Harpswell Bulletin

NEWS FOR HARPSWELL RESIDENTS & PROPERTY OWNERS FROM THE TOWN OFFICE - JUNE 2015
TOWN WEBSITE: WWW.HARPSWELL.MAINE.GOV

Thank you to the Harpswell Garden Club for establishing and maintaining the beautiful garden at the Town Office.

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION IN HARPSWELL

In collaboration with Coastal Trans, a transportation provider which also operates the Brunswick Explorer, the Town of Harpswell will be offering a public transit service every Wednesday beginning May 27. The Coastal Trans bus will accommodate 12 passengers with space for two wheelchairs.

There will be two routes in Harpswell, both connecting with the Brunswick Explorer at Cook's Corner: (1) the Harpswell Connector will provide transportation connecting bus stops on Harpswell Neck, Orr's Island and Great Island with Cook's Corner multiple times each Wednesday; and (2) the Cundy's Harbor Express will operate three runs each Wednesday between Cundy's Harbor and Cook's Corner.

Connecting with the Brunswick Explorer will enable Harpswell riders to have access to all locations serviced by the Brunswick routes. Please see Harpswell and Brunswick schedules inside and note that there is no parking at the Holbrook location as parking is limited to their patrons only. Riders accessing from that location will need to make plans to be dropped off and picked up.

The Town is interested in getting feedback on its public transit service and we encourage you to contact Town Administrator Kristi Eiane at 833-5771, ext. 124 or keiane@town.harpswell.me.us with your comments.

PROPERTY TAX ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Voters at the Annual Town Meeting amended the Town's Property Tax Assistance Ordinance to re-establish a program that provides property tax assistance to qualifying persons who reside in Harpswell. Under this program, the Town will issue refund payments to those individuals who qualify as recipients of the State of Maine Residents Property Tax Fairness Credit. Residents must file Form PTFC with Maine Revenue Services. In addition, residents must also submit an application to the Town's program by October 15 of each year. The Property Tax Fairness Credit replaces the State of Maine's former Circuit Breaker Program. Please contact Deputy Town Administrator Terri Sawyer at 833-5771 ext. 105 or tsawyer@town.harpswell.me.us if you have questions about this program.

2015 Annual Town Meeting Highlights

Voters approved municipal appropriations of $4,529,383, up 1.47% from prior year appropriations.

$110,000 was authorized for a reserve fund for the purpose of the acquisition and defense of interests in the area of Cedar Beach, Cedar Island and the small beach on Merry's Cove, Bailey Island. Funds may be used to cover legal costs of the Cedar Beach/Cedar Island Supporters in its efforts to preserve public access over Cedar Beach Road to beach areas.

The Board of Selectmen was authorized to convey the West Harpswell School property to Harpswell Coastal Academy for total consideration of $150,000, which occurred on April 15.

Elinor Multer was re-elected to the Board of Selectmen for a three-year term.

Ronald Ponziani was re-elected Road Commissioner for a three-year term.

Joanne Rogers was re-elected to the School Board for a three-year term.

Mitchell Field Boat Ramp

Location of the proposed boat ramp at Mitchell Field.

The Mitchell Field Committee has been developing a plan for a boat ramp at the Field. The master plan calls for a ramp and the Committee is now working on the details. Public meetings were held last winter to gather input from townspeople. Some of the findings from these meetings are listed below. By no means have all of the details been worked out at this point, and you are encouraged to contact the Committee or respond to a survey on the Town's website if you have further input. The Committee hopes to have a proposal ready for Town Meeting in 2016. The Committee is planning to present information to the non-resident taxpayers at their July 7 meeting. Key points that have been made to the Committee are:

- The ramp should be large enough to accommodate lobster-boat-sized vessels. This would include a low water depth at the bottom of the ramp of 3-4 feet.
- The presence of a ramp at Mitchell Field could encourage a marine business to locate there.
- Matching funds from the State will probably be required to make it affordable. These funds will require that the ramp be open to the general public and, based on input received, this is felt to be appropriate.
- Fees for use are also felt to be appropriate and details of how this might be done are still being discussed. Ideas include a "recycling sticker" approach for residents and an automated "parking garage" ticket for non-residents.
- The relationship between the ramp and the existing pier is still an issue requiring a decision as part of the final proposal.
- This is a work in progress and is still very much open for further input. Ultimately, the Committee's recommendation will be referred to the Selectmen.
- An upcoming Town-wide meeting will be scheduled for later in the summer.

Harpswell Connector Bus Stops

BUS RUNS ON WEDNESDAYS ONLY - NO CHARGE

DEPARTS MAINE STREET STATION	8:30 AM		
Mitchell Field *Gate locked at dusk	9:00 AM	12:00 PM	4:00 PM
Kellogg Church	9:06 AM	12:06 PM	4:06 PM
Grange Hall	9:11 AM	12:11 PM	4:11 PM
Town Office	9:16 AM	12:16 PM	4:16 PM
Orr's Island School House	9:25 AM	12:25 PM	4:25 PM
Trufant Summerton Field	9:34 AM	12:34 PM	4:34 PM
Cooks Corner	9:46 AM	12:46 PM	4:46 PM

DEPARTS COOK'S CORNER	11:00 AM	3:00 PM	6:00 PM
Trufant Summerton Field	11:12 AM	3:12 PM	6:12 PM
Orr's Island School House	11:21 AM	3:21 PM	6:21 PM
Town Office	11:33 AM	3:33 PM	6:33 PM
Grange Hall	11:37 AM	3:37 PM	6:37 PM
Kellogg Church	11:42 AM	3:42 PM	6:42 PM
Mitchell Field *Gate locked at dusk	11:48 AM	3:48 PM	6:48 PM
Returns to Maine Street Station			**7:30 PM**

Cundy's Harbor Express Bus Stops

BUS RUNS ON WEDNESDAYS ONLY - NO CHARGE

DEPARTS COOK'S CORNER	10:00 AM	2:00 PM	5:00 PM
Cundy's Harbor (Holbrooks - No Parking)	10:25 AM	2:25 PM	5:25 PM
Cundy's Harbor Community Church	10:30 AM	2:30 PM	5:30 PM
Cook's Corner	10:50 AM	2:50 PM	5:50 PM

Schedule Subject to Change

Park at your Own Risk

Brunswick Explorer Schedule
Monday - Friday

$1 per one-way ride $2 to ride all day

EASTBOUND ROUTE

SCHEDULE	**AM**					**PM**					
Mallard Pond	7:00	8:00	9:00	10:00	11:00	12:00	1:00	2:00	3:00	4:00	5:00
Parkview Medical Center	7:06	8:06	9:06	10:06	11:06	12:06	1:06	2:06	3:06	4:06	5:06
Brunswick Station	7:11	8:11	9:11	10:11	11:11	12:11	1:11	2:11	3:11	4:11	5:11
Hannaford Supermarket	7:13	8:13	9:13	10:13	11:13	12:13	1:13	2:13	3:13	4:13	5:13
People Plus	7:17	8:17	9:17	10:17	11:17	12:17	1:17	2:17	3:17	4:17	5:17
Woodlawn Towers	7:22	8:22	9:22	10:22	11:22	12:22	1:22	2:22	3:22	4:22	5:22
Bowdoin College	7:26	8:26	9:26	10:26	11:26	12:26	1:26	2:26	3:26	4:26	5:26
Pejepscot Terrace	7:30	8:30	9:30	10:30	11:30	12:30	1:30	2:30	3:30	4:30	5:30
Merrymeeting Plaza	7:38	8:38	9:38	10:38	11:38	12:38	1:38	2:38	3:38	4:38	5:38
Cook's Corner Mall	**7:41**	**8:41**	**9:41**	**10:41**	**11:41**	**12:41**	**1:41**	**2:41**	**3:41**	**4:41**	**5:41**
Walmart	7:45	8:45	9:45	10:45	11:45	12:45	1:45	2:45	3:45	4:45	5:45
Mid Coast Hospital	7:50	8:50	9:50	10:50	11:50	12:50	1:50	2:50	3:50	4:50	5:50
Sweetser	7:54	8:54	9:54	10:54	11:54	12:54	1:54	2:54	3:54	4:54	-----

WESTBOUND ROUTE SCHEDULE	**AM**					**PM**						
Sweetser	7:00	8:00	9:00	10:00	11:00	12:00	1:00	2:00	3:00	4:00	5:00	-----
Mid Coast Hospital	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	6:00
Walmart	7:03	8:03	9:03	10:03	11:03	12:03	1:03	2:03	3:03	4:03	5:03	6:03
Cook's Corner Mall	**7:08**	**8:08**	**9:08**	**10:08**	**11:08**	**12:08**	**1:08**	**2:08**	**3:08**	**4:08**	**5:08**	**6:08**
Merrymeeting Plaza	7:11	8:11	9:11	10:11	11:11	12:11	1:11	2:11	3:11	4:11	5:11	6:11
Pejepscot Terrace	7:15	8:15	9:15	10:15	11:15	12:15	1:15	2:15	3:15	4:15	5:15	6:15
Bowdoin College	7:20	8:20	9:20	10:20	11:20	12:20	1:20	2:20	3:20	4:20	5:20	6:20
Woodlawn Towers	7:26	8:26	9:26	10:26	11:26	12:26	1:26	2:26	3:26	4:26	5:26	6:26
People Plus	7:31	8:31	9:31	10:31	11:31	12:31	1:31	2:31	3:31	4:31	5:31	6:31
Hannaford Supermarket	7:33	8:33	9:33	10:33	11:33	12:33	1:33	2:33	3:33	4:33	5:33	6:33
Brunswick Station	7:35	8:35	9:35	10:35	11:35	12:35	1:35	2:35	3:35	4:35	5:35	6:35
Parkview Medical Center	7:40	8:40	9:40	10:40	11:40	12:40	1:40	2:40	3:40	4:40	5:40	6:40
Mallard Pond	7:45	8:45	9:45	10:45	11:45	12:45	1:45	2:45	3:45	4:45	5:45	6:45

Casco Bay is a No Discharge Zone

Federal and Maine State Law prohibits the discharge of treated and untreated sewage in Casco Bay.

PUMPOUT YOUR BOAT'S HOLDING TANK FOR FREE AT THE FOLLOWING HARPSWELL LOCATIONS:

Potts Harbor
Dolphin Marina
207-833-5343

Cundy's Harbor
Near Holbrook's Wharf
207-725-0022

Great Island
Dockside Great Island Boatyard
207-729-1639

Pumpout Comes to You
Q.B. Conservation, LLC
Call Dave
207-522-1105

Harpswell Bandstand by the Sea Concert Series

The Bandstand is located at Mitchell Field and has become a special venue for concerts and events. The beauty of its setting is unsurpassed in the region, so bring a lawn chair or blanket along with family and friends to enjoy the spectacular scenery and beautiful music.

2015 Thursday Concert Program – Thursday 6 – 8 pm	
June 18	Harpswell Concert Band
June 25	John Tercyak
July 2	Coastal Winds
July 9	Novel Jazz
July 16	Paul Sullivan
July 23	Harpswell Concert Band
July 30	Al Corey's Big Band Directed by Brian Nadeau
August 6	Merrymeeting Band
August 13	Tom Porter Quartet
August 20	Harpswell Concert Band
August 27	Jim Chard and the Windy Ridge Boys

2015 September Concert Program Sunday 2 – 4 pm	
September 6	Pretty Girls Sing Soprano
September 13	Denny Breau Trio
September 20	Jimmy Jo and the Jumbol'Ayuhs
September 27	Harpswell Concert Band

Personnel Changes

After seven years as Recycling Center/Transfer Station Manager, Fred Cantu has taken a new position in the Town's Code Enforcement Office replacing Jason Marshall who served as Alternate Code Enforcement Officer. Fred has been an excellent manager and we look forward to the contributions he will now be making in the area of code enforcement. Jason has taken a position with the City of Bath in its Assessing Office.

Charles "Chuck" Perow is the new Manager of the Recycling Center/Transfer Station. He has an extensive background in automotive repair, and is certain to bring new ideas as well as a hands-on approach to the facility's operations.

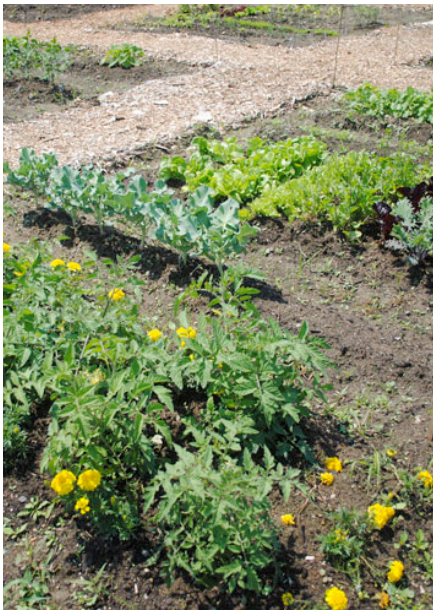
Planner Carol Eyerman left her employment with the Town and joined the staff of the Town of Topsham. During her tenure, she provided extensive support to the Planning Board, Mitchell Field Committee, and Conservation Commission while also working to update Town land use ordinances. Her work included development of an Open Space Plan, a conservation subdivision option and standards for the marine business district at Mitchell Field.

The Town's Animal Control Officer Lee Johnson, who has served admirably for 10 years, will step down as soon as a replacement is found. He consistently demonstrates an ability to deal compassionately with many difficult situations involving animals and their owners.

Join the Community Garden at Mitchell Field

Are you looking for a place to plant a garden?

The Harpswell Community Garden brings together a community of gardeners, both novice and experienced, at Mitchell Field off Harpswell Neck Road. The garden offers two sizes of rental plots, a heritage orchard, and a common garden where volunteers grow vegetables to donate to local people. Harpswell Community Garden is a Town-sponsored recreational program. Please contact Jane Covey at coveybrown@gmail.com or Recreation Director Gina Perow at gperow@town.harpswell.me.us for more information.



IMPORTANT DATES

- **Monday, May 25, Memorial Day Parade, 11am, Harpswell Center; Wreath Toss, 10:30 am, Ewing Narrows Bridge**
- **Saturday, June 6 and Sunday, June 7, Harpswell Hiking Challenge—Headquarters in the back parking lot at the Town Office—Find maps of Harpswell's trails on our website under the Harpswell Guide!**
- **Tuesday, June 9, School Budget Referendum Vote, Polls open 8am-8pm at three voting sites: Merriconeag Grange, Old Orr's Island Schoolhouse and Cundy's Harbor Community Building**
- **Tuesday, July 7, 6:30pm, Non-resident Taxpayers' Meeting, Harpswell Community School, Route 24**