under Customer Service in Rates & Policies on our website at [www.RyeWaterDistrict.com](http://www.RyeWaterDistrict.com). Anytime during the year, if a customer exceeds their annual allotment, the remainder of water used in that calendar year will fall into the tiering billing system. Some customers will not see another bill after April if they have not exceeded their annual allotment. For those who do exceed their allotment, a bill may come in June-July, September-October and/or December-January, depending when the allotment is actually exceeded. Our meter reading sequence is March, June, September and December. Water bills are sent out quarterly in April, June, September, and December.

You can always monitor your own water usage by viewing and tracking the gallons used on your water meter. There is a tutorial on how to read your meter under Customer Service in Meter Reading on our website at [www.RyeWaterDistrict.com](http://www.RyeWaterDistrict.com).

We suggest you read your own meter if you do want to track your water usage throughout the year. Also please view our Water Use Guidelines for conservation tips under News & Notices in Recent News on our website at [www.RyeWaterDistrict.com](http://www.RyeWaterDistrict.com) to learn how best to use water wisely.

As always, we are here to help and assist you. Please feel free to contact us with any questions regarding water use and or billing that you may have.

Thank you,  
Rye Water District Staff  
and Commissioners

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## Welcome to the Rye Historic District

Although settled in 1635, Rye had no established place of worship until 1681, when the first Congregational Meeting House was constructed. In 1734, a vote of the congregation appointed Richard Jenness and Joses Philbrick to buy or build a Parsonage for the Rye Parish. The first parsonage was

completed in 1738 at 575 Washington Road, Rye, NH. The Second Parsonage was built in 1810. It was used as a parsonage for fewer than twenty years. In 1828, the Second Parsonage was occupied by Rev. H. Porter until 1829, when it was sold to John Rand to operate as a farm. In 1918, it was sold for use as a summer house. Subsequently, in the 1940's, it was expanded and used to house servicemen and tourists until the 1960's. The Town of Rye acquired the property in 1995.

The Housing Partnership ran it for the town as an apartment house for approximately 20 years until January of 2020, when it was returned to the custody of the Rye Select Board. All tenants have vacated the property, as it has been determined to be uninhabitable. The Select Board obtained a professional appraisal of the property on December 4, 2019. The appraiser observed that the neighborhood is a mix of residential, commercial and municipal buildings. The age of these building range between 200+ years to relatively new. The building does not comply with town zoning or building codes. The appraiser determined that the current use of the building "is not legally permissible under current zoning, physically impossible, financially infeasible, and maximally productive...therefore the highest and best use of the subject property is as a vacant site for redevelopment ...[for] mixed use as permitted."

The Rye Historic District Commission obtained a grant from the Certified Local Government Program, administered by the New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources, in 2019, to engage the services of a preservation professional to prepare an Inventory of the Parsonage, to submit to the State of New Hampshire for designation as an historical property on the State Register of Historic Properties. The determination made was that, although the site itself is of historical significance, the building has been so altered as to have lost any of its historic character, and, therefore, would not qualify as a historic structure.

The Rye Select Board had entered into an exchange

# Historic District News

(continued from page 12)

agreement with Dan Philbrick where Mr. Philbrick would take ownership of the Parsonage and .4 acres at 575 Washington Road and the town would take ownership of 500 Washington Road with its 3.71 acres. After the Rye citizens voted at 68% to approve this exchange, the Trustees of the Rye Library expressed concerns about the town not preserving some of this property which abuts the Library for library use. Considerable negotiations have led to a "Conceptual Agreement in Principle" among the Select Board, Dan Philbrick and the Library Trustees. The ultimate agreement was that the town would support the tear down of the buildings at 575 Washington Road and that Dan Philbrick would convey one half of the parcel to the Library, in exchange for a portion of the value, in order that a town/library park would be created and preserved for a period of time, allowing for an open vista for the front of the Library. On the Philbrick half of the land would be constructed a historic appearing mixed-use building.

Mae Bradshaw  
Rye Historic District

## Rye Historical Society News

Through special exhibits and regular programs and museum hours, the society aims to engage people in the vital aspects of Rye's history so that current issues may be better understood and future plans will respect the natural and human history of the town.

**Special Thank You to Debbi Toohey:** In her role as President, Debbi Kurry Toohey has spent the past two years devoting much of her time, energy, and passion to the Rye Historical Society. Under her leadership the organization has:

- Designed and launched new exhibits;
- Forged a path into technological offerings that help us meet our mission in contemporary ways;
- Recruited a new generation of Board members and supporters;
- Laid the ground work for the celebration of the 1623 anniversary;
- Energized its brand;
- Secured significant contributions and grants;
- Made new friends and reconnected with previous friends;
- Begun the plans for growth in our education and outreach; and
- Continued a long-standing tradition of financial sustainability and stewardship.

Debbi, THANK YOU for your joyful and unwavering commitment to the RHS. We're extremely fortunate to have had you at the helm!

**Welcome and thank you to our newest Corporate Sponsor, Partners Bank.**

**Collection News:** Thanks to Rye resident Peter White who donated a US 48-star flag hand made by his great great grandmother, Metya Wallace Robbie. She presented it to her granddaughter, Peter's mother, Jeanne Wallace (who is now 102) on VE Day May 8, 1945 because Jeanne had served in the USN WAVES.

This is a remarkable donation because it honors the significant contributions and sacrifices women made in WWII. Thank you, Peter!

Also related to WWII, special thanks to Rye resident Gemmett for *Phil Drake: A narrative by Kendra Gemmett from remembrances of his service in World War II as told to Barbara and Paul Caswell, Rye Beach NH 2003*. Capturing the stories of our neighbors and their families is a critical part of our mission.

**Annual Meeting and Election:** The Annual Meeting of the Members of the Rye Historical Society was held on Sunday, August 16 at 3 p.m. via Zoom, and the election of Board Members was held via email response throughout the week following.

*The 2020-2021 Board:*

Alex Herlihy, Museum Director  
Janet Clarkson Davis, President  
Ginna Macdonald, Vice President  
Steve Cash, Treasurer  
Kelly Lewis, Secretary  
Lewis Karabatsos  
Linda Lemelin  
Becky Marden  
James Tegeger  
Debbi Toohey

**Enjoy The Neighborhood with the RHS Walking Tour:** We're all out walking more! Why not take a new route and learn about some historic homes and locations in our town? We have a walking tour on the **Izi Travel** app (available at the App Store.) Download the app and you can search for Rye Beach Block. Follow the instructions for a fantastic guided walking (not driving!) tour of the Rye Beach Precinct.

**FACEBOOK LIVE – Reading from Rye on The Rocks: Every Sunday Evening at 5:00 p.m.!**

**RHS Quilt Project:** We have a quilt that was sewn in 1872, featuring squares listing the names of Rye families, and we need your help learning about them. Check out our website for more information about how you can look for your family's name, or help us identify others. If you want to see the quilt in person, call our main number and set up a time to visit the museum.

**Interested in History? Join us as a program volunteer:** We are working on an Old House Documentation Project and would love to have your assistance. Here are the tasks we need help with:

- Finding the numbered road addresses for many of the houses for which we have old photos
- Organizing and filing the photos and information on houses in the collection
- Crafting and distributing a letter to all old homeowners to seek info on their house

If you are interested in helping, please send an email to [info@ryehistoricalociety.org](mailto:info@ryehistoricalociety.org).

## Historical Society News

### Thank you to our Members!

A heartfelt thanks to our members, whose generosity has provide more than \$3,000 so far in this year's membership drive. We're so grateful for your support and look forward to seeing you soon.

**Check out our new website and follow us on social media.** We have updated our website so that you can find out about programs and events more easily.

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

Click on our YouTube channel to view virtual tours, readings, insights, and more:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCQ3Z4oZ6BY19dXCTGblMjow>.

Follow us on Facebook (Rye Historical Society – NH) and Instagram (@ryenhistoricalociety).

The Rye Town Museum houses a vast collection of regional and cultural information and items and features curated seasonal exhibits. Open by appointment. Write to [info@ryenhistoricalociety.org](mailto:info@ryenhistoricalociety.org) or call (603) 997-6742 for an appointment.

## Mosquito Control Commission Update

We would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to Tom Aspinwall for his years of dedicated service to the Rye Mosquito Control Commission. As an entomologist and pest control expert, he made an invaluable contribution. Tom retired from the commission in June of this year. We wish him well in his future endeavors.

No West Nile Virus (WNV) or Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE) has been detected in Rye or New Hampshire as of mid-August. Two New Hampshire residents have been diagnosed with Jamestown Canyon Virus (JCV) this season. JCV mainly circulates between deer and a variety of mosquito species, but can also spread to humans.

It's a virus infection similar to WNV and EEE. While still considered rare, JCV human cases have increased in the last several years. New Hampshire has seen 12 human JCV infections since 2013.

In Massachusetts, two humans and 65 mosquito samples have tested positive for EEE while one human and 48 mosquito samples have tested positive for WNV. August is the month EEE and or WNV disease usually appear in New Hampshire. You can find up to date test results and the risk map at <https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/dphs/cdcs/arboviral/results.htm>.

Trapping of adult mosquitoes will continue until mid-October when the State Lab in Concord stops disease testing. Treatment of mosquito larvae is ongoing in salt marshes and stagnant freshwater sites such as catch basins, swamps, ditches and woodland pools. During a drought, mosquitoes can find water where it may collect from washing cars, irrigation systems or watering gardens. Female mosquito will lay eggs in something as small as a bottle cap.

Mosquitoes will be a disease risk until there are two hard frosts. Until then, everyone can reduce the risk of mosquito bites by;

- Eliminate potential mosquito breeding sites by turning over containers and dumping out standing water once a week
- Change bird bath water every few days
- Use EPA registered insect repellent
- Cover up by wearing long pants, long sleeves and socks
- Keep mosquitoes outside your home by ensuring your screens are free of holes or use air conditioning
- See additional information at <https://www.cdc.gov/features/stopmosquitoes/>

Everyone in New Hampshire is at risk for tick borne disease. Since in recent years, New Hampshire has had some of the highest incidences of Lyme disease in the US, I'm pleased to report Rye has recently added tick prevention for our citizens.

Lyme disease is caused by a bacteria carried by the Blacklegged tick. Ticks also can spread anaplasmosis, babesiosis, and Powassan virus. Keep yourself safe by knowing where to expect ticks. Ticks live in moist and humid environments, particularly in or near wooded or grassy areas. While you can pick up ticks on trails far from residential areas, studies show most people pick up ticks closer to home. You are more likely to find ticks in tall grass and near the woods edge. So, be aware while you are engaged in common backyard activities like gardening, yard work, and backyard recreation.

The CDC has discovered and developed a new insect repellent shown to repel and kill ticks and mosquitoes. Nookatone, found in Alaska yellow cedar trees and grapefruit skin, has been approved by the EPA and we may see the new active ingredient in products in 2022. Until then, continue to use a currently EPA approved repellent for ticks and mosquitoes. You can find the best repellent for you at <https://www.epa.gov/insect-repellents/find-repellent-right-you>.

Timothy E. Sanborn,  
Chairman, Rye Mosquito  
Control Commission



**FOR UP TO DATE  
PROGRAM  
INFORMATION CONTACT  
964-6281 OR VISIT  
WWW.TOWN.RYE.NH.US**

# 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 2020

		<b>1</b> 3:00 pm Energy Committee	<b>2</b> 5:30 pm Supervisors of the Checklist 7:00 pm Zoning Board of Adjustment	<b>3</b> 3:30 p.m. Heritage Commission 6:00 p.m. Budget Committee	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> Labor Day Town Offices Closed	<b>8</b> 8:00 am Sewer Commission	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> 5:00 p.m. CIP Committee 7:00 pm Conservation Commission	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 6:30 pm Board of Selectmen	<b>15</b> 5:00 pm Mosquito Control 6:00 pm Planning Board	<b>16</b> 9:00 am Rye Water District Work Session 60 Sagamore Road	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> First Day of Autumn	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 5:00 p.m. CIP Committee	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 6:30 pm Board of Selectmen	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>			

## October 2020

				<b>1</b> 6:30 p.m. Heritage Commission	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> 6:00 pm Recreation Commission	<b>6</b> 6:30pm Energy Committee	<b>7</b> 7:00 pm Zoning Board of Adjustment	<b>8</b> 7:00 pm Conservation Commission	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> Columbus Day Town Offices Closed	<b>13</b> 8:00 am Sewer Commission 6:30 pm Board of Selectmen 6:00 pm Planning Board	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 5:00 pm Mosquito Control	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> 6:30 pm Board of Selectmen	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>

## November 2020

<b>1</b> Daylight Savings Time Ends	<b>2</b> 6:00 pm Recreation Commission	<b>3</b> 6:30pm Energy Committee	<b>4</b> 9:00 am Rye Water District 60 Sagamore Road 7:00 pm Zoning Board of Adjustment	<b>5</b> 6:30 p.m. Heritage Commission	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> 6:30 pm Board of Selectmen Veterans Day Town Offices Closed	<b>10</b> 8:00 am Sewer Commission 6:00 pm Planning Board	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 7:00 pm Conservation Commission	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 5:00 pm Mosquito Control	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> 6:30 pm Board of Selectmen	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> Thanksgiving Town Offices Closed	<b>27</b> Town Offices Closed	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b>	<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, 7 pm at the Library

# VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Rye Historic District Commission	1 Member Vacancy & 2 Alternate Vacancies
Planning Board	2 Alternate Vacancies
Rye Heritage Commission	1 Member Vacancy & 1 Alternate Vacancy
Rye Recycling Education Committee	1 Member Vacancy
CIP Committee	1 Member Vacancy
Energy Committee	2 Member Vacancies
Budget Committee	1 Member Vacancy

Please call the Selectmen's Office at 964-5523 or  
email [jireland2@town.rye.nh.us](mailto:jireland2@town.rye.nh.us) for more information

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RYE, NH 03870

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