DON'T FORGET! TOWN MEETING IS WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19 AT 6:30. Please come vote on your Town Officers and your budget for the coming year.

The Town Office will be closed Friday July 5, 2002 for the 4th of July weekend. Please register your boats and get your fishing licenses early. The Town Office will be open July 3, but the Town Clerk will not be there. Thank you.

The Arrowsic Annual report has been delivered to everyone's door. If anyone didn't get one, they can come in to Town Hall and pick up a copy.

ELECTION NEWS
Jean Kane 443-4978 jrkanew@gwi.net

Voters of Arrowsic, lend me your ear, a Primary Election is drawing near, scheduled for Tuesday June 11, 2002 at the Town Hall. Hours are from 10:00 AM until 8:00 PM. Sample Ballots are posted, for the Democratic Party, the Republican Party, the Green Party and the Referendum Bond Questions, for your inspection, at the Arrowsic Town Hall.

You do not have to declare a party in order to vote for the two Referendum Bond Questions. If you have any questions feel free to call me at 443-4978.

QUESTION 1: Bond Issue
Do you favor a $28,500,000 bond issue to capitalize the State's School Revolving Renovation Fund for repairs and improvements in public school facilities to address health, safety and compliance deficiencies, general renovation needs and learning space upgrades; to provide grants to public educational institutions to install sprinkler systems in dormitories; to renovate the Augusta East Campus Harlow Office Building; and to provide a center for homeless teenagers in the Portland Area? YES or NO answer.

QUESTION 2: Bond Issue
Do you favor an $54,970,000 bond issue to stimulate job growth, renovate buildings, defend against terrorism in Maine and promote tourism?
1. Funds of $4,000,000 for the Municipal Investment Trust Fund to provide loans and grants to municipalities for public infrastructure to support economic development and other purposes of the fund;
2. Funds of $8,000,000 for the Finance Authority of Maine to create and retain Maine jobs through the funding of community, regional and state business financing programs;
3. Funds of $540,000 for the protection of the lives and property of Maine citizens;
4. Funds of $6,000,000 to capitalize the Maine Rural Development Authority to facilitate job creation through the development and operation of Maine citizens;
5. Funds of $400,000 for renovation of buildings and associated infrastructure at the Schoodic Education and Research Center. State bond funds will match $4,000,000 in federal funds;
6. Funds of $5,000,000 for the construction of a facility for product development and support that will provide the University of Maine with the resources needed to help solve daily manufacturing and engineering problems;
7. Funds of $4,000,000 for the construction of a facility for product development and support that will provide the University of Southern Maine with the resources needed to help solve daily manufacturing and engineering problems;
8. Funds of $5,500,000 for medical research and development by Maine-based biomedical research institutions in order to obtain matching federal funds for health, research to cure disease and to retain Maine graduates by providing quality Maine jobs;
9. Funds of $1,000,000 for the planning and construction of the Franco-American Heritage Center at St. Mary's in Lewiston;
10. Funds of $30,000 to assist the Moosehead Marine Museum in the renovation of its flagship, the Katahdin; and
11. Funds of $500,000 for the renovation of the Center Theater in downtown Dover-foxcroft.

Total estimated life time cost is $44,452,116 representing $34,970,000 in principal and $9,482,116 in interest (assuming interest at 4.93% over 10 years).

FIRE DEPARTMENT NEWS
Sukey Heard
Volunteer Fire Department members continue training to sharpen their skills and learn how to work together. This Saturday's agenda (from Chief Ike Heffron): 1. Coffee and donuts at 8:00 am at the fire barn. 2. Set up mini pumper at pond and send tanker to drop site. 3. Set up 2 1/2 hose to off load tank Four. 4. Re pack the brush hose bag.

We will be hauling water for pump training with both trucks and may use pumps of the brush truck. Georgetown may send a tanker to help us out. We should have a good time with the pump training.

There are many jobs that do not entail fire fighting that would be valuable to the Department, and the Fire Prevention Committee is looking for members to help get out safety information. If you are interested in either active fire fighting or other details, please call Chief Ike Heffron at 371-9093.

This issue's safety tip from Chief Heffron:
Now that the good weather has arrived, people are firing up their gas grills. Please be sure that your grill is away from any walls and not under roof or porch overhangs. Gas grills should not be used in a garage or shed.
West Nile Virus
from the Maine Bureau of Health website

Beginning on May 20th, the Maine Bureau of Health will renew West Nile virus (WNV) surveillance activities. During 2001, with the assistance of Animal Control officers and other participating groups, the Bureau of Health collected over 600 birds; seven of which tested positive for the virus. Virus-positive birds were found in Sabattus, South Berwick, and Portland. We expect to see WNV spread to other parts of Maine during the coming summer months. Since 1999 when WNV was first identified in New York City, the virus has spread to 28 other states. To date there have been one hundred forty-nine cases of severe disease, eighteen of which were fatal, diagnosed nationwide.

The Maine Bureau of Health and other State agencies are working to improve awareness of West Nile virus. Although the chance of a person becoming ill is small, there are some simple steps you can take to reduce the risk. This article provides information on ways in which Mainers can protect themselves and their families from this mosquito-borne infection.

WHAT IS THE MAINE BUREAU OF HEALTH DOING ABOUT WEST NILE VIRUS?

The Maine Bureau of Health has developed a surveillance system to track the emergence of West Nile virus in Maine. By tracking the spread of the virus, prevention efforts can be better focused to help educate the public in ways in which Mainers can protect themselves and their families from the disease.

WHAT IS WEST NILE VIRUS?

West Nile virus is a mosquito-borne infection that can cause serious illness. Although chances of a person getting sick are small, there are some simple steps you can take to reduce your risk of being bitten by mosquitoes.

WHAT ARE THE SYMPTOMS OF WEST NILE VIRUS?

Mild cases of West Nile infections may include a slight fever and/or headache. More severe infections are marked by a rapid onset of a high fever with head and body aches, disorientation, tremors, and convulsions. In more severe cases, paralysis or death has occurred. Usually symptoms occur from 5 to 15 days after exposure. There is no specific treatment other than to treat the symptoms and provide supportive care.

WHO IS AT HIGHEST RISK FOR BECOMING SERIOUSLY ILL?

Persons who are at highest risk for serious illness are persons over the age of 50. Healthy children and adults are at very low risk for infection.

DO ALL MOSQUITOES TRANSMIT DISEASE?

No. Most mosquitoes do not transmit disease. While there are about 40 different species of mosquitoes in Maine, only certain species have been associated with West Nile virus.

WHEN ARE MOSQUITOES MOST ACTIVE?

Some mosquitoes are most active between dusk and dawn, when the air is calm. However, others will feed at any time of day.

WHAT BIRD(S) CAN CARRY WEST NILE VIRUS?

In many parts of the northeast, most West Nile virus-positive birds have been American crows. Many other birds -- jays, sparrows, robins and others -- can become infected. The Maine Bureau of Health is using sightings and testing of all types of birds to track West Nile virus; so it's important to report any dead birds to the Bureau of Health. Not all dead birds need to be tested for West Nile virus. There is no evidence that birds can transmit West Nile virus to people, but gloves should be worn when handling any dead bird or animal.

CAN MY PET BE INFECTED?

West Nile virus has been confirmed in some domestic animals, including pet birds, dogs and cats. Horses can become seriously ill, if infected. It is important to remember that birds and animals cannot transmit West Nile virus to people. For questions about WNV in pets and other domestic animals, please contact your State Veterinarian at the Department of Agriculture at 207 287-7613 or 207 287-7615.
FROM THE PLANNING BOARD
Mary Hillery, Chair
Would You Allow Walking Trails to Cross Your Property?
This question, asked on the Planning Board Survey sent out in March drew a 50 / 50 response; 56 answered YES, 59 answered NO. Of the NO’s, 33 said they were concerned about liability issues.

Maine State Statute 159-A which provides Limited Liability for Recreational or Harvesting Activities should ease some of the liability concerns. As summarized below, it may possibly reopen consideration of walking trails or water access on private lands.

The statute outlines a Limited Duty. An owner does not have to a duty to keep property safe for entry or use by others for recreational or harvesting activity, nor to give warnings of hazardous conditions. This of course does not waive liability for willful or malicious failure to warn against a dangerous condition. That means a landowner does not have to warn that the tides change twice a day, but does have to warn if for instance, there is an open pit with toxic sludge at the bottom.

The above applies regardless of whether the owner has given permission to another person to pursue recreation on the premises. Baring willful failure to warn against danger, there is no liability for injury to a person or property and the court will award any direct legal costs to a landowner who is found not liable for injury.

This is a very liberal statute, protecting private property owners who are generous enough to allow others to share a wooded trail, a beautiful view or a meditative moment in a peaceful glen. If neighbors, free from fear of liability, allow others on their private property, there is a duty not covered under this statute. The public has a duty to respect the natural beauty and do no harm to it.

FROM THE TAX COLLECTOR: Auto Registrations due
Liz Rollins, 443-3656

The Arrowsic Solid Waste/Recycling Committee is organizing the
2nd Arrowsic Flea Market & Swap Meet
Join us for a fun, and maybe profitable, day of trading at the Town Hall Lot
Saturday, July 13, 8:00 AM (Sunday-Rain Date)
Clear out the unwanted good stuff in your closet. Sell your muffins or give away that rowing machine. Bring items for trade or sale, or just stop by and say “Hi”.

Please reserve a space by June 30.
Call Mike Kreidler 442-7443 or Jeff Mann 443-6174 $10 entry fee to cover expenses and advertising.
Shellfish Conservation Committee, Bill Blaiklock, Chair

The Arrowsic Shellfish Conservation Committee (ASCC) was established in 1997 to write a Shellfish Conservation Ordinance, which was adopted at the June 1998 Town Meeting, in time for the opening of Arrowsic flats for the 1998 season. The ASCC is responsible for management and conservation of the Town’s soft-shell clam (Mya arenaria) resource, including enforcement of the Town shellfish conservation ordinance and applicable State regulations. Although much of the Committee’s time is necessarily spent on administering commercial licenses, our management focus is to ensure an adequate clam resource for our resident recreational diggers. For the 2002 season, we can license as many as 8 commercial diggers and an almost unlimited number of recreational diggers. The work of the Shellfish Conservation Committee includes:

- License allocation and issuance: deciding how many commercial licenses to issue in a given year, and managing the process of advertising and issuing those licenses in accordance with State regulations.
- Ordinance revision and enforcement: periodic updates and revisions of the Town’s ordinance in response to changes in the resource or in State regulations. Enforcement is delegated to Shellfish Warden, Jon Hentz, who meets periodically with the Committee.
- Seasonal water-quality sampling: obtaining monthly water samples from five stations around the island to monitor E. coli levels; high levels result in closing the flats until pollution is eliminated.
- Shellfish conservation: primarily conducting an annual survey of one of our open or potentially open clam flats. Ron Aho, DMR regional biologist who meets regularly with the Committee, analyzes the data and recommends a maximum level of digging effort for the ensuing year.

The ASCC would like to encourage all residents to take an interest in our clam resource, try some recreational clamming, and even consider joining the ASCC. This year’s committee includes Arrowsic residents Bill Blaiklock, John Burke, Pete Goodwin, Dick Higgins and Phil Packard. If you would like more information please call the Town Office, or Bill Blaiklock (443-3725).

All About Clams

Arrowsic’s soft-shell clams are bivalved (two-shelled) mollusks belonging to the species, Mya arenaria. As infaunal clams living 8 to 14 inches down in sand, mud or gravel in the inter tidal zone, these clams have very thin, soft shells relative to those of epifaunal clams living on the sediment surface in subtidal waters. Every year, in late spring and early summer, clams release millions of sperm and eggs, some of which join to become free-floating larvae. After 2 to 3 weeks these larvae, which are less than 1/100th of an inch long, settle to the bottom and burrow into the sediment. Most remain in the original homestead, using a muscular “foot” to burrow deeper into the sediment as they grow, unless exhumed by currents, animals or diggers.

Clams usually take 3 or 4 years to grow to market size of 2 inches in length. Each year the shell grows by adding another “growth ring” of calcium carbonate. Clams feed on phytoplankton and expel wastes through a two-chambered siphon (the “neck”) that can be extended to the sediment surface when the flats are covered by water. Their deep burrows offer clams some protection from predators, but green crabs, the newly introduced Asian shore crab and milky ribbon worms are real threats. If clams survive these threats and are overlooked by human diggers, they may grow to lengths of 5 or 6 inches.
Through the Binoculars of Shellfish Warden, Jon Hentz

To ensure public safety, Jon, who is also warden for the towns of Georgetown, Phippsburg, West Bath and Woolwich, patrols open and closed clam flats bordering these towns, as well as land areas immediately adjacent to these flats. While he does watch for unlicensed diggers, for over-harvesting and for digging of under-sized clams, his primary function is to protect public health by preventing harvesting of clams from polluted flats and by locating and eliminating sources of marine pollution. Because the area he covers is quite large and because illegal harvesting often occurs at low tides during night hours, his job entails working long and irregular hours, particularly during the peak summer months when the demand for clams is high.

As a fully trained law enforcement officer, he gathers evidence of violations, issues summonses and testifies in court. In addition to his patrolling responsibilities, Jon meets regularly with the Shellfish Conservation Committee.

From the Department of Marine Resources – Ron Aho, Regional Biologist

Arrowsic is one of about 68 Maine towns that have shellfish programs to manage soft-shell clams. Contrary to popular opinion, these towns do not have a right to these clams; the clams belong to the people of the State of Maine. The Maine legislature, recognizing the importance of the clam industry to coastal communities, granted the right to manage this resource to coastal communities with the oversight of the Maine Department of Marine Resources. These towns derive benefits from having municipal shellfish programs. They are able to keep the majority of shellfish harvest for their citizens and to prevent over-harvesting of the resource. They can assure that clams are harvested at the time they are most valuable and may enhance the flats through transplanting wild clams or sowing small hatchery clams.

A lot of work goes into these programs: ordinances need to be written and kept up to date; the laws established by the ordinances need to be enforced; conservation and management goals need to be defined and met; flats need to be surveyed; water samples must be taken for quality control; licenses need to be allocated; and reports must be filed with the town and the state. All of these duties are overseen, if not performed, by the Shellfish Conservation Committee. Thanks to the volunteer efforts of this committee and others in municipalities along the coast, Maine’s soft-shell clams are likely to remain an abundant and valuable resource for the foreseeable future.

Straight from the Flats – Phil Packard, Resident Commercial Harvester

As the Town’s most seasoned (not to be confused with “knowing what he is doing”) residential commercial digger, I would like to see more residents using our flats. Contrary to my first impressions, when, in my first year of clamming, I made three trips to the flats without finding any clams, there are plenty of clams and the flats get more productive each year.

If you have little or no experience it would be a good idea to talk with an experienced digger so that you take with you the appropriate gear, for example:

- The appropriate license
- Rake and container
- Plenty of water and sunscreen
- Hat, gloves and rubber boots
- Small first aid kit
- Rain gear
- Cell phone or marine radio
Shellfish in Arrowsic.....What's the Clammer About?
Compiled by the Arrowsic Shellfish Conservation Committee

Status of Arrowsic Clam Flats
For the 2002 season (May 15 to September 30), the only Arrowsic flats open for commercial or recreational clamming are the flats on the Kennebec River south of Squirrel Point to Bald Head (see DMR map).
For the past three seasons the Crow Island flats on the Arrowsic side of Back River near the Kennebec River were also open. However, DMR has closed these flats this year because a watersampling site has revealed some pollution in that general area. The Shellfish Conservation Committee is working with DMR to reopen those flats as quickly as possible. We expect that more frequent sampling at a new site located on the productive part of the flats will show that these flats are safe for clamming.
To get to the open flats at Squirrel Point by land, follow the trail from the end of Bald Head Road to the Squirrel Point Light.

Licenses, Fees and Limits*
- Resident Commercial Adult: $100, No limit
- Resident Commercial Student: $35, No limit
- Non-resident Commercial: $200, No limit
- Resident Recreational: $10, One peck per day
- Non-resident recreational: $20, One peck per day
- Temporary (3-day) Recreational: $5, One peck per day

*Recreational license fees are waived for persons 65 and older and for children 12 years old or younger.
EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS - ARROWSIC

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS - SPECIAL NEEDS & RESOURCE INFORMATION

DO YOU HAVE ANY OF THE FOLLOWING RESOURCES THAT WOULD BE AVAILABLE DURING AN EMERGENCY?   NO   YES   QTY

1. ALL-TERRAIN VEHICLE (ATV) ________________________________________________

2. SNOWMOBILE ____________________________________________________________

3. MOTOR HOME ___________________________________________________________

4. 4X4 TRUCK (OPTIONAL: W/PLOW) __________________________________________

5. FARM EQUIPMENT ________________________________________________________

6. HEAVY EQUIPMENT _______________________________________________________

7. ROWBOAT ______________________________________________________________

8. POWERBOAT _____________________________________________________________

9. BUS OR PASSENGER VAN _________________________________________________
   (FOR TRANSPORTING PEOPLE TO SHELTERS)

10. CHAINSAWS _____________________________________________________________

11. GENERATOR ____________________________________________________________

12. FUEL SUPPLIES
   a. WOOD _______________________________________________________________
   b. COAL ________________________________________________________________
   c. KEROSENE ___________________________________________________________
   d. FUEL OIL ___________________________________________________________
   e. GASOLINE ___________________________________________________________

13. FOOD (EXTENDED SUPPLIES) ____________________________________________

14. COTS & BLANKETS _______________________________________________________

15. PORTABLE KEROSENE SPACE HEATER _____________________________________

16. OTHER _______________________________________________________________

Fill out this Questionnaire and drop it off in mail slot in the font door at the Town Office.

EMA
March 6, 2001
EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS - ARROWSIC

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS - SPECIAL NEEDS & RESOURCE INFORMATION

PLEASE PRINT

LAST NAME__________________________________________
FIRST NAME________________________________________
SPOUSE / PARTNER____________________________________
STREET ADDRESS____________________________________
HOME TELEPHONE____________________________________
WORK TELEPHONE____________________________________
INITIAL_____________________________________________

CAR TELEPHONE_____________________________________

INTERNET ADDRESS__________________________________

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY CALL ___________________________

TELEPHONE___________________________________________

IN HOUSEHOLD_______________________________________

CHILDREN/AGE_______________________________________

ADULTS/AGE_________________________________________

SPECIAL NEEDS / MEDICATIONS __________________________

MEDICAL EQUIPMENT THAT REQUIRES ELECTRICITY ______

DO YOU HAVE A HEATING SYSTEM THAT DOES NOT REQUIRE ELECTRICITY?
NO _______ YES ________

DO YOU KEEP AT LEAST A ONE (1) WEEK SUPPLY OF HEATING FUEL IN RESERVE?

NO _______ YES ________

DO YOU HAVE A GENERATOR SYSTEM AND FUEL?
(RECOMMEND FUEL FOR 2 TO 3 DAYS OF OPERATION)

NO _______ YES ________

Fill out this Questionnaire and drop it off in mail slot in the front door at the Town Office.

EMA March 6, 2001

If you are interested in becoming an EMA volunteer check this box for more information and we will call you.