



Reminders from Town Hall

News & Information for the Residents of North Yarmouth

VOTE JUNE 12

Polls open 7:00 am - 8:00 pm North Yarmouth Memorial School

**Issues you will be voting on are discussed
in the first several articles of this newsletter.**

*Wescustogo Hall and North Yarmouth Community Center Bond Referendum
A Message from the Select Board*

Dear North Yarmouth Citizens,

On June 12th, voters in North Yarmouth will have the opportunity to vote on a plan to rebuild Wescustogo Hall. The proposal represents two years of challenging work by a dedicated and diverse group of residents, known as the Wescustogo Building and Design Committee (WBDC). The WBDC, working in conjunction with the Select Board, Town Manager, and town employees, was charged with researching location options and designing a building that respected the history of the old Wescustogo Hall while meeting current and future needs of our residents. This was no small task. Residents and stakeholder groups have offered their opinions and numerous public forums have been held. With all this information in hand, the Wescustogo Hall and North Yarmouth Community Center has taken shape.

The proposal calls for Wescustogo Hall to be rebuilt at the site of the former North Yarmouth Memorial School (NYMS). As part of this project, the north and south wings of the school would be removed, but the gymnasium and kitchen would be kept and remodeled. Wescustogo Hall would be attached to the gymnasium and kitchen by a large open lobby. The layout allows for five separate activities to happen simultaneously, so that most of the recreational uses currently happening at NYMS can be accommodated.

One can also envision the Hall being rented for special events and the entire building being a magnet for community gatherings.

This building, with its nod to the past and focus on the future, is one that residents of North Yarmouth can be proud of for years to come. Lots of information is available at the town office and on the town website. Please take the time to learn about the project and reach out to members of the Select Board, Town Manager, or the WBDC if you have questions. And, of course, please vote on June 12th.

Kind Regards,

North Yarmouth Select Board

North Yarmouth Municipal Bond Referendum

For most (all) residents of North Yarmouth, June 12th will mark the first time they will be asked to consider a bond issue on a town ballot. The town has never used this type of financing and now must learn what most towns have long known – how to finance large projects.

The Special Town Meeting Warrant asks voters to approve a bond of \$3,430,000 to finance the reconstruction of Wescustogo Hall and the renovation the school gym into a Community Center.

State law dictates how all such things are done. Town Manager Rosemary Roy explained that, because a bond request is on the ballot, state law requires a “town meeting” – complete with moderator – to be convened even though the “meeting” is actually the vote – no speeches, just the ballot. This type of parliamentary procedure also applies to electing municipal officials, creating or amending ordinances, and addressing other similar matters.

To help residents understand the impact this project will have on their personal tax situation, please review this chart prepared by town officials.

Wescustogo Hall & North Yarmouth Community Center	
Project Costs	\$ 3,668,375.97
Remaining Insurance Funds	(\$ 430,989.95)
Design Rebate	(<u>\$ 32,500.00</u>)
Subtotal	\$ 3,204,886.02
7% additional contingency	<u>\$ 225,113.98</u>
Amount of Bond	\$ 3,430,000.00

Fiscal Tax Year 2020			
20 Year Municipal Bond			
First Year Debt Payment	\$ 283,611.00	Projected Mil Rate Increase	0.58
Payment is reduced each year of the bond term which reduces the mil rate.			
Property Owner Tax Impact			
Highest tax impact is in the first year. Costs continue to go down each year for the remaining debt term.			

MSAD 51 FY2019 Budget

On June 12, North Yarmouth residents will be voting on the school budget for the 2019 fiscal year. Budget hearings have already been held, the Cumberland Town Council has weighed in, and this vote is ratification (or not) of the process. The \$37.3 million budget (specifics available at msad51.org) is up 3.8 percent from current spending; the vast majority of increase comes from salaries and benefits. The FY 2019 MSAD 51 budget if passed as proposed will increase property taxes on a \$350,000 North Yarmouth home by \$329.

The projected \$11.3 million in revenue is down 5.6 percent from the current year – the decline is made up primarily of a \$442,000 loss in state subsidy, which has declined more than \$1 million over the past three years. The Cumberland Town Council has also asked the MSAD 51 School Board to “conduct an additional review” of its proposed budget “to determine if there are any services or programs that could be delayed or reduced in some manner in order to lessen the impacts of the proposed school assessment.” The Cumberland Town Council as of May 17 is asking the district to reduce spending.

Superintendent Jeff Porter, in an interview with the Falmouth Forecaster, noted that the first full impact of debt service from the Greely Center for the Arts currently under construction on the high school campus will come in FY2021. With voters approving up to \$9.5 million for the project

Property Value	First Year Annual Cost	First Year Monthly Cost
\$200,000.00	\$116.00	\$ 9.67
\$250,000.00	\$145.00	\$12.08
\$300,000.00	\$174.00	\$14.50
\$350,000.00	\$203.00	\$16.92
\$400,000.00	\$232.00	\$19.33
\$450,000.00	\$261.00	\$21.75

in 2016, the impact on a North Yarmouth tax bill for a \$300,000 home would be \$12 in 2019 and 2020 and \$84 in 2021. Considering these hits in conjunction with increases in the school budget will impact how a lot of folks feel about living in town and supporting these MSAD 51 expenditures.

(Information from the Falmouth Forecaster, 5/10/18 and 5/17/18)

**In Memory of
Richard W. Brobst, Sr.**



2018 Town Elections:

Voice of the Voters

Three Key Town Roles Being Determined

On Tuesday, June 12, the polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. at North Yarmouth Memorial School, 120 Memorial Highway. On the town ballot voters will fill two seats on the Select Board and one on the School Board.

Two Citizens Seek Select Board Posts

On Election Day, voters will fill two Select Board vacancies. Just two candidates are running unopposed for these seats.

One three-year term became available when incumbent Jeanne Chadbourne decided not to seek another term. **Bill Whitten** is running unopposed for that seat on the Select Board.

Bill spent much of his career in broadcast media and more recently served as Assistant County Manager for Cumberland County. He is now retired. He currently serves on the town's budget committee, but is required to leave that position if elected to this post.

He says he neither a Democrat nor Republican and notes, "I vote for what I believe is the right thing to do, not by party or special interest group affiliation." Whitten feels North Yarmouth is at a crossroads, with residents pitted against one another, and he wants to bridge this gap to help the town progress. He also wants to wait on the Wescustogo plan until completion of the town's master plan, which reflects all town needs.

The other Select Board seat fills the remaining year in Peter Lacy's term, which became available when Lacy recently moved out of town. **Jim Moulton** is running for the one-year seat. Moulton is a former representative to the

MSAD51 School Board. In addition, he previously served as a selectman. Moulton did not return phone messages for this story. Online news accounts describe him as a longtime resident and local businessman who has served in various roles for the town over the years.

School Board

Voters will also be electing a citizen for a vacancy on the MSAD 51 School Board. One unopposed candidate, **Katherine C. Perrin**, who currently serves as the board's vice chair, is seeking to continue on the board for a second three-year term.

Other Elected Positions

Three other positions will be filled by voters, also uncontested: Cemetery Commission, **Mark R.H. Heath**; Representative to Yarmouth Water District, **Stephen L. Gorden**; and Budget Committee, **Sandra Falsey**. There are also other open seats for Budget Committee.

In addition to town positions, residents will also be voting on State of Maine party primaries (Republican and Democrat), MSAD 51 referendum (budget), North Yarmouth bond referendum (Wescustogo Hall and North Yarmouth Community Center), and Maine referendum (ranked choice voting).



Note from Jeanne Chadbourne



Dear Friends,

At Annual Town meeting this year, I was totally caught off guard with the gifts and accolades I received! I had no idea that was going to happen. It did reinforce my thoughts as to how special the folks who live in this town are. The town office staff, Rosemary, the other Board members and residents, have made my term on the board a very positive experience. Especially this year, as we really worked to respect one another's opinions, avoiding contentious confrontations, and trying to keep town matters at the forefront. What a difference positivity makes.

I would encourage others who care about the town to consider any town committees. Most of them could use another member or two. It's a valuable learning experience, although quite a bit of patience is required much of the time! It's not always easy and not always fun, but it is very worthwhile.

Thank you,

Jeanne Chadbourne

*First Greeter Program:
North Yarmouth Welcomes New
Residents*

The First Greeter Program officially began in September 2017 as a charge of the Living Well in North Yarmouth committee to welcome new residents to North Yarmouth.

Gay Peterson, subcommittee chair, has, to date, collected 52 names of new residents via various methods, the most successful being through the town office (people coming in to license their pets, register their cars, or pay taxes).

New residents run the gamut from families, young couples, single people, all the way to seniors who have chosen North Yarmouth as a great place to retire.

Thirty-two home visits have been completed, five more are assigned and/or scheduled for a visit, fourteen have not responded to the invitation, graciously declined, or just happily accepted a First Greeter "Bling Bag" – a fabric bag full of resource information, maps, North Yarmouth history, and small gifts.



Meet Jennifer Mellett, Mill Road, who loves our "hometown" friendly vibe and is eager to meet more new people in town.

Currently, there are thirteen trained Greeters, who have all experienced the same orientation process so as to give a consistent experience to new residents. The First Greeter program couldn't have accomplished what we have without all their help.

We are always looking for new residents. If you are one or you know of one, please contact Cheryl at the town office and/or Gay Peterson at FirstGreeter@NorthYarmouth.org with new resident home address, email address and/or phone number for contact purposes.

The program can always use volunteers who would like to represent their hometown. Gay is always happy to add another.

*Hey North Yarmouth!
Find Your Fun Right Here!*

North Yarmouth is a great place to spend time. There are fun things to do and great places to go all year long. **START HERE?** Yes! And then **STAY HERE.**

Let's look at some things that are ongoing, coming up or being planned.

JUNE JUNE JUNE JUNE

Sunday, June 24: **Concert on the Green** (next to the Fire Station). Open grill and potluck. Join friends and neighbors for the **Pan Fried Steel Band!** The grill is on about 5 PM, bring your own thing to grill and, if you wish, a dish to share. Sponsored by the Events Committee. *Stay Tuned!*

Sunday, June 24: "Fly Over North Yarmouth" at the Old Town House Park: An event welcoming model plane enthusiasts (and drones, rockets). Sponsored by LWNV.

Check www.northyarmouth.org for updates and monthly calendar

JULY JULY JULY JULY

Friday, July 27: **Concert on the Green.** Come and see a performance by the **Greely Jazz Combo!** Open grill and potluck. Grill is available about 5 PM for your grillable items. Optional: Bring a dish to share. Sponsored by the Events Committee. *Stay Tuned!*

You guessed it—check out www.northyarmouth.org for updates to the calendar

Did You Know?

There's **so** much to do and see right here in your own backyard. Here in your town.

Our town. North Yarmouth. **START HERE.** Because **FUN** starts here!

And...there are so many fun things happening **at NYMS** almost every day:

Monday-Friday 9AM to noon at **The Fitness Center** you'll find treadmills, rowing machines, an elliptical, stationary bike, and Nordic Track Pro Skier!

Mondays 11-12 noon **Gentle Yoga** for seniors or anyone wishing to take it easy. Drop in with your own mat or find extras there.

Tuesdays 5:30-6:45 and Fridays 1-2:15: **More Yoga!** Fee is donation only, FMI Joanne Sullivan 829-6093.

Wednesday nights 6:30-8PM: Love **Ping Pong?** And don't we all? Come and play—there are 5 tables! Paddles and balls provided.

Remember... see www.northyarmouth.org for calendar!

North Yarmouth Troubadours



(left to right) Matt Stein, John Nidry, John Williams, Bill Holden, and Cass Gilbert performing at the Ice Cream Social. Leigh Stein has her back to the camera.

School Continues to Give

When the former NYMS was turned over to the town in 2014, few people had any idea of how – or if – this building might be repurposed. The answers started to come in quickly. The following groups, committees, or organizations have used the school:

- Cumberland/North Yarmouth Rec program: basketball and other youth league programs; gymnastics classes
- Scout troops
- North Yarmouth Fire/Rescue
- Town committees
- Annual Town Meeting
- North Yarmouth Historical Society
- Community Cribbage Tournament and Ice Cream Social
- North Yarmouth Business Association Trade Show
- Church services each Sunday

Between September and June, the building is used between 37 and 45 hours per week, representing many people from North Yarmouth, Cumberland, and other towns. During summer, usage declines. The school serves as the true center of our community.

Caring for Our Treasures: North Yarmouth Parks

North Yarmouth has a great list of parks: *Old Town House Park, Hayes Forest, Chandler Brook Preserve, Wescustogo Park Knight's Pond Preserve, Baston Park, the Sam Ristich Nature Trail, Veteran's Memorial Park, Skyline Farm trails, and Royal River water trails.*

We are indebted to the people with brilliant foresight and generous hearts who specifically set aside these remarkable parks for the health and enjoyment of townspeople. The town also established the Parks and Recreation Committee, charged with taking care of these treasures.

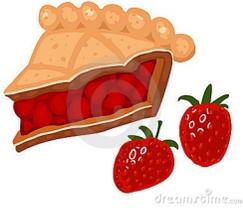
Town residents hike, walk dogs, play Frisbee, and fly kites daily, in addition to special social events such as snowshoeing and the LWNK Kite Festival—all activities that give more people greater enjoyment of our parks.

But... just like your yard, the parks need spring clean-up. On **Saturday, June 23** at 9am you can help.

Contact Ken Filliter at kenfil@maine.rr.com to help.

Give a day, give an hour – all helps.

If You Remember....



This recipe is reprinted from the original Wescustogo Grange cookbook of 1949.

Fresh Strawberry Glaze Pie

- Crust:** 1 cup flour
3/8 tsp baking powder
1/2 tsp. salt
1/3 cup shortening
2 tbsp. water
- Filling:** 1 qt. strawberries
3/4 cup water
3 tbsp. cornstarch
1 tbsp. lemon juice

Line pie shell with fresh berries, cut up in pieces, reserving one cup for the glaze. Simmer reserved berries with a little water in saucepan for 3 or 4 minutes. Combine sugar and cornstarch. Add cooked fruit. Cook again until syrup is thick and clear. Add lemon juice. Cool. Pour over the berries in the shell. Top with 1 cup whipped cream.

You will find this and many other recipes collected by North Yarmouth cooks and published by the Wescustogo Grange in 1949.

If this doesn't remind you of mother's kitchen, nothing will.

Pick up your copy at the Town Office. All proceeds go to the rebuild Wescustogo Hall fund.

Town of North Yarmouth
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North Yarmouth , ME 04097



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