



The Quamphegan

Dates to Remember

- September 22nd, Nomination Papers due to Town Clerk
- October 7th, Hazardous Waste Collection Day
- October 8th, Cemetery Tour
- November 7th, Election Day
- November 11th, Lighting Up Ball
- December 1 & 2, Community Chorus Concerts
- April 1, 2007, Deadline to file Homestead, Veteran's and Blind Exemptions.

SAD Cost Sharing Vote

Be on the lookout for more information from the Town Council this fall regarding this important financial question for South Berwick.

TRANSFER STATION HOURS

Sunday	7 am to 2 pm
Wednesday	7 am to 6 pm
Friday	7 am to 6 pm
Saturday	7 am to 6 pm

Please make a note of these hours for your convenience.

Committee Openings

South Berwick has openings on several Boards and Committees. If you are interested in serving your community, please fill out an application and return it to the Town Manager's office. Applications are available on the Town's website and at Town Hall.

- ◆ Board of Assessment Review, 1 position, meets as needed
- ◆ Building Committee, 1 position, meets as needed
- ◆ Conservation Commission, 1 position, meets monthly, 3rd Wed., in the evening
- ◆ Economic Development Committee, 3 positions, meets monthly, 1st Wed., at 11 am.
- ◆ Library Advisory Board, 3 positions, meets monthly, 1st Tuesday in the evening.
- ◆ Solid Waste Committee, newly reorganized, meeting time not yet set.

From the Manager's Desk

Contract Zoning, the Business Transitional Zone, Design Standards & the Industrial Zone; all of these items are hot topics in Town this year. The Town Council, Planning Board, town employees and I have been working hard on bold new ideas for this community. Many of these ideas are being discussed privately around Town. I encourage you to take part in the public process of reviewing these proposals by attending the meetings and public hearings which will be held in the future. The plans are comprehensive and should be viewed as a total package.

First, the Council hopes to create a strong downtown business district. By returning the zoning to its former status, the Town will be in a better position to foster new locations for small businesses, which have outgrown the small spaces in the downtown.

The proposed Design Standards will protect the downtown from businesses we do not wish to see in our community. These standards will insure the architectural features of our community are not lost with development. With-

out implementing these standards and with our current zoning, the businesses we fear will ruin the landscape of our community are permitted.

Next, the Council desires to begin the process to create an Industrial Park. This park, if created properly, will ease the tax burden in our community. The right businesses for our park will offer so much more than tax benefits. Employment, community grants, walking trails & often recreational fields are some of the benefits a strong Industrial Park and its inhabitants bring to a community.

Contract zoning provides another option for proposals that do not fit neatly into the existing list of uses or district standards. This accommodates the unique circumstances of individual locations without having to create a new zoning district or change the ordinance every time there is a proposal for something new and different. These activities must be compatible with the existing district and uses to safeguard the neighborhood. Permits are granted only after a series of public hearings, review

by the Planning Board and Council. The activities must be consistent with the Comprehensive Plan and standards for approval in Design Review and Site Plan Review. Contract Zoning brings flexibility to the Town as we embrace the creativity and entrepreneurial spirit of small or start-up businesses that are the backbone of Maine's grass-roots economy.

Once all these items fall into place, we will be in a position to bring strong, environmentally clean, socially responsible businesses to our area. Without a strong downtown, the employees of these businesses will cross Rt. 101 and travel to Dover for lunch, their prescriptions, flowers for their anniversary, etc. But if we act now, to protect our downtown while moving it forward these employees will come to South Berwick for lunch, to have their will drawn up, join our Library or a community group such as the Strawberry Festival Committee.

The possibilities are endless. Lets work together to make the best choices for South Berwick. Please check the Town website often for updates and hearing notices.

Homestead, Blind & Veterans Exemption

The deadline for filing for the Homestead, Blind and Veterans Exemption is April 1, 2007.

You qualify for the Homestead Exemption if you have lived in your home for one year and have filed the

appropriate paperwork with the Assessor's office by April 1st. If your residence has changed, a new application must be filed. If you have not taken advantage of this exemption, we encourage you to do so by April 1, 2007. If you are

unsure if you qualify for the Blind or Veterans Exemption, please contact the Assessor's office at 384-3300 to determine your status. Applications are available at Town Hall and on the Town's website: www.southberwickmaine.org

New Look for the Library

We have rearranged the entire library this summer and would like to invite everyone in to see our new look. The adult fiction collection was moved into another room onto new adjustable library shelving. Patrons are finding it easier to browse these shelves and look for books.

The picture books for the youngest patrons were moved from its little alcove area to the room with the older children

creating a more welcoming space. Children now have their own room, complete with table and chairs, a new rug, and a designated computer. The transition from picture books to beginner readers to chapter books to young adult and complex non fiction is natural.

Our two adult computers were moved into the former picture book alcove, allowing for more privacy and help from the front

desk. The previously hidden "Maine" collection was moved from storage to this area. History and current items of local interest are more accessible here.

Some adult sitting space was lost but overall the reaction to our changes is overwhelmingly positive. Space is still very, very tight but we hope our new arrangements make it easier and more pleasant to use the library. Come in and take a look.

Nomination Papers

Nomination Papers will be available from the Town Clerk on Monday August 14th for anyone interested in running for Town Council or School Board at the November 7th Election.

There is 1 Town Council seat and 1 School Board seat, both for 3 year terms.

Papers must be returned to the Town Clerk by 5:00 pm Friday September 22nd, 2006.

Senior Center

It is time once again for our annual membership drive at the South Berwick Senior Center. All memberships run from September to September and are only \$10 per person. By becoming a member, you qualify for reduced prices on trips and special events, as well as supporting the daily operations of the Center. Membership also makes you eligible to vote for the Advisory Council members who represent you. This year, for the first time ever, we will also be offering a membership meeting in which only members will be able to participate. Join your Center today to get in on the action and help us keep the fun coming! Membership forms are available at the South Berwick Senior Center or on the Town website. If you have any questions please feel free to call us at 384-3310 or email us at: seniorcenterassist@yahoo.com

Dunnybrook

Free public access to the Gladys Hasty Carroll Collection of the Dunnybrook Historical Foundation is offered on Sundays from 2:30-4:30, or evenings by appointment, at 24 Academy St, South Berwick. This is a wonderful collection of letters, manuscripts, photographs, and artifacts representing 350 years of rich local history and Mrs. Carroll's fifty-year writing career. For more information contact: Sarah Watson 384-2018

Hot Summer Nights Concert Series

Hot Summer Nights Concert Series, in its 6th year, had yet another wonderful season! Over two thousand music lovers came to listen to everything from rock, blues, jazz, country, to our very own local boy who has made it to the big time – *Slaid Cleaves!* Why would a 250+ show-a-year-professional, whose most recent release *Unsung* topped the Americana Chart for weeks, get butterflies about performing in little ol' South Berwick? "People here really know me. I never know who's out there in the crowd...former teachers, little league coaches, grade school friends... Wow, it's really powerful to play in my hometown. I look forward to this show every year."

This year's theme was "Celebrating Main Street", so we invited South Berwick businesses to share their wares at the concerts. There was delicious food and drink from *Sobo Book & Bean* and *The Catered Event*, jewelry from *Glasstone*, and *Strawberry*

Garden Club

The South Berwick Garden Club is a hands-on (co-ed) group of gardeners dedicated to beautifying the community, and educating themselves and others about gardening and the environment. They currently maintain the gardens surrounding the Post Office, and the islands on Main and Norton Street, Main and Rte 236, and Main and Academy Street. Call 384-8714 or 384-2650 for more information.

Festival merchandise. Several talented local artists impressed the crowds with their creations.

Thank you, thank you, thank you to the **Strawberry Festival Committee** for sponsoring our 2006 annual summer concert series. How lucky we are to have such supportive members of our community! Without them, there would have been no concerts, so if you see a member of this generous, hard-working group, say, "Thanks for the music!" We'd also like to recognize a few people for their hard work and support. Thank you to the town employees and the wonderful guys of the Public Works Department (they moved the stages four times for us!). Big thanks go to Rachel and Brad Martin for their ongoing work and support. And last but not least, a standing "O" for Chip Harding, sound man extraordinaire, for the many hours he spends setting up for and then delivering the music. He's a wonderful asset to this series.

Wetlands and Floods and Water, oh my!

Remember the Mother's Day floods this spring? The Great Works River overflowing its banks, lakes forming where we have not seen them before, and the wet basements? While sump pumps and sandbags may be the choice of humans to defend their property against floods, let us not forget the value of wetlands and floodplains to help lessen the impact from future 100-year storms.

While wetlands are some of the most productive and dynamic habitats in the world, they also perform many other useful functions. These functions include surface and

subsurface water storage (just think of a sponge absorbing water spilled on a counter), nutrient cycling, particulate removal, maintenance of plant and animal communities, water filtration, and groundwater recharge.

Wetlands help prevent flooding by temporarily storing water, allowing it to soak into the ground or evaporate. This temporary storage can help reduce peak water flows after a storm by slowing the movement of water into tributary streams which allows potential floodwaters to reach mainstream rivers over a longer period of time. Wet-

lands are also reservoirs for rainwater and runoff. As this water is released into the ground, it recharges water tables and aquifers, and extends the period of stream flows in many parts of the country.

So when the next deluge hits our little corner of the Great Works watershed, thank the wetlands that exist in our town for helping ease the flood damage we may find on our property while also providing diverse habitat and clean and plentiful water supplies.

Submitted by Karl Honkonen
Conservation Committee Member



"A Christmas Garland"

A concert at the start of the holiday season with 50 singer chorus, chamber orchestra, and soloists. Works to include a celebration of Mozart's 250th year with his *Missa Brevis (K.275)*, the wonderful Vivaldi *Gloria*, an assortment of carols for the season, and more.

Friday, December 1, 2006 at the *Wesley Kennedy Performing Arts Center, Marshwood High School*, 8 PM

Saturday, December 2, 2006 at *Holy Trinity Lutheran Church* 22 Fox Run Road, Newington, NH, 7:30 PM

Visit www.CCSB-SING.org for more information

Transportation to Medical Appointments

Looking for a way to help your neighbors? Join the South Berwick Volunteer Network, a local organization committed to transporting South Berwick residents to medical appointments. Wheelchair van service to medical appointments is also available through a grant from the South Berwick Rotary Foundation.

If you want to help or if you need a ride, call 384-3311 for more information. A 48 hour notice is required for a ride.

The Counting House Museum is open this fall!

- ◆ Local history - Old books, maps and photos
- ◆ FREE ADMISSION
- ◆ Sat. & Sun. - 1-4 pm thru October 29
- ◆ Open year round by appointment

November 11th, 7:30 pm, Lighting Up Ball 2006 at Spring Hill

October 8th from 1-2 pm Walking Tour of Portland Street Cemetery (rain date Oct 15) free

The Old Berwick Historical Society offers free Thursday Night History programs at 7:30 pm, on the top floor of the Fogg Memorial Building at Berwick Academy. FMI: info@obhs.net or 384-0000.

Sept. 28 - "COLONIAL-ERA FURNISHINGS IN SOUTHERN MAINE" Oct. 26 - "THE CHADBOURNE ARCHAEOLOGY SITE: AN UPDATE" Nov. 16 - "DEAD RIVER GHOSTS"

JEM Committee

The JEM (Jewett Eastman Memorial) Committee will meet at the library on Wed., Oct. 11 at 7:00 pm. We are volunteers who plan and care for the building that houses South Berwick Public Library, the Jewett Eastman House, which in 1854 was the family home of author Sarah Orne Jewett. We'd love to have interested residents join us.