



**Veazie Town Council**

**Regular Meeting**

**March 28th, 2016  
6:30pm**

**AGENDA**

- ITEM 1:** Call to Order
- ITEM 2:** Secretary to do the Roll Call
- ITEM 3:** Pledge of Allegiance
- ITEM 4:** Consideration of the Agenda
- ITEM 5:** Approval of the February 22nd Regular Council Meeting Minutes and March 22<sup>nd</sup> Special Council Meeting Minutes.
- ITEM 6:** Comments from the Public

**New Business:**

- ITEM 7:** Principal Cyr Presentation
- ITEM 8:** Election Clerks Appointment
- ITEM 9:** Cemetery Committee Appointment
- ITEM 10:** Executive Session 1 M.R.S.A. 405(6)(A) –Personnel Matters

**Old Business:**

- ITEM 11:** River Restoration follow up
- ITEM 12:** Manager's Report
- ITEM 13:** Comments from the Public
- ITEM 14:** Requests for information and Town Council Comments
- ITEM 15:** Review & Sign of AP Town Warrant #17, #18 & #19 and Town Payroll #18 & #19, School Payroll Warrant #18, #19 & #20 and AP School Warrant #18, #19 & #20.
- ITEM 16:** Adjournment

Tammy Perry  
5 Prouty Dr  
947-9624

Chris Bagley  
16 Silver Ridge  
cbagley@veazie.net

Robert Rice  
1116 Buck Hill Dr  
942-3064

Karen Walker  
1002 Mutton Ln  
947-0458

David King  
1081 Main St  
942-2376



# **Agenda Items For March 28, 2016 Council Meeting**

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- ITEM 7:** Principal Cyr will present a PowerPoint presentation he created regarding the Veazie Community School
- ITEM 8:** Appointment of Alfred Bushway as a Democratic Election Clerk and Norma Noble as a Republican Election Clerk
- ITEM 9:** Appointment of Ester Bushway as member of the cemetery committee
- ITEM 10:** Executive session regarding a personnel matter requested by Councilor King, pursuant to 1 MRSA 405 6 A
- ITEM 11:** Laura Rose Day, Executive Director of the River Restoration will discuss transferring the old dam site over to the Town of Veazie. The answer to questions that were posed during that previous meeting has been provided for review.



Veazie Town Council Special Meeting  
March 22nd, 2016

**Members Present:** Chairman Tammy Perry, Councilor Robert Rice, Councilor Chris Bagley, Councilor Karen Walker, Councilor David King, Manager Mark Leonard, Secretary Julie Strout, PERC representatives and various members of the public.

**Members Absent:**  
All present

**ITEM 1: Call to order**

Chairman Tammy Perry called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

**ITEM 2: Secretary to do the roll call:**

All present

**ITEM 3: Pledge of Allegiance**

**ITEM 4: Comments from the public**

None

**New Business:**

**ITEM 5: PERC Presentation**

Bob Knudsen and Kevin Tritz reviewed their presentation with the Council.  
Here are some key advantages of PERC: from their handout:

PERC has a 28-year record of consistent, reliable operation. It is a fully licensed, environmentally compliant facility using known and proven technology. Professional engineering reports say it can operate successfully for another 20 years. No technology risk.

The pricing in PERC's new long-term disposal contracts is fixed, except for a standard increase based on the Consumer Price Index(CPI). The price for operations and disposal of residue and bypass disposal are already included in the contracts, plus PERC's debt will be paid off by 2018. No financial risk.

No guaranteed annual tonnage (GAT) requirements, put-or-pay obligations or Delivery Diversion Charges at PERC post 2018. No risk of penalties.

Guaranteed back-up disposal at \$60/ton tipping fees through Casella at Juniper Ridge landfill in the PERC plant is ever temporarily out of service. No risk for disposal options.

Municipalities retain complete control of decision-making authority for solid waste management options. No risk of losing local control.

MRC Equity Charter Municipalities could apply their proportionate share of their ownership interest in PERC as a PERC tipping fee discount or to offset municipal expenses. No risk of losing equity value.

MRC Charter Municipalities also can apply their share of the Tip Fee Stabilization Fund as a further PERC tipping fee discount or receive a distribution of their fund share to self direct towards local needs. No risk of losing funds value.

PERC can offer a full service integrated package to meet any municipality's solid waste management needs through its collaboration with Casella, WasteZero and Agri-Energy, which all have reliable programs and services (e.g. Zero-Sort; food waste diversion and PAYT) to reduce the amount of MSW that would otherwise need to be disposed at PERC, lowering total costs for the municipality through increased diversion. No risk of being locked into a one-size fits all program.

The PERC-based program incorporates the services of established businesses already operating successfully in Maine and does not require any outside funding or municipal investment. No general obligation or market risk.

**ITEM 6:      Comments from the Public**

None

**ITEM 7:      Adjournment**

Councilor David King motioned to adjourn

Councilor Chris Bagley seconded. No discussion. Voted 5-0-0. Motion carried.

Adjourned at 8:23pm

A True Copy Attest

Julie Strout, Deputy Clerk

Veazie Town Council Meeting  
February 22nd, 2016

**Members Present:** Chairman Tammy Perry, Councilor Robert Rice, Councilor Chris Bagley, Councilor Karen Walker, Councilor David King, Manager Mark Leonard, Secretary Julie Strout, Planning Board members Andrew Brown and Anthony Cappuccio, Budget Committee Members Brian Perkins, Judy Horten and Norma Noble, School Board Appointment Paul Messer and various members of the public.

**Members Absent:**  
All present

**ITEM 1: Call to order**  
Chairman Tammy Perry called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

**ITEM 2: Secretary to do the roll call:**  
All present

**ITEM 3: Pledge of Allegiance**

**ITEM 4: Consideration of the Agenda**  
None

**ITEM 5: Approval of the February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2016 Special Council Meeting and Regular Council Meeting Minutes**  
Councilor Karen Walker made a motion, seconded by Councilor David King to approve the February 8th, 2016 Special Council Meeting Minutes as written. Voted 5-0-0. Motion carried.

Councilor Karen Walker made a motion, seconded by Councilor Chris Bagley to approve the February 8th, 2016 Regular Council Meeting Minutes as written. Voted 5-0-0. Motion carried.

**ITEM 6: Comments from the public**  
None

**New Business:**

**ITEM 7: Executive Session – 1 M.R.S.A.405 (6) (A) – Personnel Matter**  
Councilor Robert Rice made a motion, seconded by Councilor Karen Walker to go into Executive Session 1 M.R.S.A. 405 (6) (A) - Personnel Matter at 6:32pm. Voted 5-0-0. Motion carried.

Councilor Robert Rice made a motion, seconded by Councilor David King to exit Executive Session at 7:01pm. Voted 5-0-0. Motion carried.

**ITEM 8: School Board Appointment**

Councilor Robert Rice made a motion, seconded by Councilor David King to appoint Carol Arnold to the Veazie School Committee for the next election. Voted 4-0-1. Councilor Chris Bagley abstained. Motion carried.

**Old Business:**

**ITEM 9: Planning Board By-Laws discussion**

Councilor Robert Rice made a motion, seconded by Councilor Karen Walker to move to confirm by Order of Resolution that the Planning Board move forward adopting their By-laws subject to any modifications. Voted 5-0-0. Motion carried.

**ITEM 10: Budget directive memo discussion**

Councilor Robert Rice made a motion, seconded by Councilor David King to approve the Budget Directive Memo as amended. Voted 5-0-0. Motion carried.

**ITEM 11: Storm water Management estimate discussion**

Manager Leonard presented the estimate from Phil Ruck to the Council. There will be a \$6,500.00 increase from last year due in part to an anticipated audit.

**ITEM 12: Manager's Report**

Manager Leonard reviewed his report with the Councilor's.

**ITEM 13: Comments from the Public**

Mr. Silver spoke to the Council regarding snowplowing complaints.

**ITEM 14: Requests for information and Town Council Comments**

Councilor Walker wanted to thank the Fire Department for all of their hard work.

Councilor Bagley thanked Manager Leonard and the Fire Department for the help with his neighbor's flooded basement.

**ITEM 15: Review & sign of AP Town Warrant #16 and Town Payroll #17 School Payroll Warrant #17 and AP School Warrant #17.**

The warrants were circulated and signed.

**ITEM 16: Adjournment**

Councilor David King motioned to adjourn

Councilor Karen Walker seconded. No discussion. Voted 5-0-0. Motion carried.

Adjourned at 7:58pm

A True Copy Attest

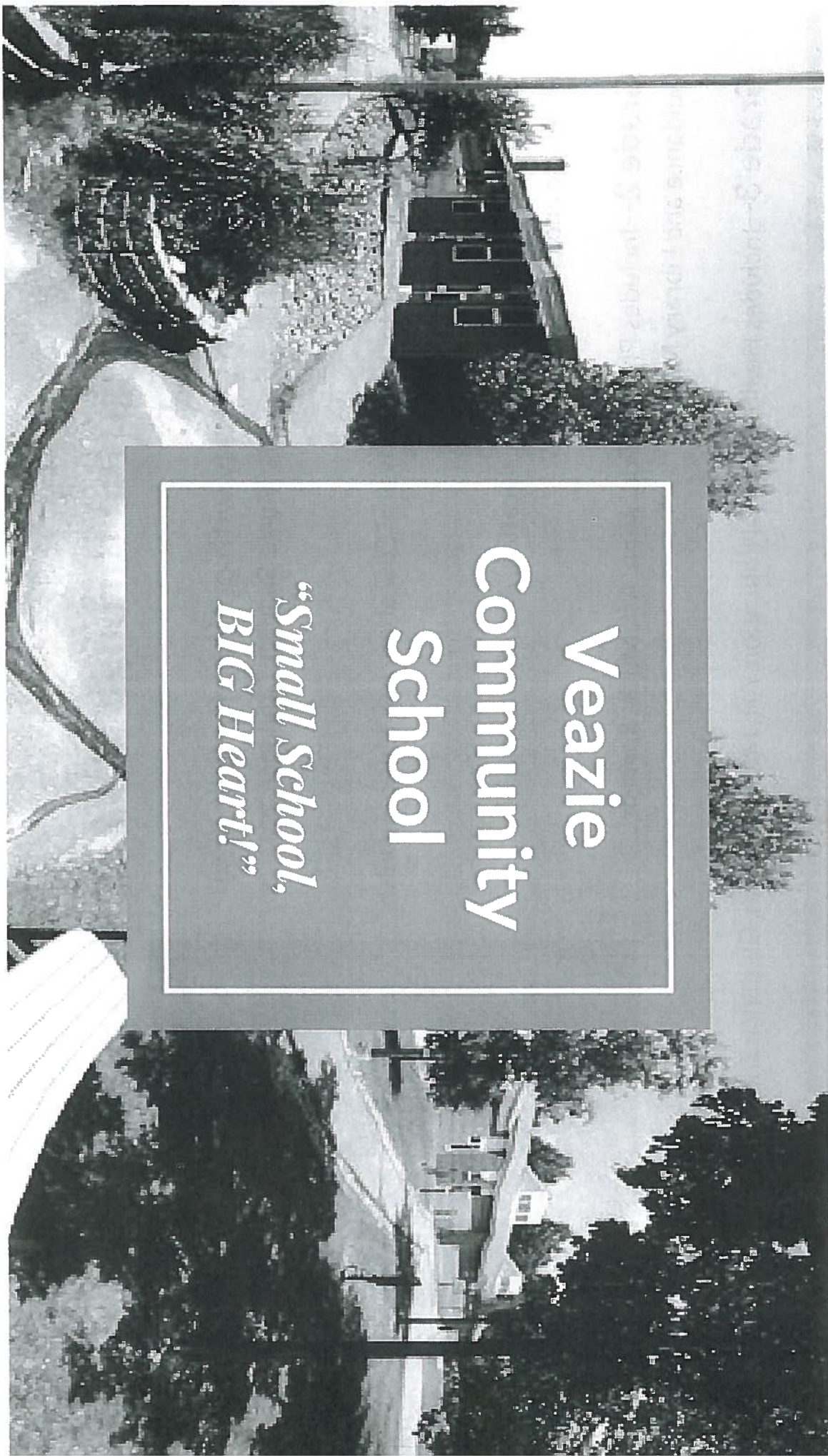
Julie Strout, Deputy Clerk



ITEM # 2

# Veazie Community School

*"Small School,  
BIG Heart!"*



# A Pre-Kindergarten through 8th Grade Experience

## **Pre-Kindergarten** (all day with options for half day)

Includes Physical Education, Art, Music, Spanish, Guidance and Library Media

## **Kindergarten**--Includes Physical Education, Art, Music, Spanish,

Guidance and Library Media

## **Grade 1**--Includes Physical Education, Art, Music, Spanish,

Guidance and Library Media

## **Grade 2**--Includes Physical Education, Art, Music, Spanish,

Guidance and Library Media

## **Grade 3**--Includes Health, Physical Education, Art, Music, Spanish, Guidance and Library Media



## Continued...

**Grade 4--**Includes Health, Physical Education, Art, Music/Chorus, Spanish, Guidance and Library Media

**Grade 5--**Includes Band, Health, Physical Education, Art, Music/Chorus, Spanish, Guidance and Library Media

**Grade 6--**Includes Band, Health, Physical Education, Art, Chorus, Spanish, Guidance and Library Media

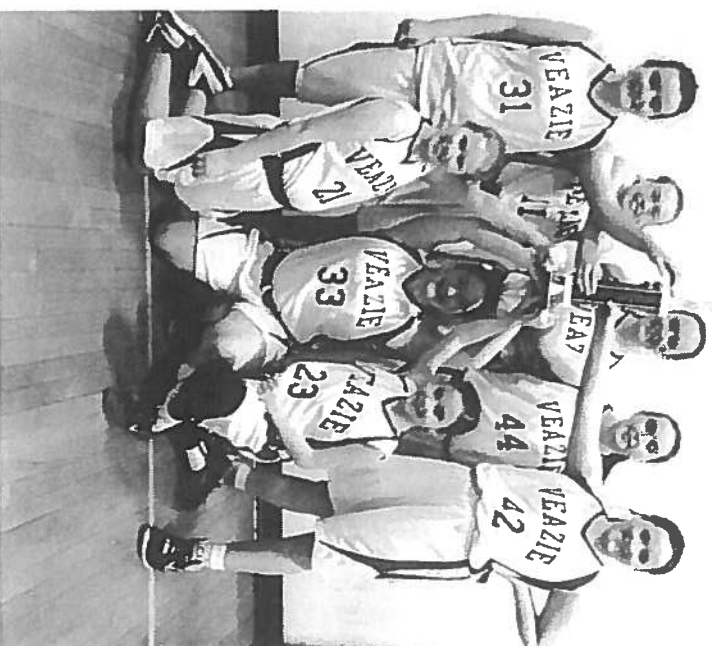
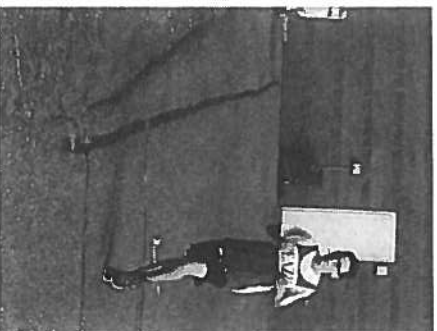
**Grade 7--**Includes Band, Health, Physical Education, Art, Chorus, Spanish, Guidance and Library Media

**Grade 8--**Includes Band, Health, Physical Education, Art, Chorus, Spanish, Guidance and Library Media

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# Athletics (Grades 5-8)

- Boys & Girls Soccer
- Boys & Girls Cross-Country Running
- Boys & Girls Basketball  
(Defending Champions of Mid-Maine League)
- Boys & Girls Track & Field
- Baseball
- Softball





What Makes VCS Different?

# Extra & Co-Curricular Opportunities

**Chess Club** (available to all grades)

**Adventure Club** (Intermediate Grades 3-5)

**MathCounts** (Middle School Math Team)

**Middle School Geography Bee**

Participant of State and National Geographic Bee

**Middle School Spelling Bee** (Scripps National Spelling Bee)

**Drama--PreK - 2 Musical; Intermediate Play (grades 3-5); & Middle School Play (grades 6-8)**

**D.A.R.E.** Program participants (Grade 5)



# Opportunities Continued....

**Junior Achievement Program (Grades 3, 4, 5 & 8)**

**Middle School Speech Contest**

**Middle School Intramurals**

(Daily choice of unstructured lunch recess or organized intramurals)

**Grades 5-8 Instrumental Instruction (Band)**

(Winter & Spring Concerts)

**District 5 Music Festival Participants**

**Peer Helpers (Collaborative mentoring between 6th and 1st Grade)**

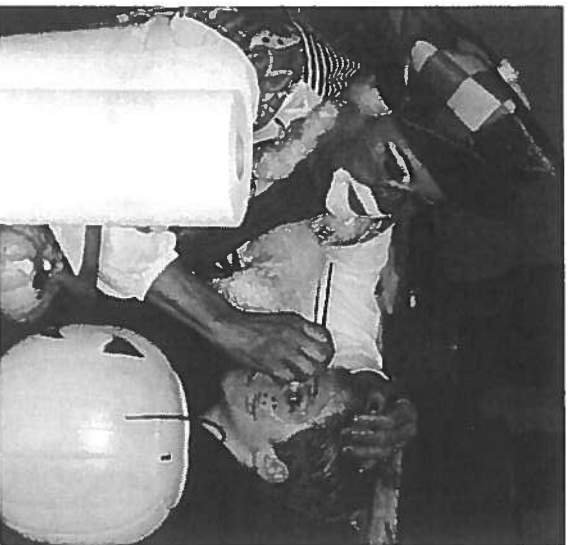


# Opportunities Continued....

PreK - 8 Bangor Mall Art Show

Middle School Student Council

(Hosts Community Events, Movie Nights and School Dances)





# Academic Opportunities to be PROUD of!

**Advanced Math--Algebra & Geometry courses (for qualifying students)**

**Virtual High School Courses (for qualifying students)**

**RISE Curriculum in Grades K-8 (Research in STEM Education Partnership)**

- Aligned with NGSS (Next Generation Science Standards)
- Members of Maine Elementary Sciences Partnership
- Members of Maine Physical Sciences Partnership

**RTI (Response to Intervention) Team**

**(Supporting students in grades PK - 8)**

**iXL Web-based, Dynamic, Adaptive Learning PK - 8**



# Academics Continued...

Advanced Art Classes--Supporting Middle School Students

Chapter 104 Services (Gifted & Talented)--Supporting Grades PK - 8

Chapter 101 Services (Special Education) --Supporting Grades PK - 8

ELL Services (English Language Learners)--Supporting Grades PK - 8

Reading Recovery Services--Supporting students in Grade 1

Summer School--for qualifying Special Education Students

Summer Library Program--Open to the community every Wednesday during summer months

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# Incredible Units and Experiences

Annually selected as host site for Mid-Maine League Basketball Tournament

Hands-on CPR Training for all Middle School Students

Read Across America Week

- Author Visit
- Author's Tea

Red Ribbon Week

PreK - Grade 4 Fire Safety Instruction

Invention Convention (State Participants)



# Experiences Continued...

Instructional Swimming Unit at Bangor YMCA--PreK - Grade 8

Fall & Spring Scholastic Book Fairs

Spring Book Swap & Give-Away

Grade 8 Career Fair at UTC

Grade 8 Class Trip

CSI Unit w/Veazie Police, ADA

Brenden Trainor, Criminal Attorney

Erik Black & the Maine State Police---Grade 7



# A Champion for Community Events!

Back to School Open House Dinner & Show (Coordinated by VCS PTO)

Halloween Hullabaloo (Coordinated by the VCS Student Council)

Family Dance (Spring--Coordinated by PTO and Student Council)

Culture Fair/Veazie History Celebration (Brand New this Spring!)

PreK - 8 Talent Show

Veazie Birthday Breakfast and Easter Egg Hunt

Family Art Nights

Walking Opportunities for Veazie Residents



- Y-WORKS IS  
A M  
AURORA  
SNOW  
AHEAD  
MUCH  
FUN!  
PATRIC

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A M  
AURORA  
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AHEAD  
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PATRIC

- Community Survey Data being collected. Collaborative opportunities include Older Adult and Adult Fitness Classes, All-Day Child Care

# Projects in the Works for 2016-2017

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## Veazie Community School Robotics Instruction

- **LEGO Mindstorm Programming Language**
  - Early LEGO exploration Units in Grades PreK & Kindergarten
  - WeDO Programming at Grades 1 & 2
  - EV3 Programming at Grades 3-8
- **Membership in Maine Robotics League**
  - Advanced before/after school team opportunities
  - Participants in fall and spring Regional/State competitions





# 2016-2017 Continued...

Virtual Summer School --Available to all PreK - 8 Students!

Civil Rights Team (In partnership with Brandon Baldwin, Office of the Attorney General)

Financial Education Partnership with Machias Savings Bank

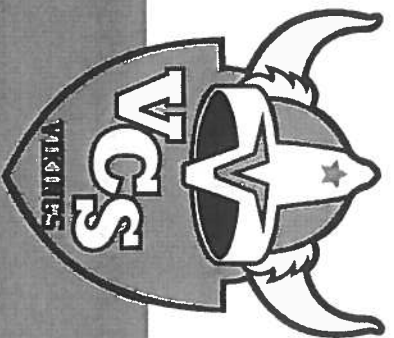
Expanded After School Intramural Programs to coincide with current athletic programs

Flexible Block Scheduling which will enable the development of exploratory learning opportunities for all students. This will include Advanced Robotics & Coding, Chinese Language & Culture, Advanced Art and Jazz Band.

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# 2016-2017 Continued....

Continued efforts at 'Branding' our school and promoting the excellence that happens within.



**VEAZIE VIKINGS**  
*"Small School, BIG Heart"*



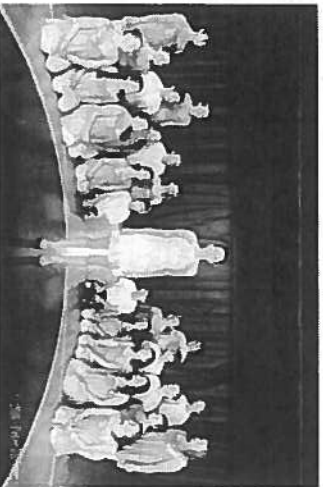
# How do Veazie Community School Students Perform when they leave?

# How do Our Students Perform When they Leave?

## Orono High School Data

### (Students in Graduating Classes of 2015 - 2018)

- 24 Former VCS Students Enrolled
  - 7 National Honor Society Members (Only accepted in Grades 11 or 12)
  - 3 High Honors Students & 8 Honors Students
  - Participants in the following Athletic Programs:
    - JV & Varsity Soccer, Varsity Football, Varsity Basketball, Swimming & Diving, Indoor Track, Varsity Softball, Varsity Baseball, Cross-Country Running



# How do Our Students Perform When they Leave?

## Bangor High School Data (Currently enrolled)

- 4 Currently Enrolled Students Attended VCS
    - One student currently ranked 5th w/a 4.8 GPA (All A's thus far)
    - One student currently ranked 24th w/a 4.3 GPA (All A's thus far)
    - One student currently enrolled in the STEM program
    - One student is an officer in Key Club
    - Participants in Cross-Country, Track & Field, Varsity Soccer & JV Hockey
-

# How do Our Students Perform When they Leave?

## John Bapst High School Data (Students Currently Enrolled)

- 25 currently enrolled students attended VCS
  - Combined Grade Avg. of 90.3%
  - 6 of these students have a combined average of 95% or higher
- 24 Academic Letters
- 9 National Honor Society Awards
- The Current Student Body President
- Academic Awards Earned in the Following Courses:
  - Spanish I Award (4); Spanish II Award (3); World History Award (4); Algebra I Award (2); Honors Algebra II Award (1); Honors Geometry Award (3); Honors Chemistry Award (1); Concert Band Award (1); Basic Design Award (1); Chinese Award (1), English Award (4)
- *2015 Valedictorian attended Veazie Community School*

We are Veazie!

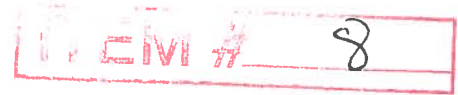
We are Proud!

We are Vikings!





Expiration June 2017



MUNICIPALITY OF VEAZIE MAINE

I, **Alfred Bushway**, do swear or affirm, that I will support the Constitution of the United States, and of this state, so long as I shall continue a citizen thereof. (Constitution of Maine, Art. IX, Sec.1.)

I, **Alfred Bushway**, do swear or affirm, that I will faithfully discharge, to the best of my abilities, the duties incumbent on me as a **Democratic Election Clerk**, according to the constitution and the law of the state. So help me God.

Date \_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

Veazie, Maine

Subscribed and sworn to before me,

Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Title \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration June 2017

MUNICIPALITY OF VEAZIE MAINE

I, **Norma Noble**, do swear or affirm, that I will support the Constitution of the United States, and of this state, so long as I shall continue a citizen thereof. (Constitution of Maine, Art. IX, Sec. I.)

I, **Norma Noble**, do swear or affirm, that I will faithfully discharge, to the best of my abilities, the duties incumbent on me as a **Republican Election Clerk**, according to the constitution and the law of the state. So help me God.

Date \_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

Veazie, Maine

Subscribed and sworn to before me,

Date \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title \_\_\_\_\_

ITEM # 9



### Citizen Involvement Application

All citizens of the Town of Veazie interested in having their names considered for appointment by the Veazie Town Council and/or the Town Manager, at such time a vacancy may occur on any Board or Special Committee, should fill out this application and return it to the Veazie Town Office.

Name Esther Bushway Phone Number 947-6448  
Address 17 Arbor Dr.  
Civic Involvement 3 term Mayor-Serve District, Served  
Years Resided in Veazie 38 yrs in Sept of 2016 in Veazie  
Specialty or Field Education Rec Committee  
Committee or Boards Interested In Cemetery Board  
Additional Information

Applicants Signature: Esther L. Bushway  
\*By signing this document I acknowledge that I have read and agree to abide by the  
Committee Policy that has been adopted by the Veazie Town Council.\*

Date Received at Town Office: 3/17/16



To: Town of Veazie

ATTN: Mark Leonard, Town Manager

From: Laura Rose Day, Executive Director

Penobscot River Restoration Trust

Date: March 24, 2016

Re: Information responsive to requests by Veazie regarding the transfer of Penobscot Trust-owned lands to the Town of Veazie for public purposes

The Penobscot River Restoration Trust (Penobscot Trust) and the Town of Veazie (Veazie) have been discussing the potential transfer of property in Veazie owned by the Penobscot Trust to the town for public use. The property generally includes the shoreline along Veazie Street including the land where the power houses once stood (now commonly referred to as "the park"). The following summarizes various issues and questions raised in the course of due diligence by both the Veazie Town Manager and the Veazie Conservation Commission on behalf of the Council and supplements, as noted below, detailed information already provided to Veazie.

#### Property survey

Wright-Pierce recently updated the original survey of the Penobscot Trust property, including updates such as the removal of buildings and added new "park" features. The survey will be available for closing. Veazie and the Penobscot Trust will discuss whether the addition of any additional survey points is necessary and appropriate.

#### Voluntary Remedial Action Plan

As summarized by the Veazie Conservation Commission in its earlier presentation to the Council, the Penobscot Trust has provided documentation of work done to assess and address to the satisfaction of relevant regulatory agencies contamination that was left as a legacy of the industrial use of the Veazie site. The Penobscot Trust has provided information requested by Veazie including site characterization and remediation performed in consultation with Maine DEP. The Penobscot Trust and the Department of Environmental Protection (MDEP) are parties to a Voluntary Remedial Action Plan (VRAP) that confirms the completion of all necessary site clean-up and oversight. Veazie would assume both the protections and responsibilities of the agreement. Veazie's main responsibility would be an annual visual inspection and submission of specific areas of the site mainly to ensure that there is no erosion. This is a visual inspection that need not be performed by engineering professionals but could be performed by town staff or a trained volunteer. A copy of the VRAP will be provided.

### Explanation of Sewer Interceptor Overflow and Erosion on September 30, 2015

The Council asked for information about damage to part of the pathway in the park as noticed by local residents in late September, 2015. One of the manholes located in the recently restored shoreline area discharged sewerage onto the site causing surficial erosion and damage. The underlying cause of this event was the extreme storm event that occurred on September 30<sup>th</sup> during which more than 5.27 inches of rain fell. This is slightly more than a 50 year occurrence (references provided upon request). It seems that infiltration and inflow of this stormwater into the sewerage system overwhelmed the nearby treatment pump station and a failure of a manhole cover on the pipe existing on the Trust's property resulted in the overflow that occurred.

The Penobscot Trust repaired the damage to pathways caused by the overflow and made improvements to the sewer interceptor infrastructure along the recently restored shoreline to prevent similar overflow events from recurring. To prevent similar events from occurring, Sargent Corporation retrofitted four (4) manholes along the recently restored site with sealed and pressure rated manhole frames and covers (refer to the "PAMTIGHT" frame and cover information attached). The value of these improvements was approximately \$4,600. In the future, extreme rainfall events may occur and overwhelm the sewer interceptor pipeline; however overflow at these four (4) improved structures, the source of the prior discharge, will not occur in the future since they have been structurally sealed.

### Potential use of some portion of the land to deal with storm water run-off if necessary

The Council wanted to ensure that deed covenants alone would not prevent the town from using some portion of the site to treat run-off if required to do so by law or regulation. Existing laws and regulations would continue to apply to such town actions. The purpose of the covenants is to ensure that the use of the land supports the purposes of the project in perpetuity. The treatment of contaminated run-off, or similar action designed to benefit water quality or the river's health which would be consistent with the purpose of the project.

### Specific deed covenants

As will be reviewed in closing, certain deed restrictions "run with" the Penobscot Trust's property in Veazie, notably those held by the Veazie Sewer District and Emera. In addition, the Penobscot Trust's property in Veazie was purchased with a combination of public and private funds for the purpose of achieving the Penobscot River Restoration Project's goals. As such, deed covenants for the property are designed to ensure that the property is not used in a manner inconsistent with the purposes for which the funds are granted. Transfer of the property in some cases requires the approval of granting agencies. The following are draft deed restrictions:

### Deed restriction #1:

“This property was acquired by the Penobscot River Restoration Trust with funds from a financial assistance award from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). Title to the property conveyed by this deed previously vested in the Penobscot River Restoration Trust. If the property is no longer needed for the originally authorized purpose, the Penobscot River Restoration Trust or its successor will request disposition instructions from NOAA or its successor agencies. The Penobscot River Restoration Trust or its successor shall not dispose of or encumber its title or other interests in this property without the approval of NOAA or its successor agencies.”

Deed restriction #2: “This property is subject to a Maine Waterway Development and Conservation Act permit issued by the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (“MEDEP”) and dated July 15, 2010 (the “Permit”). Pursuant to Condition #20 of the Permit, the property conveyed by this deed may not be utilized, in any way, for hydropower development, without prior approval by MEDEP.”

Deed restriction #3: This property must be retained in perpetuity for the benefit of the public for recreational, scientific, and educational uses, and may not be used for commercial, industrial, or residential development. Veazie would also acquire and be responsible for maintenance of the improvements to the site, such as the turbine for historic display, benches and kiosk and Veazie would also need to maintain the interpretative panels with information on the Penobscot Project and the site.”

### Who could enforce the deed covenants?

In accepting the land, the Town of Veazie will accept certain covenants that are designed to ensure that the property is used for public purposes consistent with the Penobscot River Restoration Project. If NOAA program staff so requested, the U.S. Department of Justice, Solicitor’s Office has the ability to enforce Deed Covenant 1, above. A local NOAA contact can be provided for any questions. As for the Maine DEP/Maine Waterways Development Act requirements that the site not be used for hydropower, enforcement would rest with the State Attorney General’s Office. A Nature Conservancy covenant also requires use of the property consistent with the purposes of the Penobscot Project.

Next steps: Authorized representatives from Veazie and the Penobscot Trust should meet within the next two weeks to determine a path that will result in closing on and transfer of the property by June 1, 2016. Note that the final transfer of the land is also subject to final agency approval of deed covenants and approval by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. The Penobscot Trust will be responsible for securing those approvals.





# **Manager's Report For March 28, 2016 Council Meeting**

Since the last Council meeting I have been working on a few different projects and concerns which are outlined below.

I met with Laura Rose Day from the Penobscot River Restoration and Andy Brown from the Conservation Commission to discuss the list of questions/requests from the last meeting. Laura also met with the Conservation Commission on March 23<sup>rd</sup> in anticipation of the meeting with the Council on March 28<sup>th</sup>.

Spring clean-up and Universal Household Collection will occur on April 30<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM. The leaf/brush pick-up is scheduled for April 23<sup>rd</sup> from 7:30 AM and will be completed by 12:00 Noon. The stream/roadside clean-up is scheduled for May 14<sup>th</sup> from 9:30 AM to 11:30 AM with a BBQ to follow at the Town Office.

I participated in a group discussion regarding opening a Child Advocacy Center (CAC) in the Bangor area. The purpose of the CAC is to interview children who have been sexually abused. Not only will it be a location to interview the child for law enforcement and other agencies, the CAC will offer follow up services for the family of the victim as well. This project is moving along and the group is in hopes to have the CAC open in 6-8 months.

The Code Enforcement Officer and I have had several discussion regarding a request to split a residential lot located on School Street into two (2) lots. In addition, the owner requested to add another driveway once the lot is split. By Town ordinance, the additional driveway is not permitted, therefore the request has been denied. The owner previously tried to have a driveway added when School Street was a State aid road. The State denied the request as well.

At the request of the Council I have contacted Maine Municipal Association and asked them to provide us with freedom of access training. I was informed that the training schedule has already been set for the coming year, however, an Elected Officials training class is scheduled in Orono which includes information on freedom of information requests. The brochure has been provided for review.

The Sewer District held a public hearing regarding the CDBG grant application that is in process for a sewer project on Oak Grove in which I attended. I reviewed and commented on the final version on the CDBG grant application. All the paperwork has been finalized and sent in for further review.

I met with Dylan Walsh, Director of Penobscot County Thriving in Place. Thriving in Place is a group that is working towards being able to keep seniors in their homes. Our discussion revolved around the Police Department's good morning program. I also attended their meeting in which the new Social Worker was introduced as well as a new Senior Guide/yellow pages book that is being put together.

I received a request to research a right of way issue on Chase Road concerning the removal of trees on a homeowner's property. I measured the trees and they fell outside the Town's right of way. I put the homeowner in contact with our Code Enforcement Officer who also confirmed the trees were outside the Town's right of way.

I was fortunate enough to participate in a community reading program at the Veazie Community School. After reading to 7<sup>th</sup> grade students, we were able discuss numerous different topics. I hope this program

# **Manager's Report For March 28, 2016 Council Meeting**

continues and that I continue to be a part of it. A thank you letter and photo was received which I have attached to this report.

Assessor Birch and I have received the municipal revenue sharing numbers from the State of Maine. The Town of Veazie will see a slight reduction from funding received last year.

I attended the Region 5 Police Chief's meeting which was held at the Bangor Police Department. Numerous items were discussed including the election of representatives for the Board of Directors for Regional Dispatch. I am pleased to report I was one of the five Chiefs to be elected.

I met with Andy Brown and Don MacKay from the Planning Board in reference to moving the update of the Comprehensive Plan forward. The board had a discussion with someone that may be interested in providing consulting services to Board. Don drafted a Scope of Services for the services in which I have reviewed and commented on.

I attended a meeting with area Police Chiefs regarding grant funding that has been received for the region. We began discussion on how the funding was going to be spent to help all agencies participating.

In conjunction with the School, a birthday breakfast/Easter egg hunt will occur on March 26<sup>th</sup> at the Veazie Community School. Breakfast will be served from 7:30 AM to 9:30 AM with an egg hunt for the children starting at 9:00 AM. Initially this was just an egg hunt for the children until it was realized that it is also the Town of Veazie's birthday.

A/C Metcalf and I have developed two (2) new policies for the Fire Department which will be implanted shortly. This is part of our continued effort to review and update all of the Town's policies.

I have provided additional documents to the Town's Attorney referencing the Davis Property swap. A public hearing will need to be held in the near future.

I attended the School Board meeting that was held on March 7<sup>th</sup>. Principal Cyr made a presentation regarding the School which will be presented to the Budget Committee as well as the Council. Additionally, the School Board and members of the audience were able to view the first draft of the school budget.

I met with a representative of Eastern Maine Community College to discuss a few projects that I would like them to help the Town with. At this point it appears one (1) of the projects is too large for them to contribute to at this time. I will meet with them in the fall when they know what they will have for students.

MMA conducted an audit of the Town's Workers Compensation. The audit occurs to make sure we reported everything correctly during the last fiscal year. We were found to be in compliance.

I conducted a Chief's interview with a prospective new call Fire Fighter. The interview went well and the candidate will be moving on in the process. He comes to us with numerous years of experience and will be a good addition to our department.

# **Manager's Report For March 28, 2016 Council Meeting**

I attended the Budget Committee meeting where the school presented its first draft of the budget. Overall the presented budget will see an approximate \$70.00 reduction.

I held a meeting with the Fire Union to meet the new leadership on the Union side and discuss any concerns they or I had. The meeting went well and we will be meeting again in the future.

I hired Eugene Fizell as a Sgt. for the Police Department. Sgt. Fizell comes to us from the Holden Police Department and will be a welcome addition. He took the place of Officer Dain Bryant who accepted a full time position with the Holden Police Department.

I received a complaint on potholes located throughout town. I instructed the Police Officers to drive around Town and make note of areas of concerns. Once this was completed I met with Barney and asked the issues be resolved. The concern was addressed within 24 hours of receiving the complaint.

I attended the Community Center Re-Development Committee meeting where they discussed a newly received estimate. From this meeting it was determined that members of the committee would meet with Principal Cyr to discuss his future vision of the school. Additionally, the committee will be ready to present the updated estimate to the Council at the April 11<sup>th</sup> Council meeting.

I continue to work on finalizing the draft budget so it can be presented to the budget committee. The expenditure portion of the budget is final with no increase from last years requested funds. I will continue to work with the Assessor so we can finalize the revenue portion of the budget. At this point we are waiting for documentation from Casco Bay Energy. An email has been sent to their headquarters requesting the appropriate paperwork.

PERC made their presentation to the members of the Council regarding their expiring contract. I have been in contact with the Director of MRC and he has requested I provide him with a date for him to make a presentation to the Council. These presentations are to aid the Council in making a decision on where the Town's trash will be disposed of when the current contract with PERC expires.

Principal Cyr and I met with members of the Bangor Y to discuss the results of the survey as well as how we can build a relationship between the Bangor Y and the Town of Veazie. We will continue to meet and build a relationship with the Bangor Y.

I have presented the draft municipal budget to the Budget Committee. They have scheduled a workshop to discuss both the school and the municipal draft budgets. The meeting is scheduled for March 30<sup>th</sup>.

I have met with Matt's Property Maintenance to discuss moving the Veterans monument to the main entrance of the municipal building. To do this, I have asked him to provide me with the cost to pour a concrete pad. Once pricing is provided, we will discuss how to proceed forward.

# **Manager's Report For March 28, 2016 Council Meeting**

**Attachments:**

Water District Agenda from March 1<sup>st</sup> meeting  
Legislative update from Senator Dill  
Email response on freedom of information training  
BASWG Agenda for March 10 meeting  
Schedule of future water district meetings  
Article from Portland Press Herald on Volunteers  
School Board meeting Agenda  
School Financials  
Bangor Daily News Article on difficulty of hiring Police Officers  
Invitation to Community Conversation on growing old and dying  
Rep. Lyford newsletter  
PTO Auction Letter  
Rep. Lyford newsletter  
Spring cleanup information  
Walking schedule for Veazie Community School Gym  
Elected Officials Workshop Flyer  
Newsletter Senator Dill  
Thank you letter from VCS to Manager Leonard  
Veazie Community School Newsletter

**Orono Veazie Water District Board of Trustees**  
**Trustees' Meeting: Tuesday March 1, 2016 @ 7 PM**  
**Orono Council Chambers**

---

1. Consideration of the Agenda
2. Approval of meeting minutes
  - Feb 8, 2016
3. Public Comments and Questions

**New Business**

4. Review of Financials:
  - ❖ Vendor Balance Detail, Profit & Loss Comparison, Balance Sheet, Transaction List (revenue by category)
    - February 2016
5. District Insurance Update
6. Water Quality Test Results

**Old Business**

7. Website update
8. Superintendent Professional Development Plan: Trustee comments
9. Superintendent's Report
  - Veazie project update – Oak-Grove Street, Summer 2016
  - Minute taking at board meetings
10. Superintendent's Evaluation
  - Executive Session per **MRSA § 405 – 6A, Personnel Evaluation**
11. Return to public session
12. Schedule future meetings
  - April – 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday is April 12<sup>th</sup>
  - May – 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday is May 10<sup>th</sup>
  - June – 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday is June 14<sup>th</sup>
13. Trustee Comments / Requests for information
14. Adjourn



## Legislative Update from Senator Jim Dill

Hello! I hope this message finds you well.

As you read this, things are starting to move along in Augusta. Recently, we learned that our school districts are staring down a big reduction in state funding for this fiscal year. This shortfall isn't the schools' fault but, at the local level, it is creating an emergency as they struggle to find a way to make ends meet.

Many of us are hard at work trying to convince our colleagues in the State House to support additional funding this year so that our schools and teachers can provide the education that Maine children deserve - and do it without having to absorb painful cuts or resort to property tax increases. Mainers know that neither of those is an option.

I will continue fighting for our schools, teachers and students, and keep you updated as the session continues. Below, you'll find some other updates about what's happening in Augusta. As always, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Jim Dill". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

## Orono High School students serve as honorary pages

It was a pleasure to host Orono High School students, Sarah Morneault, and Samreen and Sophia Silwal, during their visit to the State House. I invited the students to serve as honorary pages for achieving the honor roll.



The Honorary Page program gives students an opportunity to participate in the process and interact with Legislators. Honorary Pages have the opportunity to see what it is like to work on the floor of the Senate and be part of a legislative session. Pages perform such duties as delivering messages to Senators and distributing Amendments and Supplements in the Chamber. Students from third grade through high school are invited to serve in the Senate Chamber as Honorary Pages when the Senate is in Session. Contact me to schedule a visit.

## A new solar energy initiative in Maine

Maine is the only state in New England without a comprehensive solar energy plan.

Solar energy is clean, renewable and plentiful, and the technology to harvest the sun for energy has both advanced by leaps and bounds and become more affordable. So it's time for Maine to join the rest of the region and take action to seize this clean energy opportunity.

Last week, a bill to dramatically increase the use of solar energy in Maine was unveiled. Over the next five years, the provisions in the bill would yield a ten-fold increase in the amount of solar power in Maine by utilizing rooftop solar and large-scale solar farms; triple Maine's solar workforce by adding 800 new jobs in the industry; give greater regulatory certainty to customers, businesses and utility companies; and begin capturing solar energy in a way that benefits all ratepayers.

Like all bills, this one will be vetted thoroughly by the Legislature. But I believe it's high time that Maine take the reins of our energy future. I look forward to learning more about this proposal, and to continue advocating for clean, renewable energy for our people and our environment.

## IRS Free File

If you have not prepared your taxes, consider using [Free File](#) through the IRS. Every taxpayer with a 2015 Adjusted Gross Income of \$62,000 or less may prepare, complete and e-file their federal tax returns at no cost. Free state return options are also available.

In addition, Free File provides basic online e-filing services, called Free File Fillable Forms, to all taxpayers regardless of income. Free File can also be used to e-file an extension for free. It's a great resource for people looking to save time -- and postage -- on their taxes.

## Is your cash waiting for you?

Have you checked yet to see whether the State Treasurer has money for you?

If an organizations like a bank, utility or insurance company, or employer owes someone money but can't find them, they must turn that money over to the state as "unclaimed property." The State Treasurer keeps a list of all unclaimed property, and holds that cash until its rightful owner comes to claim it.



This money might be an uncashed paycheck, an unclaimed cash balance or a refund for an accidental overpayment. Regardless, you may have money waiting for you in Augusta.

Visit [maine.gov/upsearch](http://maine.gov/upsearch) to see what you may be owed. There's more than \$225 million sitting on the table, and some of it may be yours!

Jim Dill | State Senator | (207) 287-1515 | [JamesDill207@gmail.com](mailto:JamesDill207@gmail.com) | [www.mainesenate.org](http://www.mainesenate.org)

STAY CONNECTED:



Maine Senate Democrats, 3 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333

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Sent by [darek.grant@legislature.maine.gov](mailto:darek.grant@legislature.maine.gov) in collaboration with

**Constant Contact**



Thanks

**From:** Mark Leonard [<mailto:mleonard@veazie.net>]  
**Sent:** Monday, February 29, 2016 4:31 PM  
**To:** Melissa Christie <[MChristie@memun.org](mailto:MChristie@memun.org)>  
**Cc:** [mma-training2@mmaaffl.org](mailto:mma-training2@mmaaffl.org)  
**Subject:** Freedom of Information Act Training

Good afternoon! I have been asked by my Council to see if it would be possible to have Freedom of Information training conducting in the Town of Veazie for all of our Councilors and Committee members. I would like to have it after the June election so that I can get any newly elected members. We would also open this up to surrounding communities. Please let me know how to proceed with this request.

Thanks in advance.  
Mark

Mark Leonard Town Manager  
Town of Veazie  
1084 Main Street  
Veazie, Maine 04401  
207-947-2781  
[mleonard@veazie.net](mailto:mleonard@veazie.net)

Confidentiality notice: the email message contained herein is intended only for the individual to whom or entity to which it is addressed as shown at the beginning of the message and may contain information that is privileged, confidential, and/or exempt from disclosure under applicable law. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, or if the employee or agent responsible for delivering the message is not an employee or agent of the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any review, dissemination, distribution, use, or copying of this message is strictly prohibited. If you have received this message in error, please notify us immediately by return email and permanently delete this message and your reply to the extent it includes this message. Thank you for your cooperation.

Hi Mark,

Thank you for your email. Unfortunately, it is difficult for us to add to our training calendar once it is established (which we do at the end of every year). As I am sure you are aware, we work with over a dozen affiliate groups and manage their training schedules as well. And with 486 member municipalities, it is really impossible for us to offer private trainings for individual towns.

Though we don't have any other FOAA specific workshops scheduled for this year, we do offer our Elected Officials Workshops multiple times throughout the year at various locations across the state. In fact, there will be an EOW in Orono on June 9<sup>th</sup>, which will cover FOAA and qualifies as Maine FOAA Training. However, we can definitely consider bringing the FOAA workshop up to the Bangor area in the future, as this may be one that moves to different locations in subsequent years.

Our 2016 Annual Convention in October will also be held in Bangor this year and that may provide some training that your staff and council may find very beneficial. I hope you will consider attending and sending others with you. Please let me know if you have any additional questions.

Best,

Alicia

**Alicia Stokes Gaudet**  
Manager, Educational Services

**Maine Municipal Association**  
60 Community Drive  
Augusta, ME 04330  
TEL 1-800-452-8786 or  
(207) 623-8428 ext. 2304  
FAX (207) 624-0128  
[www.memun.org](http://www.memun.org)

 SAVE-THE-DATE\_email-sig\_2016HR-and-TC-combined

**From:** Melissa Christie  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 01, 2016 8:19 AM  
**To:** Alicia Gaudet <AGaudet@memun.org>  
**Subject:** FW: Freedom of Information Act Training

Hi Alicia-

Below is a request for FOAA training in Veazie.

## Training Information:

For an updated listing of educational offerings, please visit our website at [www.memun.org](http://www.memun.org) or call our automated training hotline at (207) 624-0117.

### About MMA:



Maine Municipal Association  
60 Community Drive  
Augusta, ME 04330

*MMA is located off I-95, Exit 112A Northbound,  
Exit 112 Southbound, behind the  
Augusta Civic Center*

(800) 452-8786  
or (207) 623-8428  
[www.memun.org](http://www.memun.org)

The Maine Municipal Association (MMA) is a voluntary membership organization offering an array of professional services to municipalities and other local governmental entities in Maine. MMA is a non-profit, non-partisan organization governed by an Executive Committee elected from its member municipalities. Founded in 1936, MMA is one of 49 state municipal leagues that, together with the National League of Cities, are recognized at all governmental levels for providing valuable services and advocating for collective municipal interests.

The Maine Municipal Association has a core belief that local government is a fundamental component of a democratic system of government. MMA is dedicated to assisting local governments and the people who serve in local government, in meeting the needs of their citizens and serving as responsible partners in the intergovernmental system.

MMA's services include advocacy, education and information, professional legal and personnel advisory services, and group insurance self-funded programs.

### DIETARY REQUIREMENTS

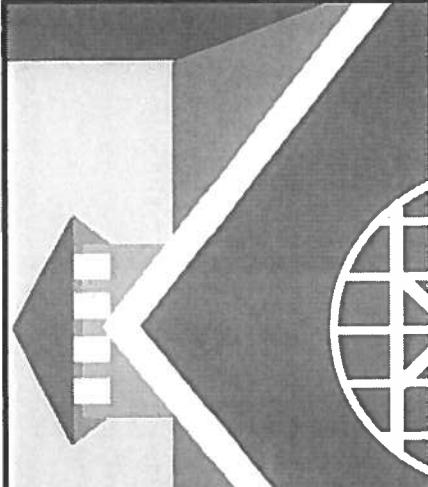
We do our best to plan meals according to general dietary guidelines. If you have a specific dietary restriction, please call our office at least 5 business days prior to the start of the event. Please note that we are not able to accommodate onsite requests, as catering planning happens in advance of the event.

### SMOKE FREE

Effective Sept. 1, 2015, in accordance with the provisions of the Workplace Smoking Act of 1985, smoking is prohibited anywhere within the MMA building or on MMA property. MMA maintains a smoke free campus.

### FRAGRANCE FREE

MMA recognizes the potential hazards caused by exposure to scented products and cleaning chemicals. We ask that event participants refrain from using products that contain strong fragrances so that we can maintain a safe and healthy learning environment for all.



## Elected Officials Workshop

# 2016

- Thursday, January 28, 2016**  
Maine Municipal Association – Augusta, ME
- Thursday, January 28, 2016**  
Northern Maine Development Commission  
Caribou, ME \*Live Video Conference\*
- Tuesday, April 12, 2016**  
Ramada Inn – Saco, ME
- Thursday, April 28, 2016**  
Atlantic Oceanside Hotel & Event Center –  
Bar Harbor, ME
- Monday, May 23, 2016**  
Union Town Hall – Union, ME
- Thursday, June 9, 2016**  
Black Bear Inn – Orono, ME
- Thursday, July 14, 2016**  
Bridgton Town Hall – Bridgton, ME
- Monday, August 15, 2016**  
Maine Municipal Association – Augusta, ME
- Monday, August 15, 2016**  
Northern Maine Development Commission  
Caribou, ME \*Live Video Conference\*
- Tuesday, December 6, 2016**  
Ramada Inn – Lewiston, ME



**Presented By**  
Maine Municipal Association

## 2016 Elected Officials Workshop



Maine Municipal Association

**Augusta – 1/28/2016**

MMA – 60 Community Dr., Augusta, ME 04330

**Caribou – 1/28/2016**

\*Live Video Conference\*  
Northern Maine Development Commission  
11 West Presque Isle Rd., Caribou, ME 04743

**Saco – 4/12/2016**

Ramada Inn – 352 North St., Saco, ME 04072

**Bar Harbor – 4/28/2016**

Atlantic Oceanside Hotel & Event Center –  
119 Eden St., Bar Harbor, ME 04609

**Union – 5/23/2016**

Union Town Hall – 567 Common Rd., Union, ME 04082

**Orono – 6/9/2016**

Black Bear Inn – 4 Godfrey Dr., Orono, ME 04473

**Bridgton – 7/14/2016**

Bridgton Town Hall – 3 Chase St., Ste. 1  
Bridgton, ME 04009

**Augusta – 8/15/2016**

MMA – 60 Community Dr., Augusta, ME 04330

**Caribou – 8/15/2016**

\*Live Video Conference\*  
Northern Maine Development Commission  
11 West Presque Isle Rd., Caribou, ME 04743

**Lewiston – 12/6/2016**

Ramada Inn – 490 Pleasant St., Lewiston, ME 04240

### PRESENTERS:

Attorneys and staff from the  
MMA Legal Services and Communication &  
Educational Services Department

**STORM POLICY:** If there is inclement weather, a decision to postpone will be made by 5:00 pm the day prior to the workshop. MMA encourages attendees to check the MMA website or call the training hotline at (207) 624-0117 before departing for any MMA events to ensure that the event schedule has not changed.

**ADA MESSAGE:** In order to ensure your complete participation, we would appreciate your informing us of any special requirements you may have due to a disability.

### Who Should Attend:

This workshop is a "must" for newly elected and veteran officials-councilors & selectpersons- as well as a wonderful opportunity to learn key points of your new position while networking with officials from around the state. (Qualifies as Maine FOAA Training.)

### Course Information:

Registration – 4:00-4:30 pm / Program – 4:30-8:30 pm

As part of our ongoing efforts to bring training to our members, MMA is pleased to announce that this course will be offered in two formats: In classroom and remotely at the Northern Maine Development Commission in Caribou. Attendees can participate via ITV Technology by viewing the presentation remotely. ITV broadcasting allows for live viewing as well as interactive participation with the attendees. A facilitator will be onsite to assist. Should you wish to attend this session at NMDC, simply fill out the registration form and select the Caribou live broadcast.

A perfect opportunity for elected officials to take advantage of the expertise that the Maine Municipal Association has to offer, attain a better understanding of their role as public officials, and stay abreast of ever-changing local government responsibilities and issues.

### Frequently Asked Questions:

- What are our rights and duties as officials? • What ordinances can we enact?
- Can we hold multiple offices? • What authority do we have over the schools?
- Which of our meetings are open to the public? • What are our liabilities and immunities?
- Must we have an agenda and take minutes? • What is a disqualifying conflict of interest?

### Workshop Materials

Participants may find it helpful to bring their *Municipal Officers Manual (2010)*. To order, call MMA Publications at (800) 452-8786 to place an order.

### Registration/Confirmation/Directions:

Confirmation of class registration will be sent out one week prior to the start of the event. If an email has been provided, the confirmation will be sent electronically. If no email is on file, the confirmation will be mailed to the billing address provided on the registration form. Directions to the facility can be found on the MMA website at the following address: <http://www.memun.org/TrainingResources/Workshops/Training/DirectionsToEvents.aspx>

### Questions/Cancellations:

If you have any questions, or wish to cancel, call the Educational Services Office at (800) 452-8786 or (207) 623-8428. Notification must be given in writing at least 72 hours before the session begins to obtain a refund (minus a \$10 processing fee). All cancellations are subject to a \$10 administrative fee for processing. Please go to <http://www.memun.org/TrainingResources/Workshops/Training/Cancellations.aspx> to cancel.

Visit [www.memun.org](http://www.memun.org) for updates & to register online

## 2016 Elected Officials Workshop

### FEE: LIVE CLASS:

MMA Member Municipality/Patron: \$55.00  
Non-Member Municipality: \$110.00

**VIDEO CONFERENCE:** (1/28 & 8/15 only):  
(MMA members only): \$45.00

**Please make check payable to:**  
Maine Municipal Association  
(Fee includes workshop materials and light meal)

**WEB:** You can register online on MMA's website:  
[www.memun.org](http://www.memun.org); or complete the form  
below and send via:

**FAX:** (207) 624-0128

**MAIL:** Maine Municipal Association  
ATTN: Educational Services  
60 Community Drive, Augusta, ME 04330.

Please register the following person from (municipality):

Billing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

### Locations: (please check ONE):

- ☐ Augusta-1/28/2016 ☐ Orono-6/9/2016  
☐ Caribou-1/28/2016 ☐ Bridgton-7/14/2016  
☐ \*Live Video Conference\*  
☐ Saco-4/12/2016 ☐ Augusta-8/15/2016  
☐ Bar Harbor-4/28/2016 ☐ Caribou-8/15/2016  
☐ \*Live Video Conference\*  
☐ Union-5/23/2016 ☐ Lewiston-12/6/2016

### Registrant Information:

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Tel: \_\_\_\_\_

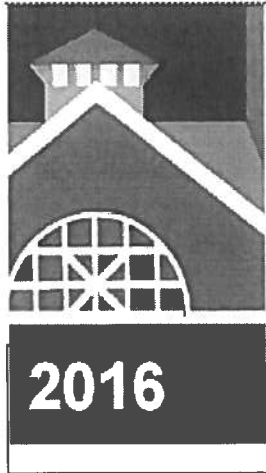
Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Live Class:** ☐ \$55.00 (member) ☐ \$110.00 (non-member)

**Video Conference\*:** ☐ \$45.00 (\*Caribou locations open to MMA Members only)

Please duplicate form if registering more than one person.

Having trouble reading this? [View all Workshops and Training](#)



## Elected Officials Workshop

Presented By  
Maine Municipal Association

### Course Overview:

This workshop is a "must" for newly elected and veteran officials-councilors & selectpersons-as well as a wonderful opportunity to learn key points of your new position while networking with officials from around the state. (Qualifies as Maine FOAA Training.)

### Date & Location:

Tuesday, April 12, 2016 – Saco, Ramada Inn

Thursday, April 28, 2016– Bar Harbor, Atlantic Oceanside Hotel & Event Center

Monday, May 23, 2016 – Union Town Hall

Thursday, June 9, 2016 – Orono, Black Bear Inn

Thursday, July 14, 2016 – Bridgton Town Hall

Monday, August 15, 2016 – Augusta, Maine Municipal Association

Monday August 15, 2016 – Caribou, Northern Maine Development Commission *\*Live Video Conference\**

Tuesday, December 6, 2016 – Lewiston, Ramada Inn

### Fee:

MMA Member Municipality/Patron - \$55.00 per person

Non-Member Municipality - \$110.00 per person

MMA Member Municipality/Patron only - \$45.00 **\*Live Video Conference\*** (August 15, Caribou location ONLY)

## Register:

Tuesday, April 12, 2016 – to register, [click here](#).

Thursday, April 28, 2016 – to register, [click here](#).

Monday, May 23, 2016 – to register, [click here](#).

Thursday, June 9, 2016 – to register, [click here](#).

Thursday, July 14, 2016 – to register, [click here](#).

Monday, August 15, 2016 (Augusta location) – to register, [click here](#).

Monday August 15, 2016 (Caribou video location) – to register, [click here](#). *\*Live Video Conference\**

Tuesday, December 6, 2016 – to register, [click here](#).

## Workshop Materials & Brochures

To download the event brochure, [click here](#).

## About MMA:



Maine Municipal Association | 60 Community Drive | Augusta, ME 04330

MMA is located off I-95, Exit 112 A Northbound, Exit 112 Southbound, behind the Augusta Civic Center

1-800-452-8786 | Local Area 207-623-8428 | [www.memun.org](http://www.memun.org)

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**Bangor Area Storm Water Group Meeting**

Thursday, March 10, 2016

9:00 am – 11:00 am

Location: Rangely Hall, Eastern Maine Community College, Bangor, Maine

*Reminder: Please come early or stay late to network;*

*No formal coffee break this meeting*

**AGENDA**

- |                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| <b>9:00 am</b>  | <b>Welcome and Round Robin Introductions</b><br><b>Review of Meeting Ground Rules</b>   |
| <b>9:05 am</b>  | <b>Education and Outreach Input Session</b><br><b>**Critical Input from MS4s**</b>  |
| <b>9:30 am</b>  | <b>Promising MS4 Practices Session: Stream Clean-up</b><br><b>Sharing Planning, Recruitment and Implementation Tips</b>   |
| <b>9:50 am</b>  | <b>Regional Planning for Stream Clean-up Donations (financial and in-kind)</b>  |
| <b>10:00 am</b> | <b>Bangor Garden Show Planning</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Booth, display, volunteers, messaging, handouts, rain barrel raffle</li></ul>  |
| <b>10:20 am</b> | <b>Organizational Business</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Approval of January and February BASWG Meeting Minutes</li><li>• BASWG Representation at MEWEA Stormwater Committee</li><li>• Next meeting agenda (Permit planning and Grease Trap Outreach)</li></ul> |
| <b>10:30 am</b> | <b>BASWG Grant Writing</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Update on April grant opportunities</li><li>• Funding priorities</li><li>• Proposal review committee</li></ul>   |
| <b>11:00 am</b> | <b>BASWG Meeting Adjourns</b>   |



Message

Thu, Mar 3, 2016 9:26 PM

From: jperkins@ovwd.org  
To: jstrout@veazie.net **Mark Leonard**  
Cc: tperry@veazie.net

Subject: Schedule of water district trustee meetings

Attachments: Attach0.html / Uploaded File

4K

Hello all. I wanted to send along the meeting schedule for the water district trustees for the next few months in hopes that they can be posted on the town calendar (website) now.

**April 13th- Wed at 7 pm; Orono Council Chambers**

**May 10th- Tues at 7 pm; Orono Council Chambers**

**June 15th -Wed at 7pm; Veazie Council Chambers**

**July 12th- Tues at 7 pm; Orono Council Chambers**

Let me know if you have questions about what is going on at the water district - we are moving forward. Best, Joan



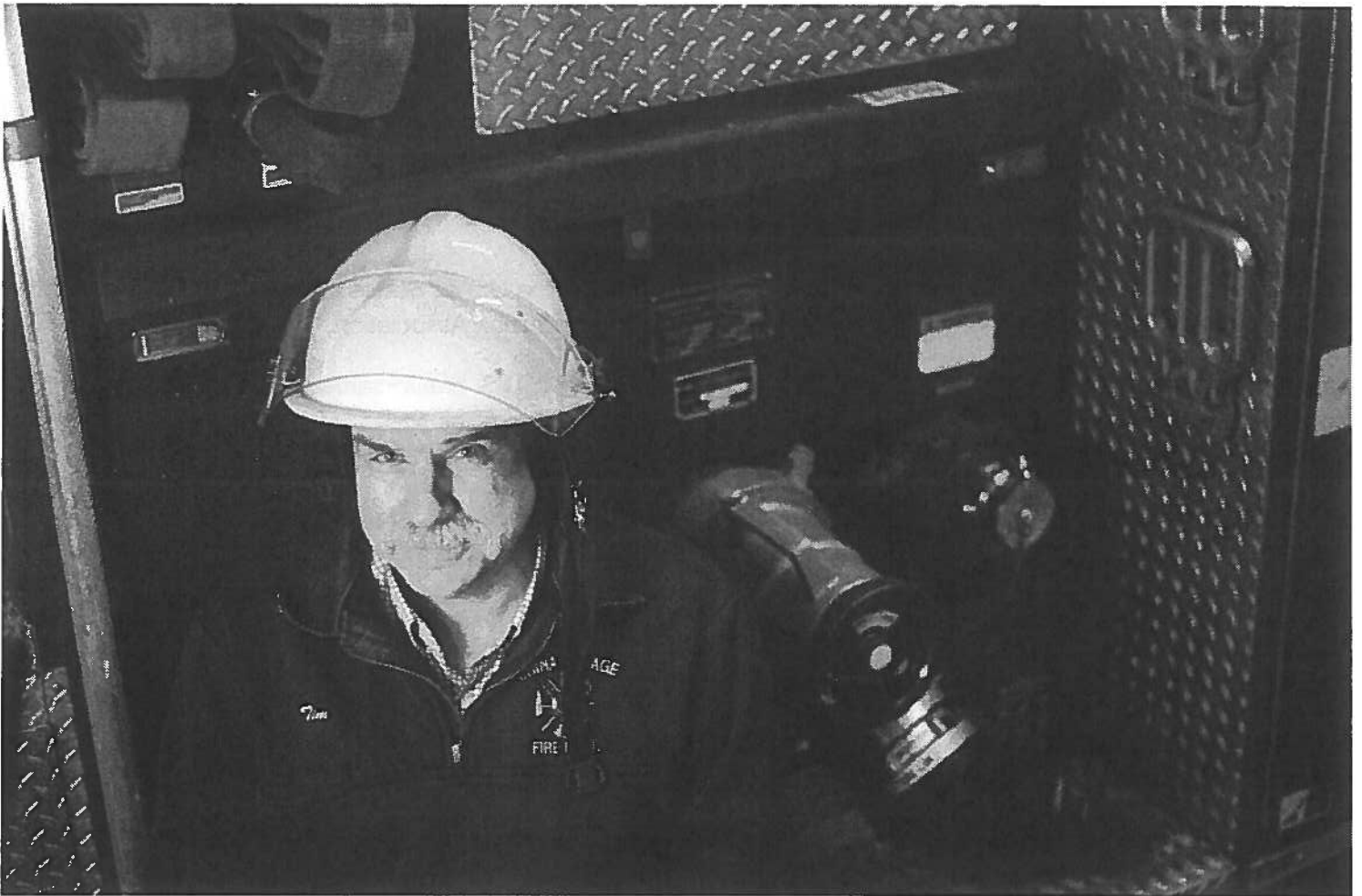
# Small-town danger sign: Not enough firefighters

[www.pressherald.com/2015/03/01/small-town-danger-sign-not-enough-firefighters/](http://www.pressherald.com/2015/03/01/small-town-danger-sign-not-enough-firefighters/)

By Kaitlin Schroeder Morning Sentinel [email protected] | @K\_Schroeder | 207-861-9252

Only four firefighters on the China Village Fire Department are trained to enter a burning building. The department needs at least six to launch an interior attack to put out a fire.

When Fire Chief Tim Theriault looks at his roster of 22 volunteers, he sees only four under the age of 50; he had 15 or more volunteers under age 50 a decade ago. Some on the roster now are in poor health. Others, between jobs and family, have no time for the additional training they need.



Tim Theriault, chief of the volunteer fire department in China Village. Michael G. Seamans/Morning Sentinel  
Search photos available for purchase: [Photo Store](#) →

And many of the volunteers, while willing, aren't able.

"I got guys who are claustrophobic," Theriault said. "They can't put a mask on. But you don't want to throw them away, because they are willing to help."

The result: The department may not get enough manpower on scene to knock down a fire before the entire structure is lost while waiting for mutual aid assistance from other town departments.

It's a challenge facing small fire departments across Maine: They can't slow the steady decline in residents who

volunteer to fight fires, and they can't afford full-time staff. At the same time, a decline in state revenue sharing and fewer 9/11-inspired grants have tightened municipal budgets, while the demand for fire and rescue services is increasing.

The problem is threatening communities' very ability to offer an essential public service.

The Madison and Skowhegan departments have struggled in recent years to maintain a roster of 22 volunteer firefighters in addition to eight who are full-time, said Chief Shawn Howard, who leads both departments. Two or three decades ago, there were waiting lists for the volunteer roster.

Firefighters are also performing more services, such as emergency medicine for the state's aging population. All the while, the firefighters are aging, too.

"The public is looking for firefighters to do more with less," said Clyde Ross, 78, the Farmington Fire Department's deputy chief. "And the worst part is, we've accepted that."

The clash of increased demand with fewer available staff is not at a crisis level in central Maine – yet.

"We're heading in that direction if we don't see a change," said Ken Desmond, president of the Maine State Federation of Firefighters. "That's why we're trying to do something before it gets to that point."

### **GROWING COSTS ADD TO CHALLENGES**

For the first time in 28 years, the majority of volunteer firefighters in the United States are over age 50, according to a firefighter profile released in November by the National Fire Protection Association.

At the same time, the cost of fighting fires is growing steadily. In 1980, U.S. municipalities spent \$5.7 billion on fire services, the association said. In 2011, the latest data available, municipalities spent \$42 billion on fire protection services. Even adjusted for inflation, the cost of firefighting services has more than doubled since 1980.

Volunteers, or on-call firefighters, make up 70 percent of the U.S. fire service; in Maine, 93 percent of fire departments are either entirely or primarily staffed by volunteers, according to the Maine State Federation of Firefighters.

Volunteers often get a stipend or wage, but departments are finding that the money they offer isn't enough. Maine had 12,000 firefighters in the early 1990s, Desmond said, but the number has dropped to "at best, 8,000."

Fire officials across the region say shifting social patterns are to blame for the lack of interest in becoming a volunteer firefighter. People work long hours away from their town and can't respond to day calls.

Farmington's Ross said he sees a general decline in interest in civic involvement.

"This did not happen overnight. This has taken a generation to work on," said Ross, who is a member of the town budget committee, Masons, Farmington Village Corporation, Franklin County Emergency Management Agency and Franklin County Firefighters Association. "I don't think the younger generation wants to get involved."

Therault said older firefighters talk about feeling like they can't leave their departments because they know the town's needs and know there's no one to replace them. Also a licensed emergency medical technician, Therault has been on the China department for 28 years.

"We're an aging bunch of old people, and it's not good," said Therault, who is also District 79's state representative. "I cannot seem to recruit any young people for any reason whatsoever. Everyone is too busy."

Perceptions that fire departments are "a good old boys club" don't help, Therault said.

Nationwide, 3.4 percent of firefighters in 2012 were women, according to the latest data available by the National Fire Protection Association. While female firefighters are scattered throughout Maine's departments, Farmington Fire Chief Terry Bell said, there doesn't seem to be much interest from women. A recently formed group called Female Firefighters of Maine is trying to encourage women in firefighting.

Joseph Hastings, 19, a lieutenant with the Chesterville Fire Department, said he understands that the time commitment is more than what many younger people can or want to deal with. He's also a member of the Farmington Fire Department and attends training or meetings every Tuesday.

"I haven't had a free Tuesday night in over a year and a half," he said.

### **'CAN'T AFFORD NOT TO HAVE' TRAINING**

The amount of training required to be a firefighter has increased over the years, a reflection of the greater role that departments play in emergency and rescue services, changes in the science of fighting fires, changes in fire safety equipment and knowledge, and a change in how fires themselves burn.

Firefighters need to respond to fires in a shorter amount of time these days because modern furnishings are often petroleum-based and burn hotter and faster than they did even a couple of decades ago. A fire that might have consumed a room in 20 minutes in the recent past would now spread through that same room in about 3½ minutes, said Bill Guindon of the Brunswick-based Maine Fire Service Institute, which directs training for the state's fire departments.

There's other training, too. The Skowhegan and Madison fire departments have been trained to recognize methamphetamine labs. After 2001, terrorism awareness training was introduced and departments started to teach WMD – or weapons of mass destruction – and bomb awareness. Special teams train for ice water rescue in towns with lakes and rivers. If a natural gas pipeline runs through town, firefighters must train for gas emergencies.

Small-town fire chiefs say the time-consuming training strains firefighters and turns off new recruits.

"It's all in the good nature of safety," Theriault said. "For a full-time fire department? Great. They can handle any kind of regulation you put in front of them because they go full time. Volunteer fire departments don't have the time."

Phillips Town Manager Elaine Hubbard pointed out that the training required in her northern Franklin County town of 1,028 is the same required in Bangor, with 30,000 residents and a full-time fire department. Hubbard said the town can't keep up with the increasing mandates and training.

"We can't afford it, but we can't afford not to have it," she said.

Guindon, who got into firefighting 37 years ago, said firefighters used to learn informally and as fires happened. It wasn't standard to wear oxygen masks, for instance.

"When most of us started out, it was just, 'Follow me, and we'll show you the ropes,' " he said.

Firefighters know more today about how to be properly protected on the road, about what type of safety gear is appropriate and what kind of hazards they could encounter.

"Part of the reason for the changes is that we've learned how to be safer," Guindon said.

### **FOR EACH TOWN, IT'S A BALANCING ACT**

How much the volunteer firefighters "volunteer" their time varies widely. It's a balancing act as each town determines how much it can afford compared to how little can be offered and still lure people to do the job.

Strong, a town of 1,200, and China are among the few towns that don't pay firefighters at all.

Many of the bigger towns have a full-time chief, but the rest of the crew is volunteer.

Chesterfield, like the majority of towns with on-call firefighters, compensates firefighters to some extent.

Chesterfield firefighters get a lump sum for each quarter, which is divided among those who went on calls that pay period. It usually adds up to a little less than minimum wage.

When Hastings got his first Chesterfield check, he was surprised. He wasn't expecting it. He's aware he is one of the few recruits who felt that way about the pay.

"We're kind of going through a struggle. We don't have enough people because of that reason," he said. "It's getting to the point where people want money."

In Farmington, voters agreed last year to increase the number of per-diem firefighters to a rotating list of two or three firefighters at a time, who work shifts during the day, seven days a week. Starting compensation for per-diem firefighters in Farmington is \$8.50 an hour, with no benefits.

Bell said scheduled paid firefighters are in part needed because it's hard to ask people to leave their jobs for a call.

"It's a commitment," he said. "Years ago, when you had 100 calls, they could give a little bit of time to it." Last year Farmington had 405 calls.

China has a population of 4,100 and three fire departments with three chiefs who each have their own budgets but provide mutual aid to one another. The town pays a total of \$65,000 for the three departments. It pays \$85,000 for a separate rescue department, which is also staffed by volunteers.

Neighboring Benton, with a population of 3,000, doesn't have a fire department but contracts with Fairfield's full-time department for \$165,000 a year.

Whatever the amount appropriated for departments in town budgets, it has to be buffered with grants, donations and fundraising, such as bean or spaghetti suppers. China gets money for daily operations but has to raise money for things like truck purchases.

"When's the last time you saw a police department holding a bake sale?" Farmington's Ross said.

Communities without fire departments may pay in other ways. Caratunk, in Somerset County, used to have a volunteer department, Selectwoman Liz Caruso said, but it didn't by the time she took office in 2006. The town's population in the 2010 census was 69, and town officials say the year-round population is closer to 40.

In November, it took volunteers from Bingham, Solon, West Forks and Jackman nearly half an hour to get enough volunteers to a fire in Caratunk to begin fighting it, and by then it was too late to save the two buildings, which burned to the ground.

## **EFFORTS IN THE LEGISLATURE**

If solutions aren't found for the problems, firefighters say, the shrinking number of on-call members means people and property will be put at risk.

Fire officials cite a fire in Bridgton in February in which only three people responded in the first 30 minutes and the house was destroyed. The deputy chief told WSSH-TV Channel 6 that the fire could have been knocked down in five minutes but took more than a half-hour because there weren't enough firefighters for an interior attack.

Desmond, of the Maine State Federation of Firefighters, said selectmen and town councilors worry that this will happen more frequently. His organization is due to hear soon on a federal American Fire Act grant for all the New

England states that would pay to train as many as 100 firefighters per state.

The Maine State Federation of Firefighters lobbied last legislative session for a financial rewards program for those with longevity in a volunteer department. The Legislature passed it, but Gov. Paul LePage vetoed it. In his veto message, LePage said the program was well-intentioned but financially unwise, and said it "expands state government at a time when the taxpayers of Maine can least afford it." The federation is lobbying again this year for the legislation, which calls for the state to put money into retirement accounts for volunteer firefighters; it would cost about \$300,000 to \$400,000 a year, said Bill Vickerson, legislative representative for the federation.

Theriault, a Republican, is co-sponsoring two bills that would ease the financial regulations on smaller fire departments. One bill would allow tax increment financing money, normally reserved for business development, to be used for emergency services such as fire departments. The other would allow towns to pay up to \$750 to volunteer firefighters who don't get other compensation.

"I'm throwing darts at the board, seeing if something sticks," Theriault said. "We have to try something."

### **PRESSURE TO REGIONALIZE**

Increasing taxes to pay for more career firefighters could be the only option many towns will be left with if more residents don't volunteer, Ross said.

Some communities are considering regionalization, but that isn't an easy sell. Other efforts to regionalize over the past decade, most notably with school districts and county jails, have failed to contain costs while ceding local control.

Hubbard, of Phillips, said she is not a fan of regionalizing fire services, but there is mounting pressure to do so. "It may come to the point where (we) might have to," she said.

Other Franklin County fire departments have been meeting to discuss consolidating and recently made a combined purchase of gear. The departments also share personnel – for instance, Farmington's Kyle Ellis is deputy chief of the Wilton department and Mike Booker is chief in nearby Jay.

Howard, the chief in Skowhegan and Madison, whose departments are working to share services, said the challenge is keeping up morale by not forcing integration on firefighters.

"The No. 1 asset we have is the firefighters themselves," Howard said. "They take pride in their department; they take ownership in their department. One of the risks you have is people feeling like they are losing that individuality. I don't want to take that away."

In tiny Caratunk, which depends on other towns to fight its fires, Selectwoman Caruso stressed that the need for volunteers is essential.

"One thing I will say is that all these volunteer firefighters, they do a tremendous service to all of our rural areas," she said. "They sacrifice their time. They go through training. They're there when you call."

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Send questions/comments to the editors.





**Veazie School Administrative Unit**  
**1040 School Street**  
**Veazie, Maine 04401**  
Telephone (207) 947-6573

TO: Veazie School Committee

FROM: Matthew Cyr, Principal  
Richard A. Lyons, Superintendent of Schools

DATE: March 7, 2016

SUBJECT: **School Committee Meeting - 7:00 p.m.**  
**Veazie Community School Library**

**AGENDA**

- I. Call of the Roll
- II. Pledge of Allegiance
- III. Approval of Minutes of Regular Meeting of February 1, 2015
- IV. Adjustment to Agenda
- V. Persons Desiring to Address the Committee
- VI. Acknowledgements
- VII. A. Board Chair  
Welcome New School Committee Member  
B. Board Vice-Chair
- VIII. Personnel
  - A. Resignations
  - B. Nominations

- IX. Principal Report (Exhibit)
- X. Superintendent Report
  - A. Financial Report (Exhibit)
  - B. Legislative Update (Exhibit)
  - C. Town Council Meeting
  - D. Special Services for FY2017
- XI. New Business
  - A. Discuss and act on draft 2016-2017 school district budget. (Exhibit)
- XII. Old Business
  - A. Discuss and act on second reading and adoption of 2016-2017 school calendar. (Exhibit)
  - B. Discuss and act on superintendent services for 2015-2016.
- XIII. Board Policy
  - A. Discuss and act on second reading and adoption of Policy ADF, Commitment to Common Core. (Exhibit)
  - B. Discussion and first reading of Policy JICG, Tobacco Use and Possession (Exhibit)
  - C. Discussion and first reading of Policy JLCDA, Medical Marijuana in Schools (Exhibit)
  - D. Discussion and first reading of Policy KFB, Community Use of School Facilities (Exhibit)
- XIV. Request for Information
- XV. Executive Session
- XVI. Next Meeting
- XVII. Adjournment



# Veazie School Department YTD Revenue

Report # 1270

Statement Code: Revenue

Account Number / Description	Adopted Budget	Current Period	Reported Period	Amount Remaining	Percent Remaining
	7 / 1 2015 - 6 / 30 2016	2 / 1 2016 - 2 / 29 2016	7 / 1 2015 - 2 / 29 2016	7 / 1 2015 - 2 / 29 2016	7 / 1 2015 - 2 / 29 2016
1000-0000-0000-41211-000 Local Allocation - Veazie	(1,875,205.50)	(156,267.12)	(1,250,136.96)	(625,068.54)	33.33%
1000-0000-0000-41213-000 Additional Local Funds - Veazie	(953,617.43)	(79,468.12)	(635,744.96)	(317,872.47)	33.33%
1000-0000-0000-41322-000 Tuition - Elementary	(32,182.50)	0.00	0.00	(32,182.50)	100.00%
1000-0000-0000-41325-000 Tuition-Special Education Elementary	(10,000.00)	0.00	0.00	(10,000.00)	100.00%
1000-0000-0000-41510-000 Interest Income	0.00	(266.28)	(1,218.23)	1,218.23	---
1000-0000-0000-41984-000 Refund Prior Year's Expenditures	0.00	0.00	(1,610.00)	1,610.00	---
1000-0000-0000-41991-000 Refund MSMA WC premium	0.00	0.00	(590.00)	590.00	---
1000-0000-0000-43110-000 State Allocation - Veazie	(706,014.15)	(58,834.51)	(470,676.08)	(235,338.07)	33.33%
1000-0000-0000-43111-000 State Subsidy/Debt Service	(286,731.17)	0.00	(272,297.72)	(14,433.45)	5.03%
1000-0000-0000-44340-000 E-Rate	0.00	0.00	(1,952.15)	1,952.15	---
1000-0000-0000-45000-000 Veazie Balance Forward	(355,000.00)	0.00	(355,000.00)	0.00	0.00%
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>S(4,218,750.75)</b>	<b>S(294,836.03)</b>	<b>S(2,989,226.10)</b>	<b>S(1,229,524.65)</b>	<b>29.14%</b>

## Veazie School Department

### Budget by Warrant Articles - Total

Account Number / Description	Adopted Budget 7/1/2015 - 6/30/2016	Amendments 7/1/2015 - 6/30/2016	Amended Budget 7/1/2015 - 6/30/2016	YTD Expended 7/1/2015 - 2/29/2016	Encumbrances 7/1/2015 - 2/29/2016	Amount Remaining 7/1/2015 - 2/29/2016	Percent Remaining 7/1/2015 - 2/29/2016
Total Article 1 - Reg Instr.	\$2,126,522.09	\$0.00	\$2,126,522.09	\$1,237,786.72	\$471.07	\$888,264.30	41.77%
Total Article 2 - Sp/Ed Instr.	\$831,795.71	\$0.00	\$831,795.71	\$382,345.54	\$0.00	\$449,450.17	54.03%
Total Article 3 - CTE Instr.	\$26,383.14	\$0.00	\$26,383.14	\$17,552.00	\$0.00	\$8,831.14	33.47%
Total Article 4 - Other Instr.	\$42,496.76	\$0.00	\$42,496.76	\$19,407.57	\$0.00	\$23,089.19	54.33%
Total Article 5 - Stu & Staff	\$200,143.67	\$0.00	\$200,143.67	\$128,142.43	\$1,467.04	\$70,534.20	35.24%
Total Article 6 - System Admin	\$100,517.54	\$0.00	\$100,517.54	\$58,637.76	\$0.00	\$41,879.78	41.66%
Total Article 7 - Schl Admin.	\$165,920.93	\$0.00	\$165,920.93	\$107,980.67	\$81.28	\$57,858.98	34.87%
Total Article 8 - Transport.	\$144,300.00	\$0.00	\$144,300.00	\$94,653.00	\$0.00	\$49,647.00	34.40%
Total Article 9 - Op & Maint	\$263,026.00	\$0.00	\$263,026.00	\$139,357.75	\$412.78	\$123,255.47	46.86%
Total Article 10 - Debt Svc.	\$287,644.91	\$0.00	\$287,644.91	\$273,165.50	\$0.00	\$14,479.41	5.03%
Total Article 11 - Other	\$30,000.00	\$0.00	\$30,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$0.00	\$10,000.00	33.33%
TOTAL BUDGET	\$4,218,750.75	\$0.00	\$4,218,750.75	\$2,479,028.94	\$2,432.17	\$1,737,289.64	41.18%

 (<http://bangordailynews.com/>)

## Why Maine police departments have a hard time filling jobs (<http://bangordailynews.com/2016/03/05/the-point/why-maine-police-departments-have-a-hard-time-filling-jobs/>)

By Christopher Burns (<http://bangordailynews.com/author/cburns/>), BDN Staff  
Posted March 05, 2016, at 8:23 a.m.

Law enforcement agencies in the midcoast ([https://www.google.com/url?q=http%3A%2F%2Fbangordailynews.com%2F2016%2F02%2F21%2Fnews%2Fmidcoast%2Frockland-having-trouble-hiring-police%2F&sa=D&ust=1457187484748000&usg=AFQjCNGinYv5x\\_zwnGEU\\_QmQm11out3gDg&ref=inline](https://www.google.com/url?q=http%3A%2F%2Fbangordailynews.com%2F2016%2F02%2F21%2Fnews%2Fmidcoast%2Frockland-having-trouble-hiring-police%2F&sa=D&ust=1457187484748000&usg=AFQjCNGinYv5x_zwnGEU_QmQm11out3gDg&ref=inline)) and Washington County (<https://www.google.com/url?q=http%3A%2F%2Fbangordailynews.com%2F2016%2F01%2F04%2Fnews%2Fdown-east%2Fsheriff-says-washington-county-law-enforcement-jobs-hard-to-fill%2F&sa=D&ust=1457187484748000&usg=AFQjCNHS-eMzBCdH0RwaQ41Coa7er5510A&ref=inline>) have made news recently because they're having an increasingly hard time finding qualified candidates to fill vacancies. The same goes for police forces in the state's largest cities and throughout much of the country: A shrinking pool of candidates have made recruitment more difficult than in the past.

"Law enforcement across the board have for some time seen a decline in people applying for positions," Portland police Chief Michael Sauschuck said.

There are several factors that have led to the recruitment difficulties departments face, including federal jobs created by the war on terror, military deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan, economic pressures facing millennials saddled with mounting debt and higher demands placed on prospective officers, according to a 2010 RAND study ([https://www.google.com/url?q=http://www.rand.org/content/dam/rand/pubs/monographs/2010/RAND\\_MG959.pdf&sa=D&ust=1457187484750000&usg=AFQjCNFF7z7vZM9ATvMVxyV](https://www.google.com/url?q=http://www.rand.org/content/dam/rand/pubs/monographs/2010/RAND_MG959.pdf&sa=D&ust=1457187484750000&usg=AFQjCNFF7z7vZM9ATvMVxyV)).

Much of what is known about the recruitment troubles, however, is largely anecdotal ([https://www.google.com/url?q=http://policeconsolidation.msu.edu/sites/default/files/PoliceRecruitment\\_LEEF.pdf&sa=D&ust=1457187484751000&usg=AFQjCNHpSnXRwhnPO6hObJlrf3j06g](https://www.google.com/url?q=http://policeconsolidation.msu.edu/sites/default/files/PoliceRecruitment_LEEF.pdf&sa=D&ust=1457187484751000&usg=AFQjCNHpSnXRwhnPO6hObJlrf3j06g)).

Several law enforcement officials, such as Robert Schwartz, executive director of the Maine Chiefs of Police Association (<https://www.google.com/url?q=http://www.mainechiefs.com/about-mcpa&sa=D&ust=1457187484751000&usg=AFQjCNGZYSglcEvtrPwuZuhvAt5AWsRYQg>), have pointed to the national anti-police sentiment (<https://www.google.com/url?q=http://www.citylab.com/crime/2015/04/who-wants-to-be-a-police-officer/391017/&sa=D&ust=1457187484752000&usg=AFQjCNHwllT12sauSwxGo49YPFnCJZW2w>) over police-involved killings in Ferguson, Missouri, and New York as a factor that has made police work less attractive.

Others, such as Sauschuck, doubt the furor has significantly hampered recruitment efforts, pointing to changing work preferences and the grinding lifestyle of the profession as more likely factors.

Although a lack of data makes it hard to say with any certainty what factors are responsible for the trend, law enforcement officials agree police work is less attractive today.

### Economic pressure

Nearly four in five departments nationally reported that a shortage of qualified candidates has made filling vacancies difficult, according to the RAND study. The Bangor Police Department is among those seeing fewer people line up to join the force.

Bangor police are in the process of hiring for five vacancies, and the openings have attracted 30 candidates, said Bangor police Lt. Bob Bishop. A decade earlier, Bishop said, these vacancies would have attracted as many as two or three times the number of candidates.

"When I first started in law enforcement, you'd see hundreds of applicants for openings. It was difficult to get a job. But those days are gone," Bishop said.

There are more than 40 vacant law enforcement and public safety positions (<https://www.google.com/url?q=http://www.maine.gov/dps/mcja/jobs/index.shtml&sa=D&ust=1457187484755000&usg=AFQjCNFvvhK1pWu9a1Hvb2yaYksCHCfCw>) across Maine advertised with the Maine Criminal Justice Academy, some of which have been open since last spring.

Bishop said many potential candidates interested in law enforcement work are drawn to other departments within the state and nation that offer higher pay. Starting pay for a Bangor police officer with a high school education and no prior experience is about \$35,000 per year; in Portland, starting pay is about \$41,000.

The average pay for a police or sheriff's patrol officer in Maine is \$43,000 per year ([https://www.google.com/url?q=http://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes333051.htm%23st&sa=D&ust=1457187484756000&usg=AFQjCNHWQD1kk1WGIz\\_ve8dZ3vQBKj2Tg](https://www.google.com/url?q=http://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes333051.htm%23st&sa=D&ust=1457187484756000&usg=AFQjCNHWQD1kk1WGIz_ve8dZ3vQBKj2Tg)), according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the lowest in New England. Nationally, the average pay for police or sheriff's patrol officers is \$59,560.

For millennials who are more highly educated and debt-saddled (<https://www.google.com/url?q=http://www.npr.org/2014/11/18/354196302/amid-the-stereotypes-some-facts-about-millennials&sa=D&ust=1457187484757000&usg=AFQjCNHBXeVGNjUy3duPswOwR6puffJAgw>) than previous generations, a career in law enforcement isn't as financially attractive as they face pressure to find well-paying jobs to pay off college debt. That pressure is strong for Maine college graduates who have the sixth highest debt burden ([https://www.google.com/url?q=http://ticas.org/sites/default/files/pub\\_files/classof2014.pdf&sa=D&ust=1457187484757000&usg=AFQjCNFvx3Q1-UGKsRLykg6sYlSJNi6\\_SA](https://www.google.com/url?q=http://ticas.org/sites/default/files/pub_files/classof2014.pdf&sa=D&ust=1457187484757000&usg=AFQjCNFvx3Q1-UGKsRLykg6sYlSJNi6_SA)) in the nation.

While millennials are under financial strain because of student debt, their higher education attainment makes them more attractive to non-police employers, meaning police departments face growing competition to woo them, the RAND study noted.

### Growth in national security

Much of the difficulty in finding candidates to fill police vacancies can be traced to the Sept. 11 attacks ([https://www.google.com/url?q=http%3A%2F%2Farchive.bangordailynews.com%2F2001%2F09%2F12%2Fterror-hits-home-hijackers-use-passenger-jets-as-weapons-against-u-s%2F&sa=D&ust=1457187484758000&usg=AFQjCNHRJdNNU5886\\_mv5UHkMIAdaZA8Uw&ref=inline](https://www.google.com/url?q=http%3A%2F%2Farchive.bangordailynews.com%2F2001%2F09%2F12%2Fterror-hits-home-hijackers-use-passenger-jets-as-weapons-against-u-s%2F&sa=D&ust=1457187484758000&usg=AFQjCNHRJdNNU5886_mv5UHkMIAdaZA8Uw&ref=inline)). After the attacks, local and state police departments

across the nation faced a shortage of officers and candidates to fill vacancies (<https://www.google.com/url?q=http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2006/03/26/AR2006032600995.html&sa=D&ust=1457187484759000&usg=AFQjCNHhhFYJMsy9BT6MeCnvUywQ3DeVQ>) as many men and women who would have otherwise joined the ranks were deployed overseas to fight in Afghanistan and Iraq.

At the same time, the expansion of national security infrastructure (<https://www.google.com/url?q=http://america.aljazeera.com/watch/shows/real-money-with-alivelshi/Real-Money-Blog/2013/9/11/post-9-11-securityboomsPELLSjobsandcontroversy.html&sa=D&ust=1457187484760000&usg=AFQjCNGNjPjRjGhXkK85Luh5L8sqPbiUUA>) siphoned away other potential candidates from local police departments as job openings surged within federal law enforcement agencies and private security firms. As a result, the competition for the same pool of candidates grew, and many federal agencies and private firms offer more competitive pay and benefits, making it harder for smaller departments to compete, according to the RAND study.

Employment in federal law enforcement agencies grew 14 percent between 2004 and 2008, according to the U.S. Bureau of Justice Statistics' 2008 Census of Federal Law Enforcement Officers (<https://www.google.com/url?q=http://www.bjs.gov/content/pub/pdf/fleo08.pdf&sa=D&ust=1457187484761000&usg=AFQjCNF-wNBBvnBpaJzJaByTms2KHLgQpg>), the most recent year in which the census was conducted.

Of the 120,000 Americans employed by federal law enforcement agencies at the time of the census, about two-thirds were employed by the departments of Homeland Security and Justice. Within the Department of Homeland Security, a majority of its officers were stationed at airports, seaports and border crossings.

Local and state police departments over that same period saw 5 percent growth, according to the FBI's Uniform Crime Reports (<https://www.google.com/url?q=https://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/ucr&sa=D&ust=1457187484762000&usg=AFQjCNGXdwV2HWt0rrBXts19fqDv3xguw>).

'Grinding lifestyle'

There are other factors affecting departments' ability to attract applicants. Younger candidates don't find the "grinding lifestyle" of working in public safety very attractive, Bishop, the Bangor police lieutenant, said.

For rookie officers, this means working late nights — often between 11 p.m. and 7 a.m., with more senior officers working coveted day shifts — as well as weekends and holidays patrolling city streets. Millennials also are less attracted to the rigid paramilitary structure and the sometimes dangerous conditions of police work.

"The youngest generation of workers has shown marked preferences toward extrinsic work values, such as prestige, changing tasks, social and cognitive aspects of work, and flexibility," the RAND study reads. "Many of these career expectations cannot be met in law enforcement."

In addition, an application process that is far more rigorous than the one in place when older law enforcement officers entered the police force also disqualifies many potential candidates.

Bishop noted that the application process can take two to three months, a significant change from when he entered law enforcement in the 1980s.

A candidate for a department vacancy must pass an aptitude test administered by the Maine Criminal Justice Academy and a physical fitness test. Meeting the department's fitness requirements is a "large filter" in the application process, according to Dan Sanborn, the Bangor police training officer. Nearly half of all prospective candidates can't meet them, an issue that plagues military recruiters (<https://www.google.com/url?q=http://www.militarytimes.com/story/military/2015/07/15/report-nearly-1-in-3-young-adults-too-fat-for-military/30178023/&sa=D&ust=1457187484765000&usg=AFQjCNGcof2PSutZZWlf-00kfwGDeFA4aw>) as well.

After an initial round of interviews, a candidate must submit to a thorough screening that includes a background check, drug test, polygraph, medical and psychological exams.

"You have to jump through a number of hoops to get hired. Just the mere application process is intimidating," Bishop said.

In fact, fewer than a third of all candidates make it through the application process to be considered for a position on the force, according to Sanborn. The top reasons many candidates are found ineligible to become police officers: a criminal history, drug use and, increasingly, inappropriate behavior on social media.

"We understand that there are no perfect people in the world," Sanborn said. "We're looking for good, honest kids."

The higher standards for applicants are needed because the very nature of police work has changed since the 1990s, as officers are expected to handle a diverse set of problems within their communities, from helping people with mental health disorders ([https://www.google.com/url?q=http://www.npr.org/2014/09/23/349098691/as-run-ins-rise-police-take-crash-courses-on-handling-mentally-ill&sa=D&ust=1457187484767000&usg=AFQjCNGGgA3fjLRG-SU\\_RgQcMYzICLNaGA](https://www.google.com/url?q=http://www.npr.org/2014/09/23/349098691/as-run-ins-rise-police-take-crash-courses-on-handling-mentally-ill&sa=D&ust=1457187484767000&usg=AFQjCNGGgA3fjLRG-SU_RgQcMYzICLNaGA)) to the drug epidemic (<https://www.google.com/url?q=http%3A%2F%2Fbangordailynews.com%2F2016%2F02%2F27%2Fthe-point%2Fhere-are-3-things-maine-can-do-to-combat-the-drug-epidemic%2F%3Fref%3DThe%2520PointBox&sa=D&ust=1457187484768000&usg=AFQjCNHpbfxJsRjV76BvteLMdsVldngjQ&ref=inline>) to the evolving nature of terrorist threats (<https://www.google.com/url?q=https%3A%2F%2Fbangordailynews.com%2F2016%2F02%2F19%2Fnews%2Fbangor%2Fangus-king-safety-officials-discuss-protecting-maine-from-terrorism%2F%3Fref%3DtopStories1Thumb&sa=D&ust=1457187484768000&usg=AFQjCNHHDCKdKyGeuZPKTT97BEuLUTVBgw&ref=inline>).

"We want to hire the best of the best. These people are out there serving the community," Sauschuck, the Portland police chief, said. "As chief, I won't settle for second best."

<http://bangordailynews.com/2016/03/05/the-point/why-maine-police-departments-have-a-hard-time-filling-jobs/> (<http://bangordailynews.com/2016/03/05/the-point/why-maine-police-departments-have-a-hard-time-filling-jobs/>) printed on March 7, 2016

**+ Join Us for  
Community  
Conversations  
about Growing  
Old & Dying**

# NINE TO NINETY

**Sunday, April 10th**

**1:00 -2:30 PM**

**University of Maine**

**DP Corbett Business Building**

**Room 115**

**Orono, Maine**



**Co-Sponsored by**

**The UMaine Center on Aging**

**and**

**Eastern Area Agency on Aging**



**Nine To Ninety is a 28 minute documentary made by producer Jali Vizza, director Alicia Dwyer and co-producer Michael Dwyer about Jali's family dealing with complex choices that come up at her grandparents age. The film premiered in Toronto at Hot Docs Film Festival, was nominated for Best Short at the International Documentary Association Awards and has been selected for the prestigious American Film Showcase, in which the State Department brings award-winning contemporary American films to audiences around the world.**

**Join us for a screening of the film followed by a discussion. Meet the filmmakers and some of the cast. Resources will be provided to help guide a conversation with your loved ones.**

**ninetoninety@gmail.com**

Nine To Ninety challenges the taboo of talking about death through the family of 89 year-old Phyllis Sabatini as she wrestles with tough decisions in her search to grow old with dignity.

## WE GOTTA TALK ABOUT IT

Nine To Ninety is the love story of Phyllis and Joe Sabatini, who at age 89 and 90 live in the home of their daughter and son-in-law, where they relish time with their young granddaughter Jacqueline. But as the family struggles to make ends meet and the grandparents' health problems escalate, Phyllis becomes determined to free her daughter from the burden of caring for everyone from nine to ninety. When Phyllis makes a difficult decision to move 3,000 miles away to live with their other daughter, she faces parting from Joe, her husband of 62 years. Phyllis' choice ignites bigger conversations about when the best way to say 'I love you' is to say 'goodbye' and how to age with dignity.

**Free to attend! Refreshments will be served!**

**For driving directions go to:**

**[http://www.maine.gov/mlri/events/directions/DP\\_Corbett\\_Directions.pdf](http://www.maine.gov/mlri/events/directions/DP_Corbett_Directions.pdf)**

March 7, 2016 Legislative Update from  
State Representative Peter A. Lyford

[View this email in your browser](#)



## State Representative **PETER A. LYFORD**

197 Jarvis Gore Drive  
Eddington, ME 04428  
(207) 848-3335

**Proudly Serving the Citizens of District 129**  
*Clifton, Eddington, Holden, Veazie, and  
a portion of Brewer*

### Does the State Have Your Property?

People across Maine are taking back hundreds of thousands of dollars in cash and other assets as a result of the State's efforts to reconnect them with their lost or unclaimed property.

To find out if the State Treasurer is in possession of something(s) belonging to you, click below.

[\\$\\$\\$ --Search for Unclaimed Property--\\$\\$\\$](#)

### AARP Tax Assistance

AARP provides confidential free tax preparation, answers tax questions, and files electronic forms; help is available for those who qualify for the Earned Income Tax Credit; sites are operational through April 15; arrangements can be made to assist homebound disabled persons.

Dial 2-1-1 Maine or visit [AARP Tax-Aide Locator](#) to find a tax preparation site nearest to your location. Consumers can search the Tax-Aide Locator by address, zip code, or county. The recommended search strategy is by zip code. The name of the site, address, phone number, site schedule, handicap access, information on making an appointment, and other pertinent



### Useful Links for Government News & Information

#### **Brewer City Office**

80 North Street  
Brewer, ME 04412  
(207) 989-7500

[E-mail](#)

[Web Site](#)

#### **Clifton Town Office**

135 Airline Rd.  
Clifton, ME 04428  
(207) 843-0709

[E-mail](#)

[Web Site](#)

information is included in the search results.

## Maine Maple Season is Underway with Several Offerings on Tap for the Public in 2016

*This year's mild and unpredictable weather has maple producers hopeful that the early start will result in a strong season.*

Officials from the Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry (DACF) and the Maine Maple Producers Association report that maple tapping is underway throughout the State, with southern and central regions further along. This year's unseasonably warm, fluctuating temperatures have allowed producers to tap earlier and generated high hopes for a longer, more productive 2016 maple season.

Commissioner Walt Whitcomb highlighted support from Governor Paul R. LePage and DACF efforts to work with the maple industry and the Maine Maple Producers Association to strengthen and expand the maple economy.

"Governor LePage has expressed his desire to see Maine become #1 for maple production," said Whitcomb. "That is a very high bar, but the industry and Department are working very hard to create more maple products and grow the industry. Governor LePage will mark the unofficial start to the 2016 season by ceremonially tapping a maple tree on the Blaine House lawn this month. The season will continue all the way to Maine Maple Sunday, March 27, when sugarhouses all across Maine will open their doors to provide family friendly activities for visitors young and old."

[Maine Maple Sunday \(March 27\) map](#)

## Department Seeks Input on Maine's Most Popular Wildlife and Fish Species at Public Meetings and Online Town Hall Forum

The Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife (IF&W) wants to hear your ideas and opinions about Maine's most popular wildlife and fish species.

### Eddington Town Office

906 Main Rd.  
Eddington, ME 04428  
(207) 843-5233  
[Web Site](#)

### Holden Town Office

570 Main Rd.  
Holden, ME 04429  
(207) 843-5151  
[Web Site](#)

### Veazie Town Office

1084 Main St.  
Veazie, ME 04401-7091  
(207) 947-2781  
[E-mail](#)  
[Web Site](#)

### [Legislature's Web Site](#)

### [Governor LePage's Web Site](#)

### [Secretary of State's Web Site](#)

### [Attorney General's Web Site](#)

### [Treasurer's Web Site](#)

### [Report DHHS Fraud](#)

### [Maine Sex Offender Registry](#)

Over the next month, the Department will hold a series of statewide public meetings that will focus on moose, deer, and turkey, bear, and freshwater fisheries. The meetings are designed to gather ideas and information from the public that will help shape management of these species over the next fifteen years.



In addition to public meetings, IF&W created a dedicated "Town Hall forum" at [www.metownhall.org](http://www.metownhall.org) to provide further opportunity for residents to voice their opinions on big game issues specifically (the forum will cover deer, moose, turkey, and bear issues).

Starting March 1, residents will be able to access the Town Hall forum Web site and leave comments and suggestions at [www.metownhall.org](http://www.metownhall.org). The Web site will stay live until March 31, at which point comments will be reviewed. Residents are encouraged to log onto the Web site during the month of March to submit responses to prepared questions, as well as interact with one another in an exchange of opinions and ideas.

Throughout March and April, there will also be a series of public meetings around the State to hear people's thoughts and ideas regarding species management.

There will be three public meetings that will focus specifically on bear management. The dates, times, and locations can be found online [here](#).

The meetings and online Town Hall forum are part of a larger study designed to assess priorities for bear, other big game, and fisheries management, including the issues residents see as important, their attitudes toward the current and desired population levels of various fish and game species; management techniques for these species; and any ideas for potential changes to the current management programs. Input from the public will help the Maine Department of IF&W create the best management plans possible.

The Maine Department of IF&W contracted with Responsive Management, an internationally recognized public opinion research firm, to conduct the research for the State. Responsive Management is handling the facilitation of the public meetings, as



well as the administration of the Town Hall Web forum. The firm has also conducted focus groups and surveys with Maine residents, hunters, anglers, and landowners as part of the research.

Maine residents may have received a call, e-mail, or letter in recent weeks inviting them to participate in one of the scientific surveys conducted for the project. The next phase of the project calls for a wider opportunity for residents to submit comments and suggestions in an open-ended manner via the public meetings and Web forum.

For more information about Responsive Management, please click [here](#).

For further information about the research study, please contact Nate Webb, Maine Department of IF&W, at [nathan.webb@maine.gov](mailto:nathan.webb@maine.gov).

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To help maintain an open line of communication with those I serve, I am providing you with this publication that contains government news and other public service announcements. It is my hope that you find this material both beneficial and informative.

**Our mailing address is:**  
State Representative Peter A. Lyford  
197 Jarvis Gore Drive  
Eddington, ME 04428

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# Veazie Community School

1040 School Street Veazie, ME 04401  
(207)947-6573 / FAX(207)947-6570  
Principal, Matthew Cyr



---

February 10, 2016

Dear Local Community Member,

We are writing on behalf of the Veazie Community School PTO to request a donation for our upcoming online auction. We held our first ever online auction this past fall and successfully raised over \$2000 for our organization! This spring's online auction runs from March 24 and ends at 9:00 p.m. on March 31.

All of the money raised directly benefits our students. In the past we have sponsored a variety of events for the students. We have paid for educational trips, defrayed the cost of bus transportation for other field trips, and helped teachers with the expenses of having special events in their classrooms. We are also currently working on raising money for a new informational marquee sign for outside our school.

We would appreciate any donation. In the past we have received gift cards, coupons for services as well as tangible items such as athletic equipment and autographed memorabilia. All donors will be individually recognized on our online auction website. If you have any questions please feel free to contact the Veazie Community School Principal at 947-6573 or [mcyr@veaziecs.org](mailto:mcyr@veaziecs.org)

Regards,

The Veazie Community School PTO  
Small School, Big Heart!

March 15, 2016 Legislative Update from  
State Representative Peter A. Lyford

[View this email in your browser](#)



## State Representative **PETER A. LYFORD**

197 Jarvis Gore Drive  
Eddington, ME 04428  
(207) 848-3335

**Proudly Serving the Citizens of District 129**  
*Clifton, Eddington, Holden, Veazie, and  
a portion of Brewer*

### **Free or Low-Cost Prescriptions**

There are various resources available to assist those on fixed/low incomes obtain free and/or low-cost prescriptions.

For a comprehensive listing and descriptions of these offerings, click [here](#).

### **Spring Flood Potential below Normal in all but Northern Maine**

The Maine River Flow Advisory Commission has determined that there is a below average chance of flooding this spring in most parts of the State, with a normal chance in northern areas that still contain a lot of ice and snow. The Commission recently reviewed information on current hydrologic conditions across Maine, as well as short-term weather forecasts.

Snow surveys conducted during the week of February 28 showed snowpack water content on average of 2 1/2 inches of water across the State, where there is snow. These levels put water content in the lowest 10% to 25% of the last 10 years throughout Maine. Snow densities average around 30% across State areas that have snow and are expected to increase over the next few weeks as above average temperatures are forecasted. Snow survey maps



### **Useful Links for Government News & Information**

**Brewer  
City Office**  
80 North Street  
Brewer, ME 04412  
(207) 989-7500

[E-mail](#)  
[Web Site](#)

**Clifton  
Town Office**  
135 Airline Rd.  
Clifton, ME 04428  
(207) 843-0709

[E-mail](#)  
[Web Site](#)

are available [here](#).

The National Weather Service noted that for the next week or so, temperatures are expected to be above average with normal rainfall amounts. A similar pattern is expected beyond this period for the next month.

River ice is below the normal range in most areas of the State due to stream flow that is above average as a result of the mild winter weather. The U.S. Coast Guard has not received requests for breakouts this year, but has spent approximately 220 hours performing ice breaking primarily in the Penobscot River and also in the Kennebec to maintain proficiency. These rivers are currently clear; however, cutters are standing by if ice-breaking were to become necessary.

Reservoir storages in the headwaters of Maine's large rivers are being maintained greater than 20% above average to compensate for current ice and snow conditions due to our mild winter. River basin managers report that rain and snow melt can be adequately handled this spring.

The most important factor influencing flooding is rainfall, but any snowpack adds risk. When water in the snowpack is released suddenly, by rainfall and warm temperatures, runoff amounts are increased dramatically. Careful weather monitoring is particularly important at this time of year.

Significant ice in rivers and streams presents an additional risk that cannot be forecast. Ice can jam, and water behind the jam can rise several feet in just a few minutes as seen in Augusta earlier this year. When an ice jam lets go, water levels downstream rise suddenly.

The annual meeting of the Commission represents the beginning of "flood season" in Maine, when all parties focus close attention to risk factors for flooding, along with temperature and precipitation forecasts.

The following steps are recommended.

### **Eddington Town Office**

906 Main Rd.  
Eddington, ME 04428  
(207) 843-5233  
[Web Site](#)

### **Holden Town Office**

570 Main Rd.  
Holden, ME 04429  
(207) 843-5151  
[Web Site](#)

### **Veazie Town Office**

1084 Main St.  
Veazie, ME 04401-7091  
(207) 947-2781  
[E-mail](#)  
[Web Site](#)

### **[Legislature's Web Site](#)**

### **[Governor LePage's Web Site](#)**

### **[Secretary of State's Web Site](#)**

### **[Attorney General's Web Site](#)**

### **[Treasurer's Web Site](#)**

### **[Report DHHS Fraud](#)**

### **[Maine Sex Offender Registry](#)**

- Check your flood insurance coverage if your home or business is in a flood-prone area. Most home and business owner's policies do not cover flood damages, and there is a 30-day waiting period before a new policy goes into effect.
- If you live or work in a flood-prone area, pay close attention to conditions in the next several weeks. Be aware that any sudden warm-up or significant rainstorm in the late winter and early spring carries the risk of flooding.
- If you live along a river or stream, watch for signs of ice jams. Signs include ice piling up and appearing to block the channel, coupled with rising water levels behind the jam. Report any suspected ice jams to local officials or the National Weather Service.



Commission members will stay in close communication throughout the spring season. Snow surveys will be conducted each week from now until the snow cover is gone.

The River Flow Advisory Commission meets annually in late winter to share information, examine potential for spring flooding, and to renew operational protocols. The Commission is composed of State, federal, and industry representatives with an interest in hydrologic issues.

The full report of the March 3 meeting can be found [online](#).

## Comprehensive Home Mortgage Guide

Maine's Bureau of Consumer Credit Protection, an agency within the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation, has available a comprehensive mortgage guide entitled "*The Downeaster Common Sense Guide to Finding, Buying, and Keeping Your Maine Home.*" Free to Maine residents, this 32-page booklet provides information for those contemplating the purchase and financing of a home.

Covered topics include:

- how to evaluate whether renting or buying makes the most sense, given income and future plans;

- how to use current income, debt load, and credit reports to predict if a loan may be approved;
- how to select a mortgage lender or loan broker;
- how to choose the type of loan product that best fits your needs; and
- understanding your obligations after the loan closes.

An online copy can be found at [www.Credit.Maine.gov](http://www.Credit.Maine.gov) by clicking "Publications" or "Consumer Guides" (directly [here](#)). Printed copies are available free of charge by calling the Bureau at 1-800-332-8529 (toll-free in Maine).

### Personal Income Tax (1040) Refund Status Information

If you have already filed your State individual income tax return and are scheduled to receive a refund, you can check on its status [here](#).

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To help maintain an open line of communication with those I serve, I am providing you with this publication that contains government news and other public service announcements. It is my hope that you find this material both beneficial and informative.

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197 Jarvis Gore Drive  
Eddington, ME 04428

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**BRUSH AND LEAF PICK UP!**  
**SATURDAY, APRIL 23RD**  
**7:30AM TO NOON**  
**CURBSIDE**

**VEAZIE SPRING CLEAN UP DAY!**  
**UNIVERSAL HOUSEHOLD**  
**WASTE COLLECTION**  
**SATURDAY, APRIL 30<sup>TH</sup>**  
**9:00AM TO 3:00PM**  
**BEHIND THE TOWN OFFICE**

**STREAM & ROADSIDE CLEAN UP!**  
**SATURDAY, MAY 14<sup>TH</sup> FROM**  
**9:30AM TO 11:30AM**  
**MEET AT THE TOWN OFFICE**  
**BBQ TO FOLLOW**

MORE DETAILS ARE ON THE BACK.  
PLEASE CALL THE OFFICE IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS.  
947-2781  
THANKS

## **Veazie Community School Walking in the Gym**

### **When school is in session:**

**Monday: 6:30a.m. - 9:15a.m.  
2:45p.m. - 9:00p.m.**

**Tuesday: 6:30a.m. - 8:40a.m.  
12:10p.m. - 1:20p.m.  
2:45p.m. - 7:00p.m.**

**Wednesday: 6:30a.m. - 9:50a.m.  
2:45p.m. - 6:00p.m.**

**Thursday: 6:30a.m. - 9:05a.m.  
2:45 - 7:00p.m.**

**Friday: 6:30a.m. - 8:30a.m.  
2:45p.m. - 9:00p.m.**

### **During School Vacations:**

**Monday - Friday: 8:00a.m. - 3:30p.m.**





## Legislative Update from Senator Jim Dill

The sap has begun to flow early, and maple tapping is already underway throughout the state. That means delicious, Maine-made maple products are on their way.

Maple syrup is a trademark industry in Maine, with our state competing for the second-most gallons produced nationwide every year. According to the USDA, Maine's maple industry produced more than half a million gallons of syrup in 2015. This year is shaping up to be even bigger!

Maine Maple Sunday is coming up on March 27. On that day, sugar shacks across the state will open their doors to the public to sell products and teach visitors about this important industry. It's a great event for kids and the whole family. Click [here](#) for more information.

In the newsletter below is an update from the Legislature. The Senate voted on, and passed, two important bills last week - one to attract large business investments to Maine and another to prevent voter intimidation at polling places. Information on those bills is below. Also, I am pleased to share a couple of photos from a visit from Orono athletes.

As always, please don't hesitate to [get in touch](#).

Sincerely,

## Legislature enacts bill to attract game-changing businesses

Last week, I was pleased to vote in favor of a bill aimed at attracting large-business investments to Maine. The bill, sponsored by my colleague, Sen. Stan Gerzofsky, D-Brunswick, was enacted after a 33-1 vote and sent to Gov. Paul LePage.

Imagine a large business opening in our community, bringing with hundreds of jobs that pay strong wages. That would be a game-changer for the entire region, and a welcome sight for unemployed or underemployed people.

The bill, LD 1480, establishes the Invest in Maine Capital Fund within the independent Finance Authority of Maine. The Fund will support businesses developments, as long as the business commits to investing at least \$50 million to create or retain at least 250 jobs that pay at least 125 percent of the state average wage.

That means good jobs, and lots of them. The legislation is modeled on successful programs in other states, which have provided seed capital for business creation and expansion. The initiative obligates no taxpayer dollars to the fund. Instead, the Fund will operate as a type of mutual fund for business investments and will be capitalized by pension funds, institutional endowments, insurance companies and other types of investment instruments.

The bill will go to Gov. Paul LePage, who has 10 days to sign it into law, veto it, or allow it to become law without his signature.

## **Congrats to Orono girls cross country and indoor track teams**

Members from the Orono High School girls cross country and indoor track teams were recognized by the Legislature on March 17 for winning the state championships in their respective sports. It was an honor to join with Rep. Ryan Tipping-Spitz of Orono to recognize the athletes and present them with Legislative Sentiments honoring their accomplishments.



The cross country team won their 3rd-straight Class C state title. Members of the team include: Kassidy Dill, Hannah Steelman, Tia Tardy, Lily Levitsky, Camille Kohtala, Liza Gallandt, and Olivia Fandel. The team is coached by Lin White.



The indoor track team won their first Class B state title. Members of the team include: Olivia Fandel, Leah Costello, McKenzie Peterson, Ally Pickering, Samantha Round, Lauren Stoops, Scarlett DeGrasse, Lydia Chase, Rebecca Lopez-Anido, Jenna Gaetjen, Gabrielle Marquis, Katie O'Brien, Grace Shemwell, Tia Tardy, Dreamaleigh Pearsall, Lucia Smitherman and Heather VanDolman. The team is coached by Chris Libby, and assistant coaches Tyler White and Miguel Caballero.

In addition, Ally Pickering is the state champion in pole vault; Lauren Stoops is the state champion in 55m hurdles and 200m dash and the state runner-up in 55m dash; and Tia Tardy is the state champion in the 800m, 1600m and 3200m runs.

Other state champion teams visited and I will share those pictures in a future newsletter.

## Preventing voter intimidation at the polls

You may remember that last year, self-described "election observers" across Southern Maine used aggressive tactics that left many voters feeling intimidated.

Wielding video camera, they put themselves between voters and citizen initiative petitions, filmed people signing the petitions, and even pointed their cameras in voters faces, demanding they identify themselves by name before exercising their right to support a citizen initiative.

That kind of harassment has no place in Maine. Voter intimidation makes the polling place unwelcome, which has the effect of suppressing the vote. We cannot allow that.

That's why the Senate unanimously enacted a bill by Sen. Bill Diamond, D-Windham, to establish reasonable limits to prevent people from using video cameras to intimidate voters at the polls. The bill creates a 15-foot "minimum distance" between video recorders and voters, meaning voters will be able to perform their civic duty without needless harassment by activists. The bill is sitting on Gov. Paul LePage's desk.

Jim Dill | State Senator | (207) 287-1515 | [JamesDill207@gmail.com](mailto:JamesDill207@gmail.com) | [www.mainesenate.org](http://www.mainesenate.org)

STAY CONNECTED:



# Veazie Community School

1040 School Street Veazie, ME 04401  
(207)947-6573 / FAX(207)947-6570  
Principal, Matthew Cyr



3-16

Dear Mr. Leonard,

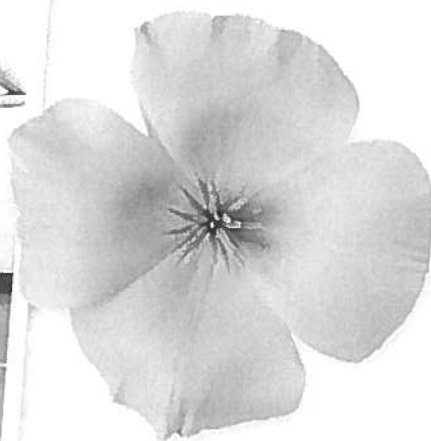
Thank you for taking the time to celebrate "World Read Aloud Day" at Veazie Community School. Sharing a new award winning book by a community member was a treat.

Sincerely  
Susan Logan

# Veazie Community School

*"Small School, BIG Heart!"*

VCS Lady Vikings  
Mid-Maine League Champions



## WE ARE THE CHAMPIONS!

Both Boys and Girls Basketball teams recently completed *perfect seasons* by winning every regular season game as well as every playoff game, including their championship matches! In addition to their high level of athleticism, our Veazie Vikings demonstrated excellent sportsmanship. Congratulations to all of our winter athletes and coaches!

**We are Veazie! We are Proud! We are Vikings!**

## Support our PTO

Our Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) continues to grow and support our school. This group meets the first Monday of every month at 6:00 p.m. in the VCS library (one hour before the School Committee Meeting). During meetings, we review the budget and discuss upcoming events and fundraising opportunities. Money raised by the PTO pays for almost all field trips, guest speakers and community events (and there are many!). Even if you can't make the meetings, we greatly appreciate your support by attending events and/or supporting fundraisers.

## Save the Date!

### Community Breakfast

**Sat., 3/26/16**

**7:30-9:30a.m.**

Celebrate Veazie's 168<sup>th</sup> Birthday!! Free Breakfast....Easter Egg Hunt at 9:00a.m.

### PK - 5 Family Dance

**Friday, 4/1/16**

6-8 p.m. *This is not a dress-up dance.* Just fun for everyone thanks to our PTO and Student Council.

### Spring Break

**4/18 - 4/22**

Have a safe and restful vacation!

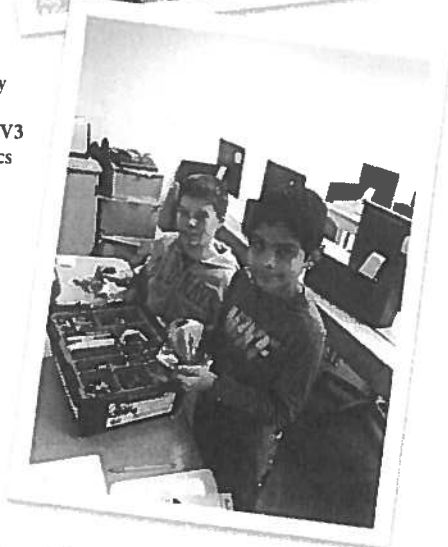


PTO Concessions booth at a recent home basketball game.



Using gears to create a windmill in a Kindergarten STEM unit focused on weather.

Students enthusiastically volunteered to assemble the EV3 LEGO Robotics kits as they arrived!



## S.T.E.M. @ VCS

### Science, Technology, Engineering and Math Education

#### LEGO Robotics

We recently invested in LEGO EV3 kits for our older students and LEGO WeDO kits for our younger students. Students will learn the LEGO Mindstorm programming language to have robots solve problems and complete tasks. We are also developing a VCS Robotics Team that will compete at Regional and State Competitions. GO VEAZIE!

#### Maine PSP & ESP

VCS is a member of the RiSE Partnership (Research in STEM Education). Our Science curriculum has shifted to STEMscopes and other curriculum that supports NGSS (Next Generation Science Standards). You can learn more about RiSE, PSP and ESP at [www.umaine.edu/center/](http://www.umaine.edu/center/)

#### Family Craft Nights

Mr. Garrett White, our incredible Art Teacher, has hosted two very successful Family Craft Nights! These are great ways to have fun as a family. Be on the lookout for another event in the near future!

#### iXL A Web-Based Resource

Every student at VCS (grades PK – 8) now has an iXL account. iXL is a dynamic, adaptive, web-based learning tool. It will assist our teachers with differentiating instruction, providing interventions for students in need, and allowing acceleration for those who are ready. It will also serve as a platform for our Virtual Summer School. Here are the curriculums we have access to: PK & K—Math; Grades 1-5—Math, ELA, Science & S.S.; Grades 6-8—Math & ELA. Students can access accounts from home and school. There are even an iPad, Android and Kindle apps!

#### Family Craft Night 2/11/16



VCS Art Room

4:30-6:30 pm

Join us for a Valentine's themed crafting event! We will be decorating chocolate and treats, using paper craft to build a small box to take them home in, and decorating a card.

Open to all ages, children 10 and under must be supervised. This is a drop in activity and likely to take around 45 minutes all included.

A suggested donation of \$5 per box will get you 3-4 tasty treats decorated by your own hand for everyone who loves!

