Dear Reader,

Many Important News Items: (details to follow): 1) Trash pickup is every other week now until next summer. 2) On Saturday, October 15, Barry Norris will be in town to hear opinions about Arrowsic's Fire Protection. 3) Deer Hunting season opens November 1. Please be careful. State published regulations are available free of charge for all at the town hall. 4) Don't forget to vote November 8. 5) Much more...read on...

Fire Safety expert Barry Norris has been hired to assess the fire protection needs of Arrowsic. Due to townwide survey results and concerns expressed at Town Meeting, the selectmen felt that outside expertise is needed to evaluate all aspects of this issue. As part of the assessment, Mr. Norris will be conducting a survey of townspeople on this matter.

On Saturday, October 15, 9AM to 12 noon, he will be available at the Town Hall to hear you opinions, one on one, about fire protection. Express them in person, or by telephone, 443-4609. Give your two cents!

If you would like to give an opinion, but not on that date, alternate arrangements can be made by calling the selectmen: Manli Ho: 443-3874; Pat Harcourt: 442-8122; Brian Scott: 442-7409

To bolster our emergency response services, the town is looking to recruit a team of First Responders. These are residents who provide basic first aid at the scene until ambulance service arrives. The first responder course is 45 classroom hours and designed to meet the needs of communities without their own ambulance. If interested, please call the selectmen.

From the Selectmen: Manli Ho, chair

Arrowsic ranks among the top 10 communities in recycling. Our recycling rate for 1993 was 38.4%. We received a congratulatory letter from the State that said, in part, "You have one of the highest recycling rates in the state. You can be very proud of this accomplishment." Indeed!

The Selectmen have received a proposal from Georgetown to provide ambulance service for our residents. As previously reported, we have been looking into alternatives ever since Bath's fees took a big jump with service on weekends and evenings somewhat affected. We are reviewing the Georgetown proposal with great care, and expect to hold a public hearing should a switch be contemplated. In the meantime, we urge any residents interested in joining a First Responders team to sign up. Regardless of which ambulance service we use now or in the future, we can bolster our emergency services by maintaining a First Responder team in town.

A committee for long range comprehensive planning has been appointed and begins work this month. The committee will assess the town's capital improvement needs and devise a strategy to achieve them. At the same time, the committee will look into possible municipal sites.

Speaking of committees: we are forming one to explore the feasibility of bicycle lanes. Due to interest expressed in the townwide survey and information we've received from the state, bicycle lanes are worth consideration. If you're interested, give us a call.

We did look into Cable TV for our town, due to interest expressed in the survey. Alas, for those who want it, the cable people say NO.

Manli and Pat are attending assessing school for 12 weeks. At the same time, we're all working away at trying to get the tax bills out. We'll keep you posted.

Finally, the town hall is available Sunday, October 30 for a haunted house or any other ghoulish Halloween festivities. Anyone interested in organizing such activities for the town kids, please call the selectmen.

From the Recycling Committee

Trash pickup dates this year: October 14, 28; November 11, 25; December 9, 23

RECYclable? YES: #2 plastic containers (look on the bottom); glossy magazines and catalogues; newspapers; corrugated cardboard (please tear down and crush flat); all glass; cans (please crush very flat); white office paper, phone books (go into the white shed) and button batteries (also in the white shed).

NO: motor oil containers; mixed paper (non-glossy colored, packaging); all other than #2 plastic.

Winter Composting: Basically the choices for winter composting are 1) continue to compost, but put hay bales around your compost pile to keep heat in, 2) store composting materials with dry leaves in a covered container, 3) use worms to do your composting indoors.

The simplest method is using dry leaves. You need 1) a supply of dry leaves; 2) a container (wire screen, pallets, or boards, about 1 cubic yard with some kind of cover). Put about 6 inches of leaves down to start. Spread compostables out on this then add another layer of leaves. Repeat each time you add compostables. In the spring, you can add this mix to your regular compost pile.

The Recycling Committee has informational materials available on composting. Call Bob Kalish 443-4660; Paul Schlein 443-3209; or Joanne Burke 443-3397.

Recent unusual sightings in Arrowsic: three moose (one male and two females), two wild turkeys, and a Halloween ladybug.
The Ladies Auxiliary of the Arrowsic Fire Department wishes to thank all of you who made our Lobster Raffle such a big success. First Prize (12 lobsters) went to George Miller of Arrowsic. Second prize (6 lobsters) went to Denise Miller of Alaska. (Judy Kenney's sister). Judy collected her sister's lobsters and ate them and then called Denise and told her how good they were.

The Auxiliary meets on the 2nd Thursday of the month and new members are always welcome.

The Zoning Board of Appeals has had a busy summer with three appeals hearings and numerous meetings to establish procedures. We granted one variance with conditions and denied one appeal for a variance. The third application was withdrawn during the hearing.

In these last few months the board has worked hard to absorb the meaning of the multitude of legal details and issues contained in the Maine Municipal Assn.'s Handbook for Local Appeals Boards. We have also looked at application procedures used by other towns and materials presented at workshops. We've gotten a lot done, and continue to learn, but it's not easy to grasp the intricacies of the Maine Statute that governs the actions of local boards. We have drafted a letter to be given out to anyone who wants to apply for a variance which explains as best we can, the strict criteria the law requires of an applicant. Copies will soon be available at the town hall.

The state law seems very restrictive until you realize that a zoning variance, once granted, goes with the land forever. It was never intended to be given to suit the needs of a current owner. The Maine courts have held repeatedly that variances should be the exception and rarely granted. This bothers a lot of people, but until the law is changed, we will have to live within its narrow bounds.

The ZBA will meet the first Wednesday of every month at 7 PM. If there is no business, we will cancel. Everyone is welcome to attend meetings. We only give legal notice of hearings.

The Boosters Association of the Arrowsic Fire Dept. would like to thank everyone who helped to make the annual yard sale, bake sale, toll booth such a success. The total raised was $1120.93 after expenses. Thanks again. A few people were offended by the voluntary toll booth, we are sorry if anyone felt obligated to give anything they didn't want to.

Our next fund raiser will be Turkey Bingo at the American Legion Hall on Congress Ave in Bath on Monday, November 14. We hope a lot of Arrowsic residents will come and enjoy the fun and win a turkey. The first winner of every game gets a turkey. More than one winner gets a bag of Thanksgiving groceries. There will also be door prizes etc. See you there!

The Sagadahoc & Lincoln County Maine Yankee Drill was held on Wed. Sept 21 with the Fire Department staffing the positions at the Arrowsic Town Hall Emergency Operations Center. Preliminary reports said we did well on this one. Pat Harcourt was our Selectman representative so if she grows in the dark you know why. Thanks Pat for your interest.

October 10, 6 PM is our annual OPEN HOUSE at the Fire Station. There will be door prizes, food, Fire Trucks form our Mutual Aid towns, fire safety information and more, plus Smokey the Bear and Sparky. We hope to have a good turnout of Arrowsic people. Remember, we can always use more Arrowsic residents in the Department because there are only a few of us that live here. Talk with us that night if you're interested.

Recent Fire Department responses during September: fully involved shed fire at Jeff Pinettes, mutual aid call for standby in Bath for a first alarm structure fire, two separate car accidents in a three day period with injuries to both drivers, and a fire call which turned out to be a defective fire alarm system.

Arrowsic residents who are handicapped or have special needs in situations such as power outages or evacuation due to hurricanes, Maine Yankee emergency, etc. should contact Prudy Foster at 443-2114 to have your name added to a list which is confidential information, kept sealed at the Arrowsic ECO at Town Hall.

Next Arrow will appear before year end. Any articles, letters, etc. may be left in the mail slot at Town Hall.

The following registrations are due in these months. Many have already paid.