

NOVEMBER 2009

GOULDSBORO NEWSLETTER



SELECTMEN/TOWN MANAGER

At a recent Board meeting on October 1st, elected officials expressed their opposition to two referendum questions and support of one question that will be voted on November 3rd. They adopted resolutions opposing the question reducing municipal excise tax (#2) and the question commonly known as TABOR II (#4). They also signed a resolution to support the repeal of the school consolidations (#3). The Board opposed/supported these efforts because of the significant and negative effect these questions, if passed, will have on our form of municipal government and on the potential increases in municipal property taxes.

The estimated loss of revenue from excise tax is calculated at 40%-50% for each municipality. It will not provide any excise tax savings for vehicles older than five (5) years. Property taxes, municipal excise tax, state revenue sharing and other fees are the primary sources of revenue used to operate our local government. By far, property taxes provide the largest income and municipal excise is the second largest source. If approved, this initiative could reduce our revenue in Gouldsboro by \$120,000-\$150,000 based on 2008 collections. An estimated .30 mill rate increase would be necessary to operate our municipality, county and schools based on 2009 budgets.

TABOR II impacts local government in the complexity and costs that are incurred as a result of the requirement to provide an additional referendum vote after the approval of the annual budget at our June Town Meeting. If that referendum vote fails then the process would start all over again. Additional expenses will accrue for holding any extra Town Meetings and subsequent referendums required along with the delays in our ability to get our tax commitment finalized. TABOR II, like TABOR 1, strips local citizens of their power to decide how local decisions should be made. It compels all municipalities to submit certain budget and tax decisions to referendum.

The resolution to support the repeal of the school consolidation recognizes the intent of the consolidation law and its proposed plans to ensure that the future delivery of educational services would be more efficient and less costly. The Board feels this plan failed to convincingly demonstrate these merits to the Gouldsboro taxpayer.

Municipal Officials urge all Gouldsboro residents to become informed on all questions before going to the polls on Tuesday, November 3rd. The polls will be open from 10:00AM – 8:00PM at the Gouldsboro Community Center on the Pond Road. Absentee ballots are currently available at the Town Office.

To our men and women in uniform- past, present and future-THANK YOU

CODE ENFORCEMENT Permit Activity from 9-19 through 10-16, 2009

Elscott	38 Route 1	Addition
Canner	Crowley Island Road	Residence
Zito	165 Lighthouse Point Road	Garage
Lerman	825 West Bay Road	Addition
Schafer	642 Corea Road	Addition
Moore	Wally's Way	Mobile Home
Wilcock	9 Crowley Island Road	Shed
Moore	Chicken Mill Pond Road	Mobile Home
Albee	103 West Bay Road	Deck
Giuffrida	782 Pond Road	Gen. Shed

SOLID WASTE COMMITTEE

Congratulations, we have now sent 28% less material (garbage) to PERC this year than the average volume of the last two years, 228 tons at \$71 per ton represents a savings year-to-date of \$16,188.

Ongoing plans are in process to increase the recycling program at the Peninsula School. The week of November 8th through the 14th is National Recycling Week and hopefully public awareness will encourage additional efforts on everyone's part to further reduce the Town's costs for the solid waste programs. Thanks again for all the recycling work we have accomplished, keep up the good work.

TOWN CLERK

The State of Maine has raised the price of snowmobile registration \$5.00. This increase is going to the Snowmobile Trail Fund. The State has also raised boat fees by \$4.00 for 2010. ATV registrations will remain the same. Dog license reminders have been sent- licenses must be renewed by January 31st. Don't forget the Rabies Clinic on the 4th at Fire Station 1 from 4:00 PM until 6:00 PM. Get your dog vaccinated and registered at the same time!!! Winter Harbor residents have been invited to join us.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Requests for property checks can now be filled out on line and either mailed or e-mailed to the Police Department. This can be accessed from the Police Section of the Gouldsboro Town website: www.gouldsborotown.com

SCHOODIC EMA NOTES

Are you prepared for the consequences of winter weather? Now's the time to make certain your household is safe during a severe winter weather event such as a storm related power outage that lasts longer than one day. Do you have adequate essential supplies on hand of provisions and medicines? Are you prepared to fend for yourself in your own home, if necessary, say for the safe operating of an essential medical device? And please don't forget to plan for pets and their special needs too. For more info on what you can do to make sure you're adequately prepared for winter contingencies, please see:

<http://www.state.me.us/mema/prepare/> .

FIRE DEPARTMENT

The cold weather is fast approaching, please be sure your heating system and chimney are properly serviced by a licensed technician. This will make the system safe and operate more efficiently. If you burn wood or plan to this year, be sure your wood stove is properly installed and your chimney and flu pipe are clean and in good condition. It is recommended you burn seasoned dry wood and regulate the stove per the manufacturer's instructions. If you need more information on installation, care, or maintenance of wood burning equipment there are pamphlets at the Town Office.

SCHOODIC STEEL

New members needed—Sunday, November 15th from 3:00 PM to 5:00 PM there will be a meeting at the Steuben Parish House/Library. Musical experience is recommended but not necessary. Instructions will be available in January for old and new members. Rehearsals are weekly. FMI –Dick Fisher @ 963-2383 or Bill Thayer @ 963-7771.

DORCAS LIBRARY

Thanks to everyone who helped to make our annual Craft, Bake and Attic Treasures sale a great success. Dorcas Library will be closed in celebration of Veterans Day on Wednesday, November 11th.

LAST FRIDAY COFFEEHOUSE

On Friday, November 27th, "Schoolic Arts for All" presents the Katahdin Valley Boys, a Traditional Acoustic Bluegrass group at the Last Friday Coffeehouse in Winter Harbor at Hammond Hall. The fun begins at 7:30 PM. Suggested donation for this event is \$15 - Kids under 12 are admitted free. Great desserts, no reservations needed and the doors open at 6:30. For further info, call 963-7670, 963-2569, or go to www.schoolicarts.org & www.katahdinvalleyboys.com.

HARDY'S FRIENDS

If you know someone who is struggling to provide dog food, cat food or litter for a family pet, urge them to call **Hardy's Friends** at 963-7444 for assistance. This program to help needy pet owners in the Gouldsboro-Winter Harbor area is supported by friends and neighbors who know how important these pets are to their owners.



**RECYCLING EVERY WEDNESDAY -GARBAGE PICK UP EVERY THURSDAY
PLEASE HAVE EVERYTHING CURBSIDE BY 7:00 AM**



*******NEWS FROM THE WEST GOULDSBORO VILLAGE IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION*******

The historic church located in the village of West Gouldsboro is in need of repairs. The façade needs restoring and the inside ceiling is cracked and peeling. We are calling upon residents and friends in Gouldsboro and other interested parties to support our campaign. Generally we have a fund raiser in the early summer but are foregoing that event and are replacing it with the following:

A BAKELESS SALE

In these busy days, now who wants to bake Cookies or pies or even a cake? You'd be surprised if you count the cost Of material, heat and the time you've lost.	In a little envelope please put the price Of a pie or cake or something nice Without fuss or bother you can do your part. We are sure that you'll give with a willing heart.
Baking for sales is extra work No one, however, wishes to shirk So we've thought of a way that is truly grand And we feel quite sure that you'll understand	It does not matter, big or small Donations of any size, thanks to all. This is the end of our little tale, And we hope that you like this kind of sale.

Thank you and please send your tax deductible donation to the:

West Gouldsboro VIA
c/o Betty Lou Sawyer, Treasurer
43 Taft Point Road
Gouldsboro, ME 04607

This nation will remain the land of the free only so long as it is the home of the brave.

Elmer Davis

CALENDAR OF EVENTS & MEETINGS (NOVEMBER 2009)

Tuesday	3 rd	Voting Day- Community Center/ Gym	10:00 AM-8:00 PM
Tuesday	3 rd	Planning Board- Town Office	7:00 PM
Wednesday	4 th	Rabies Clinic- Fire Station #1	4:00 PM-6:00 PM
Wednesday	11 th	Shellfish Meeting- Town Office	7:00 PM
Wednesday	11 th	Veterans Day- Town Office Closed	All Day
Thursday	12 th	Selectmens Meeting- Town Office	6:00 PM
Sunday	15 th	Schoodic Steel Meeting-Steuben	3:00-5:00 PM
Monday	16 th	Local Advisory Com. Meeting- Peninsula School	6:30 PM
Tuesday	17 th	Planning Board- Town Office	7:00 PM
Wednesday	18 th	Harbor Committee Meeting- Town Office	7:00 PM
Wednesday	18 th	PTC Meeting- Peninsula School	6:00 PM
Thursday	19 th	Neighborhood Watch Meeting- Fire Station 1	6:00 PM
Friday	20 th	Deadline for Newsletter Submissions	4:00 PM
Tuesday	24 th	Selectmens Meeting- Town Office	6:00 PM
Thursday	26 th	Thanksgiving- Town Office Closed	All Day
Friday	27 th	Town Office Closed	All Day
Friday	27 th	Last Friday Coffee House- Winter Harbor	7:30 PM

www.gouldsborotown.com

**GOULDSBORO NEWS
POST OFFICE BOX 68
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