



Wildfire in Arrowsic (Photo Ken Brilliant)

## Wildfire on Bald Head Road

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On Thursday, May 12, firefighters from nine towns converged at the end of the Bald Head Road in Arrowsic to put out a fire that raged over eight acres.

Arrowsic Fire Department’s Deputy Chief, Dale Carlton, said the AFD was aided by fire departments from Georgetown, Phippsburg, Bath, Woolwich, West Bath, Topsham, Brunswick, and Dresden.

Thursday’s fire actually split into two fires, so AFD Chief Chris Cummings called the State for helicopter assistance. Chief Cummings led the effort to protect a small camp owned by Kip Stone that sat in harm’s way east of one fire. The other effort took place along parts of the old pathway to Bald Head. That fire was fought with the helicopter and firefighters commanded by the Brunswick chief.

According to Deputy Carlton, flames reached heights of eight feet, and twenty-five helicopter loads of water were dumped on the fire, some of it transported from Arrowsic’s Sewall Pond, some of it coming from a small pond on a private property in Arrowsic.

After five tense hours of firefighting, the fire departments declared the fire out. 

—Nancy Brown Stump and Bob Kalish, from an interview with Dale Carlton

# Horse Rescue

Typically, the Arrowsic Fire Department (AFD) gets calls for medical emergencies, traffic accidents, chimney fires, or to provide backup for other towns fighting fires. In April, the Sagadahoc County Emergency Dispatcher called the AFD to respond to a “horse pinned against a tree.” Six volunteers responded, along with Mid Coast Hospital’s paramedic unit.

The horse, named NT, had lost his footing while attempting to get up a ledgy slope in the woods and had fallen. He was wedged between the ledge and several pine trees, which had pinned his hind legs, making it impossible for him to stand.

Working with NT’s owners, the responders were eventually able to place a large sling and several wide straps beneath him, and with the help of the John Deere and all hands, they lifted and pulled the 1,000-pound horse to level ground where he could be propped up and supported in a more upright position until he regained his bearings. One of NT’s owners was able to reposition the horse’s legs, and he finally stood up, after several hours of effort.

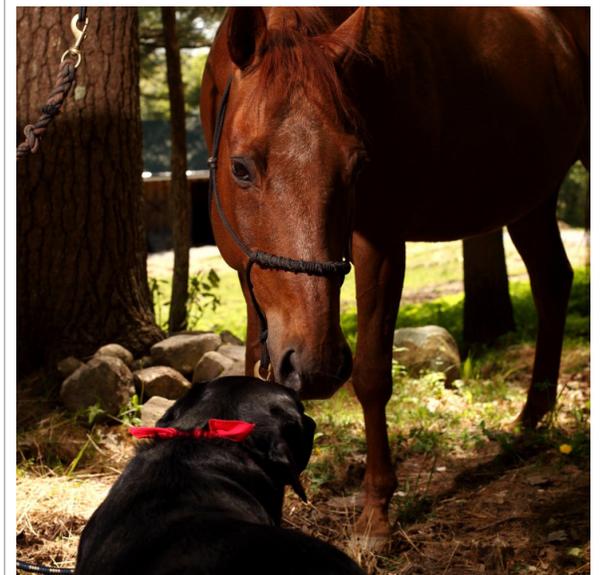
NT was exhausted, steamy, and cold, but was safe at the end of this very unusual rescue. No humans or animals were injured, and his owners remain extremely grateful, as the outcome could have been so bad.

Thanks to the speedy and determined response of the AFD, this story had a happy ending. 🌿

—Nancy Packard and Bill Savedoff



The very difficult, but successful, nighttime rescue of the horse, NT. (Photo Michael Kreindler)



NT and his dog, Max, on a better day. (Photo Leon Vanella)



## Help the AFD Find You Quickly...If Needed

AFD Captain Mike Kreindler reminds us that, for any emergency response, driveways need to be clearly marked with an address number at least 4 inches tall, visible in both directions, and should include some reflective material. Driveways should also be constructed and maintained with a drivable surface at least 14 feet wide, clear of low-hanging branches, and, if zoning allows, with space for a large-vehicle turn-around area. 🌿

# Arrowsic Fire Department Long Term Plan Committee—2016 Executive Summary

Arrowsic should maintain a community-based, volunteer fire and emergency services department (hereinafter the AFD), compatible with the region's existing mutual-aid emergency response structure, with an appropriate level of service, equipment, staffing, and leadership for a small, rural, residential community in Midcoast Maine, located near a full-time, professional fire department.

**Mutual Aid:** The communities in the area surrounding Arrowsic participate in a mutual-aid emergency-response structure coordinated through the Sagadahoc County emergency response (911) system. Each participating community maintains its own level of equipment and personnel and agrees to make these assets available to the other participating communities in response to their fire and emergency needs, on an appropriate as-needed basis. The mutual-aid system provides each participating community access to equipment and personnel well beyond that which any single community can provide for itself. Hence, the benefits of participation are substantial.

**Services Offered:** In order to secure access to the resources available through the area's mutual-aid structure, the AFD must maintain a minimum level of equipment and personnel, as described below. In addition, the AFD should be capable of providing equipment and personnel to:

- Independently address most brush, chimney, and small (out-building or non-house) fires;
- Act with appropriate first-response capabilities to effectively and efficiently communicate with other fire/emergency responders to either request mutual aid or respond to mutual-aid requests;
- Provide support to other responders for other medical/EMT/Ambulance services as currently provided through contracts with Bath and/or mutual aid; and
- Provide support to other responders for all traffic emergencies and/or natural disasters (e.g., flooding).

The AFD should not be required to have personnel certified or otherwise qualified:

- To enter structure fires;
- To dispose of or address fires associated with hazardous substances;

- To provide independent emergency response for events involving, for example, nuclear materials, chemical spills, or infectious diseases
- To act as or provide services in the nature of emergency medical or ambulance services.

**Equipment and Resources:** Currently, the expectation for successful participation in the mutual-aid structure is that the AFD have a well-maintained tanker truck of about 2,000-gallon capacity (hereinafter the Tanker Truck). In addition, to independently address local needs and to provide support for mutual-aid response, the AFD should have two other vehicles, complete with appropriate paint, lighting, and insignias. These vehicles should be of a commercial grade, equipped with 4-wheel drive, and may be any combination of the following: an SUV or van capable of carrying either small amounts of equipment or personnel, an upgraded heavy-duty pickup truck with brush/chimney firefighting capacity, or a similar truck equipped with a water tank and pumping capabilities. This latter vehicle need not be designed to meet state or national standards for primary firefighting equipment. The capital cost of these vehicles is to be covered by the AFD Capital Budget (see below).

The Town should maintain an adequate water supply infrastructure to facilitate the operation of the AFD.

**AFD Capital Budget:** To cover the cost of scheduled vehicle replacements (the mini-pumper within 2 years, at a cost not to exceed \$165,000, and the brush truck within 6 years, at a cost not to exceed \$70,000), the AFD Capital Budget will be \$82,500 for the next 2 years and \$40,000 after that.

**Staffing and Leadership:** The AFD should be maintained as a volunteer organization, staffed, to the extent possible, with people from the Town. The leadership of the AFD (i.e., the Chief, Assistant Chief, and Captain) should be paid a stipend as determined by the Annual Town Meeting. The AFD should also have a current community outreach plan for the purposes of generating community support for the AFD, raising additional operating and special project funding, and securing an adequate source of volunteers for its continued operation.

**Organization and Management:** The AFD is directly answerable to the Select Board and the organizational structure of the AFD (which currently includes a Chief, an Assistant Chief, and a Captain, together with a number of volunteers) should be determined by the Select Board. The AFD must operate in accordance with applicable labor, firefighting, and safety standards, and should establish and enforce a rigorous maintenance schedule for its equipment. The AFD must maintain appropriate operational records, updated on a monthly basis, including, but not limited to, a comprehensive tabulation of all the fire and emergency responses undertaken by the AFD, either for local calls or through the mutual-aid system, a tabulation appropriate for annual accounting purposes of the income and expenses of the AFD, and a listing of all grants, loans, or other income (other than items included in appropriations approved by Annual Town Meetings) applied for and/or received by the AFD. AFD personnel should maintain an adequate level of training appropriate for a Town of our size and compatible with state and national standards.

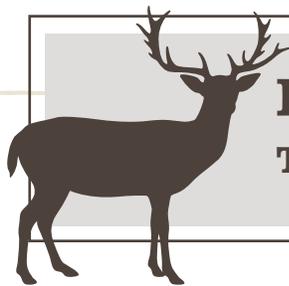
**Ancillary Concern:** There are many private roads and long driveways in Arrowsic. Some are narrow and winding, often with encroaching vegetation, sometimes poorly surfaced



The AFD's mini-pumper, on duty at the recent wildfire on Bald Head Road. (Photo Michael Kreindler)

or plowed, and occasionally with low-hanging wires. These roads present serious challenges for fire and emergency equipment. To ensure maximum accessibility to homes along such roads and driveways, the property owners must ensure that they are adequately designed, plowed, surfaced, and otherwise maintained. 🌿

—The AFD Long Term Plan Committee



## **Don't forget Town Meeting!**

**Thursday, June 16, 6:30 PM, Arrowsic Fire Station.**

## **“In-Law Apartments”**

The Planning Board held a wide-ranging meeting on the topic of accessory dwellings and minimum-lot-size-per-dwelling requirements in the Arrowsic Zoning Ordinance with nine interested citizens on April 6.

After talking about the population-density-limiting purposes of the current requirements and some of the approaches other towns have taken to the question, there was a clear consensus that the Board should study the question further. The initial step will be to describe the extent of the problem more precisely, by

determining the number of lots currently without sufficient area to have a second dwelling on the lot. The Board will report the information when it has finished that task.

If you have any questions or comments, please speak with members of the Planning Board, who would be happy to hear from you! Contact: Will Neilson, [will@solobistro.com](mailto:will@solobistro.com), 442-8163. 🌿

—Arrowsic Planning Board: Will Neilson (chair), Chris Brett (secretary), Matt Caras, Geoff Cartmell, Jennifer Geiger, Roger Heard, Donald Kornrumpf

# A Brief History of Firefighting in Arrowsic

*In April, Nancy Brown Stump and I sat down with Milly Stafford, Town Historian, because we were fascinated by her story in last month's Arrow. The story hinted of the crucial role of women with regard to fire protection in the years before our fire department was established. The three of us drove around town, passing the old firehouse and visiting the site of a one-time big fire at Baker's Marsh. What we learned from our visit was that Milly's story was not just about women, but also about neighbor helping neighbor; about ingenuity and about the meaning of community.*

—Suzanne Gunston

Seventy-two years ago, when George and Milly Stafford moved to town, Arrowsic had no fire department. At that time, our town had telephone service, but no electricity. As in most island towns, fires were emergencies and, when a fire was reported, island activities stopped until the fire was contained by residents. Back in those days, our island was less forested than it is now. Many of the trees had been cut for agricultural purposes or firewood, and so most fires were grass or chimney fires, but structural fires happened, and for those, mutual aid from other towns could be rushed over the old one-lane bridge.

During the war years, many of the men were either fighting in the war or supporting the war effort by building ships or working elsewhere. Island women were left to watch for fires, and to put them out when they could. They joined nighttime Fire Patrols during times of drought, alert to an errant spark or an ominous glow in the sky that would indicate a distant or approaching fire. Townswomen were skilled in grass-fire control, as it was a common practice to burn fields and the women were often involved in beating back grass fires with brooms. For this, old brooms were set aside or donated. Milly reported that one woman's donated brooms were of dubious use for beating down fires because the woman was so frugal that by the time she donated her brooms, the bristles were too sparse to be of much help in a fire. When large fires happened, island women rushed to fire scenes and helped in any way they could. To say that the women were “helpers” is not accurate—they were firefighters.

In the mid-1940s, the women of Arrowsic formalized their relationship with the men who fought fires by establishing a Ladies Auxiliary (LA) to raise money for the purchase of much-needed equipment. Funds were raised by sponsoring bean suppers at the town hall (the old town hall had a wood cookstove), dances (it also had a broken, but usable piano), and game nights. They held lobster raffles in summer and once,



## Why the Ladies Auxiliary of the Arrowsic Fire Department Folded

I have been asked to explain why The Ladies Auxiliary folded. I thought and thought, but couldn't think of single thing that would affect the group to that extent. Then it dawned on me. It wasn't just one thing, it was a whole series of things:

- The advent of electricity to Arrowsic made housework so much easier that some of the women took part time jobs to earn extra money.
- Some of us were getting older.
- Some of the couples had broken up.
- There was illness in some families.
- Some families had moved out of town.
- The new bridge made it easier for the women to travel to out of town jobs.
- The firemen found another and quicker way of getting money other than by the nickels and dimes supplied by the Ladies Auxiliary.
- There are more men in town who are willing to learn to use the new equipment of the Fire Department.

There may be, and probably are, more reasons, but these will give you the idea.

—Milly Stafford, the last secretary of The Ladies Auxiliary of the Arrowsic Fire Department

## *A Brief History of Firefighting in Arrowsic (continued)*

they sewed and raffled a beautiful quilt. These events contributed to the social life of Arrowsic and boosted the town's ability to fight fires by raising a few hundred dollars most years. These dollars bought shovels, Indian pumps, lanterns, hardware, walkie-talkies, and other equipment. The LA continued social and fundraising activities until 2001, when the group finally ended due to declining membership and the women's belief that they could no longer meet the increasing cost of fire protection through their traditional fundraising activities. An important social institution was lost when this proud and spunky group disbanded. For more than 60 years they had worked together, fighting fires and raising money; the younger women taking the place of their mentors when the time was right. None sought reward or accolade, save the satisfaction of knowing that their hard job was well done.

In early days, the cost of fire protection was limited because labor costs were minimal and some equipment was donated. There being no firehouse or engine, costs were low. Although the town provided financial compensation to individuals and other agencies who helped to fight fires on a "per fire" basis, some of this cost was reimbursed by the State of Maine. In the two decades preceding 1960, our town generally budgeted less than \$100 annually for fire protection. Additional monies from the Contingency Fund were used to pay for mutual aid when that was needed.

In 1959, Arrowsic formalized island fire protection by voting to borrow \$2,500 to establish the Arrowsic Fire Department (AFD). The town bought and refurbished a tanker truck and with donated labor, built a building to house it. In the 1961 Town Report, Fire Chief Eisenhower thanked the LA for donating all the funds needed to wire the building. Around this time, Arrowsic began paying volunteer firefighters (\$1.20 per hour) and negotiating formalized mutual-aid contracts with the City of Bath. During the 1960s, the cost of fighting fires began to escalate due to the increasing

cost of equipment and the need for increased emergency-response capability. These fiscal and operational challenges ushered in the era of modern fire protection practices in Arrowsic.

While the fire department has continued to evolve and the town has continued to rely on dedicated volunteers to fight fires, responsibilities have changed. AFD volunteers are now called upon to respond to many types of emergencies, including fighting fires, assisting with medical emergencies, road closures, and traffic accidents. Volunteers also provide mutual aid to other towns when needed. The AFD includes both men and women and they are trained in firefighting, emergency vehicle operation, communications, and CPR. The town has a modern fire station and three trucks. Our Fire Chief, Chris Cummings, has applied for and received numerous federal grants to keep us supplied with state-of-the-art equipment and his efforts have

limited the amount of money that has been needed to be raised by taxpayers.

Arrowsic will soon be in need of a new mini-pumper truck. The current truck was built for the AFD in 1988. In the past year the pump has been rebuilt and the 28-year-old truck is back in service. Townspeople have been discussing the need for a new mini-pumper for three years, and the subject will be raised again at this year's Town Meeting. The town will hear the reports of Fire Chief Cummings and the AFD's Long Term Plan Committee. Then, the town will vote.

*Regardless of the outcome of the vote and regardless of whether we have an old or a new pumper truck, I am confident that if I need them, the Arrowsic Fire Department volunteers will come, and, if necessary, they will come in their nightshirts. And, if anyone in town needs me, I will come in mine.* 

—Suzanne Gunston

Sources: Recollections of Milly Stafford and Ann Carlton; Arrowsic Town Reports, 1939–1965; Arrowsic Arrow, May 2015, February 2010, June 2010, March 2008; Arrowsic Fire Department. Captain Michael Kreindler.

*“ Fire was the worst thing that could happen! Everyone came— some in nightshirts. ”*

—Milly Stafford

# After 40 Years, No Proclamation Needed—Many Thank-Yous Are

Again this year, 28 volunteers, aged from two to Milly Stafford, helped with the Roadside Cleanup. The volunteers either checked in at town hall on April 23, or they made other arrangements to pick up a section of roadside before or after that Saturday morning. The Conservation Commission appreciates all the help we get and all comers are welcome. Special thanks go out to Peter Woodruff, who tackled the notorious north end section of Route 127. He was one of the first volunteers to start and the last to stop. Over the years, the size of the trash pile has diminished considerably, as the haul of tires, furniture and computer terminals has gone down—a very good trend. To gain an understanding of how long Milly Stafford and our young people have been cleaning up our roadsides, read the lively correspondence between Milly and Governor Brennan in 1979.

*Milly wrote:*

April 28, 1979

Dear Governor Brennan,

Re: Community Clean-Up Proclamation

I just had to write and tell you how your Community Clean-Up Proclamation affected me. When the selectmen handed it to me I was angry. I let a week of fuming go by before writing to you.

Several years ago the townspeople formed gangs (usually kids) to clean up the roadside litter because the State Highway Department (later the Department of Transportation) was not doing its job and the folks couldn't stand the sight of it any longer.

These Clean-Up Crews were made up of volunteers whose only pay might be a trip to the Dairy Queen at the end of a hard dirty day.

"Volunteer" is the magic word. As you probably know volunteers are a touchy bunch. If you treat them right they will do anything for you but you just try to order them around and see how far you get. Can't you imagine how many kids I'd get next Saturday morning if I told them they had to help me pick up soggy paper and stinking bottles and cans without pay? You just can't order volunteers around and that is just what your Proclamation is doing.

Oh, yes, I'll round up a crew of volunteers and take them out, probably next Saturday but, Governor Brennan, I'm not going to tell them about your Proclamation.

Yours truly,

Mildred Stafford

*And Governor Brennan responded:*

May 4, 1979

Dear Mrs. Stafford:

Thank you for your letter of April 28.

I am very sorry that you apparently misinterpreted my Community Clean-up proclamation as an "order"—which it decidedly was not. However, I want you to know that I very much appreciate your efforts and those of your crew of young volunteers in cleaning up the roadside, and I hope you will share my sincere thanks with them.

Very truly yours,

JOSEPH E. BRENNAN  
Governor



# Browntail Moth, Other Pests, on the Increase this Year

The Midcoast region is predicted to be at ground zero for browntail moth and other pests this year. Although there are sprays available, they need to be applied before the caterpillars leave their winter webs in early May, and they have mixed success. Also, they are very toxic in the environment. Application is prohibited near the shoreline because runoff and drifting spray can kill lobsters and other marine creatures. The best method of dealing with the browntail moth is mechanical removal of webs and personal protection from hairs, as described in these links: [maine.gov/dacf/mfs/forest\\_health/insects/browntail\\_moth.htm](http://maine.gov/dacf/mfs/forest_health/insects/browntail_moth.htm) and [timesrecord.com/news/2015-06-09/Front\\_Page/Officials\\_warn\\_of\\_elevated\\_browntail\\_moth\\_populati.html](http://timesrecord.com/news/2015-06-09/Front_Page/Officials_warn_of_elevated_browntail_moth_populati.html). Also, positive identification of the caterpillar/moth is important before extensive measures are taken. The caterpillar can be identified by its two orange spots toward the back of its “tail.” The moth itself has white wings and a brown-tipped abdomen. The winter webs are constructed at the tips of branches, and include one or two leaves.

Here’s to hoping the birds will do their job keeping populations down, and let’s not poison them in the process. 

—*The Conservation Commission*



Browntail moth caterpillar. (Photo Maine Forest Service)



Browntail moth caterpillars emerging from their winter web. (Photo Jan Samanek, Phytosanitary Administration, Bugwood.org)

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## Coming Soon—Stewardship Guide for Arrowsic Citizens

All residents of Arrowsic will be receiving a Stewardship Guide of best management practices to protect our waters and local habitat. The guide will be delivered with the Annual Report in early June. If you would like a preview, check it out on the Arrowsic website: [arrowsic.org](http://arrowsic.org), where a digital copy is posted.

The guide is a result of the Conservation Commission working in partnership with Georgetown, Phippsburg, Westport Island, and the Kennebec Estuary Land Trust. The project was funded in part by the Maine Outdoor Heritage Fund (MOHF), in which proceeds from the sale of the dedicated instant lottery ticket, currently “MAINE-AH MONEY,” are used to support outdoor recreation and natural resource conservation. For more information about MOHF, go to [maine.gov/ifw/MOHF.html](http://maine.gov/ifw/MOHF.html). 

## Congratulations to Our Students!

On behalf of the Arrowsic Education Committee, we would like to congratulate all of our students who have worked so hard this past school year. Whether you are moving on to your next grade level, attending college in the fall, or starting a new career, you should be proud of your accomplishments. Best wishes for continued success and a lifetime love of learning!

Stay tuned for some fun and educational events we will be cosponsoring with the Arrowsic Shellfish Conservation Committee this summer. Think clams! 

—*The Education Committee*

# Do Clam Farms Have a Future?

People buy oysters farmed at Glidden Point, Pemaquid, or Winter Point, and someday, according to West Bath resident Chris Warner, we may also buy clams farmed in Georgetown, Harpswell, or even—possibly—Arrowsic. Green crabs and warming oceans threaten the sustainability of Maine’s \$18-million soft-shell-clam industry, and aquaculture could be a strategy to preserve the food, culture, and employment that clams provide, so the Arrowsic Shellfish Conservation Committee asked Warner to give a presentation at the Fire Hall on May 17. Warner has been working on a clam aquaculture project in Georgetown’s Heal Eddy with Manomet, a nonprofit dedicated to using science to improve the profitability of resource-based industries. With a grant from NOAA, they are working to foster clam farms in other Maine communities.

Three years ago, Heal Eddy had fewer than ten bushels of clams per acre in its mud flats, which is a low population. Warner got the two-acre eddy closed to clambers with a conservation closure from the State and put down 14-by-20-foot nets seeded with thousands of baby clams

purchased from the Downeast Institute. The nets seem to protect the clams from green crabs and other predators. He now has 75 nets in the eddy, which he tends several times a week year round. This year, he expects that the clams will have grown to 2.5 inches and be ready for harvesting.

However, there is a Catch-22: In order to harvest the clams, the conservation closure must be lifted in June, which will mean that any Georgetown clammer could enter the eddy and harvest the clams Warner has been tending all these years. Warner says he has a handshake agreement with local clambers not to harvest clams on these flats, so that he can gather data on how the clam-farming model works. He hopes to harvest five or six bushels of clams from under each net. Still, there is tension between the status of clam flats as a shared resource and the legal aspects of permitting aquaculture, and whether these can be resolved will determine whether a clam-farming industry takes hold in the Midcoast. 

—*For the Shellfish Conservation Committee,*  
*Lisa Margonelli*

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## On the Roads Again

As we move into Spring and Summer and our thoughts turn to landscaping, including planting and beautifying our properties along a Town road, this is to remind all that for most of the Town roads the Road Right-Of-Way (ROW) is at least an approximate eight feet from the edge of the pavement. Work on the road shoulder, ditch maintenance, and winter snow plowing make use of this ROW, which may impact, even damage any of that beautiful landscaping you have done. While the Road Commission does not discourage roadside landscaping, knowing it improves the appearance of our roads, please recognize that you may

need to have an annual renewal program if this work is done in the road ROW.

In addition, placement of any “deadly fixed object” in the ROW, such as boulders or permanently mounted posts, creates a safety hazard and impedes maintenance of the road. Please refrain from putting any fixed object in the ROW. If you have questions, please contact the Road Commission for direction.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation. 

—*For the Road Commission, Jim Stump*



**Don't forget Town Meeting!**

**Thursday, June 16, 6:30 PM, Arrowsic Fire Station.**



# Robert J. Rogers (1948–2016)

Bob Rogers passed away on April 19, 2016, in Erie, Colorado. Bob and his wife Janice Rogers retired to Arrowsic ten years ago. Janice will be staying in Colorado, near their children and grandchildren. We send our condolences to Janice and the rest of her family.

While born in Massachusetts, Bob received his undergraduate and PhD degrees in Geology from the University of Utah, where he developed a love for the red rock country of the West. He spent his career as a geologist for the United States Geological Survey in both New York and New Mexico. He was an avid hiker, cross country skier, and birder. After retirement, he and Janice traveled to both Africa and South America to pursue their shared interest in birding. He had an eye for beauty that showed in his outdoor photography work, his flower gardens, and even his bountiful vegetable gardens.

Bob and Janice were big supporters and yearly volunteers of the Alewife Restoration Project and the Scholarship yard sale fundraiser. Bob shared his garden knowledge and labor assisting with the plantings around the Town Hall, completing the planting bed behind the information sign at the entrance. He was generous with his vegetable garden bounty sharing it with families along Spinney Mill Road where he took his daily walks. He was an avid and accomplished nature photographer, winning placement in the Annual Maine Photography Show.



Janice and Bob Rogers in the fall of 2015.

Buck (as his friends from his very early days knew him) was a modest man. His keen intellect was accompanied with a sense of humor, a practical outlook on life, and a rich generosity to others. He was a man without pretense or guile. If it's true that it takes a village to build a fire station, Buck was one of those who chose to pitch in to the effort, always showing up when a call for help went out. He was a treasured friend.

Contributions can be made to the World Wildlife Fund in Bob's name: [http://wwf.worldwildlife.org/site/TR/HonorMemorial/Panda-Nation?px=10931536&pg=personal&fr\\_id=1402](http://wwf.worldwildlife.org/site/TR/HonorMemorial/Panda-Nation?px=10931536&pg=personal&fr_id=1402) 

—*Deirdre Barton, Alice and Joe Hardy, Bill Savedoff, and Rob Shultz*

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## What has Arrowsic done for the Earth lately?



Spring is a busy time for cleanup and gardening, and we have taken advantage of the spirit of the season with a backyard composting workshop, roadside cleanup, and Household Hazardous Waste Collection.

**Composting Workshop:** There were 31 attendees at the Town Hall for Mark King's excellent presentation on backyard composting. Those present represented not only Arrowsic, but our neighboring towns as well. From that inspiration, the Solid Waste and Recycling Committee will be

creating and distributing a brochure with guidelines for any of you to follow should you want to compost. Keep an eye out for that in the Town Report, coming soon. Some of our heaviest trash can be kept out of the waste stream through composting, and your garden may be the biggest beneficiary.

**Roadside Cleanup:** Check out how clean our roadsides look! A collaborative effort between the Conservation Commission and the ASWRC, the annual roadside cleanup was a success, as was the separation

➤ *continued on next page* ➤

*What has Arrowsic done for the Earth lately? (continued)*

and disposal of trash and recyclables. Thank you to all who helped with this.

**Hazardous Household Waste Collection:** Many evils lurking in people’s sheds, garages, and barns were disposed of at the Household Hazardous Waste Collection day. Ten participants dropped off 26 units of waste at a cost of approximately \$750 to the Town. One change this year was the acceptance of both latex and oil-based paint, which was disposed of free to us through the new paint program. This is your taxpayer dollars at work, and environmental stewardship to boot.

We’ve been busy supporting the environment. A small town can do good things. Thank you to all of you who are taking steps to protect what we have.

**Reminder about Summer Schedule Change for**

**Trash Pickup:** From June 1 to August 31, trash pickup will be every week, while recycling will stay at every other week.

Questions? Contact: Paul Schlein, [pschlein@gmail.com](mailto:pschlein@gmail.com), 443-3209. 

ARROWSIC SOLID WASTE / RECYCLING COMMITTEE

**2016 TRASH / RECYCLING PICKUP SCHEDULE**

*January–May; September–December*

Bi-weekly schedule for everything; Friday pickup

*June–August*

Weekly trash pickup; bi-weekly recycling; Friday pickup

JUNE	03	10 <sup>R</sup>	17	24 <sup>R</sup>	
JULY	01	08 <sup>R</sup>	15	22 <sup>R</sup>	29
AUGUST	05 <sup>R</sup>	12	19 <sup>R</sup>	26	
SEPTEMBER	02 <sup>R</sup>		16 <sup>R</sup>		30 <sup>R</sup>
OCTOBER		14 <sup>R</sup>		28 <sup>R</sup>	
NOVEMBER		11 <sup>R</sup>		25 <sup>R</sup>	
DECEMBER		09 <sup>R</sup>		23 <sup>R</sup>	

<sup>R</sup>Recycling, as well as Trash pickup

Questions? Contact: Paul Schlein, [pschlein@gmail.com](mailto:pschlein@gmail.com), 443-3209

—*The Solid Waste and Recycling Committee*

*Ros Arienti, Jon Biehler, John Hinds, Roz McLean, Paul Schlein, Katie Smith*

**Thank You to Kathleen Mary; Select Board Seeking Nominations for Local Health Officer**

The Select Board wants to thank Kathleen Mary for serving as the Town’s Local Health Officer over the past two years. Kathleen will be leaving the Town and has informed us she will resign her post as soon as we can find a replacement. We will miss her as a good neighbor and friend committed to promoting public health. While in her post, Kathleen started building relationships with other towns, posted important public health information on our website, and offered blood pressure screening at last year’s October Festival.

The Select Board is therefore seeking nominations for Local Health Officer. If you or someone you know would like to serve in this position, please contact Bill Savedoff ([bill.savedoff@arrowsic.org](mailto:bill.savedoff@arrowsic.org) or 442-8763) for details on functions and responsibilities. The position is not demanding in terms of time, but is important in particular instances when public health issues arise. It is also an opportunity to be proactive along with Local Health Officers in other towns. Experience in public health, social work, or medicine would be useful, but is not required. 

—*The Select Board*

# Revaluation of Property Coming Soon

One of the articles on the Town Meeting warrant this year will be a request for the third and final contribution to fund a revaluation of all properties in the Town. The last revaluation was performed in 2000. The main reason to do a revaluation is to update property valuations so that no taxpayer pays more or less than their fair share of the tax burden. The State expects towns to revalue every 10 years or so to keep current with market values.

Each year, the State performs an independent valuation of every town based on current property sales and market values. In their estimation, our present gross assessed Town value is only 76% of what they have determined to be the value of all town properties. This affects their reimburse-

ment rate to cover things like Homestead Exemptions. For example, this tax year the State allowed up to a \$10,000 reduction in property valuation per Homestead Exemption. But, because we were at 76% of their valuation, each Arrowsic exemption counted only \$7,600.

We will be issuing a Request for Proposals after Town Meeting, based on which we will award a contract to a Certified Assessor. We expect work could begin as early as the fall.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact a member of the Select Board. 

—*The Select Board*

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## The Arrow Needs You!

*The Arrowsic Arrow*, published continuously for more than 25 years, is our town's independent newsletter, depending entirely on the efforts of volunteers. *The Arrow* is currently in need of someone to work on the production of the newsletter. Recent issues have been produced with Microsoft Word, but any other programs and approaches will be considered. The goal is to keep things simple. The production person is a member of the Arrow Committee, shares in the development of each issue, and is the contact person who receives contributions from town members. If you are interested or have any questions, please contact Paul Schlein, [pschlein@gmail.com](mailto:pschlein@gmail.com), 443-3209. Thank you! 

—*The Arrow Committee*

*The Arrowsic Arrow* is Arrowsic's independent newsletter, produced entirely through the efforts of volunteers. The newsletter is published quarterly, currently in March, June, September, and December. *The Arrow* is distributed via e-mail to all those on the Town of Arrowsic list or on paper to those who have asked to receive it in this way. The Town covers any costs for paper and postage. To avoid cost to the Town, please consider receiving *The Arrow* through e-mail or printing your own copy. All articles and nonprofit notices are welcome. Contact: Paul Schlein, [pschlein@gmail.com](mailto:pschlein@gmail.com), 443-3209.

The Arrow Committee: Suzanne Gunston, Bob Kalish, Paul Schlein, and Nancy Brown Stump

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