



# The Quamphegan

Volume XV, Number 1

Newsletter for the Town of  
South Berwick

February, 2004

## MEETING SCHEDULE

Town Council	2nd & 4th Monday	6:30 Council Chambers
Planning Board	1st & 3rd Tuesday	7:00 Council Chambers
ZBA	As needed	
Sewer District	1st Monday	7:00 Council Chambers
Water District	2nd & 4th Tuesday	7:00 Water District Office
SAD 35	1st & 3rd Wed.	7:00 Jr. or Sr. High

## BUDGET

The Town Council has been busy preparing for next year's budget. The Public Hearing for the proposed budget is planned for March 22nd at 6:30 pm in the Council Chambers.

## TOWN MEETING

Monday June 7, 2004 at 6:45 pm  
at the Community Center on Norton Street  
adjacent to the Fire Station

## TOWN REPORTS

Town Reports are scheduled to be available on May 21, 2004.  
They will be available at the following locations:

Transfer Station, Community Center, Library, Town Hall,  
Gagnon's Oil, Flynn's News, Rideouts Hardware, South Berwick  
Pharmacy, Ocean National Bank, Dr. Yarian's Office & Dr.  
Trujillo's Office.

## LIBRARY COMMITTEES GOING GREAT GUNS

The following committees are working hard for the new library.

Major Fundraising: A group of 10 people are searching out  
monetary sources, and writing matching funds grant applications.  
Chairperson: Molly Colman.

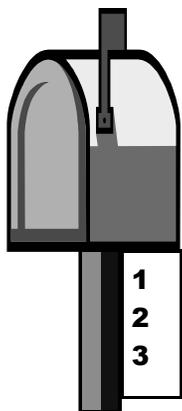
General Fundraising: A larger number of people are working to-  
ward raising money, but to a lesser degree. There is still space  
for helpers who would enjoy working on just one, or maybe sev-  
eral activities at this level. Chairperson: Greg Tuano.

Local Resources: These people are locating both businesses and  
artisans who might be willing to offer their skills toward the new  
building. Chairperson: Karen Eger.

Publicity and Promotion: This group will work toward publiciz-  
ing the new library, and attempt to keep the public aware of hap-  
penings. Chairperson: Marie White.

There is ALWAYS a need for enthusiastic volunteers. Leave  
your name at the Library and you will be contacted. 384-3308

## FIRE DEPARTMENT AND 911



The So. Berwick Firefighters Association is selling reflective address markers for your home. The cost for a marker is \$12.00. These markers can be attached either vertically or horizontally to your mailbox or another post at the end of your driveway. For more information or to place your order, please call 384-3300 ext 111.

Remember, this may save your life, or the life of someone you love. Precious minutes are lost when emergency personnel are unable to find your home.

## YORK COUNTY NRSC SHRUB & TREE SALE

This is an important opportunity for those who live along water-  
fronts to obtain native plants to reestablish a buffer between their  
lawns and the water to protect water quality.

For many of us, owning shore frontage usually involves the view  
of it from our homes. Our first inclination is to cut down trees and  
brush, so we can enjoy an uninterrupted view of the water's edge.  
After considering that what we can see uninterrupted, can also see  
us –uninterrupted, we rethink the clear-cut idea. The next tendency  
is to leave the mature trees with their over story and high limbs as  
a buffer but remove the brushy under story and plant lawn. This  
creates a park-like atmosphere, retains the view of the water's edge  
and buffers the house from being viewed from the water. Plus, we  
think by keeping the trees we have made a positive effort to protect  
the water quality which has a great deal to do with what we enjoy  
about our view. Alas, we have the happy medium – or do we?

Retaining the vegetation along the edge of streams, ponds and wet-  
lands is essential to preserving the water quality of those water  
bodies. Large trees (over story) provide shade which helps cool  
water temperatures. Cooler water holds more oxygen which helps  
fisheries and other biological processes of water bodies. However,  
the under story vegetation has an equal impact on water quality. In  
order to have a lush lawn in shaded locations, a homeowner must  
fertilize and water regularly. Tree roots also compete with grass for  
space and nutrients. Also, lawns allow for the free flow of water  
over their surface during rain and storm events. It is this flow of  
water which carries a high amount of nutrients (in part from fertil-  
izers on the lawn) which has a huge impact on water quality. Storm  
events in suburbanized settings with lawn edged water bodies are  
often followed by algae blooms which negatively impact water  
quality and wildlife and can even impact property values.

Instead of lawn, consider broad-leafed woody ground covers and  
knee high shrub species. Each spring the York County Natural Re-  
source Conservation Service offers a plant, tree and shrub sale.  
Plant lists are available in late January at Town Hall or the York  
County NRCS office 324-7015. You may also e-mail Debra Mayo  
(NRCS) directly at [debbie-mayo@me.nacdn.net](mailto:debbie-mayo@me.nacdn.net). Orders should  
be placed by mid-March for (weather permitting) April pick-up.  
These native specie plantings will require less maintenance than  
lawn – no mowing, no fertilizing. Their woody stems slow storm-  
water flow over the surface of the ground, allowing water to pene-  
trate rather than run off. Varieties range from shade loving to full  
sun and most have flowering periods which add color or fragrance  
to your landscape. So if a view is part of your landscape needs on  
your shorefront property, you *can* have your view and protect the  
resource too.

## CHILDREN'S LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

The CLC successfully funded and built the long awaited preschool  
playground which opened in August. The playground is located  
on Norton St. adjacent to the Fire Station.

The CLC will be presenting another concert series this winter.  
Thanks to the continued support of Ocean National Bank, Wayne  
from Maine will be back to delight us with his music on Saturday,  
February 7th. On Saturday, March 6, local singer and songwriter  
Mary Kaye will perform. All performances will take place at the  
Town Hall Auditorium at 11:00 am. Admission prices are only  
\$3.00/person or \$10/family. All proceeds will benefit the CLC's  
effort to fund a library pass for the Science Museum in Boston.

The CLC has already purchased a pass to the Portland Children's  
Museum for the Town's library. This pass will admit up to four  
people into the museum for half the cost of regular admission.  
Please go to the library and check it out!

Anyone interested in more information and/or getting involved  
with the CLC is invited to call Jeff or Joanne Hoerth at 384-9946.



### SUPPORTING OUR TROOPS ABROAD



If you are aware of any South Berwick residents serving overseas, we would love to hear from you. Many residents asked this fall if we had a list of servicemen and women serving abroad. Please help us form this list by calling the Town Manager's office at 384-3300. We understand you may not be able to inform us of their location, but a mailing address for cards would be welcome.

### JEM COMMITTEE NEWS

COMING SOON-- A booklet of rare, out-of print works by Sarah Orne Jewett -- all written while she lived in the Jewett Eastman House (now the Town library) on Portland Street between 1854 and 1887 -- will soon be available on the 150th anniversary of the building. "Sarah Orne Jewett At The Jewett Eastman House" will be published in a numbered, limited edition of 100 copies this spring by the Jewett Eastman Memorial (JEM) Committee, at a cost of \$10. FMI, please call the library at 384-3308.

### TRANSFER STATION

Compost: The Town began a composting program in August 2002. We currently have 24 residents participating in the program. Half of the participants bring their compost bags to the transfer station, with the remainder composting at home. To date we have collected 2500 lbs of compost. If you are interested in joining this project, please pick up compost bags in the Transfer Station office.

Recycling: Just a reminder that we recycle! Glass, metal and paper are major components of this program. Not sure what to recycle? You may pick up a flyer in the Transfer Station Office.

Spring 2004: Plans are on the board to do some planting of annuals and perennials to help spruce up the Transfer Station. As you begin to thin your perennials this spring, please think of us. We would welcome any plant donations.

### HOT SUMMER NIGHTS CONCERT SERIES

York Hospital has generously offered to sponsor the 2004 concert series, which promises to be just as wonderful as last year! Although the schedule isn't totally firmed up, we have planned a wide variety of performances and are excited to have some new faces coming on board as well as some old favorites returning. Our local young musicians will continue to open for the seasoned professionals. If you're interested in the Hoot Night, are a young musician looking for a chance to perform, are part of a non-profit group that would like to sell refreshments or are just looking for more information, call Nicole St. Pierre at 384-2248. We would also like to extend one last thank you to the Strawberry Festival Committee, the proud sponsor of the 2003 concert series.

### SOUTH BERWICK YOUTH CENTER

We would like to express our gratitude to Peter Gagnon. Peter was a driving force behind the Youth Center and our former Chairperson, and he is stepping down this year. We are thankful for all he has accomplished and pleased he will continue to have a strong presence at the center.

The center offers crafts, karaoke, pizza & movie Saturdays, Mage Knight games, cooking, etc. The center is open Tues-Fri 3 to 6 pm and Saturday 12 to 4 pm for youth in grades 4 thru 12. The center is also available to rent for two hour blocks for \$25.00. Please call the Youth Center at 384-4731 for more information.

### VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

- The Town Council is currently looking for a volunteer to re-vamp our website. If you have web design experience, are available to redesign our site and keep it up to date, please call the Town Manager's office at 384-3300.
- The volunteer network is always in need of drivers to provide transportation to local residents. Please call 384-3311 if you are able to help with this valuable service.
- The Zoning Board of Appeals is currently short two members. If you would be interested in serving on this board, please call the Town Manager's office at 384-3300.

### COMMUNITY GARDEN

Plots are available for the coming season. Plots are 10' x 4' raised beds, located by the soccer fields on Willow Dr. The cost is \$10/plot. So. Berwick residents of all ages and levels of gardening are welcome. For more info or to reserve your plot please call Mimi Demers at 384-5258. If you have a small shed to donate, it would be greatly appreciated.

### DUNNYBROOK

The Dunnybrook Historical Foundation offers free public access to the Gladys Hasty Carroll Collection on Sundays from 2-4 pm at 24 Academy Street. If you have an interest in South Berwick's rich rural history, you'll want to check out this outstanding collection of photographs, manuscripts, and artifacts. For more information, please contact Sarah Watson at 384-2018.

### GREAT WORKS RIVER WATERSHED COALITION

The Great Works River Watershed Coalition (GWRWC) is a volunteer group which monitors the water quality of the river from its source in Sanford to Leigh's Mill Pond in So. Berwick, where it joins the Salmon Falls River. Last year the group monitored 25 sites along the river on 9 sampling days. All sample sites were tested for temperature and dissolved oxygen; 9 selected sites were also tested for phosphorus and e-coli. In 2004, the GWRWC is planning to expand the number of sample sites and is looking for volunteers to help, as well as sponsors to help cover the cost of laboratory testing.

All volunteers must participate in a training program (appx. 2 hours) scheduled for the morning of May 8, 2004. The GWRWC also will be conducting a watershed survey of the northern portion of the river on May 1, and will have a canoe/kayak river clean-up event on May 8. For more info, contact Mike Cannon at 384-5881.

### SOUTH BERWICK RESCUE

South Berwick Rescue is currently finalizing the search for a new ambulance to replace Rescue 1, which is 10 years old. We have been busy applying for grants and requesting donations from area businesses. We are currently sponsoring an EMT class, offered at the Community Center on Norton St.

The Rescue Squad is always looking for volunteers. If this sparks your interest, please contact us at 384-2300. Business hours are 8 am to 6 pm, Monday through Saturday.

### COMMUNITY CHORUS

The chorus is planning a gala spring performance to benefit the GWRLT. Check out the bulletin board on the Town website for more information or call 603-692-3513. Concert Date: May 1st.

### RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Mad Science will continue this spring for students in Central School and the Middle School. Sign up sheets will be available through the schools, the Rec. Dept. and at Town Hall.

Pee Wee Soccer begins on May 3rd. The instructors are Dennis McNamara and Catalina Bakas. The cost is \$25 & signups are Tues. Apr. 13th from 9-10:30 am & 5-6:30 pm at Town Hall.

Strawberry Festival Road Race, Be "REDDY" to participate, volunteer or sponsor this fun 5 mi. run & 2.5 mi. fun walk. Give your New Year's resolution a goal and plan to participate in the race or walk this year! Save the date, Saturday, June 26th!

### SOCIAL SERVICES

Fuel Assistance: There is still time to apply for this season's assistance program. Please call 1-800-965-5762 for more info.

Transportation is available to So. Berwick residents who need help getting to an appointment. A 48 hour notice is required. Please call 384-3311. There is no charge for this service.

Life Line Screening: This service will be offered on Friday March 5, pre-registration is required. Please call 1-800-407-4557 to make an appointment or visit their website at [www.lifelinescreening.com](http://www.lifelinescreening.com).