

The Arrow

October 2009
Newsletter

Volume 19
Issue 3

Excise Tax Proposal would Reduce Town's Revenues Almost \$280,000 as Estimated by MMA

Maine Municipal Association estimates that 68% of all registered vehicles in Arundel would see no benefit to the reduction in excise tax being proposed under citizen's initiative Question #2 on this November's ballot because there is no reduction in Excise Tax for vehicles older than five years. This proposed reduction in Excise Tax benefits only those with newer vehicles and would require an increase in the Town's mil rate of 0.8 of a mil (\$160/yr on a \$200,000 house) to maintain the same level of service our roads are currently receiving.

The Board of Selectmen has recently adopted resolutions opposing both the citizen's initiative on Excise tax and the initiative on Tabor II. The resolutions and a Sample Ballot are available on the Town's web site at www.arundelmaine.org. There have been many news articles recently extolling the virtues and shortcomings of these two initiatives and the Board urges the citizens of Arundel to learn about these issues so they cast an informed vote. Two source of information that can provide you with both the pros and



cons on the two issues may be found at the following website address: **PRO:** <http://www.mainepolicy.org>
CON: <http://www.memun.org> (Then click on "Citizen Initiatives" in the top left hand column.)

State Referendum Election Tuesday, November 3, 2009 Arundel Fire Station 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

New Voters: ID is required such as a Maine Driver's license or ID card as well as **proof of RESIDENCY**, such as a utility bill, bank statement, or rent receipt is also required at time of registration. To avoid delays, you may register any time at the Town Office.

Absentee Ballots are always available 30 days prior to any election.



To see the ballot questions and/or legislation see: **State Citizen's Guide to this Referendum Election:** www.maine.gov/sos/cec/elec/upcoming.html

Arundel YCSO Contract Deputy

By Matt Nadeau, YCSO, Arundel Contract Deputy

It has certainly been an interesting past couple of months. I am happy to advise that crime in Arundel remains low compared to our neighboring towns. I have my doubts that this trend will continue given the recent decision by the York County Commissioners to eliminate 24 positions within county government, seven of which were patrol deputies.

These deputies were responsible for covering Arundel outside my contracted 40 hours per week schedule. I have been asked by many citizens how these cuts will impact our community. My answer is very simple, service will be affected. The cuts have reduced the amount of road deputies available to respond to calls for service. This has forced us to triage the most important calls and place the least important one on the back burner. Response time will be the most notable change. When your Contract Deputy is not working, remaining police units are responsible for covering fourteen other towns in York County (This includes State Police, which is dealing with its own budgetary restraints at the State level).

The following is a list of suggestions that might assist in reducing your frustration of a prolonged wait time.

- ◆ Prevention is the best form of protection. Lock your vehicles, homes, and sheds.
- ◆ Know your surroundings. We're fortunate enough to live in a small community where most people know who their neighbors are. If something is out of place, or just not right

contact the police as soon as possible. Don't wait until something happens.

- ◆ Utilize your Contract Deputy. My schedule consists of day and evening hours. If you would like to register a **NON EMERGENCY** complaint, feel free to leave me a message on my voice mail. My voice mail is checked once a shift, and your call will be returned. Please be advised it may take up to three days for your call to be returned, pending my scheduled days off. (Please note a non emergency call would be an incident that is not life threatening, low value of vandalism with no suspects, or anything that does not require an immediate response). **207-985-8008**

Communication between the community and its police play a key role in reducing crime rate and improving our overall quality of life. In an effort to improve communication we have created an "**Arundel Public Safety Facebook Page**". This page will provide its members the ability to review monthly Arundel calls for service, current issues relating to public safety in our town, and an added layer of communication between you and me. Please feel free to become a member, and leave a comment. You can query the page by logging onto facebook.com. Under the "find friends" section enter the **email address** deputysheriff@roadrunner.com.



In closing, if you're planning an extended vacation throughout the winter and your residence will be vacant please feel free to let us know. We have compiled a list of addresses that will be checked throughout the winter months.



School Board News

by Leia Lowery, Jack Reetz and Pamela Richard-Wuerthner



We are now all part of RSU21; including Arundel's K-5 students at ML Day, all Arundel middle school students tuitioned to TAMS and all high school students via school choice. We are now integrated as one of the top performing school districts in Maine. One of the greatest upcoming challenges will be to remain one of the top performing Districts in spite of extended national and Maine economic woes.

In September the State announced continuing revenue shortfalls in this current budget year. The Department of Education (DOE) expends about 40% of the Maine budget. Previously approved DOE funds committed back to Districts have already been built into approved local school budgets throughout the State. As a result of the latest shortfall estimate, however, DOE reduced their commitment by a state-wide curtailment of \$27 million! What does that mean to us locally? RSU21 can now expect at least a \$1 million reduction in State aid – in this fiscal year. When will it begin to hit us? Probably not until January, 2010, after the legislature reconvenes, and so late in the school year that there will be little time to readjust.

Nevertheless, the RSU Finance Committee and the RSU21 Administration are developing contingency plans to deal with these issues. Our goal, of course, is to minimize the impact on the direct educational offerings to our children in the three towns.

And for even less optimistic news, the DOE has indicated similar size shortfalls will likely follow in the next (2010-2011) fiscal year. More and more, education funding is being pushed back to the local level by the State. However, with the continuing strong community commitment, the children of Arundel, Kennebunk, and Kennebunkport can expect to be well prepared to meet the future despite the legislative and State bureaucratic changes.

Facilities

The role of the Facilities Committee is to review the needs for space and develop long range plans for facilities, grounds, transportation and capital needs. Recommendations are then presented to the full School Board. Recently, Federal stimulus funds became available for specific construction, maintenance and related planning. As a result, the School Board approved funding from this stimulus money for development of a *long range* plan for the RSU. A comprehensive facilities study will identify building construction and maintenance needs, space utilization and prioritized Capital requirements. The study will begin shortly and is expected to take about 6 months. Community input will be an important component of the study – you are encouraged to watch for announcements of those opportunities.

Throughout this fall, ML Day will continue to be the focus of several building and landscaping improvements. The exterior soffits are in much need of replacement, and the district has com-

mitted federal stimulus funds to complete this project. Upgrades to the water delivery system, as well as removal of the underground oil tank, will provide our students with a safer facility. New mats and supplemental/additional wood chips have been placed throughout the playground area, and the well-worn picnic deck will soon be replaced with a new concrete pad and all new tables.

Of even greater importance, a relocated afternoon parent-pickup area for children has been initiated. This is intended to improve the children's safety by separating moving automobiles from busses in the congested front driveway of the school. Ongoing enhancements to this rerouting process can be expected before winter sets in. Please be sure you follow the new parent-pickup guidelines.

In the School...

- ◆ ¿ Habla español ? K- 2nd grade students are learning Spanish twice a week!
- ◆ Gifted and Talented program is being implemented at ML Day with a Spring launch.
- ◆ **Education Foundation** of the Kennebunks and Arundel...a great group which has historically raised money in the past to support and implement educational programs within the District is continuing its work District wide. Great initiatives such as the foreign language program, teacher training, Exchange City Project and the iMovie Project have all been funded by this non-profit group. For more information go to the website: www.efkennebunks.org.
- ◆ 10/22/09 7 – 9 pm **IB Informational Night @ Kennebunk High School** (Chorus Room) An informational meeting open to all incoming/current high school students and parents interested in learning more about the International Baccalaureate Program offered at KHS
- ◆ 11/2/09 5:30-6:45pm *Superintendent Rap Session* - Sea Road School. If you missed the previous two meetings here is another opportunity to sit informally with your superintendent Andrew Dolloff. It is a great chance to ask questions and share ideas.
- ◆ **Influenza Update**
Seasonal influenza vaccinations will be offered at no charge to students within the District. These vaccinations are offered in conjunction with the Maine Department of Education (DOE) and the Maine Centers for Disease Control (CDC). You may read more about these vaccinations at the DOE website <http://www.maine.gov/education/h1n1/index.html>) and the CDC website (<http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/boh/maineflu/>) H1N1 vaccinations will also be offered at no charge as soon as readily available. Due to supply issues the vaccination dates have been postponed temporarily. Notification will be sent home to parents/guardians with dates for new vaccination clinics.



Arundel Welcomes New Town Planner



Tad Redway,
Town Planner

In the month since I began serving as your new Town Planner, I have had an opportunity to meet many of the fine citizens of Arundel and explore many of the community's neighborhoods and back country areas. There is much I have yet to learn, and not much time to learn it. The Town Manager has charged me with accomplishing a number of economic and community development initiatives designed to improve the business climate in Arundel, increase non-residential tax revenues, and explore ways to leverage town dollars with grant funds. At the same time the Planning Board also is expecting this office to implement many of the recommendations in the approved Comprehensive Plan update, streamline the project approval process, and confront the problem of how to preserve rural character in the face of impending growth pressure. Thus in the next several months, we will be tackling the following projects:

- ◆ Formulation of strategies to attract greater business development in the B1 , CCN, CCS, and HC districts;
- ◆ Organization of a *Business Sign Committee* that will recommend ways to improve the sign ordinance so that it will better benefit both the business sector and the community ;
- ◆ Amending the Town Shoreland Zoning ordinance in compliance with Maine DEP requirements;
- ◆ Utilizing citizen photos to identify *rural character* and sacred places in Arundel and brainstorming ways to conserve these resource.

In order to meet this ambitious schedule, I will need input and assistance from all of the Town residents, business people, and property owners. Please check the Town website (arundelmaine.org) for updates on Planning Department activities and opportunities you will have to participate in these efforts. If you have any questions, comments, or suggestions, please contact me at (207) 985-4201 or by email at: townplanner@roadrunner.com.



HOLIDAY PROGRAMS OFFERED FOR ARUNDEL RESIDENTS

Arundel offers four programs to its residents each year during the holiday seasons. If you or someone you know may benefit from one or more of these programs, please do not hesitate to give me a call at 985-4201 or stop by the Town Office to see me, Wendy Lank.

Thanksgiving Baskets – If you are financially strapped, it's hard to prepare for something as special as Thanksgiving. We are here to help families and seniors in our town who would otherwise not be able to afford to have the traditional Thanksgiving Dinner. If you would like to be placed on my list to receive a Thanksgiving Basket please give me a call no later than **November 12th**.



Project Pilgrim – This is an annual Thanksgiving dinner to ensure that all members of our community will enjoy a Thanksgiving dinner in the company of others. The volunteer staff prepares and serves a festive dinner, delivers dinners to the homes of community members and recipients of Meals on Wheels and also transports guests to the dinner held at St. Martha's Parish Hall on Thanksgiving Day. We encourage senior citizens and single household residents to utilize this program. In addition to a wonderful meal you will enjoy being in the company of others for the holiday as well. If you are interested in this program please give me a call in November and I can give you the time of the event.

Secret Santa – Secret Santa provides gifts to children of families in need. If you would like an application, please call or stop by my office to request one. **All applications will need to be returned to me no later than November 10th** so that the tags will be ready to be placed on our Christmas Tree. On Monday, November 23rd the Town will have its tree set up in the lobby of the Town Hall with the tags bearing a "most wanted" or "needed" gift for a child. Anyone wishing to take a tag from the tree would need to purchase that item and **return it back to the Town Hall no later than December 9th**. After this date Secret Santa volunteers will go out and purchase the items that have not been received so they can be boxed and distributed to the families the week before Christmas.



Elder Elves – This is a wonderful program that provides gifts to the elderly residents who live alone and that do not have family around to provide them with Christmas Gifts. If you know of someone that falls into this category, please give me a call with the name and address of that resident and we will be sure to make their Christmas as special as we can.



Boy Scout Troop 330 Arundel by Phil Taschereau, Scout Master



Hello again! It seems like we just spoke about going to summer camp and here it is fall already. We happen to pick the right week to go to summer camp once again this year, since we only had three days of summer plus lots of rainy weather. We enjoyed our stay at Camp Bell and had an opportunity to team up with Troop 6 from Nashua, New Hampshire, which made our stay even more interesting. We are very proud of our first year scouts who managed to join right in and feel at home with us without the usual homesickness they experience while at camp. With that being said, our Cub master Jay Ferrill, has informed us that we can expect the largest Webelo Den Crossover into the troop next spring. Wow, next year's week of summer camp should prove to be very interesting!!! We would like to thank Mr. Jeff Hill who served as our third leader in camp; Jeff was a great addition and lots of fun at the obstacle course at Challenge Valley. This course is like Boot Camp, but has water and mud thrown in for fun.

We would like to "Thank", Mrs. Eleanor Garnett for her recent gift to our troop, a framed 8" by 10" photo of Troop 330 taken in 1966 by her late husband and scoutmaster of Troop 330 back then. This photo is in excellent condition and there are other snap shots of scouts back then we know in our town today. We are very pleased to have this in our possession and will add it to our Hall of Fame. We would like to "Thank", Mrs. Mary C. Cain and her family for their kindness and support during these difficult times. Our scouts appreciate all acts of kindness. We would like to "Thank", the Myrtle Knights of Pythias #19 and Mr. Michael Palmer who helped three of our scouts attend a week of summer camp again this year. We can't forget to say "Thank you", to all of you for your support and all of your returnable bottles and cans that you turn in at MM&J Garage for our program.

Our troop meeting is held every Wednesday night from 6:45 to 8:30 pm at 204 Maplewood Drive, if you or any young man might want to discover the values of Scouting. Please call Phil at 282-2851.

Arundel Historical Society News

The Arundel Historical Society is hosting two events, a **Baked Beans & Pasta Supper** on Saturday **October 24th** from 4:30-6:00pm at the Mildred L. Day School. There will be a door prize. Tickets: \$6.00 adults, Seniors/students \$4.50, children under 5 are free. Arundel Historical Society members get a \$1.00 discount.

October 25th from 1-3 pm, AHS will be conducting a **Bus Tour** of 3 sections of Arundel that have very unique historical families. The tour will leave Mildred L. Day School at 1 pm and travel to our future home, the Talbot House on Old Post Road. From there we will proceed to the Downing Road and then to Curtis/Irving Road. At each location your tour guide, Dana Peck, will discuss the history of each of the families from the granting of the land by the King of England to the present. The bus will return to Mildred L. Day School at 3pm for a social hour and discussion. Donation of \$15.00 per person, please contact Dana Peck at 286-4928 to reserve a seat.



Melanie Mitchell
Arundel Historical Society, President

Winter Road Reminders!



It's hard to believe the forecast is already predicting snow in some Maine areas! Just a few reminders to help make our roads safer!

NO PARKING ON ROADWAY

The Town has a "No Parking" ordinance that applies during a snow storm or any snow removal emergency declared by the Town's Road Foreman.

Any vehicle or equipment parked on a public way in Arundel during a snow storm or snow emergency is subject to towing. Any towing or storage expenses shall be paid by the owner of the item towed.

SNOW & SLUSH DEPOSITED ON ROADWAYS

Depositing snow or slush in a public way is against State law, (see 29-A MRSA §2396).

Pushing snow from your driveway onto the road/street, which is a public way, is not allowed.

The York County Sheriff's Department will be contacted for enforcement of any repeat violations.



Upcoming Fall & Winter Programs from the Arundel Rec Dept

by Jenn Dumas, Rec Director

PLEASE PAY SPECIAL ATTENTION TO REGISTRATION DEADLINES FOR ALL PROGRAMS.

Effective immediately, late registrations will not be accepted for any programs, regardless of the reason. We encourage everyone to sign up well in advance of registration deadlines so that you don't miss out!



Adult ZUMBA! Sessions take place each month on Tuesday evenings from 5:30-6:30pm at the ML Day School. Next session will begin on November 3, and run through November 24, 2009. **Fee:** \$25. **Registration Deadline: Friday, October 30, 2009.** *Non-residents are welcome to sign up for an additional fee of \$5, but will be bumped if the program is full and there are Arundel residents who want to sign up before the deadline. Minimum class size: 7. Maximum class size: 25.*

Youth "TRAVEL" Basketball program for 4th-6th graders. Practices and home games are held at the ML Day gym, away games in York County schools. Commitment is no more than 3 times per week. Practices will begin the week of November 9 (exact times for boys and girls teams TBA). **Registration deadline: Friday, November 6, 2009.** **Fee:** \$45.

Winter Cheering program for Grades K-5 Practices will begin the week of November 9, 2009. **Registration deadline: Friday, November 6, 2009.** **Fee:** \$30. "Junior coaches" are needed to teach cheers, chants and a half-time dance routine. **THIS IS A GREAT VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS.** An Adult/Parent volunteer is needed to supervise the program (no cheering experience necessary).



Before & After School Program runs 7:00-8:30am, and 3:00-5:30pm on school days. \$4 per morning, \$10 per afternoon. **Registration & payment deadline is Thursday of the week before attendance.**

Letters to Santa For preschool through school-age children. We have been in contact with the North Pole and have been approved to be a host site to collect letters to Santa from children who live in Arundel this Christ-

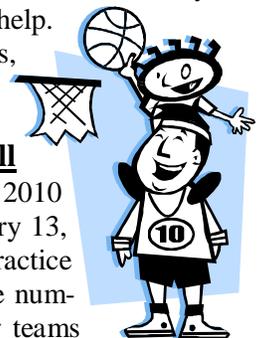


mas season! Santa and his elves will respond to each letter. **2009 letter collections dates are November 30-December 11, 2009.**

Community Christmas Tree Lighting: Santa will be on hand, as well as ML Day students who will entertain with Christmas carols! There will be horse-drawn wagon rides and face-painting too! Please come out to enjoy a cup of hot chocolate and to visit with your neighbors on **Friday evening, December 4, 2009.** Start time will be announced on our website as the time gets closer.



Basketball Babes A preschool basketball program for ages 3-5 designed to offer some physical activity during the long winter months and some age-appropriate fun with basketball. The 2010 session will run on Saturdays from 1:00-1:30 pm from January 9 through February 13. **Fee** is \$20 per participant, and includes a t-shirt. **Registration Deadline: Wednesday, January 6, 2010.** **VOLUNTEER COACHES ARE NEEDED.** Please indicate on your child's registration form if you can help. Sign up before the holiday chaos hits, to avoid missing the deadline.



Pee-wee Clinic-style Basketball program for K-3rd graders! 2010 program dates are January 9 - February 13, 2010 on Saturday afternoons (exact practice times will be determined based on the number of children who sign up and how teams are split). **Fee:** \$25, includes a T-shirt. **Registration Deadline: Wednesday, January 6, 2010.** Volunteer coaches are needed. Team sponsorships are available for \$50 per team. Please indicate on your child's registration form if you'd like to help. Sign up before the holiday chaos hits to avoid missing the registration deadline.

Discount Passes to Portland Pirates Hockey Games



Purchase vouchers at town hall and redeem at the Cumberland County Civic Center Box Office for tickets to the game of your choice. Discount Main Deck Flex Voucher prices are \$10 for adults (regular box office price: \$15), and \$9 for youth/senior (regular box office price: \$10).



ON LINE RESOURCES

Auto/Trailer Re-registrations *Rapid Renewal*
Rapid Renewal:
www.informe.org/bmv/rapid-renewal/

Hunting & Fishing Licenses:
www5.informe.org/cgi-bin/online/moses2/index.pl



Boat renewals:
www5.informe.org/online/boat/

ATV/Snowmobile renewals:
www10.informe.org/ifw/atv-snow/

Dog Licenses:



The Arundel Fire Station will be OPEN for Trick or Treating on Halloween!



Come meet your volunteers and enjoy a little treat for the kids!

State Referendum Election

Tuesday, November 3, 2009

Arundel Fire Station
8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

See Page 1 for more information



Baked Beans & Pasta Supper

Saturday, October 24

4:30 p.m. to 6 pm

ML Day Gym

To Benefit the

Arundel Historical Society



Reminder: 2010 Dog License



All Dogs 6 months of age or older are required to be licensed by State Law.

\$6.00 for Spayed or Neutered Dogs
\$11.00 for Dogs

capable of producing young.
A CURRENT Rabies Certificate is REQUIRED.

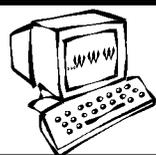
Licenses are due by January 31, 2010 or a \$15.00 late fee per dog will apply.

Town of Arundel
468 Limerick Rd
Arundel, ME 04046



PRST STD
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit No. 8
Kennebunkport, ME 04046

ARUNDEL RESIDENT
ARUNDEL, ME 04046



Visit the Town's WEBSITE at www.arundelmaine.org
State of Maine Online services at <http://www.state.me.us/>