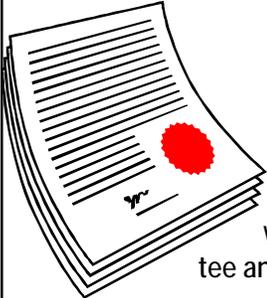




The Arrow

September 2012
Newsletter

The Arrow
Volume 22 Issue 3



RSU 21 Withdrawal Agreement

Public Hearing Notice

Todd Shea, Town Manager

On Wednesday, September 19, 2012 at 7 PM in the ML Day School Gymnasium there will be a public hearing on the RSU Withdrawal Agreement that the Arundel Withdrawal Committee and representatives of the RSU #21 School Board have been working on since May.

This public hearing will focus on comments and input on the Withdrawal Agreement that was conditionally approved by the State Commissioner of Education on August 28th. A copy of the Withdrawal Agreement can be found on the Arundel website, www.arundelmaine.org by clicking on the link Withdrawal Agreement on the home page, or by stopping in at Town Hall and requesting a copy. Please take the time to review this document prior to the public hearing. Both groups, the Arundel Withdrawal Committee members and the RSU 21 Withdrawal Committee members, have worked very hard over the last several months in preparing this document.

Following the public hearing, the final document will be presented to the Commissioner of Education. He will set the date for Arundel to vote on the Withdrawal Question. The anticipated date of that referendum question is November 6, 2012 to coincide with the Presidential Elections.

The Selectmen have contracted with Planning Decisions Inc. to project the financial impacts of a withdrawal. The upcoming public hearing on September 19 will not include this information; this public hearing will ONLY be to discuss the Withdrawal Agreement itself. Once the Town has received notification of the date of the vote on withdrawal, the Selectmen will schedule and hold a public hearing to discuss the question that will go on the ballot. Charles Lawton of Planning Decisions, Inc. will be presenting his findings at that public hearing, which is anticipated to be in early October. When the information is available, the Withdrawal Committee will meet with Planning Decisions, in a publicly advertised meeting, for a preliminary review of the study's findings. All of this information will be posted on the Town website as it becomes available. We hope to send out a mailing with this information sometime in early October to help voters make an informed decision at the polls.

Please check the Town of Arundel website regularly for additional meeting and public hearing dates, as they are all contingent upon the final approval of the Withdrawal Agreement from the Commissioner of Education. Once the Withdrawal Committee and the Selectmen are made aware of the date for the final public hearing, it will be posted in the typical locations around town.

Once again, the public hearing to be held in October is when Planning Decisions will present their findings. All residents are encouraged to attend all meetings and hearings pertaining to this matter in order to make an informed decision at the polls.

School is Back in Session!

Please remember to be on the look out for School Buses with FLASHING LIGHTS as they pick up and drop off students along Arundel's roads in the mornings and afternoons.

Also, please remember the reduced speed zone in front of the Mildred L. Day School on the Limerick Road. When the lights are flashing in this SCHOOL ZONE during the hours of 8:15 am to 8:45 am and again from 2:45 pm to 3:15 pm the SPEED LIMIT is 15 mph.





Holiday Programs for Arundel Residents

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

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 a 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 9th**.



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. 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 – The Secret Santa program 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 be available around **October 12th and need to be returned to me no later than November 5th**



so that the tags will be ready to be placed on our Christmas Tree. On Monday, November 19th 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 7th. 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.

Wendy Lank, Social Services & General Assistance Director

Maine Residents Property Tax and Rent "Circuit Breaker" Refund

Summary of the Program Beginning August 1, 2012 for Refunds of Property Tax Assessed and Rent Paid during 2011. (Note: The program to apply for refunds of property tax assessed and/or rent paid during 2010 ended May 31, 2012.)

Nearly 200,000 Maine households qualify for a partial refund of property tax assessed and/or rent they paid in 2011. The maximum refund available is \$1,600.

You may qualify for a refund if:

- You do not have a spouse or dependent(s) and your 2011 household income was \$64,950 or less; or
- You do have a spouse or dependent(s) and your 2011 household income was \$86,600 or less

AND

- Your 2011 property tax was more than 4% of your 2011 household income; or
- The rent you paid in 2011 was more than 20% of your 2011 household income.

NOTE: Seniors do not need to meet this requirement when their household income is below \$14,700 for those living alone or below \$18,200 for those living with a spouse or dependent. See the application booklet for more information on who qualifies for the senior portion of the program.

Forms are available online or at the Arundel Town Hall FOR HELP with the PROPERTY TAX and RENT REFUND PROGRAM Contact Wendy Lank or Beth Newcombe at 985-4201

Need Help Paying for Heat or Utility Bills?

Help is available to York County residents through **LIHEAP 2012/2013** (Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program)



Homeowners or Renters who are at or below these income guidelines may be eligible for LIHEAP assistance.

Household Size	3 Month Income	12 Month Income
1	\$4,198	\$16,755
2	\$5,674	\$22,695
3	\$7,159	\$28,635
4	\$8,644	\$34,575

Homeowners or Renters who are at or below these income guidelines and have a household member over age 60 or under age 2 may be eligible for LIHEAP assistance.

Household Size	3 Month Income	12 Month Income
1	\$4,747	\$18,989
2	\$6,430	\$25,721
3	\$8,113	\$32,453
4	\$9,796	\$39,185

You can schedule your fuel-assistance appointment online at www.yccac.org or by calling 1-800-965-5762 or 207-324-5762 (Local)



Arundel Public Works

Roger A. Taschereau, Public Works Director

Fall is fast approaching and Public Works has had a very productive summer maintenance season. With an early spring we started with replacing the aging memorial for the Donald Gilliam Ball Field. The new memorial had many benefactors for its concept, purchase and installation which included many local businesses.

Ten miles of road shoulders were regraded and all litter removed. A major road base repair on Irving Road and all drainage issues were done prior to reclaiming, paving and new shoulders put on. The River Road from Old Post Road to the railroad tracks had drainage work done and then was paved. The Limerick Road also had the same process done from the Maine Turnpike to the Brimstone Road. We have also started to prepare the Mountain Road, Sinnott Road and So. Skillings Road for paving next year. Crack sealing will again be done as a joint effort between Kennebunk Public Works and Arundel Public Works on several roads in both towns.



Winter preparations will include putting up winter sand and salt piles and readying all vehicles for the upcoming winter season.

Online Tax Payments Available by Todd Shea



Taxpayers now have another option when it comes to paying Real Estate and Personal Property tax payments. If you visit the Town of Arundel website at www.arundelmaine.org you will find a link to the ONLINE PAYMENT CENTER which offers taxpayers the ability to pay with a check, credit card or debit card. There are additional fees associated with this service so please click on the FEE SCHEDULE link on the home page and understand what you are paying prior to choosing a payment option. These fees will be assessed to the user above and beyond the payment amount that is selected for payment of taxes, and will be clearly marked on the invoice prior to checkout. Please keep in mind that payments are applied to the oldest outstanding taxes due to the Town, regardless of the tax period that is chosen. This option is not available to taxpayers who have received notice of impending foreclosure, in these situations you must come in to town hall to make payments. Payments in person at Town Hall will still be limited to cash or checks at this time.

Speed Limit Reminder By Todd Shea



If you are a regular traveler on the roads of Arundel, please consider this a formal written warning. The Town Hall has received many complaints pertaining to vehicles driving at unacceptable speeds on many of the roads in town. In the interest of safety of those travelling, walking and cycling in Arundel, the Sheriff's Department has been instructed to increase patrols in order to bring the speeds in Arundel in line with the posted speed limits.

Over the past few months, our Contract Deputy has had **SEVERAL** instances of drivers travelling in excess of 15 MPH over the posted speed limit. Please understand that the Contract Deputy will continue to be closely monitoring the speed of drivers on Arundel roads in the interest of safety. We ask that you PLEASE do your part to make the roads of Arundel a safer place to travel. **WATCH YOUR SPEED!**

Arundel Historical Society Fall Events Schedule by Jake Hawkins, AHS President

This fall the Arundel Historical Society will be very busy with community events. As usual, we look forward to seeing many of our friends and neighbors at these events and hope for your continued support and encouragement.

The people at Weir's Motors have graciously offered the AHS space to hold a yard sale on September 29th from 9am to 2pm. Yard sale items are numerous and varied, including books, china, glassware, collectibles, some old furniture, and more. The Boy Scouts will be there to clean out and vacuum car interiors after the cars get a wash from the 8th grade students who are doing a carwash/bake sale fundraiser at Arundel Ford. As you can see, this is truly an Arundel community event, so come one, come all!



The following weekend, on Saturday, October 6, the AHS will hold our annual Craft Fair. We will be at the M.L. Day School gym from 8:30am to 3pm and will have a bake sale, raffles, and refreshments along with the crafts including jewelry, hand knit and crocheted items, wood crafts, and much more. There are still a few spaces left, so if you are a crafter, why not join us? Contact Joanne [985-3087] or Suzanne [282-3541].

October 27th is our fall Baked Beans and Pasta Supper at M.L. Day School from 4:30 to 6pm. Tickets are \$7 and children under 5 years old eat for free. AHS members qualify for a discount. The menu includes 2 kinds of AHS "special" baked beans, macaroni & cheese, hot dogs, coleslaw, corn bread, rolls, and homemade desserts.



On Election Day, November 6th, the AHS will have a Bake Sale and Refreshments available at the fire station. We will have information about our North Chapel Common project, as well as other historical information about Arundel on display. If you have considered becoming a member of the AHS, this is an ideal time to find out more about us and pick up a membership form!



As always, we welcome your stories, photographs, artifacts, and information about Arundel's past. Please check out our website, www.arundelhistoricalsociety.org, to find out more about our organization, our events, and Arundel's history. We are very grateful for the time, expertise, and donations many of you have contributed in the past months. Our regular meeting is the first Thursday of each month at M.L Day School. Please call 283-9699 for more information.



**Public Hearing on
RSU 21
Withdrawal Agreement
Wednesday, Sept. 19th
at 7 pm
Mildred L. Day School Gym**

The hearing will be open to comments and questions on the Withdrawal Agreement document.

Copies of the Withdrawal Agreement are available at the Town Office or Online at www.arundelmaine.org on the main page.



Read Page 1 for more information.

Zoning Rewrite Workshops

The Arundel Planning Board is currently overhauling the Land Use Ordinance from top to bottom in an effort to make the ordinance easier to understand and to respond to the changing economic and development climate in the community.



In order to hit the June 2013 target date, the Planning Board will be holding workshops on the 1st and 4th Thursdays of each month until June.

Currently the Board is formulating new business zones in the Portland Road corridor. Business owners, residents, property owners are all welcome and encouraged to participate at these workshops. For more information please contact Tad Redway at (207) 985-4201.



Reminder for the Presidential Election - November 6th

REGISTERING TO VOTE: If you are a **new Maine resident** or will be **18 years of age by November 6th**, you must complete a voter registration card and provide proof of ID and residency in order to vote in Arundel. If you **moved from another Maine town to Arundel**, you will also need to re-register in Arundel. This can be done anytime at the Town Office. Voter registration is allowed on Election Day, however, early registration helps to eliminate waiting and confusion at the polls. Please help us make the Election process easier by registering ahead of time.

ABSENTEE BALLOTS (often called Early Voting) are available 30 days before any election. You may vote in person at the town office or request a ballot to be mailed to you or picked up by an immediate family member by completing a request form at the town office, online, or by telephone request. Requests and/or voting must be done by close of business on Thursday, Nov. 1st, unless special circumstances arise. FMI you can go to the State website at:

http://www.maine.gov/portal/government/edemocracy/elections_voting/

Town of Arundel
468 Limerick Rd
Arundel, ME 04046



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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/>



Eastern Trail Questionnaire

The Town of Arundel is conducting this citizen survey in order to determine how many residents use the Eastern Trail, how often it is used, and what improvements we can make to improve the Trail experience. Please take a moment to fill this out and return it to the Town Hall or the Recreation Department.

1. *How many of your household members are in each of the following age groups?* <5___ 6-12___
 13-18___ 19-25___ 26-35___ 36-45___ 46-55___ 56-64___ 65-75___ 76+___

2. *How often do you use the Eastern Trail?*
 ___ times per: Day Week Month Year Never

3. *What are your household's favorite activities to do while on the Eastern Trail? Please rate in order of priority.*
 Walking___ Jogging___ Cycling___ Horse riding___ Dog Walking___ Bird watching___
 Cross-Country Skiing___ Snowshoeing___ Other___ (Please describe_____)

4. *What off-road section of the Eastern Trail do you primarily use?*
 Arundel (toward Kennebunk) Arundel (toward Biddeford) Kennebunk Biddeford Saco to OOB
 Scarborough South Portland or Trail from _____ to _____.

5. *Where do you park to use the Arundel portion of the Eastern Trail?* Town Hall Limerick Road
 Kennebunk Elementary School Southern Maine Medical Center Walk from home

6. *Please rate the facilities on the Eastern Trail?* Excellent=5 Good=4 Adequate=3 Inadequate=2 Very poor=1

Facility	Excellent	Good	Adequate	Inadequate	Very Poor
Surface conditions of the Trail					
Trail appearance					
Trail maintenance					
Parking availability					
Signs and other information					
Seating and other facilities					
Overall condition of the Trail					

7. *What improvements would you like to see made to the Eastern Trail?*

8. *Would you authorize the use of Town Funds to make these improvements?* Yes___ No___

Thank you for your participation.

Please mail the completed questionnaire to: The Town of Arundel, 468 Limerick Road, Arundel Maine 04046, or drop the form off at either the Town Hall or the Recreation Department at ML Day School.

Town of Arundel
468 Limerick Rd
Arundel, ME 04046

PLACE
STAMP
HERE

Return Address:



FOLD