



TOWN OF SOUTH THOMASTON

AUGUST 2017 NEWSLETTER



Selectboard

Jan Gaudio, Chairman

Walter Reitz

Cheryl Waterman

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Town of South Thomaston

125 Spruce Head Road

P.O. Box 147

South Thomaston, ME 04858

CONSTRUCTION PROGRESSING

In my memory, South Thomaston may be setting a new record for the most road construction this summer! For better or worse, our main thoroughfare is experiencing a major widening and repaving, the village area is under various points of construction, and later this fall they will be replacing our bridge across the Weskeag River.

In the last few weeks we saw the removal of the large drainage ditches along Elm Street, Spruce Head Road and Dublin Road, installation of new storm drains, and street curbing. Soon there will be some significant pedestrian safety improvements with the establishment of new sidewalks, crosswalks and lighting.

All this change can be confusing, frustrating and cause our patience to be in short supply – especially as we sit in lines waiting for the flaggers to clear us through the construction. Hang in there! In a few months we should be able to look back and see a new roadway and a transformation in our little village center that will have made it safer for all to drive and walk.

Of course, we aren't done yet. The Weskeag bridge replacement is yet to come. Fortunately, MDOT awarded a "Rapid Construction" contract that will keep the bridge outage to no more than six weeks. The bridge closure cannot start before October 2, 2017 and shall be completed before November 19, 2017. The contractor is financially incentivized to do even better than that. The demolition and construction should be a sight to see. Much of the drainage, curbing and sidewalk work has been done in preparation for the new bridge. To stay up to date, read the latest MDOT reports in the "Announcements" section of the Town website - <http://town.south-thomaston.me.us/>.

Lots happening this summer in our little town, but the end is in sight.

200th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

The 200th anniversary celebration of the village school will take place on August 13th during Heritage Day. The open house begins at noon with the Lion's boat raffle drawing, a Midcoast Community Band concert at 1:30, and re-dedication ceremony and birthday cake to follow.

The Historical Society meeting room will be open 12-4pm with displays and a pictorial postmark-cancellation to celebrate the event. A souvenir booklet will be available for purchase to benefit the Wessaweskeag Historical Society.

A one-room schoolhouse reunion will be held on Saturday, August 12, 1-3pm for those who attended any of the schoolhouses in town. Please call 594-7416 for more information.

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DO YOU QUALIFY FOR TAX RELIEF?

Homestead Exemption: This year the exemption is \$20,000.00. You must be a legal resident for a year and have owned homestead property for at least 12 months as of April 1st.

Veterans Exemptions: Veterans who are 62 or older, who served actively during a war time period, or widows of veterans could receive an exemption of \$6,000.00. Homestead & Veteran applications must be on file by April 1st of the current tax year in order to receive the exemption.

THANK YOU

To all of the residents who serve on the various Boards & Committees for the town, unselfishly and with little or no pay. You are very much appreciated for your time and efforts.

VOLUNTARY TAX CLUB

Voluntary Tax Club Booklets are available at the Town Office. Anyone interested in participating should contact the Town Office at 596-6584 for assistance. You can budget your property taxes on a monthly basis.

TOWN E-MAIL LIST

The Town has an email list to electronically mail newsletters, meeting agendas and other information. If you would like to be added to the electronic distribution list please send an email to:

sthomstn@midcoast.com.

FREE BOOKS AVAILABLE AT TOWN OFFICE

The South Thomaston Library has been placing free books in the town office. It has become something folks are looking forward to.

Many thanks to Pennie Alley for keeping the shelves stocked. Books for all ages fiction and non-fiction are available.

TOWN OFFICE 2017 HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

2017 Holidays	Date Observed
New Year's Day.....	January 2
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day ...	January 16
President's Day	February 20
Patriots Day.....	April 17
Memorial Day	May 29
Independence Day	July 4
Labor Day.....	September 4
Columbus Day.....	October 9
Veterans Day	November 10
Thanksgiving Day.....	November 23
Christmas Day	December 25

OPERATIONAL HOURS

Town Office

Mon, Wed, Thurs 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM
 Tuesday 8:30 AM - 6:00 PM
 Friday Closed
 Phone 596-6584

Demolition Debris Facility

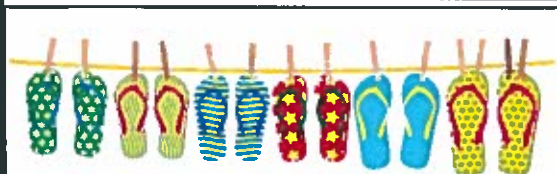
Wed & Sat 9:00 AM - 4:00
 A sticker is required for residents. Vouchers are available at the Town Office.

Library

Monday. 11:00 AM - 4:00 PM
 Wednesday 2:00 PM - 7:00 PM
 Saturday 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM
 Story Hour, Monday 10:00 AM
 Phone 596-0022

Transfer Station

Tues - Thurs & Sat
 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM
 Phone 594-0748



ADDRESS CHANGE

Often the Town Office is overlooked when it comes to address changes. Please notify us if your mailing address changes.

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FIRE DEPARTMENT

For the home or property owners that live on narrow secluded roads we are asking for you to trim your tree limbs up to 15 feet and 15 feet back. By not doing this it could and will delay ALL emergency vehicles from gaining access to your emergency. If you have any questions please contact Chief Calderwood at 596-6674.

Check your smoke and CO Detectors. If they are 10 years old or older it is recommended they be replaced. Also change the batteries.

Remember, it is State Law to have a burn permit while burning any and all brush .

If you are 16 years or older and want to give back to your Town come join the Fire Department. Applications are on the Town website.

Twix Cookies

1 1/2 c softened butter	1/4 tsp salt
1 c powdered sugar	15 oz caramels
3 c flour	2 c milk chocolate chips
1 tsp vanilla	2 tsp shortening

Preheat oven to 350 degrees

Cream butter and sugar together. Add vanilla, flour and salt. Mix well

On a lightly floured surface, roll dough out to 1/2 inch thick.

Cut cookies to preferred size, 2 inches wide.

Place round cookies on lightly greased cookie sheet. Bake at 350 degrees 14—16 minutes. Let cool.

Melt caramels. Cool completely. Add shortening to chocolate chips and melt in microwave. Spread caramel over cooled cookies, spread melted chocolate over caramel. Let set. Do not refrigerate.

DUMP STICKERS

New Transfer Station and Demo Debris Stickers are available at the Town Office. Transfer Station Stickers are \$15. Demo Debris Stickers are \$10. Both stickers are valid until December 31, 2018



E5410105 fotosearch.com ©

2017 TAXES DUE OCTOBER 2nd

Please note that 2017 taxes are due October 2nd. Interest, at a rate of 7%, begins accruing on any unpaid balance as of October 3rd. The names of property owners owing taxes on December 31st will be published in the Town Report.

2017 REFERENDUM ELECTION

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2017
POLLS OPEN 8:00 AM TO 8:00 PM
TOWN OFFICE , 125 SPRUCE HEAD ROAD

ABSENTEE BALLOTS ANTICIPATED
TO BE AVAILABLE AFTER OCTOBER 6TH

ASSESSOR'S AGENT

The Assessor's Agent meets with residents by appointment during his weekly office hours. If you would like to schedule an appointment, please call the Town Office at 596-6584.

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ANY DEER PERMIT LOTTERY

Applications for 2017 any-deer (antlerless) permit lottery are now available online from the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife.

To apply online, visit www.mefishwildlife.com. Online applications are due by 11:59 P.M. on August 15, 2017.

It is free to apply for the any-deer permit lottery. The drawing will be held on September 8, 2017 and results will be posted on the Department's website.

NEW ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER

The Board of Selectmen appointed Lucas Verrier of South Thomaston as the Town's Animal Control Officer.

Please remember to continue to call Knox Communications for Animal Control Issues at: 593-9132

SELECTMEN'S MEETINGS

The Selectmen meet at the municipal building at 6:00 p.m. usually on the second Tuesday of each month.

TOWN OF SOUTH THOMASTON DIRECTORY

Selectboard

Jan Gaudio, Chair Home: 594-0025

Walter Reitz Home :594-2275

Cheryl Waterman Home: 594-7695

RSU # 13 Board of Directors Representative

Jesse Butler

RSU # 13 Superintendent

John MacDonald 596-6620

Town Administrator, Town Clerk, Tax Collector, Treasurer, Registrar & General Assistance Admin.

Terri-Lynn Baines 596-6584

Deputy Clerk, Treasurer, Tax Collector, and Registrar

Phil Verrill 596-6584

Deputy Assistant

Michelle Ames 596-6584

Animal Control Officer (ACO)

Lucas Verrier 593-9132

Call Knox Communications ACO issues

Fire Department: Emergency Dial 911

Bryan Calderwood, Fire Chief 596-6674

David Elwell, Deputy Chief 542-4797

Gerald Harjula, Assistant Chief 354-8026

All 3 are Fire Wardens and can issue burning permits

Ambulance Service: Emergency Dial 911

Pat Dougherty, Director 594-9305

Emergency Management Director

Betty Thomas Home: 594-7873

Library Director

Pennie Alley 596-0022

E-911 Coordinator

Arthur Grierson Home: 594-8873

Road Commissioner

Gerald Grierson Home:594-5493

Budget Committee

Moira Paddock, Chair, Gayle Gallant, Alvera Bosica, Sonja Sleeper, Jeff Northgraves, Alan Hall, Donna Withington

Planning Board

Eileen Skarka, Ervin Curtis, Jeff Northgraves, Cathy Lawrence
Sonja Sleeper

Board of Appeals

John Hansen, Barbara Noves, Rolf Winters, Richard Rackliff
and Dianne Darling

Knox County Budget Committee

Dorothy Meriwether Home: 594-7873

Code Enforcement Officer

John Snow Cell: 390-0054

Plumbing Inspector

Terry Brackett Cell : 701-9910

Assessor's Agent

RJD — Kevin McCormick 596-6584

Solid Waste Committee

Jan Gaudio Home: 594-0025

Gordon "Skip" Connell Home: 594-1801

Georges River Shellfish Warden

Deputy Justin Hills

Knox County Sheriff (non-emergency) 593-9132

Maine State Police (non-emergency) 1-800-452-4664