SEPTEMBER 2023

GOULDSBORO NEWS



PO BOX 68, Prospect Harbor, ME. 04669 • (207) 963-5589 • gouldsborotown.com

SELECT BOARD / TOWN MANAGER-

- We would like to welcome Mary Cowperthwaite to the RSU School Board. She was born and raised in Mississippi and obtained her Bachelors and Master of Business Administration as well as her Bachelors of Nursing Science from Delta State University in Cleveland, Mississippi. Her family often vacationed in their summer home in Gouldsboro from 2000 until she relocated here in 2018 for her husband and three stepchildren. Mary's stepchildren attend RSU 24 schools which is how she began attending school functions and board meetings. She is actively involved in the communities in Down East Maine through her church as a volunteer and worship leader as well as her work as the Director of Clinical Education and Clinical Informatics at Down East Community Hospital and Calais Community Hospital.
- The choice was very difficult and we appreciate Cindy Crowley, Genio Bertin, Sara Liscomb and Colleen Yuraska for their interest in our community.
- Tax bills were sent out on Friday, August 25th. Seniors who applied for the Maine Stabilization Program will not notice any changes in the amount from last year. This is only a one-year freeze in taxes and will not continue for future years. The mill rate this year is 13.92 an increase from 12.25 last year. The first payment is due October 31, 2023. Interest begins November 1, 2023 as voted on at our annual town meeting. Remember you can make weekly or monthly payments as well ~ anytime any amount.
- There will be a Maine Obsolete Pesticide Collection for Maine Residents in October and free to homeowners, gardeners and family-owned farms. Pre-Registration is required by September 29, 2023. Visit: ThinkFirstSprayLast.org or email Pesticides@Maine.gov. or call (207) 287-2731.
- We have been awarded a grant through the Schoodic Community Fund for the purpose of conducting a study to explore affordable workforce housing options on our Peninsula. Thank you SCF!
- REMINDER: Brush disposal will require a punch on your card beginning September 1st.

Thank you, Jackie Johnston, for volunteering to help in the town office during the time we have been shorthanded. Much appreciated!

You can now pay your tax bills online!! Go to https://epayment.informe.org/payportonline/mystore?ts-name=1502. This will walk you through the steps and will be applied to your tax account. Please keep in mind there is a 2.5% charge fee for debit / credit cards. This is the same fee that is charged when payments are made in person or over the phone with cards.

<u>GOULDSBORO POLICE DEPT</u>- The first day of school is fast approaching. Please remember to stop for the school buses red flashing lights....it's the law!! The 15 mph warning lights near 59 Main Street will be activated in the mornings and again when school finishes in the afternoon please observe them. Let's arrive alive.

<u>GOULDSBORO FIRE DEPARTMENT AUXILIARY</u>- We are still selling the calendar raffle tickets and will be drawn each day in the month of October! If you'd like to buy tickets, call Brianna at 963-5589 or stop by the town office!

GOULDSBORO HISTORICAL SOCIETY- We will be holding a meeting and program Monday, September 11th at 7PM at the Prospect Harbor Woman's Club building (68 Main Street, Prospect Harbor). This will be about *KEEPING UP OUR MAINE LIGHTHOUSES* presented by Elaine Jones, Education Director; Maine Department of Marine Resources and former Lightkeeper at Burnt Island. Admission by donation. FMI call Ken Kelly at 963-7217.

SCHOODIC FOOD PANTRY- A little girl and her mother, happy to find cake mixes at our food pantry, chose one and went home to bake together. One woman was surprised to find the blueberries she needed to make her husband's breakfast smoothie. A baker made sweet treats for the chat table with ingredients she found at the pantry. Another woman who has forgotten how to make her pie crust from scratch was delighted to find we had boxed pie crust mix. Everyone was excited to top off their bags with fresh greens from local farms. And a pet owner was relieved to find the only food her cat will eat on our shelves. We are learning more every week about the foods our patrons want and need. Your donations help us provide those things. Schoodic Food Pantry, PO Box 173, Corea, ME 04624.

<u>HAPPY BIRTHDAY</u>, <u>HARDY'S FRIENDS</u>- August marked the 15th birthday of Hardy's Friends. Thanks to the commitment and generosity of friends and neighbors in the Gouldsboro – Winter Harbor area, so many families in our community have received assistance with veterinary expenses and pet food. We are so grateful to do the work you make possible through your donations. We are a 501 (c) 3 public charity and can be reached at Hardy's Friends, PO Box 63, Prospect Harbor, ME 04669 or 963-7444.

SCHOODIC PENINSULA BROADBAND- The Schoodic Peninsula Broadband Committee is in the process of finalizing its Request of Proposals (RFP) which they hope to post soon. Through the RFP process, the Committee will determine whether or not a whole-peninsula broadband expansion project is financially feasible, or whether the project must specifically target areas which are presently least-served for an initial phase. The RFP will be available online at www.schoodicbroadband.org, at the town offices, and other locations for those interested. For more information, please contact the Committee at schoodicpeninsulabroadband@gmail.com.

The Committee will strive, along with whichever partner is selected at the conclusion of the RFP process, to pursue grant funding to ensure that whatever project best brings broadband internet access to as many residents and businesses in the Towns of Gouldsboro and Winter Harbor as possible, does so at no cost to taxpayers. We will not be able to meet the deadlines for the current round of funding, the application window for which closes in mid-September, but we will be in good position to take advantage of forthcoming rounds.

The Committee is also working toward bringing an Interlocal Agreement to special town meetings in both towns, so that both can work more seamlessly toward realizing a broadband internet access that benefits each community. When those meetings are held, we would appreciate everyone's support by voting to enter into such an Interlocal Agreement.

DORCAS LIBRARY- Check out our new books and DVDs at www.dorcaslibraryl.org, and don't forget to return your overdue items - other patrons are waiting. Join our Qigong on the lawn every Monday at 9AM. Yoga on the lawn with Christina is every Wednesday at 10AM. The writers group meets Tuesday the 12th at 1PM. Story hour with Liz is Thursday the 7th and 21st at 10AM. The Healing Support Group with Pat meets Thursday 14th and 28th at 1PM. The knitting/needlework group with Cyndi gathers on Thursday 14th and 28th at 2PM.

<u>VETERAN'S COMMITTEE</u>- The GVC will meet on Tuesday, September 5th at 1PM in the town office meeting room. All local veterans and anyone interested in supporting veterans are welcome to attend. The committee is making initial plans for the town's Veterans' Appreciation Dinner. The dinner will be held on November 11th at the Prospect Harbor Women Club. If anyone in the Schoodic region knows of a Veteran who may need help or assistance, please provide specifics to the town office and they will contact the GVC to see if we can help.

CODE ENFORCEMENT- New building permits issued			
NAME	ADDRESS	PROJECT TYPE	
Duane Joy	473 Main Street	Shed	
James McLellan	596 Corea Road	Deck Expansion	
Dale Church	Pond Road	Driveway	
John Bernardin	222 Route One	Porch	
Margaret Fox	61 Loon Cove Road	Shed	
Laura + Rachel Colby	752 Route One	Remodel	

RSU 24- School for our students in grades PK-9 will start on Tuesday, August 29th. Grades 10, 11, and our seniors will return on August 30th! For those moving into the area or those still needing to register students, please contact your local school to check the summer hours in order to complete the registration. We still have a number of vacant positions in the district! If you are interested or you know someone who is interested in a job, please contact Chris Alvarado from Human Resources at <u>calvarado@rsu24.org</u>. Of note, we still have one bus route (Sullivan) that is without a driver. Our Transportation Coordinator will be doing the bus run until we can find a new hire. We also have several maintenance/custodial positions available at Ella Lewis and at the new school. Also, we do have some educational technician positions available. Our website (www.rsu24.org) has the most up-to-date listing of our open positions. We are awaiting a proposal for the domestic water system. I am hopeful that we will have this completed before the end of the school year. The Certificate of Completion is in the final draft form and will be signed as soon as possible. We will continue to work with the contractor/subcontractor on the completion of the competition fields but will definitely not get on the fields this school year with exception of possibly the softball field, which we may be able to use in the spring. We have hired over thirty new staff members for this school year. Of note, Ms. Fenton has been hired as the principal at the Ella Lewis School, Mr. Houghton was hired as the new principal at the Peninsula School, and Shelly Schildroth was hired as the new Director of Curriculum. We welcome these individuals as well as all of our new hires for the 2023-2024 school year. For those who have decided to work in our schools and with our students, a huge thank you! I wish our parents, our staff, and most importantly our students the best of luck this school year.

SCHOODIC COMMUNITY FUND- The Schoodic Community Fund (SCF) is pleased to announce that it has awarded \$35,000 to eight local non-profits for the 2023-24 cycle. Awards this year go to Refuge Maine (\$1,000) to help low-income residents, The Schoodic Institute (\$2,000) to purchase defibrillators, The Schoodic Food Pantry (\$4,000) to restock shelves, The Town of Gouldsboro (\$4,000) to partially assist a study of the need for affordable housing, The Winter Harbor Historical Society (\$5,000) to hire an architect to make plans for restoring the Society's museum, The Peninsula School (\$12,000) to address a growing need for a weekend backpack food program, Schoodic Arts for All (\$4,000) to afford free concerts to residents during the summer months, and Dorcas Library (\$4,000) to add heat pumps for better climate control. Requests for grants totaling over \$48,000 were reviewed by SCF board members Mark Berry, Roger Bowen, Susan Bruce, Dolora Conley, Mary Dyer, Tim Fisher, Marian Ide, Sarah Joy, Roberta Parritt, Roxanne Renwick, Susan Towle, Paul Tracy, and Lenny Young. SCF was founded in 2010 for the purpose of improving the quality of life of all Schoodic residents. SCF is a member philanthropy of the Maine Community Foundation. For more information, consult our website, www.schoodiccommunityfund.org.

CALENDAR OF TOWN EVENTS AND MEETINGS FOR SEPTEMBER

SEPTEMBER 4 th	MONDAY	*TOWN OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED IN OBSERVANCE OF LABOR DAY*	ALL DAY
SEPTEMBER 5 th	TUESDAY	PLANNING BOARD @ TOWN OFFICE	6PM
SEPTEMBER 13 th	WEDNESDAY	SHELLFISH COMMITTEE @ STATION #3	6PM
SEPTEMBER 14 th	THURSDAY	SELECT BOARD @ TOWN OFFICE	5PM
SEPTEMBER 19th	TUESDAY	PLANNING BOARD @ TOWN OFFICE	6PM
SEPTEMBER 21st	THURSDAY	COMP PLAN @ TOWN OFFICE	6PM
SEPTEMBER 28th	THURSDAY	SELECT BOARD @ TOWN OFFICE	5PM

Please note the Select Board meetings have changed to 5PM

<u>ACWC</u>- The Acadian Community Woman's Club is holding a fundraiser, their 3rd and FINAL Bake Sale of the summer season, on Saturday, September 2nd, in the parking lot of Winter Harbor Provisions from **8AM UNTIL ALL THE GOODIES ARE SOLD OUT!** There will be whole pies, cakes, breads and lots of other yummy selections. Proceeds from the sale will benefit the club's scholarship fund, we will be awarding <u>SIX</u>\$1,000 scholarships in 2023 to students enrolled in a variety of educational pursuits. Thank you for supporting our efforts!

THE ENDANGERED LOBSTERMEN- Photographer Cheryl Clegg & Schoodic Arts for All invites you to see "The Endangered Lobstermen" portrait exhibit Hammond Hall in Winter Harbor, opening reception on Sunday, September 10th at 4PM. Light refreshments will be served. The exhibit will be on display September 1st to October 31st, 2023. If you are interested in seeing more of the series on line you can see the photos here: The Endangered Lobstermen. Thank you in advance. Hope to see you at the opening on September 10th.



GOULDSBORO FIRE DEPARTMENT

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Gouldsboro Residents and Friends,

Since August 2018, Schoodic EMS has been providing emergency medical services for the Schoodic Peninsula. Throughout those 5 years, we have grown as a service with increasing call volumes, more advanced equipment and our staff has grown to include 5 licensed EMTs, 2 Advanced EMTs and 2 Paramedics. We have two advanced life support equipped ambulances currently in service. We keep one ambulance available and ready at the station by the Town Office, and one on Walters Road.

Last year, we reached out to the community for donations to equip our ambulance with a Stryker Power Load System. We cannot thank everyone enough for the donations that made that upgrade possible. With the new Stryker stretcher system, we can load patients into the ambulance more safely and also ensure EMS members lift with much less risk of injury. This year we are reaching out for donations for a LifePak 15. The LifePak 15 is designed to monitor vital signs, electrocardiograms, and defibrillates (AED). Schoodic EMS is already equipped with one LifePak 15 in our primary ambulance, but the secondary is still using an older model (LifePak 12). This model works, but finding parts for issues that arise gets to be harder and harder each time. We are looking to raise \$42,000, which is the cost of a new monitor.

Your support helps us keep our doors open and continue providing excellent emergency medical services to our community. Without the help of our villages on the peninsula, we wouldn't be the effective and successful service we are. If you have any questions, we have someone in the station seven days a week. (Unless they are on a call!) Donations can be brought to the Gouldsboro Town Office in Prospect Harbor. The members of Schoodic EMS and Gouldsboro Fire Department appreciate the continued support and we look forward to both continuing and improving all our services for our community on the peninsula as well as the neighboring communities we support with backup service.

Danielle Joubert EMT-A