

# TOWN OF VASSALBORO

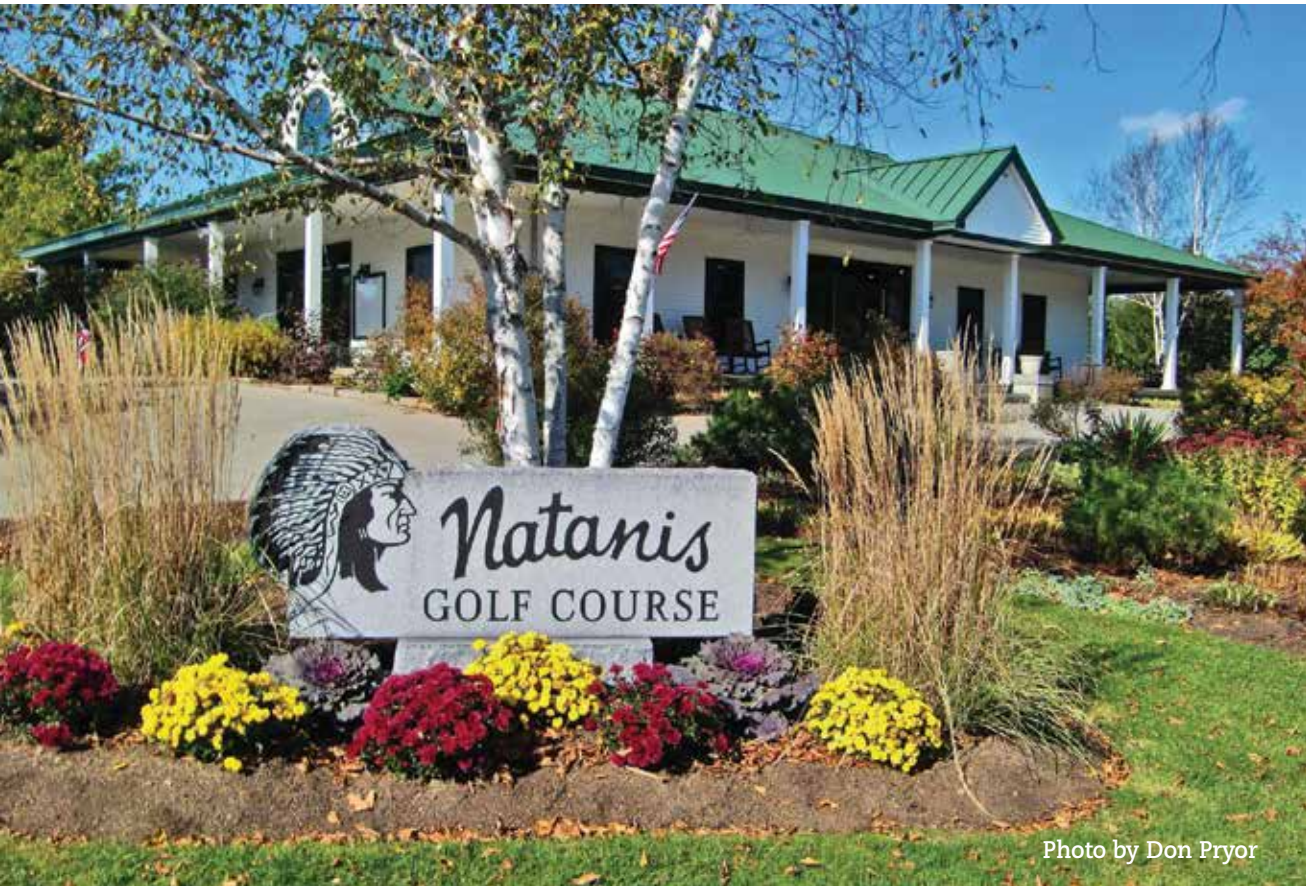
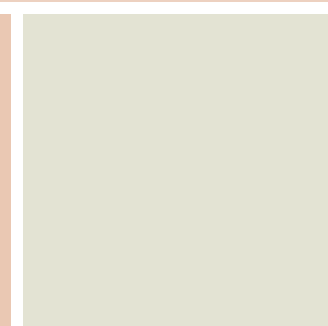
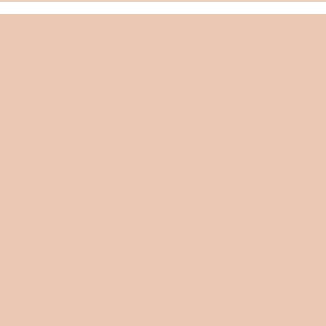
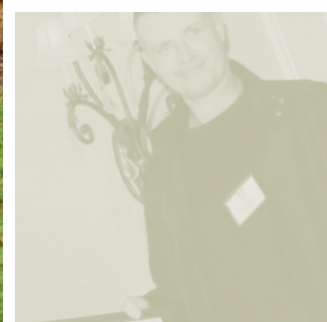
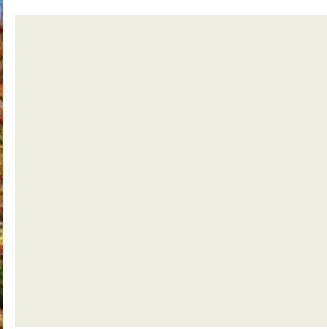
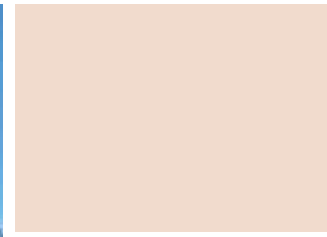


Photo by Don Pryor

## 2014 ANNUAL REPORT



## Town Information

Emergency .....	911
Town Office.....	872-2826
Public Works .....	923-3985
Transfer Station.....	923-3051
School.....	923-3100
Library .....	923-3233
Animal Control.....	458-4853
Police Chief - Non Emergency .....	622-7730

### Vassalboro Town Office

682 Main Street  
PO Box 129  
North Vassalboro, Maine 04962  
Phone: (207) 872-2826  
Fax: (207) 872-5414

### Hours:

Monday thru Wednesday: 8:00am to 4:00pm  
Thursday: 8:00am to 6:30pm  
Friday: 8:00am to 12pm  
Closed Saturday, Sunday and all Holidays.

[www.Vassalboro.net](http://www.Vassalboro.net)

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Front Cover Photo by Don Pryor

Back Cover Photo by Ben Magro

Natanis Family Photos Courtesy of Browne Family

Various Staff and Scenic Photos Courtesy of Mary Sabins

Cameo Staff Photos Courtesy of Fox Photo

Annual Report Design

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This year's Town Report is dedicated to  
**Paul and Lucy Browne**  
founders of Natanis Golf Course

Paul and Lucy Browne came to Vassalboro in 1950, creating a family heritage that would extend well into the 21st century. Paul from Bethel and Lucy from Belfast had met as students at University of Maine in Orono. Their first few years of marriage saw them in several states, pursuing a variety of careers. But it was Paul's job with the Maine Breeding Cooperative, and the opportunity to buy a thriving bull farm on Route 201 that brought them to Town. As they settled in here and later purchased 58 acres of idle farmland, Paul and Lucy would pursue a dream that was the culmination of all that had gone before.

In high school, Paul had caddied at Bethel Inn. An agricultural major in college, he'd worked summers at a truck farm, where he learned much about grasses and turf. Lucy majored in Home Economics and served as a 4H Extension Leader. Even as they worked hard to reclaim their farmland and plant crops, Paul managed to carve out time for two of his other loves: the Maine outdoors and the game of golf. Eventually the couple decided to give up the idea of farming and build a golf course. Paul and his four oldest sons utilized the lessons they'd learned through their work on the farm: clearing, fertilizing, and bulldozing the land. With help from soil experts and golf pros, they opened the first nine holes of Natanis Golf Course in 1965. Through the years the business grew in every way. With the completion of the last nine holes in 2003, Natanis became a world-class facility of 36 holes, sprawling across 500 acres of rolling hills, covered bridges, water hazards, and sand traps—all beautiful and well maintained.

Sadly Paul did not live to see the culmination of their dream. His death in 1981 devastated the family. But the seven children were grown by then—Bill, Bob, Paul

Junior, Jimmy, Margaret, Elizabeth, and Richard. As strong families do, they gathered round and did what needed to be done. The family and the business went on. Lucy set about living life without her husband, keeping her children and grandchildren at its center.

Lucy had poured her energy and efforts into them all their lives, and now they supported her in ways that were both loving and practical. Every Mother's Day they met at the homestead. The morning was spent doing repairs and upgrades to the house and yard. Lucy described it to a friend as "the best Mother's Day gift anyone could ever have." When the work was done, they all gathered around the table and enjoyed Lucy's great cooking, a labor of love to them.

Another friend describes Lucy Browne as "kind and soft-spoken, loved by everyone who knew her." Her thoughtfulness and generosity endeared her to so many. Her faith sustained her through difficult times. And every week, no matter what, Lucy religiously kept her appointment with her hairdresser.

Lucy became a volunteer at Hospice of Waterville. One of her fellow volunteers described her work with terminally ill patients: "She was a lovely lady, sweet and dedicated. She loved her patients and spent time with them; she'd sit and read to them. We even named a room after her....And then she became a hospice patient herself."

And when Lucy was too ill to go to her hair appointments, her hairdresser went to her. The longtime friends laughed and remembered, and finally said good-bye.

Lucy Browne died in 2001, after twenty years without Paul. The two are buried side by side on the land they loved so much. Four generations of their family and Natanis Golf Course continue to thrive and to show an ongoing commitment to Vassalboro and the greater community.

*Jan Clowes and Vicki Schad*

## Town Manager's Story ... Mary Sabins



After the June 2014 town meeting, the Selectmen and I worked together on projects and expenditures approved and authorized by the voters. One of the first projects undertaken was to seek bids for the purchase of a new public works truck, using bid specifications aptly prepared by Public Works

Director Gene Field. The bid for the truck cab and chassis was awarded to Daigle & Houghton of Hermon, Maine for \$97,527; the bid for the truck body, sander, and plow gear was awarded to H.P. Fairfield of Skowhegan, Maine for \$86,473. As with any vehicle that is special ordered, several months went by before the completed truck was delivered in February 2015.

The voters also approved implementation of the Tax Incremental Financing (TIF) District for the Summit Natural Gas Pipeline. This authorization created a Revolving Loan/Grant fund from the TIF Revenues to be received from Summit tax bills for the next 30 years. The Selectmen have the authority to give grants or loans from the fund to businesses for economic development in town, and for two special projects named in the TIF Development Program. Those two special projects are the China Lake Alewife Restoration Project being planned by China Region Lakes Alliance; and a new sewer line improvement project being planned soon by the Vassalboro Sanitary District. The Selectmen and I have worked to create the application forms that will be used by these businesses and organizations in the near future to apply for grants or loans from the TIF Revolving Loan Fund.

Also at town meeting this past year, the Selectmen recognized volunteerism in town by giving the Spirit of America Award to our Vassalboro Business Association (VBA) to recognize them for their efforts to organize the annual Vassalboro Days event every year

on the weekend after Labor Day; and also for their involvement and financial support of the swimming/recreational area, and the annual Halloween event at the Woolen Mill. Both of these properties are located in the North Village area and are owned by Ray Breton, a VBA Member. Many thanks go out to this group of volunteers, and to all volunteers within this community, who make such a difference in the lives of those who choose to live or visit here!

Speaking of volunteers, residents of the Town of Vassalboro are very fortunate to have a group of approximately 10 licensed EMS volunteers who have stepped forward and offered their skills to start a First Responder Service for those in need who are having a medical emergency. Funding for this group was also approved at the June 2014 town meeting, and volunteer Service Chief Dan Mayotte immediately went to work after receiving voter approval to obtain the necessary Emergency Medical Service License, and acquired the necessary medical equipment needed for this Service to be successful. Be sure to check out his story in this town report for more details! We thank all of them for caring about others, and wanting to provide help when help is needed at a most critical time.



**L to R:** Billy Pullen, Linda Titus, Darrell Gagnon, and Ray Breton accept the 2014 Spirit of America Award for the Vassalboro Business Association.

Photo by Mary Sabins

Funding for an engineering study for possible layout changes to the Transfer Station facility was also approved at Town Meeting last year. After a bid process, the Selectmen hired an engineering firm named CES to conduct this study. The study was completed in February 2015, and two options for changes were provided, each of them involve razing the old office building along with the attached wooden cover over the existing compactor, and erecting a new structure in its place. One option involved creating a new facility entrance to enable a two-lane drive-thru disposal service in a new building perched overtop compactors in a lower level. The Board has taken these ideas under advisement, with no formal action taken at this time. Possibly in the future, some form of these plans may be undertaken to improve the layout of the Transfer Station, with as much labor as possible done in-house to keep expenses down.

Photo by Mary Sabins



George Hamar (right) accepts the 2014 Transfer Station Manager of the Year Award.

Our Transfer Station Manager, George Hamar, received a great honor in the spring of 2014 when he was recognized by the Maine Resource and Recovery Association as the Transfer Station Manager of the Year! We are very proud of George and his accomplishments. We extend a big thank you to him for the changes and improvements he has accomplished at the Transfer Station, and for a job well done!



Photo by Mary Sabins

**L to R:** Town Clerk Cathy Coyne, Jim Schad, Bookkeeper Jean Poulin, New Deputy Clerk Debbie Johnston, and Town Manager Mary Sabins at Jim's retirement party.

Other staffing changes were made in early September 2014 with the retirement of long-time Deputy Town Clerk and Registrar of Voters, Jim Schad. A small reception was given for Jim on his last work day at the town office, with cake and refreshments enjoyed by all who participated. We wish him well in his retirement, and thank him for his many years of service to this community. On the day of Jim's retirement, we also welcomed Jim's replacement, Deborah Johnston. Debbie has past municipal experience in the City of Presque Isle, which she quickly recalled and implemented expertly here in Vassalboro, even on her first day! We are very pleased to have Deb as the newest member of our staff, and encourage you to come to the office to meet her if you have not done so already.

As always, I would like to thank the Selectmen, and all of my staff members who make it such a pleasure to come to work each day. I appreciate them all! Each one of them are dedicated professionals who perform their jobs well, and I am very proud to work alongside them to serve the residents of Vassalboro.



Selectmen (L to R): Phil Haines, Lauchlin Titus, and Rob Browne.

## Directory of Elected & Appointed Officials

### SELECTMAN/OVERSEERS

923-3391	2015	Philip Haines	702 Bog Road, Vassalboro
626-0966	2016	Robert Browne	9 Szady Drive, Vassalboro
873-2108	2017	Lauchlin Titus	1063 Main Street, Vassalboro

### SCHOOL COMMITTEE

923-4069	2015	Jolene Clark Gamage	1633 Cross Hill Road, Vassalboro
872-7062	2016	Phillip Landry	10 St. Bridgetts Way, Vassalboro
872-8596	2016	Kevin Levasseur	209 Bog Road, Vassalboro
872-9032	2017	Frederick Denico, Sr.	324 Oak Grove Road, Vassalboro
485-4008	2017	Erin Libby Loiko	1227 Riverside Drive, Vassalboro

### PLANNING BOARD

873-5226	2016	Virginia Brackett	20 Alpine St., Vassalboro
	2016	Betsy Poulin	373 Hussey Hill Road, Vassalboro
923-3800	2015	Douglas Phillips	738 Bog Road, Vassalboro
923-3400	2015	Sally Butler	49 Taber Hill Road, Vassalboro
873-1601	2016	Marianne Hubert	53 Sherwood Lane, Vassalboro
	2015	Don Robbins, Alternate	254 Main Street, Vassalboro

### BUDGET COMMITTEE

923-3729	2016	John Melrose	636 Bog Road, Vassalboro
873-7399	2015	Donald Breton	174 Cemetery Street, Vassalboro
622-7730	2016	Richard Phippen	492 Webber Pond Rd, Vassalboro
873-9094	2016	Rick Denico, Jr.	237 Oak Grove Rd., Vassalboro
923-3800	2016	Douglas Phillips	738 Bog Road, Vassalboro
923-3511	2016	Elizabeth Reuthe	924 Cross Hill Road, Vassalboro
873-2605	2015	Peggy Schaffer	22 Station Hill Road, Vassalboro
622-3096	2015	William Browne	793 Webber Pond Road, Vassalboro
872-5265	2015	William Whitley	67 Gray Road, Vassalboro
872-7268	2015	Lori Fowle	305 Taber Hill Rd., Vassalboro

### BOARD OF APPEALS

923-3231	2016	Peggy Cain	358 Hussey Hill Road, Vassalboro
873-3911	2016	Gary Coull	36 Maple Street, Vassalboro
923-3185	2015	Kathy Lees	604 Bog Road, Vassalboro
923-3759	2015	Leon Duff	595 Hussey Hill Road, Vassalboro
923-3803	2015	John Reuthe	924 Cross Hill Road, Vassalboro

		<b>TOWN CLERK</b>	
872-2826	2015	Catherine Coyne	P.O. Box 82, N. Vassalboro
		<b>SANITARY DISTRICT</b>	
692-2421		Lee Trahan	132 Clinton Ave., Winslow
872-5884	2016	Ray Breton	7 Priest Hill Road, Vassalboro
923-3971	2015	Alfred Roy	12 So. Stanley Hill Road, Vassalboro
		Lysa Lovely, Treasurer vacant	
		<b>RECREATION COMMITTEE</b>	
462-1285	2015	Jennifer Fortin, Director	42 Fortin Road, Vassalboro
	2015	Steve Polley	19 Szady Road, Vassalboro
	2015	Kim Glidden	320 Webber Pond Road, Vassalboro
	2015	Kevin Luczko	1307 Cross Hill Road, Vassalboro
	2015	Tiffany Luczko	1307 Cross Hill Road, Vassalboro
	2015	Ryan Redman	550 Bog Road, Vassalboro
	2015	Marc Cote	146 Coyote Ridge Road, Vassalboro
	2015	Kevin Wood	81 Crowell Hill Road, Vassalboro
	2015	Hillary Polley (Alternate)	19 Szady Road, Vassalboro
		<b>CONSERVATION COMMISSION</b>	
557-5535	2016	Mary-Ellen Johnston	191 Priest Hill Road, Vassalboro
923-3836	2016	Steve Jones	55 Quaker Lane, Vassalboro
923-3397	2017	Holly Weidner	320 Main Street, Vassalboro
	2017	Betsy Poulin	373 Hussey Hill Road, Vassalboro
923-3483	2015	David Jenney	844 Cross Hill Road, Vassalboro
		<b>CEMETERY COMMITTEE</b>	
622-8792	2015	Richard Kelly, Chairman	1091 Riverside Drive, Vassalboro
923-3411	2015	Tom Richards	508 Hussey Hill Road, Vassalboro
	2015	Julie Lyon	Waterville
872-2569	2015	Jim Ashton	859 Main Street, Vassalboro
923-3220	2015	Jane E. Aiudi	656 Bog Road, Vassalboro
		<b>CAPITAL EXPENSES COMMITTEE</b>	
873-9094	2015	Rick Denico, Jr.	237 Oak Grove Road, Vassalboro
872-8286	2015	Alan Dorval	28 Cook Hill Road, Vassalboro
923-3625	2015	Matt Masse	39 Masse Lane, Vassalboro
923-3342	2015	Dale Doughty	1639 Cross Hill Road, Vassalboro
877-0574	2015	Kevin Reed	757 Main Street, Vassalboro
		<b>FIRST RESPONDER SERVICE</b>	
622-4388	2015	Dan Mayotte, Director	1574A Riverside Drive, Vassalboro
873-2052	2015	Jeff Foster, Ass't Dir.	31 Maple Street, Vassalboro
		<b>KENNEBEC WATER DISTRICT TRUSTEE</b>	
873-3911	2016	Gary Coull	36 Maple Street, Vassalboro
		<b>STATE SENATOR DISTRICT 24</b>	
622-9921- home		Roger Katz	3 State House Station
287-1505 - office		senroger.katz@legislature.maine.gov	Augusta, Maine 04330
287-1583 - TTY			
		<b>STATE REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 58</b>	
872-7268 - home		Lori Fowle	House of Representatives
287-1400- office		RepLori.Fowle@legislature.maine.gov	2 State House Station
287-4469 - TTY			Augusta, ME 04333-0002

# A Message from Senator Roger Katz

127th Legislature

## Senate of Maine

Senate District 24

Dear Friends and Neighbors:

This is now my third term in the Maine Senate. I am so grateful for the trust you've placed in me and I will continue to do my best to represent the citizens of Vassalboro and the entire state.

Even as we continue to come out of the recession, we face some stubborn and daunting issues here in Maine, including the reality that we have the highest median age in the country. How do we deal with the challenge of an aging population? How can we continue to provide excellent state services to our people without putting more pressure on local property taxes? How can we prepare our students (young and old) for the high – paying, high – demand jobs of the future? What can we do to help lower energy costs for Maine people and businesses? How can we ensure a welfare safety net for the most vulnerable among us while at the same time making sure that we are encouraging self-sufficiency? What can we do to attract more young workers and entrepreneurs to our state?

The questions are easy to ask. Finding the answers is a more difficult. This is where you come in! I am hoping that many of you will reach out to me during the course of the legislative session with your ideas and thoughts on the budget and other bills we are facing.

The Governor's budget proposes some fundamental reform to our tax structure, most of which I think makes great sense. However, parts of it could end up placing further burdens on the Town of Vassalboro and its property taxpayers. What do you think? Let me know by contacting me at 287-1505 or [rkatz@lipmankatz.com](mailto:rkatz@lipmankatz.com). Your input will help me do a better job.

Again, my humble and sincere thanks for allowing me to represent you in Augusta.

Best,



Roger Katz  
State Senator





# A Message from Congresswoman Chellie Pingree

## Congress of the United States

1st District, Maine



Dear Friends,

I hope this letter finds you and your family well. It's an honor to represent you in Congress. Thank you for the chance to update you on my work there and in Maine.

Like many here at home, I find the current partisan environment in Washington and Congress to be very frustrating. Attempts to take away people's health care, weaken environmental protections, and stoke controversy have been put ahead of more meaningful work to create jobs, help people through tough times, and give our children a better future.

Still, I have tried to find opportunities to work on issues where my colleagues across the aisle and I can find agreement. As a member of the minority party, I'm very proud that these efforts have earned several legislative victories that benefit the people of our state.

One of the most significant was passage of a Farm Bill containing many reforms I introduced to help the kind of small, diversified, family farms that we have here in Maine. These included more funding to help these farms meet the growing demand for healthy local food, as well as better insurance to fit their needs and helping SNAP recipients use benefits at farmers markets.

Another bill I introduced was signed into law, initiating a study of the York River to see if it is a good candidate for the federal Wild and Scenic Rivers program. The classification would help protect this important natural resource while potentially bringing more visitors to the area and an increased amount of federal investment for its conservation. As a member of the House Appropriations Committee, I've worked to secure other investments for the state as well, including \$20 million to replace a crumbling, unhealthy and outdated tribal school in Washington County.

But not all the work I do is from Washington. My offices in Portland and Waterville assist hundreds of constituents every year who have issues with federal agencies and programs—veterans benefits, Social Security, and passports among them. If you have a problem where I might be of assistance, I encourage you to call (207) 774-5019. My staff and I welcome the opportunity to serve you.

Again, it's a pleasure to represent you in Congress. Please keep in touch.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chellie Pingree'.

Chellie Pingree

Member of Congress



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002  
(207) 287-1400  
TTY: (207) 287-4469

## **Lori A. Fowle**

305 Taber Hill Road  
Vassalboro, ME 04989  
Residence: (207) 872-7268  
Cell Phone: (207) 649-4863  
Lori.Fowle@legislature.maine.gov

Dear Vassalboro Residents,

It is an honor to serve once again as your State Representative. I intend to work hard to retain your trust and build upon the work I've done in the Legislature over the past two years.

We are going to take on a number of big issues in Augusta this year, from the state budget, to strengthening our schools, supporting senior citizens, property tax relief, jobs, wages, entrepreneurship, agriculture, access to affordable health care, energy costs, student debt and many more. I have submitted a number of bills this year, including legislation aimed at helping veterans – a major priority of mine during my first term.

I'm also happy to report that I have been appointed House chair of the Legislature's Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee. It's a golden opportunity to make sure Maine is doing all it can to combat drug abuse and trafficking, human trafficking, domestic violence and driving under the influence. It's also a chance to better promote fire safety, reduce the incidence of carbon monoxide poisoning, and make sure we are doing the best job possible when it comes to managing our prisons and county jails.

Whether we are dealing with the above issues or any other topic, I stand ready to work with all of my colleagues, regardless of party affiliation, to make sure we're doing the best work we can for the people of our district and all the people of Maine.

Please contact me if I can be of any help or if you want to discuss or testify on any legislation. My email is [lori.fowle@legislature.maine.gov](mailto:lori.fowle@legislature.maine.gov), and my phone number is 872-7268.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lori Fowle".

Lori Fowle  
State Representative

District 80 Augusta (part), Somerville, Vassalboro and Windsor, plus the unorganized territory of Hibberts Gore

Printed on recycled paper

## Registrar of Voters ... Catherine Coyne

In September, Jim Schad retired as Voter Registrar. I want to thank Jim for his many years of dedication to the Town of Vassalboro and his continued support.

During the past year we have had two elections in Vassalboro:

- 1) June 10, 2014 was the date of the municipal election.
- 2) The State Referendum Election was held on November 4, 2014. There were 2100 ballots cast with 458 voting absentee.

The Town of Vassalboro participated in the AOS meeting and vote on December 10, 2014.

The total number of voters as of March 2015 is 3,136 with the following party affiliation breakdown:

**Democrats:** 949 / **Republicans:** 890 / **Green:** 146 / **Unenrolled:** 1151

No absentee ballots can be issued after the Thursday before any election unless the voter signs an application, designed by the Secretary of State, stating one of the following reasons for requesting an absentee ballot after the deadline:

- 1) An unexpected absence from the municipality during the entire time the polls are open on election day;
- 2) A physical disability; or
- 3) An incapacity or illness that has resulted in the voter's being unable to leave home or a treatment facility.



Photos by Mary Sabins

Jim Schad opens the 2014 Town Meeting.

## Town Clerk Report ... Catherine Coyne

I would like to thank Deputy Clerk Jim Schad, for all his assistance these past many years and wish him the best on his retirement. It has been a pleasure to work with him. With that, I would like to welcome our newest Deputy Clerk, Deborah Johnston.

Certified Copies of Death, Birth, and Marriage Certificates can be obtained at a cost of \$15.00. Additional copies are \$6.00 each.

You must have proof of having held a previous hunting license or proof of having taken a Hunter Safety Course in order to purchase a Hunting license. You do not have to be a resident of Vassalboro in order to obtain a license.

There are approximately 966 dogs registered in town. All dog licenses expire December 31st. You must have a rabies certificate in order to license your dog. You will also need to provide proof of Spay or Neutering. A spayed/neutered dog is \$6.00 and the fee for an unaltered dog is \$11.00. There is a \$25.00 late fee after January 31st. For the past several years we have held a Rabies Clinic at the North Vassalboro Fire Station in November. Dog licensing is available

at the clinic. Part of the proceeds goes to the Vassalboro Food Pantry. **You can reach the Animal Control Officer, Dave Huff at 458-4853.**

General Assistance is a program that provides assistance with basic needs for eligible applicants who cannot provide for themselves and their families. General Assistance is administered on each Wednesday by appointment unless there is an emergency. Any person who has been assisted with General Assistance in any municipality in the state of Maine must retain all receipts to keep their eligibility. You can call 872-2826 to set up an appointment.



Photo by Mary Sabins

**Town Office Staff (L to R):** Front row: Bob Folsom, Debbie Johnston, Jean Poulin. Back row: Cathy Coyne, Ellery Bane, Mary Sabins.

*The following are Marriage Licenses, using Maiden name that were recorded from March 2, 2014 – March 1, 2015.*

<b>PARTY A</b>	<b>PARTY B</b>	<b>DATE MARRIED</b>
Joshua Keith Houde	Pamela Azucena Sifuentes Sainz	March 8, 2014
Ronald Lee Turner	Jerry Alan Morrell	March 22, 2014
Sara Marie Whitman	Dustin Alan Taylor	April 19, 2014
KC Jones Sawtelle	Erika Ann Frye	May 31, 2014
Richard Allen Colburn	Ann Marie Witherell	May 31, 2014
Nathan Michael Dumont	Hallie Fae Benjamin	June 27, 2014
Hope Fawn Pitcher	William Wendell Paquet	July 5, 2014
Johnny Crockett Clawson	Robin Lee Gagnon	July 14, 2014
Ann Lucille Gray	Stephen Wayne Paoletti	August 2, 2014
Robert Bruce Dore	Cindy-Ann York	August 8, 2014
Lawrence Court Frauen	Heather Elizabeth Locke	August 16, 2014
Felicia Emily Bailey	Robert Austin Herbert	August 16, 2014
Tiffany Lynn Caron	Kevin Matthew McKay	August 23, 2014
Rebecca Edith Daigle	Benjamin Paul Dube	September 1, 2014
Brittany Leigh Moran	Andrew Paul Bellmore	September 6, 2014
Roman Sean Gosselin	Melissa Brooke St. Amand	October 4, 2014
Tyler James Hafford	Nicole Lynn Lachance	October 4, 2014
Aaron Foster Page	Veronica Corinne Chilcott	November 1, 2014
Scott Elvert Pooler	Laurie Ann Richards	December 30, 2014
Gregory Allen Buzzell	Frances Katherine D'Alelio	December 31, 2014

There were 48 births to Vassalboro residents from March 2, 2014 – February 23, 2015. The Vital Statistic information listed below pertains to deaths from February 14, 2014 – February 23, 2015.

**IN MEMORY OF**

<b>NAME</b>	<b>DATE OF DEATH</b>	<b>AGE</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>
Robert Carroll	February 14, 2014	63	Vassalboro
Louise Cole	March 1, 2014	79	Augusta
Steven Gaffney	March 2, 2014	31	Vassalboro
Patricia Braley	March 12, 2014	82	Lewiston
Sylvia Crommett	April 25, 2014	70	Vassalboro
Alice Berard	May 8, 2014	81	Portland
Dana Albert	May 10, 2014	65	Augusta
Edward Serwin	May 14, 2014	89	Augusta
Danny Deshaies	May 17, 2014	52	Vassalboro
Raymond Tingley	May 30, 2017	76	Waterville
Rebecca Elliott	May 31, 2014	48	Vassalboro
Sally Wisely	May 31, 2014	81	Vassalboro
Malcolm Smith	June 27, 2014	73	Augusta
Verna Proctor	July 1, 2014	78	Portland
David Crowell	July 6, 2014	67	Augusta
Adam Hikel	July 7, 2014	85	Augusta
Kenyon Jose	July 16, 2014	<1	Augusta
Duncan Jose	July 16, 2014	<1	Augusta
Mark Haskell	July 24, 2014	63	Vassalboro
Gerald Giroux	August 29, 2014	76	Waterville
Stephen Pierce	September 20, 2014	67	Augusta
Paul Roy	September 20, 2014	63	Portland
Ellen Cunningham	September 30, 2014	77	Augusta
Beverly Pullen	October 3, 2014	81	Augusta
Thomas Doyle	October 28, 2014	69	Vassalboro
Edna Whalen	November 2, 2014	67	Vassalboro
Donna Wilson	November 7, 2014	81	Augusta
Adam Loiko	November 8, 2014	36	Augusta
Sharon Nichols	November 17, 2014	60	Clinton
Howard Jones	November 22, 2014	76	Vassalboro
Sally Baker	November 28, 2014	80	Waterville
Myron Hughes	December 10, 2014	78	Vassalboro
Doraine Austin	December 12, 2014	87	Augusta
Kenneth Reid	December 15, 2014	74	Togus USVA
Robert Whitney	December 16, 2014	60	Togus USVA
Eva Smith	December 26, 2014	87	Brunswick
Irene Lagasse	February 18, 2015	85	Waterville
Nancy Tarr	February 18, 2015	62	Vassalboro
Edward Morin	February 22, 2015	76	Vassalboro
Roberta Glazier	February 23, 2015	78	Portland

## Town Assessor ... Ellery G. Bane, C.M.A.



Once again it has been my pleasure to serve as the Town of Vassalboro Tax Assessor. The 2014 -2015 tax year was a year of major change. First and foremost was the addition of an 8.6 million dollar pipeline by Summit Natural Gas to the tax rolls. This major investment by Summit was proactively met by the Town and its leadership which led them to create a new 30-year Tax Incremental Financing (TIF) District in Vassalboro. This TIF will help to ensure that this new value is sheltered from the State Valuation process, as well as provide capital funds for projects by entrepreneurial business to reinvest in the Town of Vassalboro and its residents.

On another front, the Assessing office also undertook a comprehensive sales analysis of the Town, which led to the conclusion and implementation that all assessments were to be lowered due to market deflation that occurred since the 2007 Town-wide revaluation. For the 2014 tax year, the Town had a

total valuation of \$305,796,900 and issued a total of 1,052 Homestead Exemptions. There were also 134 Veterans Exemptions granted in this last year. There are also residents who have applied and entered State classified programs such as Tree Growth, Farm Land, and Open space. All of these programs, if applicable, are applied locally and can be a help to taxpayers in easing the burdens they face in regards to property tax. I can assure you that in these trying economic times where we are continually faced with State cuts that aid municipalities, the Town of Vassalboro is diligently working to keep the impact on Property Taxes to a minimum.

Any help that I can offer in explaining these programs and exemptions is encouraged, so please feel free to contact me at the Town of Vassalboro assessing office at **872-2826** or email me at **ebane@vassalboro.net**. As always, I look forward to working with you in the future.

## Code Enforcement Officer/Local Plumbing Inspector Robert T. Folsom, Sr.

During the past year I have issued 46 plumbing permits and 56 building permits. It has been my pleasure to work with the citizens and town office staff here in Vassalboro. I have also enjoyed working with the Vassalboro Planning Board and assisting applicants with their submittals to the Planning Board for review.

We now have a new barber shop/hair salon, cake shop, antique shop, church fellowship, farm stand as well as new homes and additions to homes in the shoreland.

Please consider me as a resource to provide information regarding building and plumbing permits, codes and required inspections.



Please call me at **(207) 872-2826** or email me at **rfolsom@vassalboro.net** if I can be of any help.

## Personal Property Taxes *(Unpaid as of 3/11/15)*

Acct	Name	Year	Original Tax	Payment Adjust	Amount Due
359	P BRIDGET'S PLACE	2010	146.45	0.00	146.45
359	P BRIDGET'S PLACE	2011	145.00	0.00	145.00
359	P BRIDGET'S PLACE	2012	159.50	0.00	159.50
359	P BRIDGET'S PLACE	2013	171.36	0.00	171.36
99	P BUTTERFIELD, LINDA	2012	256.30	0.00	256.30
99	P BUTTERFIELD, LINDA	2013	276.64	0.00	276.64
201	P CAIN & SONS EQUIPMENT	2011	24.00	0.00	24.00
201	P CAIN & SONS EQUIPMENT	2012	36.30	0.00	36.30
201	P CAIN & SONS EQUIPMENT	2013	36.96	0.00	36.96
305	P GERARD, ROBERT G & ANITA L	2009	149.48	0.00	149.48
305	P GERARD, ROBERT G & ANITA L	2010	149.48	0.00	149.48
305	P GERARD, ROBERT G & ANITA L	2011	148.00	0.00	148.00
305	P GERARD, ROBERT G & ANITA L	2012	162.80	0.00	162.80
305	P GERARD, ROBERT G & ANITA L	2013	175.84	0.00	175.84
318	P GRAY, CHARLES	2013	150.08	3.35	146.73
277	P GREEN, JOHN PAVING	2011	206.00	0.00	206.00
277	P GREEN, JOHN PAVING	2012	226.60	0.00	226.60
277	P GREEN, JOHN PAVING	2013	244.16	0.00	244.16
346	P MARK A. GRENIER	2013	23.52	0.00	23.52
99	P MORNEAU, PAUL J	2005	274.35	0.00	274.35
99	P MORNEAU, PAUL J	2006	292.95	0.00	292.95
99	P MORNEAU, PAUL J	2007	200.38	0.00	200.38
99	P MORNEAU, PAUL J	2008	214.36	0.00	214.36
99	P MORNEAU, PAUL J	2009	235.33	0.00	235.33
99	P MORNEAU, PAUL J	2010	235.33	0.00	235.33
99	P MORNEAU, PAUL J	2011	233.00	0.00	233.00
314	P NOLL, ETHAN E.	2008	69.00	0.00	69.00
314	P NOLL, ETHAN E.	2009	75.75	0.00	75.75
314	P NOLL, ETHAN E.	2010	75.75	0.00	75.75
314	P NOLL, ETHAN E.	2011	75.00	0.00	75.00
314	P NOLL, ETHAN E.	2012	82.50	0.00	82.50
314	P NOLL, ETHAN E.	2013	89.60	0.00	89.60
352	P NORTHERN QUALITY CONCRETE LLC	2012	37.40	0.00	37.40
153	P UNDERWOOD, JAY R	2013	21.28	0.00	21.28
262	P WILLOUGHBY, MILTON	2013	23.52	0.00	23.52
261	P WW PRECISION MACHINERY INC	2010	645.39	21.02	624.37
261	P WW PRECISION MACHINERY INC	2011	560.00	0.00	560.00
261	P WW PRECISION MACHINERY INC	2012	567.60	0.00	567.60
261	P WW PRECISION MACHINERY INC	2013	605.92	0.00	605.92
<b>Total for 39 Accounts:</b>			<b>7,502.88</b>	<b>24.37</b>	<b>7,478.51</b>

# Real Estate Taxes *(Unpaid as of 3/11/15)*

Acct	Name ----	Year	Original Tax	Payment / Adjustments	Amount Due
71	L BAILEY, PAULA	2013	1,115.96	0.00	1,115.96
2521	L BAILEY, STEPHEN & JOLENE	2013	3,062.06	0.00	3,062.06
2311	L BARTLETT, RICHARD & LYNNE	2013	2,223.47	0.00	2,223.47
117	L BECKWITH, ALEX & VICKY	2013	616.00	0.00	616.00
555	L BERRY, TERRY L.	2013	211.92	199.83	12.09
854	L BIBBER, LINWOOD	2013	2,037.66	0.00	2,037.66
163	L BLUMBERG, SARA "HEIRS"	2013	1,415.84	256.94	1,158.90
2287	L BOURGET, BRUCE K & MARY N	2013	1,330.91	0.00	1,330.91
209	L BRAGDON, FREDERICK N.	2013	1,491.92	0.00	1,491.92
1869	L BREARD, RHONDA L & PAUL C	2013	720.25	231.42	488.83
258	L BRIGGS, DAVID R	2013	732.41	85.82	646.59
265	L BROCK, CARL	2013	70.46	0.00	70.46
268	L BROCK, CARL	2013	142.06	0.00	142.06
2519	L BROCK, CARL	2013	208.49	0.00	208.49
2520	L BROCK, CARL	2013	239.44	0.00	239.44
2972	L BROCK, CARL	2013	163.04	0.00	163.04
272	L BROCK, CARL & AMY	2013	104.24	0.00	104.24
273	L BROCK, CARL & AMY	2013	289.56	0.00	289.56
270	L BROCK, CARLETON E & AMY L	2013	72.79	0.00	72.79
271	L BROCK, CARLETON E & AMY L	2013	301.86	0.00	301.86
2581	L BROCK, CARLETON E & AMY L	2013	208.49	0.00	208.49
2582	L BROCK, CARLETON E & AMY L	2013	145.56	0.00	145.56
2679	L BROCK, CARLETON E & AMY L	2013	1,052.38	0.00	1,052.38
2680	L BROCK, CARLETON E & AMY L	2013	164.86	0.00	164.86
2618	L BROCK, CARLTON	2013	238.92	0.00	238.92
3076	L BROCK, CURT	2013	258.60	0.00	258.60
2541	L BURNS, PETER & CHERYL	2013	762.17	499.62	262.55
2480	L BURNS, RICHARD	2013	2,632.02	0.00	2,632.02
1524	L BUTTERFIELD, LINDA	2013	2,186.82	0.00	2,186.82
1528	L BUTTERFIELD, LINDA	2013	1,777.78	0.00	1,777.78
2903	L BUXTON, FAUSTINA	2013	163.04	0.00	163.04
1082	L C.I.S. ENTERPRISES, LLC.	2013	2,076.26	0.00	2,076.26
1747	L CAHOON, DEBORAH E	2013	1,239.87	553.99	685.88
2472	L CAIN, RICHARD B JR & DEBORAH	2013	2,644.33	0.00	2,644.33
1302	L CAIN, RICHARD B JR & DEBORAH A	2013	2,919.37	0.00	2,919.37
1203	L CHANG, HUICHEN	2013	1,175.77	0.00	1,175.77
447	L CONARY, CRAIG D.	2013	948.22	0.00	948.22
487	L CORSON, LEAL O - HEIRS OF	2010	285.78	0.00	285.78
487	L CORSON, LEAL O - HEIRS OF	2011	283.55	0.00	283.55
487	L CORSON, LEAL O - HEIRS OF	2012	305.86	0.00	305.86
487	L CORSON, LEAL O - HEIRS OF	2013	309.88	0.00	309.88
64	L CUMMINGS, LEON E	2013	896.74	0.00	896.74
535	L CUMMINGS, LEON E	2013	1,418.83	0.00	1,418.83
3360	L CUMMINGS, LEON E	2013	268.58	0.00	268.58
3361	L CUMMINGS, LEON E	2013	273.23	0.00	273.23
3362	L CUMMINGS, LEON E	2013	269.74	0.00	269.74
3363	L CUMMINGS, LEON E	2013	266.24	0.00	266.24
3365	L CUMMINGS, LEON E	2013	267.42	0.00	267.42
3366	L CUMMINGS, LEON E	2013	260.42	0.00	260.42
3367	L CUMMINGS, LEON E	2013	266.24	0.00	266.24
3368	L CUMMINGS, LEON E	2013	260.42	0.00	260.42
3369	L CUMMINGS, LEON E	2013	265.08	0.00	265.08
3370	L CUMMINGS, LEON E	2013	212.64	0.00	212.64
3371	L CUMMINGS, LEON E	2013	213.80	0.00	213.80
3372	L CUMMINGS, LEON E	2013	212.64	0.00	212.64
1125	L DIXON, MARK	2013	451.17	0.00	451.17
1126	L DIXON, MARK	2013	269.88	0.00	269.88
693	L DYER, DAVID & TANYA	2013	1,126.32	0.00	1,126.32
2684	L DYER, THOMAS	2013	217.44	0.00	217.44
765	L FIELD, JOHN P & MARIETTA F	2013	550.60	0.00	550.60
454	L FINLEY, MICHAEL O	2013	677.63	279.92	397.71
3066	L FORTIN, GREGORY E. (JR.) & JENNIFER G.	2013	2,593.05	216.32	2,376.73
2777	L GIDNEY, ADAM J	2013	1,118.15	0.00	1,118.15
3288	L GLIDDEN, KIMBERLY B	2013	1,829.06	0.00	1,829.06
2099	L GRAY, PATRICIA C & CHARLES H	2013	1,234.05	0.00	1,234.05
1905	L GREENLEAF, IVERS	2012	962.49	-15.96	978.45
1905	L GREENLEAF, IVERS	2013	977.14	0.00	977.14
3350	L HALLETT, LLEWELLA CLARY	2013	320.36	0.00	320.36
978	L HAMMEREN, JAMES	2013	1,164.26	182.88	981.38
1220	L HARVEY, GREGORY K & MARGARET A	2013	1,258.00	0.00	1,258.00
1002	L HAYWARD, TERENCE L	2013	1,610.61	0.00	1,610.61
3136	L IBBITSON, THOMAS S.	2013	175.18	0.00	175.18
3269	L JOSE, JODY	2013	945.03	79.51	865.52
1153	L JOSEPH, FRANCIS E, TRUSTEE	2013	1,242.84	0.00	1,242.84



2429	L	KARTMAN, MICHAEL J SR	2013	681.28	0.00	681.28
2642	L	KENT, FRANK	2013	220.14	120.40	99.74
1187	L	KIRALIS, KARL	2013	390.48	0.00	390.48
3147	L	KIRALIS, KARL	2013	83.27	0.00	83.27
533	L	LANPHIER, BELINDA M.	2013	1,277.82	0.00	1,277.82
111	L	LAPLANT, SUSAN J.	2013	1,741.14	0.00	1,741.14
2036	L	LAPLANT, SUSAN J.	2013	306.52	0.00	306.52
1278	L	LEMIEUX, SHEILA	2013	1,428.67	101.38	1,327.29
2112	L	LIGHT, LIZA R.	2013	733.19	0.00	733.19
3018	L	LILLY, RHONDA J.	2013	529.12	0.00	529.12
2312	L	LISTER, EVANS J.	2013	1,703.19	0.00	1,703.19
2314	L	MALLOY, MARIE	2013	1,267.98	0.00	1,267.98
2885	L	MCCAUSLAND, CRAIG	2013	992.29	0.00	992.29
2318	L	MCKEE, DAREN L & MELISA L	2012	740.85	-9.48	750.33
2318	L	MCKEE, DAREN L & MELISA L	2013	758.56	0.00	758.56
2529	L	MCNEIL, ALICE & WILLIAM	2013	546.18	0.00	546.18
1523	L	MORNEAU, PAUL J	2013	209.14	0.00	209.14
1527	L	MORNEAU, PAUL J	2013	1,530.20	0.00	1,530.20
1593	L	NOLL, ETHAN	2013	1,593.00	0.00	1,593.00
2934	L	NOLL, ETHAN	2013	457.90	0.00	457.90
2211	L	PATERSON, RUSSELL W & THOMPSON,	2013	2,833.12	0.00	2,833.12
2523	L	PEASLEE, DANIEL	2013	1,997.02	0.00	1,997.02
1404	L	PINKHAM, KIRBY L.	2013	1,245.18	0.00	1,245.18
1264	L	POIRIER, CHRISTOPHER	2013	1,017.56	0.00	1,017.56
1735	L	POOLER, CLIFFORD A	2013	1,070.80	500.00	570.80
1750	L	POULIN, JAMES & BRENDA	2013	472.52	0.00	472.52
651	L	PULLEN, KEVIN & LISA	2013	83.42	0.00	83.42
652	L	PULLEN, KEVIN B & LISA	2013	208.12	0.00	208.12
2910	L	RICHARDS, JEFF & MICHELLE	2013	132.74	0.00	132.74
1865	L	RICHARDS, PATRICIA A	2013	385.64	0.00	385.64
1866	L	RICHARDS, REBECCA	2013	795.99	0.00	795.99
1303	L	RONCO, EILEEN LINDBERG & JAMES F JR	2013	1,380.26	749.77	630.49
1955	L	ROY, PAUL	2013	497.51	0.00	497.51
2980	L	SMITH, BERTELLE & KIMBERLY	2013	248.12	0.00	248.12
458	L	SPRAGUE, HAROLD A. & JODI L.	2013	1,672.24	854.88	817.36
3250	L	STONE ROAD CORPORATION	2013	316.12	0.00	316.12
3253	L	STONE ROAD CORPORATION	2013	317.30	0.00	317.30
3255	L	STONE ROAD CORPORATION	2013	307.97	0.00	307.97
3256	L	STONE ROAD CORPORATION	2013	326.62	0.00	326.62
1811	L	SUGA, LINDA	2013	1,160.62	0.00	1,160.62
2128	L	SUGA, LINDA	2013	1,141.98	0.00	1,141.98
1571	L	SUGA, RICHARD J	2013	230.78	0.00	230.78
1669	L	SUGA, RICHARD J	2013	152.68	0.00	152.68
1670	L	SUGA, RICHARD J	2013	152.68	0.00	152.68
2576	L	SUGA, RICHARD J	2013	249.28	0.00	249.28
384	L	SUGA, RICHARD J.	2013	2,277.88	0.00	2,277.88
2119	L	SUGA, RICHARD J.	2013	393.93	0.00	393.93
2127	L	SUGA, RICHARD J. & RHONA R.	2013	2,220.26	0.00	2,220.26
2457	L	SUGA, RICHARD JOSEPH	2013	680.76	0.00	680.76
3389	L	THIBEAU, SHYANNE	2013	293.56	240.17	53.39
2172	L	THOMPSON, PETER	2013	1,212.55	0.00	1,212.55
2088	L	TREE FREE FIBER CO.	1997	175.74	-11.98	187.72
2088	L	TREE FREE FIBER CO.	1998	323.32	30.50	292.82
2088	L	TREE FREE FIBER CO.	1999	333.10	-12.25	345.35
2088	L	TREE FREE FIBER CO.	2000	380.14	-12.93	393.07
2088	L	TREE FREE FIBER CO.	2001	396.09	-12.93	409.02
2088	L	TREE FREE FIBER CO.	2002	405.29	-5.00	410.29
2088	L	TREE FREE FIBER CO.	2003	442.38	-12.64	455.02
2088	L	TREE FREE FIBER CO.	2004	401.51	-12.64	414.15
2088	L	TREE FREE FIBER CO.	2005	363.35	0.00	363.35
2088	L	TREE FREE FIBER CO.	2006	382.04	-8.32	390.36
2088	L	TREE FREE FIBER CO.	2007	294.44	0.00	294.44
2088	L	TREE FREE FIBER CO.	2008	305.37	-8.54	313.91
2088	L	TREE FREE FIBER CO.	2008	16,087.40	-8.54	16,095.94
2088	L	TREE FREE FIBER CO.	2009	905.45	0.00	905.45
2088	L	TREE FREE FIBER CO.	2010	894.63	-8.75	903.38
2088	L	TREE FREE FIBER CO.	2011	885.66	0.00	885.66
2088	L	TREE FREE FIBER CO.	2012	977.03	0.00	977.03
2088	L	TREE FREE FIBER CO.	2013	998.62	0.00	998.62
2310	L	WELCH, PAMELA	2013	1,533.70	0.00	1,533.70
479	L	WILLETT, SAMANTHA	2013	773.70	0.00	773.70
2382	L	WOOD, SHANE	2013	667.28	0.00	667.28
2451	L	WOOD, SHANE	2013	669.47	0.00	669.47
2487	L	WOOD, SHANE	2013	94.92	0.00	94.92
2488	L	WOOD, SHANE	2013	84.44	0.00	84.44
2384	L	WOOLEY, MARCIA L.	2013	914.21	72.29	841.92
2386	L	WOOLEY, MARCIA L.	2013	527.30	306.56	220.74
2447	L	YEATON, SANDRA J & JEFFREY A	2013	595.03	0.00	595.03

Total for 152 Accounts:

135,882.89

5,422.24

130,460.65

## Cemetery Committee ... Dick Kelly, Chair

The Vassalboro Cemetery Committee meets monthly at the Town Office every first Monday at 9:30. Interested citizens are welcome to attend. As it is often difficult to visit cemeteries during the winter months, we have not met during December and January. Those wishing to join the committee should check with the Town Office.

The purpose of the committee is to review the status of the existing cemeteries in the Town and recommend appropriate measures to insure their proper upkeep and updating of records.

### Members of the Cemetery Committee:

Dick Kelly, Chairperson  
Julie Lyon, Secretary  
Jim Ashton  
Jane Aiudi  
Tom Richards

*The coming year will include the following:*

- Lawn care.
- Surveying the new section of the Cross Hill Cemetery.
- Purchasing a computer record system. We are seeking volunteers to enter the data into the new system.
- The Cemetery Committee is studying the possibility of employing a part time sexton.
- Volunteers are needed for over-site of each of the burial grounds. Those interested in taking on such a task should contact the Cemetery Committee or the Town Manager.
- Repair and resetting of headstones.
- Fence repairs and upkeep in each cemetery.
- Signs at each cemetery.
- Trees trimmed or removed.
- Cemetery location map revised.

As of this date, some of these items have been resolved. The headstones at the North Vassalboro Village Cemetery have been repaired and several large trees have been removed from the older section of the cemetery.



Photo by Mary Sabins

Tree maintenance work done in North Vassalboro Village Cemetery.

## Vassalboro Food Station Pantry ... *Cindy Ferland, Exec. Director*

I would like to thank all of the town employees for their support & help when needed. I also would like to thank the wonderful volunteers that dedicate their time and energy to make the VFSP possible for the needy residents of Vassalboro.

Our Heartfelt THANK YOU goes out to all the generous supporters, without them the pantry would not be possible. Some of our Loyal Supporters are: Maine Saving Credit Union of Vassalboro employees, Mid State Machine Foundation Grant, Ray Haskell Ford for sponsoring the upkeep of the van, the two Augusta Hannaford Stores for donating every Thursday, Country Kitchen Thrift Store of WTVL, Mike & Jill Pleau, Don Breton, Ray Breton & the ghost busters, Vassalboro Riverside Congregation Church, Vassalboro United Methodist Church, Edward & Avis Noel family, John & Elizabeth Reuthe, Sappi of Skowhegan, Togus VA of Augusta employee, In Memory of Russell Brown, & Gregory, Sr. & Rose Marie Fortin.

**If anyone would like more information or could volunteer (need strong backs, energy, computer skills) please call 873-7375 & leave a message.** Also please check out our Facebook page...don't forget to click the "LIKE" icon so we can keep the page going and you can get our updates.

### Highlights:

- We have 148 registered families with our program,
- 53 families with children received Christmas assistance with gifts and food.

### We distributed approximately:

- 2812 banana boxes of food,
- 58 Easter Dinner Baskets,
- 76 Thanksgiving Dinner Baskets,
- 89 Christmas Dinner Baskets.

### Our Source of funds consists of:

- 20% Government-USDA food only,
- 20% Fundraising,
- 60% Donations/Grants.

### The Board Members are:

Cindy & Albert Ferland  
Diane Bailey  
Cheryl & Dave Sherwood  
Blaine & Mary White



1



2



07.12.14 3

1. Cindy Ferland (L) and Charlotte Eastman (R) celebrate Charlotte's 12 years of volunteersim at the pantry.
2. Cindy (L) and Evelyn Dutil (R) on Evelyn's last day as Pantry Board member and volunteer.
3. Annual Volunteer Appreciation BBQ.

Contributed Photos

## Vassalboro Public Library ... Dawn Thistle, Librarian

We're live! For nearly ten years, I have had the distinct pleasure to share in the history of the Vassalboro Public Library. At last, I can encourage everyone to search our catalog online and interact with our collection in real time! With the help of many hands – this year will bring full collection of over 35,000 items searchable online. At this writing, we have already barcoded 70% of our collection and have automated over 90% of our circulation. Additionally, we are thriving in our membership in the state's interlibrary loan delivery system and saving money in postage and sharing in the statewide network of library resources; weekly children's story hours have returned; and we continue to welcome new and active patrons every month.

Vassalboro Public Library is still – and will remain – the welcoming gathering place and cherished resource that folks have loved for over 100 years. Indeed, our latest chapter is among the most exciting, engaging, and service-minded eras of our history! We have long fulfilled the promise to bring you the books, movies, and services you request and enjoy – and today we can do so more efficiently, more affordably, and, ultimately, as a contributor in the larger workings of the state's great library network. It is truly a delight to be a part of it – and we hope you will join in

We are open Mondays & Wednesdays (12:30-8PM) and Saturdays (10AM-6PM) – pick up a bestseller, discover a new author, research a favorite topic, connect online, print documents, learn something new, volunteer, meet up with friends and neighbors, or just say hello!

the excitement. Every week we add in-demand materials to our collection in every category – in particular, this year we substantially enhanced our collection of DVDs, thanks to dedicated donations toward their purchase – and patrons continually comment that they are impressed with our collection, our short or non-existent wait time for materials, and the services we provide. We offer something for everyone and, if we don't have it we'll find it one way or another – whether through interlibrary loan or acquisition. We are here to serve; and we do!

In FY 2013-14, we welcomed well over 6,000 patron visits. Circulation of children's materials decreased somewhat, but adult circulation increased substantially and overall circulation remained steady at approximately 14,000 items. We continue to offer high-speed Internet access on three public accessible computers, free Wi-Fi for personal laptops and mobile devices, as well as full color printing for all – and accommodated nearly 1000 patron sign-ins over the year. Our local history and genealogical collection remain a prized resource (complimented by free library access to Ancestry.com). It is rare that patrons do not find exactly what they come looking for – but, if it does happen, our waiting lists are always short and we'll put in every effort to find a copy as quickly as possible.

We recently observed another milestone in the library's history with the retirement of my steadfast assistant, Russell Smith. After 15 years of service to our community, Russell "retired" to the position of volunteer. He now makes his own hours, but we are thankful to see him with great regularity in his new capacity. This transition has brought a new addition to VPL: Vassalboro resident, Harry Spear, is our new Assistant Librarian and has hit the ground running and with great success. If you haven't already, we hope you will stop in soon to meet and welcome him.

As ever, we give great thanks for our outstanding team of volunteers, whose service to the library is



Annual Book Sale at the Grange Hall.

indispensable to our success. Logging nearly 1400 hours, they help make it all happen – and each and every effort is an invaluable contribution to our library and our community. Space does not allow an exhaustive list of all who contribute their time and energy, but the following deserve special recognition for their incalculable efforts and unflagging dedication: Sylvia Michaud, Jim Ashton, Lore & Chuck Ferguson, Irene Forster, Myrna & Paul Duplessie, Sue & Phil Haines, Valerie Sugden, Helen LaFleur, Art & Linda Kingdon, Susan Taylor, Susan Bouchard, Susan Kiralis, Liz McMahon, Victor Esposito & the REACH Kids, George O'Connor, Esther Bernhardt, Debra Crump, Greg Seamans, David Shipman, Pam Shofner, Ann White, the Welch Family, and although we do not get to see her as often these days, we always

welcome time spent with our cherished volunteer, Eleanor Getchell. We thank, you one and all!

As a vibrant community center delivering access to information, ideas and entertainment for everyone, we are proud to maintain the services and value upon which Vassalboro has relied for over a century. We provide personalized service and dedication to patrons and projects every day. Our most anticipated annual Book & Bake Sale & Silent Auction just gets bigger and better every year – always the Saturday after Labor Day and a highlight of Vassalboro Days – mark your calendars now! Visit our website, search our catalog online, find us on Facebook, and, above all, stop by the library in person and often! You are always welcome at the Vassalboro Public Library.

## Historical Society ... Jan Clowes, President

The Vassalboro Historical Society has faced a challenging year as we prepared for the retirement of longtime curator Julie Lyon. Although remaining a volunteer and Board member, Julie gave up the day-to-day management, accessioning, cleaning, display planning, set up and changing and research requests. At this time we are still looking for someone willing and able to replace her.



Photo by Pam Parro

Julie Lyon

We gained nearly 50 VHS facebook group members in 2014 as well as several paid memberships. We have continued to provide research for people all over the United States. We present six public programs per year and open the museum the 2nd and 4th Sundays of every month from June through October. This service could not be provided without our loyal volunteers who are the backbone of our organization. Thanks to them for all they do!

Our acquisitions this year include: the wedding dress worn by Edna Winder as she married Benjamin Cates, a vintage boat winch from a camp on China Lake, daguerreotypes of the Weeks sisters and an unused Oak Grove backpack direct from Germany.



Photo by Jan Clowes

John D. Lang's trunk.

A treasure that was unearthed from our document room includes diaries, correspondence, maps, treatises and business cards from Vassalboro native and woolen manufacturer John D. Lang, who was appointed by President Ulysses S. Grant to the first Board of Indian Commissioners.

As always we welcome new members from here and away who are interested in Vassalboro history and want to either join our volunteers in the creation of displays, transcription of documents, general cleaning, or any of our other necessary tasks, and those who want to support us financially. Our basic membership rates are \$8 per Senior or \$12 for general membership. For more information, please check out the website at [www.vhsme.org](http://www.vhsme.org), visit an Open House or call the museum at **207-923-3505**.



*China Region Lakes Alliance*

PO Box 178, South China, Maine 04358  
Tel: (207) 923-3358

**A Lake is the Product of its Watershed...And the People who Care for it**

January 19, 2015

Ms. Mary S. Sabins  
PO Box 129  
N. Vassalboro, ME 04962

**Re: Town Report**

Dear Ms. Sabins:

This letter contains the *China Region Lakes Alliance's* Annual Report, which summarizes the conservation and water quality protection activities undertaken in 2014. The CRLA has been working steadily to protect our valuable Lakes and waterways in Vassalboro, China, and the surrounding communities since 1995.

Among the highlights of 2014 was the veritable absence of an algae bloom in Webber Pond and a continuing water quality improvement trend in Three Mile Pond. This remarkable achievement is absolutely splendid news and coincides unequivocally with the restoration of the sea-run alewife fishery in these lakes. As you know, CRLA was instrumental in their restoration to Three Mile Pond. Now, CRLA is spearheading these restoration activity to China Lake so that our community and posterity can enjoy clean water and a cold water fishery.

The mechanism by which alewife improve water quality is related to their metabolic uptake of nutrients whereby billions of juvenile alewife consume food (i.e. carbon, nitrogen, and phosphorus) and essential export it upon their egress from the lake. This removes phosphorus from the water column, which deprives plankton and algae of these same nutrients; hence eutrophication is precluded and the lake it cleaner.

Going forward, CRLA has a comprehensive plan to restore sea run fish passageway along the eight mile stretch of the Outlet Stream into China Lake. All of the six dam owners on the Outlet Stream have shown support and cooperation for fish passage and CRLA is engaging engineering firms to develop plans that are agreeable to each of them. It will take time and substantial funding to reach our goal of 'unfettered fish passage into China Lake by December 31, 2018'. In the meantime, the Maine Department of Marine Resources stocked 21,000 adult alewife into China Lake in the Spring of 2014.

In addition, CRLA managed the *Courtesy Boat Inspection* program and the *Youth Conservation Corp.* They each experienced another very good season with 18 area high school age students providing services for ecological protection of natural resources. The CBI staffed all 4 public boat launches in the area and inspected hundreds of boats and trailers for invasive plants (i.e. milfoil) on weekends and holidays prior to their launching. A series of photographs of the projects are appended. CRLA wishes to extend its sincere appreciation to the Town of Vassalboro for its foresight, fortitude, and support.

Jim Hart, CRLA President

*Our Mission: To protect and improve the water quality in China Lake, Three Cornered Pond, Three Mile Pond and Webber Pond, and to benefit our local economy through Integrated Watershed Management.*

Members: China Lake Association, Three Cornered Pond, Three Mile Pond Association, Webber Pond Association, Town of China, Town of Vassalboro, Town of Windsor, Kennebec Water District

## Vassalboro Transfer Station ... George Hamar, Manager



It's our pleasure serving those who utilize our wonderful transfer station and recycling facility here in Vassalboro. I am grateful for the opportunity to share what's been going on at the facility in 2014. As always our focus is to operate in accordance with Maine's Department of Labor and Environmental Protection regulations and standards, a clean,

safe and friendly place to dispose of household wastes and recyclables.

I would like to thank our station attendant Thomas O' Rourke for his hard work and dedicated service to the Town and transfer station and the Vassalboro public works crew and town office staff for all their services they provide.

A thank you goes out to Melvin, a resident in town that wanted to give back to his community, by volunteering numerous hours assisting the staff with housekeeping at the transfer station as well as giving others a hand with their household waste and recyclables and to help educate others what could be recycled.

In December our one year transportation contract with Bolsters Rubbish to haul the household trash or Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) and bulky wastes expired. The MSW, which is currently hauled to the Penobscot Energy Recovery Company (PERC) facility in Orrington, Maine and the bulky wastes that were hauled to the Waste Management Cross Roads landfill in Norridgewock, was put out to bid again. Casella was the lowest bidder for the hauling of the bulky waste, which will now be hauled to the Juniper Ridge landfill in Old Town, Maine. Bolsters Rubbish was once again the lowest bidder for hauling the MSW to PERC for the next 4 years.

The contract with Casella to haul the Zero Sort recyclables and corrugated cardboard also expired in January. With the preferred system and success of the Zero-Sort recycling, the contract was renewed with Casella for another four years.

Zero-Sort recycling was introduced in December of 2013. This program is providing a convenient and less confusing way for everyone to recycle. It means you only have to make one sort separating your recyclables from your trash. Everything that we normally required to be separated in the past such as newspapers, mixed paper/boxboard, plastics # 1-7, cans and glass, can now all be put together in one container or bag and brought to the transfer station. Then at your preference, you can either empty your bag /container or toss your bag (if clear) into the designated Zero- Sort container.

Please continue to keep all Corrugated Cardboard (OCC) separate into its designated container. By keeping the corrugated separated and stacked we are able to get more of the other recyclables into the Zero-Sort container minimizing trucking expenses.

In March of 2014, three Planet Aid Boxes were added to the facility to collect used clothing and books, which has since collected over 18,000 lbs. This has been a convenient way for residents to recycle, donate, and help others as well as saving the tax dollars that could have been thrown into the trash.

The large tan recycling building is now being used to manage and recycle the Universal Waste (e-waste) we collect. These items contain heavy metals and other hazards are required by Maine State law to be recycled. The service windows on the building have been labeled with user friendly signage for collecting these materials.



Photo by George Hamar



This past October will be the 4th year we have participated in the annual Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) collection day, sponsored by the KVCOG of Fairfield. This event was once again held at the Winslow public works garage. The collection was for residents that preregistered first at the transfer station. Then at the scheduled day, they could bring all their hazardous wastes such

share with them ideas and ways to promote more recycling and decrease the amount being thrown away. We at the transfer station, have worked hard to encourage and educate everyone, making them aware of the costs. In the future, a pay-as-you-throw or pay-per-bag system may be the only way to decrease the rising costs associated with the disposal of MSW. Increasing recycling now may

Participating in Recycling and educating each other of these savings is everyone's responsibility. We thank all of those who recycle for their dedicated efforts. Keep up the good work!

as oil based paints, acids, pesticides, gasoline and much more. All materials collected were properly handled and contained by Environmental Projects Inc. and E-waste, both licensed handlers and transporters. This has been a great program for those who may have some of these types of wastes, and are not sure how to dispose of them. At the last HHW event, 39 units were collected from Vassalboro residents. Each unit is equivalent to 5 gallons of material. Hopefully these collections, and types of materials accepted at events like this will expand, and allow our ground waters and environment to be free of hazardous wastes being dumped illegally or negligently. Please look around and get involved. We will look forward to seeing you at the next collection this coming October.

In 2014, by collecting returnable bottles & cans rather than throwing these into the trash, we have been able to donate over \$ 1,000.00 to local nonprofit organizations in town such as the Cub Scouts, Girl Scouts and the Vassalboro Wildlife Care Center. Please remember we only accept returnable containers that were originally purchased in the State of Maine; all others can be recycled into the Zero Sort container.

In November a pay-per-bag discussion was brought to the Selectmen's meeting. We wanted to

prevent this from happening. These details have not yet been determined.

*Every ton of material that gets thrown away and not recycled is currently costing the taxpayers \$78.00 per ton. The simple math is this:*

- We dispose of 25-30 tons of MSW (trash) per week at \$78.00 per ton tipping fee X 52 weeks = \$100,000+ a year of tax dollars just thrown away, and this does not include the hauling costs.
- Each load of MSW (TRASH) hauled to PERC currently costs \$225 per trip X 2 hauls per week = \$450 a week
- X 12 months = an estimated \$24,000 a year.
- Currently there are no tipping fees for the Zero-Sort recycling. The only expense is to haul it, which is still cheaper at \$115.00 per trip. Corrugated Cardboard is hauled away for free with no tipping fees.
- Vassalboro is only at a 25-30% recycling rate. Let's all work together and double or even triple this rate.
- Almost 60-70 % can be recycled from your trash. Be part of the community and do the right thing!

## Vassalboro Recycled in 2014

- 143 tons of Zero Sorted Recyclables (Newspapers & magazines, boxboard, misc. plastics # 1-7, glass bottles & jars, tin & aluminum cans and more)
- 15 tons of Universal Waste (e-waste) (TV'S, computers, printers, keyboards, batteries, cell phones as iPads, game consoles (PlayStation, Xbox) etc.)
- 60 tons of Corrugated Cardboard
- 9 tons of Clothing
- 82 tons of Misc. Metals
- 9 tons of Used Tires
- 3 tons of Waste Oil (940 Gallons)
- 1,511 Fluorescent light bulbs
- 49 tons of Demolition Wood
- 27 tons of Compost (leaf and garden waste)
- 5 tons of other reusable items (swap shed)

**This was an estimated SAVINGS of over \$31,000 that did not go into the trash.**

The traffic flow at the transfer station has almost tripled since the facility was established in 1988. Today, an average weekend we can see up to several hundred residential vehicles and many times becoming congested near the compactor and other areas of disposal. This causes confusion as well as safety issues. Numerous near misses and several minor accidents have occurred over the years from vehicles backing into the yellow safety rails and poles. The odds increase every day for a more tragic event to occur.

In November, a Request for Bids was sent to several local engineering firms to evaluate our current facility and operation, requesting a more efficient and economical transfer station layout and design, and to safely accommodate modern day traffic in and out of the facility. This design will include adding a newer and larger trash compactor and to repurpose the current 25 year-old compactor for use with the Zero sort recycling program. This would reduce the number of transportation hauls of the recyclables which will be a long term savings to the Town.

From the bid proposals that were received, the Selectmen voted to award the engineering bid to C.E.S., located in Brewer. With their project manager and team of engineers, they will be working on budget estimating and a conceptual design. Several meetings with the town committees have been scheduled for the engineer's findings and report on this project.

As most of the residents have noticed, this past summer orange traffic cones were lined up through the center of the facility entrance. The purpose was to direct incoming traffic to flow to the compactor first and then to proceed to the recycling area before exiting. A one way traffic is preferred rather than one vehicle enter one way and the next to enter a different, this allows accidents to happen.

We have also affixed a Stop Here sign near the compactor to prevent vehicles backing up so close to the yellow safety rail in front of the hopper. This allows the transfer station staff in the area, as well as others, to safely walk around and dispose of their one or two bags they may have. We do apologize for any inconvenience this may have created. Most accidents can be prevented by good management and supervision, combined with a little common sense.

We look forward continuing to serve the residents of Vassalboro. We are open for discussion with any of those who seek a sensible, balanced, and sustainable solution to increase recycling and reduce the waste that tax dollars are paying to dispose of. Please join us in keeping the transfer station a clean and fun place to dispose of all your household wastes and recyclables.

You can pick up our current transfer station fee schedule and Zero Sort recycling brochure either at the town office or the transfer station. Please stop by the transfer station today to learn what can be recycled and save your tax dollars! And don't hesitate to see Tom or myself if you have any questions.

## Road Commissioner's Report ... Eugene Field

As Road Commissioner for the Town of Vassalboro it is a pleasure working with the Town Manager, staff and citizens of Vassalboro.

In the summer of 2014 State Paving was awarded the paving bid for a cost of \$73.50 a ton for both shim mix and surface mix for the South end of the Cushnoc Road, which started at the south end of the road up to the Mill Hill Road intersection, approximately 1.3 miles. The amount of mixed used was 1,135.81 tons for a cost of \$83,482.04. In this work, the intersection of the Old Stage Road and the Hunt Road were also resurfaced. The roads were first shimmed with approximately 5/8 inch of mix, and then one inch of 12.5mm surface was placed down.

The plan for the summer of 2015 is to do the following if the budget and time allows for this amount of work to be completed, if not we will do as much as possible.

The first work will be to do the Reynolds Road/ Priest Hill Road intersection which did not get completed last summer as scheduled. This will involve making changes to the intersection and paving. Also on the schedule is the Church Hill Road, Priest Hill Road from the Fortin Road to Route 32, possibly the in-town streets, and a third of the sidewalks in the North Village.

Some pavement will go to roads that have not been paved. The plan would be to do 1/10 of a mile on the Hunt Road and 3/10 of a mile on the Mudget Hill Road, with just a base mix of two inches at this time.



Public Works Crew: Shane Cole, Shawn Bragg, Director Gene Field, and James (JJ) Wentworth

Normally the Town has been trying to pave around four miles of roads per year to keep them in good condition. This allows most Town roads to be repaved about every ten years or so. As you can see we have been falling behind due to budget constraints. This year, as of now, it is looking like the budget for the above work will be around \$280,000.00.



Some of the additional work completed by the public works crew included our annual program of cutting and chipping brush to improve the visibility of signs at intersections and overall visibility. Some of the major brush cutting was done on the Mudget Hill Road, Cross Hill Road, Cushnoc Road, Nelson Road, and in some of the Town's cemeteries. Other work completed was preparation work for paving on the Cushnoc Road. Extensive ditching and culvert replacement was done on this road, which required approximately 480 feet of different size diameter pipe for a total cost of \$4,816.00. Other culverts replacements were done on the Gray Road, Taber Hill Road, Crowell Hill Road, Stone Road and Sherwood Lane with approximately 342 feet of various diameters pipes for a cost of \$3,402.00. We also did the ground work at the Riverside Fire Station in preparation for them to add on to their station. The public works crew also cleaned up all the cemeteries in preparation for seasonal mowing. The roadside mowing was done by contracting it out.

The Town has purchased a new 2015 Western Star tandem axle truck to replace the 2000 Volvo truck.

At this time I would like to thank my crew of James Wentworth, Shawn Bragg, and Shane Cole for their dedicated work. If you have questions about any road project, please don't hesitate to contact the Public Works Garage at **923-3985** or email at [vasspublicworks@fairpornt.net](mailto:vasspublicworks@fairpornt.net).

# Natanis Golf Course



Opening Day July 1965.



# Course Celebrates 50 Years

Fifty years ago the lives of Paul and Lucy Browne became a scene right out of the 1989 hit film *Field of Dreams*. “If you build it they will come.” Paul followed his love for the game of golf and designed and built Natanis Golf Course on 58 acres of reclaimed farmland in Vassalboro. Doubters may have questioned their sanity but friends and neighbors provided encouragement and advice.

The Browne family owned a thriving Bull Farm on Route 201 in Vassalboro and Paul had more than 15 years’ experience working with the Maine Breeding Cooperative. In the early 1960s they purchased idle farmland and planted crops. With seven children and the farm chores to keep them busy, Paul still managed to carve out a little time for one of his other loves, the game of golf. When farming profits began to shrink the couple decided to give up farming and build a golf course. Paul and his sons, William, Robert, Paul, Jr., and Jim utilized the lessons learned on the farm, clearing, fertilizing, and bulldozing the land. William used his design skills to shape the first nine in the shape of Maine counties. They reached out to the Kennebec County Soil Conservation Service and golf pros for advice and worked through problems together to shape the course.

The Brownes had long been interested in the local Native American history. When the course was completed, Paul & Lucy spoke with their neighbor, Norman Fosset who worked with the Maine Archaeological Society. He



50  
YEARS

told them of two natives who led Benedict Arnold on his voyage up the nearby Kennebec River. One, Chief Natanis, had all but vanished from history. They chose to honor him and in July, 1965 Natanis Golf Course opened its doors. Their newer courses, Arrowhead and Tomahawk carried on the tradition and respect Paul had for Native Americans.

Paul loved no other game as he loved golf, and being outdoors came a close second. Natanis gave him the opportunity to indulge in both. Of course playing golf and owning a golf course were two entirely different things. The business came with responsibilities that he shared with the first love of his life, family. Everyone in the family, from his wife to his children, all had a part to play. And like the Browne family, Natanis Golf Course grew. In 1974 Paul, with the help of another golfer designed another nine-hole course.

Paul's death in 1981 was devastating for the family; but as strong families do, they gathered round and worked through what needed to be done. Lucy worked the counter, selling equipment and snacks, and signing up new members. The children took part in various ways as they grew, and then grandchildren as they came along. Today there have been four generations of Brownes working and playing at Natanis.

Natanis Golf Course continued to grow and in 1989, nine more holes were added with

the help of a professional designer Phil Wogan. Designer Dan Maples created the last nine in 2003. The new 3000 square foot club house was built by local contractors in 1995 with lumber and stone from the site. It replaced the original clubhouse which, when no longer meeting the needs of the growing membership, provided a training opportunity as a controlled burn by the Vassalboro Volunteer Fire Department. The Brownes have shown an ongoing commitment to Vassalboro and the greater community. Ninety golf tournaments have served as fundraisers to support local charities. Clinics and memberships are offered to Vassalboro Community School students. Erskine Academy, Winslow & Cony High Schools, and University of Maine at Augusta all have golf programs.

Now the largest golf course north of Boston, Natanis stands as a tribute to Chief Natanis; its creators, Paul & Lucy Browne; and their children and the generations that have followed. Its 500 acres on the Webber Pond Road with rolling hills, covered bridges, water hazards and sand traps are well-maintained and beautiful. The Town of Vassalboro is truly privileged to be home to Natanis Golf Course and the Browne family.

*Jan Clowes*

## Superintendent of Schools ... Eric L. Haley

### AOS #92 - Vassalboro, Waterville, and Winslow

Good day all, if you are reading this in the Town Report then it is June and we have weathered another winter. Being the age I am it is easy for me to say this winter reminded me of my childhood in the 50's and 60's; every day a storm and new snow to the point we didn't have any place left to pile it! I think we are all ready to hear the birds sing in the early morning and smell cut green grass for a while!

Vassalboro Community School has enjoyed another year of tremendous support from the community, parents and students. The successful completion of our mission statement and work with children would not be possible without the thousands of volunteer hours offered by the very talented and thoughtful people of this community. Thank you again for another year of working together for the benefit of our children.

I am very excited to inform you that the Vassalboro Community School (VCS) will have a Pre-K program next year with no cost to the taxpayers. We were fortunate enough to be included in a state run federal grant to expand Pre-K offerings state wide. We are allowed slots for 16 income eligible students next year with all costs paid for by the grant.

I was saddened to see the damage done to the VCS when the school's tractor caught fire from a leaky hydraulic hose and burned while inside the shop area

of the school at the tail-end of this year's February break. We are completely insured for this loss and have been working very closely with our insurance agency to identify and replace all that was lost. The only good thing about this fire was that it happened on a Sunday when no students or staffs were in the building. A huge amount of gratitude goes out to our Fire Department! Their quick action and professional approach to extinguishing this fire in all likelihood saved the VCS school that we are all so proud of.

This year's budget development was extremely hard. We have lost state revenue from last year and have had costs shifts from the state to the local budget, thus increased costs. We have tried to be as frugal as we can possibly be with your tax dollars realizing at the same time it is our responsibility to give the children of this community a quality K-12 education. I wish we could say that the budget before you this year will not raise taxes again but such is not the case. Given the cost shifts from the state and less General Purpose Aid we had no other option than to ask for a small tax increase. We certainly have had input and assistance from a lot of folks who understand the complexities of school budgets including the budget committee and selectmen. My sincere thanks to all of you for the advice and assistance you have given me and my staff during this process.

As always, I want to thank our School Board for their countless hours of volunteering to ensure a quality education for the children of Vassalboro. Chairman Kevin Levasseur along with Rick Denico, Libby Loiko, Jolene Gamage, and Phillip Landry deserve a great big thank-you from all of us. Their compassion and sincerity for helping build a quality kindergarten through 8th grade school does not go unnoticed.

Assistant Superintendent, Peter Thiboutot, has highlighted some of the VCS curriculum/assessment work below. As you can see, it has been another busy year providing an appropriate and rigorous education for our students.



Snowy Day on China Lake.  
Photo by Mary Sabins



## **Assistant Superintendent of Schools**

*Peter Thiboutot*

### **Professional Growth and Performance**

Schools districts throughout the state have been busy implementing several major initiatives. One of the initiatives includes an expectation that each school district will comply with the rules of Chapter 508 of Title 20-A, which states that school districts are expected to develop and implement a performance evaluation and professional growth system for teachers and building administrators. The elements of the evaluation system must include the following components:

- Standards of professional practices by which teachers and building administrators are evaluated;
- Multiple measures of effectiveness, including student learning and growth;
- Four level rating system that differentiates among educators based on standards of professional practice and multiple measures, and attaches consequences to each level;
- A process for using information from the evaluations to inform professional development;
- Implementation procedures that ensure fairness, including a requirement for regular evaluations, ongoing training, peer review components, and a local steering committee to review and refine the system; and
- The opportunity for an educator rated “ineffective” to implement a professional improvement plan.

Vassalboro Community School joined forces with Waterville Public Schools and Winslow Public Schools in order to approach this major initiative as an AOS (Alternative Organizational Structure). A steering committee was formed with school representation from each of the communities. The committee worked through the various components of the law, a process which included a review of the various teacher evaluation models and standards that

had been approved by the state. After doing their due diligence, the committee selected the Marzano Teacher Evaluation model.

The Marzano model is built upon a framework based on specific instructional strategies that research has shown to be most effective. Several teachers and administrators from each of the schools in AOS 92 volunteered to participate in a pilot this past year. Those involved received training and professional development on the framework of the Marzano model. From there, they formed professional development communities in each of the schools in order to further study the various components of the model.

Both teachers and administrators report that the Marzano model is an excellent instrument when looking at meaningful professional development. They report that the model provides specific examples through the use of rubrics as to how teachers and administrators can improve their craft. Vassalboro, along with the other schools in the AOS, will continue piloting the program next year with an additional group of teachers. The plan is to have the evaluation program fully implemented in the fall of 2016.

### **State Assessments**

Another major state wide initiative this year has been the implementation of the new Maine Educational Assessment (MEA) for Mathematics and English Language Arts/Literacy.

As you may know, the federal No Child Left Behind Act requires states to administer annual tests in reading and mathematics to students in grades 3-8 and 11 and in science in grades 5, 8 and 11. For the past five years, Maine has given the New England Common Assessment Program (NECAP) tests, the SAT and the Maine Educational Assessment (MEA) for Science to meet this requirement.

This spring, Maine administered the MEA for Mathematics and English Language Arts (ELA)/Literacy, a new assessment developed by the Smarter

Balanced Assessment Consortium (SBAC), instead of the NECAP tests and SAT. The MEA for Science will continue as is.

Standardized tests play an important role in education. They provide an objective measure of the degree to which we are preparing our students for their future, including post-secondary education and the workforce. They also enable us to identify areas of strength and areas for growth within our schools and among groups of students so that we can make adjustments in curriculum, instruction, and support that will benefit our students.

The new MEA is computer adaptive, which means when a student answers a question correctly, the next question rises in difficulty, and when a student answers a question incorrectly, the next question falls in difficulty. The new MEA also includes performance tasks. Performance tasks mimic real world situations and give students opportunities to demonstrate their thinking skills, so are a more authentic measure of a child's capabilities than other measures used in previous years. The new MEA is also aligned to the Learning Results (Common Core Standards in ELA and Math), which Vassalboro has been implementing for the past few years.

As with anything new, the learning curve for administering a new initiative such as the MEA is steep and not without anxiety. Teachers and students have had to log on to the practice testing sites to familiarize themselves with the types of questions they will be seeing on the actual assessment. Since all testing is done on computers and some schools did not have enough computers for all students to test at once, the testing window was scheduled to run from March to the end of May. Various webinars and professional development activities were made available to the teachers as they learned the particulars of the implementation process.

Since this was the first year of implementation, the assessment will not be used for accountability purposes. It will, however, be used for accountability purposes in the years to come.

In closing, I would like to formally recognize and thank the staff and administration at the Vassalboro Community School for their leadership and commitment to the above initiatives. None of these initiatives could have accomplished without their dedication and professionalism. They truly are an incredible group of educators.



Photo by Mary Sabins

2014 Annual Town Meeting at the Vassalboro Community School.

## Vassalboro Conservation Commission ... *Mary Ellen Johnston, Chair*

The Vassalboro Conservation Commission is now in its seventh year. The Conservation Commission has the responsibility of conducting research and giving advice that will help Vassalboro citizens to better utilize, protect, and plan for the Town's natural resources and open areas. The Conservation Commission coordinates its activities with other existing Town committees, departments, and with statewide conservation organizations. The members of the Commission include: David Jenney, Steve Jones, Mary Ellen Johnston, Holly Weidner and Betsy Poulin. The ordinance under which it functions allows up to seven members. Residents are encouraged to inquire about serving on this Commission. Contact the Town Office and leave your information so one of the Commission members can contact you. All meetings are open to the public, and we hold them on the second Thursday of every other month. The following is a brief summary of our past year.

We were pleased to have an Eagle Scout, Seth Reid, choose to do his project in Vassalboro. It involved improvements to the town forest trails and the construction of an information kiosk near the trailhead by the town playing fields. He also repaired the walking bridge nearby to improve access to the trails. This project was overseen by VCC member David Jenney and was completed in July. We appreciate his hard work and we invite other Boy Scouts to consider projects that offer support and services to our community.

VCC member Holly Weidner worked hard on the DOT application for sidewalks in East Vassalboro, which was presented to the budget committee before town meeting last June. The proposal was rejected at the town meeting because of the required town match (\$53,335) to receive the DOT funds (\$ 641,508). We are still looking for creative ways to raise the needed funds to qualify for this grant.

The VCC has begun to take an active role in educating the public about the proposal to remove several dams in town in order to re-introduce alewives to



Contributed Photo

China Lake. The Maine Department of Inland Fish and Wildlife along with the Kennebec Water District and the Town of Vassalboro have met several times to develop a plan that would span several years. The improvements that have been seen in Webber Pond since alewives have been brought back are a testimony to the positive effect alewives can have on a water body. They reduce the phosphorus in the water by eating the algae and other micro-organisms. We plan to conduct several public information meetings and pot luck suppers so residents of Vassalboro can learn more about this proposed dam removal plan.

Vassalboro Conservation Commission would like to offer a canoe/kayak trip down the Kennebec River each year, starting from the Seven Mile Stream access point. We hope that folks will give it a try as it offers a unique and beautiful view of the mighty Kennebec River. Please contact the town office or a member of the VCC if you are interested in a trip this fall.

## Vassalboro Sanitary District ... Ray Breton, Chairman

The Vassalboro Sanitary District's Trustees have been busy managing and operating all aspects of the District's business. Over the past 18 months the District has worked diligently to collect past due balances. Collections efforts will continue into the next year with every effort being made to bring all accounts current.

Because of the age and deteriorated condition of the current facilities, the District has hired Hoyle Tanner Associates to review all of the options for transporting and treating wastewater into the future. A Hoyle Tanner Report dated December 2014 lists options moving forward, while going on to recommend that the District construct facilities to transport wastewater to the Kennebec Sanitary Treatment District in Waterville.

During the process of upgrading the facilities, the District will hold "Public Hearings" at key times to offer information and participation in the decision making process.

To the best of the district's ability, all funding options will be explored to minimize the cost to the

District's users. With that said, there will be a need for the District's users to participate through sewer user rates.

While the upgrade process moves forward, the District must continue to operate and maintain the current facilities.

During rain events and other high ground water periods, the district's facilities experience extremely high flows. If you have a rain or ground (cellar drains, sump pumps, area drains, gutter etc.) connections to the sanitary sewer, please contact the district at **207-872-7263** and we will schedule a visit to help you determine an acceptable area for discharging clean water. Such connections are not allowed by Maine State Plumbing Code and District Sewer Use Ordinance.

The overall goal of the District is to protect our environment by transporting and treating wastewater in the most cost effective manner possible.

We look forward to working with you into the future.



Photo by Mary Sabins

Ray Breton collects ducks during the Double Dam Duck Derby.

## Recreation Department ... Jennifer Fortin, Director

The Vassalboro Recreation Program is open to all children ages 4-12 who are interested in participating in Soccer, Basketball, Baseball and Softball. Our Mission is to give all Vassalboro children the opportunity to participate in group and individual athletic programs that encourage healthy lifestyles while keeping all participants safe.

This has been a difficult time for us this year on the Recreation Committee. With the unexpected passing of our Director, Adam Loiko, this past fall, the Recreation Committee is even more committed to our Mission Statement and the betterment of our services. We thank Adam and his family for his commitment to the Vassalboro youth and his passion for our town and recreation program.

Vassalboro Recreation involves many facets. We organize team sports for Soccer, Basketball, Baseball and Softball as well as undertaking Field and Property Maintenance at our Rec Fields on the Bog Road, Coaching, Volunteering, Fundraising and more. There are many Vassalboro residents who volunteer their time to work with our young people as coaches and helpers and our programs would not be as successful as they are without them. THANK YOU to our Rec Committee, our Coaches, our Players, our Parents and Friends who are dedicated and supportive of our programs throughout the year. The proverb "It takes a village to raise a child" is certainly evident in our daily experience with the Recreation department.

Highlights from the past year include an increased number of participation in our soccer program with over 80 kids! We have a very successful basketball program with coaches focusing on skills as well as emphasis on being a team player and always encouraging our young players to do their very best. Last summer, our Basketball Commissioner piloted a summer basketball program for both youth and adults. The program was a success and we hope to offer it again next year. We continued work to improve the condition of the softball field. We fielded 8 Softball and Baseball teams last spring. Our Majors Baseball Team advanced well

into their division playoffs and our Minors Softball Team won their division playoffs against China to become the Dirigo League Champions!

Our future plans are many and ambitious. We hope to update our equipment for our programs and purchase new jerseys/uniforms for soccer, basketball and baseball. Our soccer goals and nets are also in need of repair or replacement as well as the batting cage net. We are working on reducing our registration fees so that more families will be able to participate in our programs. We are very thankful to exist in a town that invests and values our young people and the programs that we are able to provide through the Recreation Committee.

We are always open to new ideas, suggestions for improvement, volunteers, and coaches to join us in working with our youth and interested in improving our Recreation Program. Please feel free to contact me if you are interested in joining us.

Members of the Recreation Committee are Ryan Redman, Kevin Luzcko, Tiffany Luzcko, Stephen Polley, Kevin Wood, Kimberly Glidden, Marc Cote, Jennifer Fortin and Hillary Polley (alternate).



Double Dam Duck Derby fun!

Photo by Mary Sabins

## Vassalboro Fire Department ... Eric Rowe, Fire Chief

Our annual Fire Prevention Week continues at the Vassalboro Community School every year. Our Firefighters spent time this year teaching fire prevention to the Kindergarten thru 4th grade students at the school including the use of a smoke trailer from the Winslow Fire Department.. Each 4th grade student was presented with a certificate of completion after the training was completed. Most recently, we were called to a fire alarm at the VCS on Sunday, February 22nd. Upon the first fire fighters arrival, black heavy smoke was seen coming out of the doors and vents of the utility room. Thanks to the quick response of our fire fighters and mutual aid from the Winslow Fire Department, the fire was quickly extinguished and most damage was contained to the utility room, with only smoke and water damage throughout some of the other rooms in the school.



Some of the types of calls the Vassalboro Fire Department responded to in 2014 are noted below:

- 4 Structure Fires
- 16 Vehicle Accidents w/injury
- 18 10-55 (Vehicle accidents)
- 10 Tree Down/Power Line Calls
- 2 Grass/Woods Fire
- 9 Mutual Aid Calls
- 3 Carbon Monoxide Alarms
- 15 Misc. Calls
- 2 Chimney Fires
- 15 Fire Alarms

Contributed Photo



One of the Bullard Eclipse Thermal Imaging Cameras.

Last year, two thermal Imaging Cameras were purchased for the Fire Department at a cost of \$12,000 each. One was purchased through town funds, and the second one was purchased from funds from the Vassalboro Fire Department membership, as well as from monies received from the Vassalboro American Legion and from the Sukeforth Foundation. These cameras are an essential part of firefighting. It can help locate someone in total darkness, smoke, fog and fire, as well as locate someone who may have been ejected from a vehicle in an accident. They can also be used to detect fires within walls or hot spots in a chimney. There is one located at each of the two fire stations. Our long term goal is to have a camera in each of the fire trucks.

I'm pleased to say that we have completed two capital projects in 2014. The first was completing the three year program to upgrade the SCBA's and firefighting gear for the firefighters. All of the SCBA's and new firefighting turnout gear meet the current NFPA standards for fire fighter equipment. The second was to replace the windows at the North Station, along with replacing the vinyl siding. All of the wooden windows were replaced with vinyl covered widows, and new vinyl siding was installed on the building.

The Vassalboro Fire Department is very similar to other volunteer fire departments, such that it is difficult to recruit new members. The time spent for training, equipment checks, responding to fire calls is more demanding than past years, and therefore requires more time away from families. We would welcome any new interested applicants.

I would like to take this time to thank and recognize the current active members of the Vassalboro Fire Department for their years of dedicated service to our town.

Eric Rowe (Fire Chief).....	42 yrs.
Benji Rowe (Capt.) .....	22 yrs.
Benni Rowe (Capt.).....	22 yrs.
Bob Williams (Capt.) .....	27 yrs.
Gus Smiley (Leut.).....	35 yrs.
Maurice Pare (Leut.).....	25 yrs.
Bob Picard (Leut.) .....	15 yrs.
Mike Vashon (FF.).....	42 yrs.
Don Breton (FF.).....	35 yrs.
Kevin Thompson (FF.) .....	25 yrs.
Jim Cassidy (FF.).....	21 yrs.
Jerry Mitton (FF.) .....	12 yrs.
Kevin Luczko (FF.).....	12 yrs.
Jeff Foster (FF.) .....	8 yrs.
Craig Smiley (FF.).....	8 yrs.
John Moshier (FF.).....	5 yrs.
Dan Mayotte (FF.) .....	3 yrs.
Walker Thompson (FF.).....	2 yrs.
Steve Nichols (FF.) .....	1 yr.
Russell Peaslee (Mem.) .....	36 yrs.
Ernie Richardson (Mem.).....	26 yrs.
Josh Pomerleau (Mem.).....	2 yrs.
Tom Richards (Ret.).....	33 yrs.

Remember to help us help you. Please place 4" high house numbers on both sides of your mailboxes and on your house, to assist us in finding you in the event of an emergency. Thank you.

## First Responders ... Dan Mayotte, Director

As of July 7, 2014 at 6pm the Vassalboro First Responders went online to serve the citizens of Vassalboro. The integration of us into the medical response went seamlessly. You still call 911 and it is answered by the Regional Communication Center in Augusta. That same dispatcher can activate us over the radios and Delta Ambulance with a simple phone call. You end up with a two tiered medical response, better medical treatments and ultimately a faster time getting to the hospital for advanced care.



Photos by Dan Mayotte

The money that was approved by the citizens allowed us to purchase eight complete medical kits. They include such items as oxygen, Automatic External Defibrillator (AED), Medications such as aspirin for cardiac events, Epi-Pens for allergic reactions and Oral Glucose for diabetic emergencies. We work very closely with Delta Ambulance to order and replace supplies at little or no cost to us. We also applied for an MMA grant for safety vests for the members. We were awarded the 2/3 matching grant and the vests are currently in service.

We currently have a roster of 11 members of all varying license levels, from Emergency Medical Technician to Paramedic. The members receive no compensation for their work and are truly volunteers. As of the writing this (March 18, 2015) the members have volunteered 322 hours on medical calls alone. That number does not include operations meetings or training.

Our average response time is currently seven minutes and seven seconds according to the state. It just recently went up as this last winter as traveling was not fun to say the least. To date, we are up to 186 calls for service. Of those responses we have had 6 Cardiac/Respiratory arrests that we deployed our AEDs on.

Our budget request for the coming year is down from last years \$15,000. We plan to purchase a few more response kits this year, as well as some new radio equipment. Otherwise our budget is at simple operating costs.

I would like to thank the residents, Selectmen and Town Manager for your continued support. I truly hope that you see the value that this service offers to the town and that you will continue to support it. If you would like to contact us for non-emergency communication, please go through the town office or email us at [VassalboroFirstResponders@gmail.com](mailto:VassalboroFirstResponders@gmail.com).



## Erskine Academy ... *Michael McQuarrie, Headmaster*

Dear Friends of Erskine Academy: Erskine Academy's past year has been an enterprising one of school improvement and increased and accelerated student achievement.

In October, we concluded our intensive, eighteen-month self-study component of the New England Association of Secondary Schools' (NEASC) accreditation process, culminating in a three-day visit by a ten-member committee assigned to appraise our school and program relative to fifteen quality standards. Through this voluntary endeavor, we sought to earn quality assurance from this nationally respected organization and to further improve our school and the student experience. Although the Commission's action and final report will not be issued until late-February 2015, the visiting committee has recommended continued accreditation for Erskine Academy without conditions.

Through the accreditation process, it was affirmed that Erskine Academy is true to its mission and its long-held traditional values. Additionally, we were commended for: our remarkable range of programming offered to a wide range of student abilities and needs from special education to gifted and talented; our well-maintained physical plant; our carefully cultivated, distinctive, and healthy school culture; and our commitment to the success of every student. Areas identified for development or enhancement within our strategic plan will include: professional and leadership development for the faculty; ongoing analysis of student work and achievement data; a schedule for regular curriculum review and revision; and expanding and more fully integrating the International Student Program.

The thoughtful and careful leveraging of our resources and support for Erskine Academy made us a high performing school in 2012-13 and again





in 2013-14. The combined influence and efforts of our teachers, students, and families has established for our school the fifth highest graduation rate and one of the lowest dropout rates in the state. This achievement along with our students' three-year average scores on state mathematics and reading tests have earned our school the letter grade "B" in both years of Maine's school performance grading system program.

A private school serving a public purpose, with 588 students in grades nine through twelve, Erskine is the second largest town academy in Maine and one of few to serve a voluntary student body exclusively on a school choice basis. As has been the case historically, 97 % of our students come primarily from eight tuition-paying towns. A smaller but growing number, which now includes 13 international students, attend on a private basis at their own expense. Therefore, our students come from primarily humble, hard-working backgrounds and circumstances to experience a school program that blends traditional values with contemporary programs and modern methods to become the most academically and personally prepared young people in the region.

A sampling of the activities pursued by of our students and staff this past year is testimony to the vibrancy of the Erskine Academy community:

- Nineteen courses are taught for college credit by our first-class teaching corps, resulting in nearly two-thirds of the graduating class earning credits while in high school and at a considerable savings in college tuition.
- A flourishing "Jobs for Maine Graduates" program teaches essential work seeking, training, and employment skills.
- We have become a "MELMAC Education Foundation" school, which supports our efforts to increase students' aspirations for higher education and to adopt best practices to improve college access for our students.

- Eighty-seven percent of the Class of 2013 and 2014 is accepted into some form of higher education, many to the most selective colleges in the nation.
- A competitive robotics class and club continue to be funded primarily by grants and financial gifts from our friends and alumni.
- For a fourth time, we brought nearly 250 area sixth graders to our school for a program of early exposure to high school designed to build their confidence for doing high school work.
- Our students have done a great deal of good, contributing literally thousands of hours of community service and raising a similar amount in dollars to aid those in need from nearby and afar, as far as Costa Rica and Haiti, in fact.
- A 6th Annual Walk to Cure Breast Cancer, with nearly 100% of our student body participating, raised in excess of \$3000 for the Maine General Breast Care Center.

Pursuing excellence and our mission is a continuous and unyielding work in progress. With accreditation now complete, our institutional strengths are affirmed and a school improvement plan has been informed. We will transition and transform with confidence that we are doing our very best for our students, providing high quality educational experiences and the conditions to inspire them to their highest potential in school, at work, and within their communities.

We are grateful to our students, families, and sending communities for their confidence in and support for Erskine Academy. Together, we create a school and heritage that adheres to what we know is right and good for our young people, while preparing them for quality living founded on scholarship, leadership, stewardship, and relationships.

## Vassalboro Police Report ... *Richard Phippen, Chief*



Over the years I have written about safety on our roads and in our homes. Most often I mention the most common issues that create problems and how they can be reduced if the advice is taken to heart and followed. Here are a few suggestions: drive slower, drive slower during inclement weather, do not text while driving, avoid

talking on the phone while driving, avoid driving during slippery road conditions, do not drive while distracted and watch for pedestrians. Most of us feel confident that while we are shoveling snow at the end of our driveway or going to the mail box that drivers of passing vehicles see us and drive accordingly giving us safe distance. This kind of thinking can be a fallacy. Be especially alert to take care of yourself not depending on someone else. People, being human, often forget the above mentioned safety issues and a tragedy occurs. If a driver is involved in a crash and someone is seriously hurt or killed, they may never forgive themselves.

Drug abuse is a problem in Maine today and the drug of choice appears to be heroin which most definitely will ruin the user's life. We read about drug busts in our neighboring cities and towns and wonder why it doesn't happen here. Don't be fooled. We are not immune from drug abuse.

I encourage you to report any unusual activity in your neighborhood as soon as it gets your attention, not waiting several weeks or months. There appears to be a steady stream of drug dealers coming to Maine from other states and setting up shop often with a local host.

Other important things that will reduce the number of victims in our town: lock your house, lock your vehicle, do not leave items with value out in front of your residence and do not invite strangers into your homes.

Please take note of any suspicious vehicle or person and record the registration number; and call me as soon as possible.

The Kennebec County Sheriff Department, the Maine State Police and I can be reached through the Regional Communication Center in Augusta at 911 for emergencies and 1-800-452-4664 or 624-7076. Let the trained dispatchers decide the level of emergency.



Photo by Mary Sabins

**L to R:** Selectman Rob Browne, Jim & Vicky Schad, Selectmen Phil Haines and Lauchlin Titus.

# Smith & Associates, CPAs

*A Professional Association*

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## **REPORT OF CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS**

### **Independent Auditors' Report**

Board of Selectmen and Manager  
TOWN OF VASSALBORO  
Vassalboro, Maine

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities and remaining fund information, which collectively comprise the financial statements, of the Town of Vassalboro, Maine as of and for the year ended June 30, 2014, as listed in the table of contents, and the related notes to the financial statements.

#### **Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements**

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

#### **Auditors' Responsibility**

Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit. We did not audit the financial statements of the Vassalboro Community School, which represent 22% of the assets (\$589,024 of \$2,696,912), 10% of the fund balance (\$179,118 of \$1,810,652), and 76% of the revenues (\$7,366,354 of \$9,693,164) of the Town of Vassalboro. Vassalboro Community School was audited by MacPage, LLC for the year ended June 30, 2014. Those financial statements were audited by other auditors whose report has been furnished to us, and our opinion, is so far as it relates to the amounts included for the Vassalboro Community School, is based on the report of the other auditors. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatements.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditors' judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstance, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion.

### **Auditors' Responsibility (Continued)**

An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

### **Opinions**

In our opinion, based on our audit and report of the other auditors, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities and remaining fund information of the Town of Vassalboro, as of June 30, 2014, and the changes in financial position and cash flows, where applicable, of those activities and funds and the budgetary comparison for the general fund for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

### **Other Matter**

The Town of Vassalboro, Maine has not presented Management's Discussion and Analysis that accounting principles generally accepted in the United States has determined is necessary to supplement, although not required to be part of, the financial statements.

*Smith & Associates*  
SMITH & ASSOCIATES, CPAs  
*A Professional Association*

*The complete audit report is available for inspection at the town office.*

**EXHIBIT III**

**TOWN OF VASSALBORO  
BALANCE SHEET  
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS  
JUNE 30, 2014**

	General Fund	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
<b>Assets</b>			
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 1,176,587	\$ 0	\$ 1,176,587
Investments	730,684	0	730,684
Taxes Receivable, Net	272,449	0	272,449
Tax Liens Receivable	101,564	0	101,564
Accounts Receivable	9,765	187,097	196,862
Prepaid Expenses	31,655	0	31,655
Inventory	0	7,633	7,633
Due from Other Funds	<u>0</u>	<u>179,478</u>	<u>179,478</u>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$ 2,322,704</b>	<b>\$ 374,208</b>	<b>\$ 2,696,912</b>
<b>Deferred Outflows of Resources</b>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
<b>Total Assets and Deferred Outflows of Resources</b>	<b><u>\$ 2,322,704</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 374,208</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 2,696,912</u></b>
<b>Liabilities, Deferred Inflows of Resources, and Fund Balance</b>			
<b>Liabilities</b>			
Accounts Payable	\$ 8,921	\$ 22,183	\$ 31,104
Accrued Expenses	472,963	0	472,963
Due to Other Funds	<u>179,478</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>179,478</u>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b><u>\$ 661,362</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 22,183</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 683,545</u></b>
<b>Deferred Inflows of Resources</b>			
Unavailable Revenue – Property Taxes	<u>\$ 202,715</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ 202,715</u>
<b>Fund Balance</b>			
<i>Reserved, Reported In:</i>			
<i>Nonspendable</i>			
Permanent Funds, Non-Expendable	\$ 0	\$ 93,810	\$ 93,810
<i>Restricted</i>			
Vassalboro Community School Grants	0	172,547	172,547
<i>Committed</i>			
Capital Projects	0	18,820	18,820
<i>Unreserved, Reported In:</i>			
<i>Assigned</i>			
Special Revenue Funds	0	56,841	56,841
Permanent Funds, Expendable	0	10,007	10,007
Appropriated Fund Balance FY 2014/15 Budget	150,000	0	150,000
General Fund, Designated	91,805	0	91,805
<i>Unassigned</i>			
Vassalboro Community School	6,571	0	6,571
Town General Fund, Undesignated	<u>1,210,251</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,210,251</u>
<b>Total Fund Balance</b>	<b><u>\$ 1,458,627</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 352,025</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 1,810,652</u></b>
<b>Total Liabilities and Fund Balance</b>	<b><u>\$ 2,322,704</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 374,208</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 2,696,912</u></b>

The Notes to the Financial Statements are an Integral Part of this Statement.

**EXHIBIT V**

**TOWN OF VASSALBORO  
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE  
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2014**

	General Fund	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
<b>Revenues</b>			
Taxes	\$ 4,467,920	\$ 0	\$ 4,467,920
Intergovernmental	4,069,553	591,065	4,660,618
Licenses, Permits and Fees	37,186	0	37,186
Charges for Services	69,956	68,513	138,469
Investment Income (Loss)	34,175	12,588	46,763
Miscellaneous	13,208	0	13,208
Maine State Retirement on Behalf	<u>329,000</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>329,000</u>
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b><u>\$ 9,020,998</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 672,166</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 9,693,164</u></b>
<b>Expenditures</b>			
<i>Current</i>			
General Government	\$ 445,220	\$ 28,896	\$ 474,116
Public Works and Sanitation	959,063	0	959,063
Public Safety	151,295	641	151,936
Health and Welfare	26,862	0	26,862
Education	6,575,233	605,690	7,180,923
Culture and Recreation	13,783	15,626	29,409
Debt Service	88,542	0	88,542
Fixed Charges	338,950	0	338,950
Maine State Retirement on Behalf	329,000	0	329,000
<i>Capital Outlay</i>	<u>33,852</u>	<u>312,280</u>	<u>346,132</u>
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b><u>\$ 8,961,800</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 963,133</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 9,924,933</u></b>
<b>Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures</b>	<b><u>\$ 59,198</u></b>	<b><u>\$ (290,967)</u></b>	<b><u>\$ (231,769)</u></b>
<b>Other Financing Sources (Uses)</b>			
Transfers In (Out)	\$ (5,000)	\$ 5,000	\$ 0
Proceeds from Note Payable	<u>0</u>	<u>237,280</u>	<u>237,280</u>
<b>Total Other Financial Sources (Uses)</b>	<b><u>\$ (5,000)</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 242,280</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 237,280</u></b>
<b>Net Change in Fund Balance</b>	<b>\$ 54,198</b>	<b>\$ (48,687)</b>	<b>\$ 5,511</b>
<b>Fund Balance – July 1, 2013</b>	<b><u>1,404,429</u></b>	<b><u>400,712</u></b>	<b><u>1,805,141</u></b>
<b>Fund Balance – June 30, 2014</b>	<b><u>\$ 1,458,627</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 352,025</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 1,810,652</u></b>

The Notes to the Financial Statements are an Integral Part of this Statement.

**EXHIBIT VII**

**TOWN OF VASSALBORO  
GENERAL FUND  
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES  
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE  
BUDGET AND ACTUAL  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2014**

	<u>Budgeted Amounts</u>		<u>Actual</u> <u>Amounts</u>	Variance with Final Budget Positive ( <u>Negative</u> )
	<u>Original</u>	<u>Final</u>		
<b>Revenues</b>				
Taxes	\$ 4,374,833	\$ 4,374,833	\$ 4,467,920	\$ 93,087
Intergovernmental	4,219,332	4,219,332	4,069,553	(149,779)
Licenses, Permits and Fees	31,250	31,250	37,186	5,936
Charges for Services	75,000	75,000	69,956	(5,044)
Investment Income (Loss)	0	0	34,175	34,175
Miscellaneous	19,000	19,000	13,208	(5,792)
Maine State Retirement on Behalf	<u>0</u>	<u>329,000</u>	<u>329,000</u>	<u>0</u>
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<u>\$ 8,719,415</u>	<u>\$ 9,048,415</u>	<u>\$ 9,020,998</u>	<u>\$ (27,417)</u>
<b>Expenditures</b>				
<i>Current</i>				
General Government	\$ 450,815	\$ 450,815	\$ 445,220	\$ 5,595
Public Works	1,042,179	1,042,179	959,063	83,116
Public Safety	175,768	175,768	151,295	24,473
Public Health and Welfare	29,267	29,267	26,862	2,405
Education	6,701,671	6,701,671	6,575,233	126,438
Culture and Recreation	55,111	55,111	13,783	41,328
Debt Service	88,542	88,542	88,542	0
Fixed Charges	341,597	341,597	338,950	2,647
Maine State Retirement on Behalf	34,000	34,000	33,852	148
<i>Capital Outlay</i>	<u>0</u>	<u>329,000</u>	<u>329,000</u>	<u>0</u>
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<u>\$ 8,918,950</u>	<u>\$ 9,247,950</u>	<u>\$ 8,961,800</u>	<u>\$ 286,150</u>
<b>Excess (Deficiency) of Revenue Over (Under) Expenditures</b>	<u>\$ (199,535)</u>	<u>\$ (199,535)</u>	<u>\$ 59,198</u>	<u>\$ 258,733</u>
<b>Other Financing Sources (Uses)</b>				
Transfers In (Out)	<u>(5,000)</u>	<u>(5,000)</u>	<u>(5,000)</u>	<u>0</u>
<b>Net Change in Fund Balance</b>	<u>\$ (204,535)</u>	<u>\$ (204,535)</u>	<u>\$ 54,198</u>	<u>\$ 258,733</u>
<b>Fund Balance – July 1, 2013</b>	<u>1,404,429</u>	<u>1,404,429</u>	<u>1,404,429</u>	<u>0</u>
<b>Fund Balance – June 30, 2014</b>	<u>\$ 1,199,894</u>	<u>\$ 1,199,894</u>	<u>\$ 1,458,627</u>	<u>\$ 258,733</u>

The Notes to the Financial Statements are an Integral Part of this Statement.

## Municipal Expenditures ... JULY 1, 2013 - JUNE 30, 2014

### ADMINISTRATION

Appropriation:	\$ 404,406.00
Expenditures:	
Personnel Service	\$ 276,044.59
Insurance	7,987.64
Utilities	8,206.68
Building Maintenance	35,898.97
Printing/Advertising	4,632.86
Audit/Legal/Dues	34,333.98
Office Supplies/Equipment	4,634.48
Technology/Postage/Other	42,779.70
Registry of Deeds	4,372.74
Carry forward – Bldg. Maintenance	+ 4,065.40
Carry forward for voting machine	+ 6,000.00
Carry forward for Planning Board	+ 4,844.00
Balance	\$ 423.76

### PUBLIC WORKS

Appropriation:	\$ 425,730.00
Expenditures:	
Personnel Services	\$ 223,456.48
Insurance	16,350.98
Sand/Salt/other contracts	45,945.93
Vehicle Expenses/Equip.	100,957.48
Garage Utilities/Supplies	25,616.82
Bridges/Culverts/signs	3,877.03
Balance	\$ 9,525.28

### SOLID WASTE

Appropriation:	\$ 291,700.00
Expenditures:	
Personnel Services	\$ 87,899.22
Insurance	3,813.06
Building Maintenance, Water Monitoring, Engineering	11,066.78
Utilities/Supplies	4,512.14
Disposal/Hauling/Recycling	154,889.37
Carry forward – building maintenance	+ 5,000.00
Carry forward – Demo Debris	+ 7,500.00
Balance	\$ 42,019.43

### ROAD PAVING/GRAVEL ROADS

Appropriation:	\$ 250,105.00
Expenditures:	
Paving	\$ 237,333.00
Striping	12,869.81
Gravel Roads/Maintenance	4,499.66
Carry forward – paving	+ 4,598.00
Balance	\$ .53

### CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT/RESERVES

Appropriation:	\$ 39,000.00
Expenditures:	
Plow Truck Reserve	\$ 33,852.00
Transfer Station Reserve	5,000.00
Balance	\$ 148.00

### FIRE DEPARTMENT

Appropriation:	\$128,098.00
Expenditures:	
Utilities	\$ 11,345.45
Insurances	7,682.70
Repairs	20,000.00
Training/Equipment/Supplies	26,033.73
Radios	2,156.55
Bldg Maintenance	29,970.94
Firefighter stipend	5,185.00
Chief Stipend	3,000.00
Dispatching	21,339.71
Carry forward – building maintenance	+ 7,900.00
Balance	\$ 9,283.92

### PUBLIC SAFETY

Appropriation:	\$ 37,770.00
Expenditures:	
Employee Costs	\$ 22,818.49
Insurances	2,342.47
Supplies/Vehicle Maintenance	6,274.86
Humane Society	6,900.60
Carry Forward – Police per diem coverage	+ 2,000.00
Balance	\$ 1,433.58



**RECREATION/SUMMER YOUTH**

Appropriation:	\$ 15,000.00
Expenditures:	\$ 15,000.00
Balance	\$ .00

**RECREATION/ROUTE #3 REST AREA**

Appropriation:	\$ 300.00
Expenditures:	
Balance	\$ 300.00

**LIBRARY**

Appropriation:	\$ 31,729.00
Expenditures:	\$ 31,729.00
Balance	\$ .00

**UTILITIES**

Appropriation:	\$ 35,000.00
Expenditures:	
Street Lights	16,392.60
Hydrant Rental	18,352.39
Balance	\$ 255.01

**CEMETERIES**

Appropriation:	\$ 18,000.00
Expenditures:	
Care of Cemeteries	22,499.09
Carry forward	+ 4,546.00
Balance	\$ 46.91

**GENERAL ASSISTANCE**

Appropriation:	\$ 3,500.00
Expenditures:	
Shelter	1,094.72
Balance	\$ 2,405.28

**ASSESSMENT**

Appropriation:	\$ 31,500.00
Expenditures:	
Contract Assessor Costs:	25,999.92
Maps/Dues/Supplies	3,134.51
Postage	2,051.25
Balance	\$ 314.32

**SOCIAL SERVICES**

Appropriation:	\$ 11,267.00
Expenditures:	
Hospice	1,600.00
Food Pantry	1,500.00
Family Violence	2,250.00
KV Mental Health	3,500.00
Senior Spectrum	1,000.00
Sexual Assault & Crisis Center	1,417.00
Balance	\$ .00

**MISCELLANEOUS REQUEST**

Appropriation:	\$ 14,500.00
Expenditures:	
Historical Society	3,000.00
Snowmobile Club	1,500.00
C.R.L.A.	10,000.00
Balance	\$ .00

**DEBT SERVICE**

Appropriation:	\$ 88,542.00
Expenditures:	
Fire Truck Loan	88,542.00
Balance	\$ .00

**COUNTY TAX**

Appropriation:	\$ 300,235.00
Expenditures:	300,233.24
Balance	\$ 1.76

**EDUCATION**

(Local funds only)	
Appropriation:	\$ 2,805,001.00
Expenditures:	2,805,001.00
Balance	\$ .00

# ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT

## GREETINGS:

In the name of the State of Maine you are hereby required to notify and warn the voters of the Town of Vassalboro in said Kennebec County, qualified by law to vote in town affairs, to meet at the Vassalboro Community School on Monday, June 1st, 2015, at 6:30 in the evening to elect a moderator to preside at said meeting, then and there to act on Articles 1 through 60, all of said articles being set out below to wit: and further to warn said voters to meet at the Town Office building in said Town on Tuesday, the 9th day of June 2015, then and there to act on Articles numbered 61 to 62. The polls will be open from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Article 1: To choose a Moderator to preside at said Meeting, and to pay a sum not to exceed \$200.00 for his/her services.

Article 2: To elect from the floor, under the rules of this meeting, five (5) members of the Budget Committee to serve two year terms.

Terms Expire in 2015:

Donald Breton, Peggy Schaffer, William Browne, William Whitley, Lori Fowle

Article 3: To see if the Town will vote to fix the due dates of taxes as follows, and to set the rate of interest at the prevailing allowable State rate: 7.00%. Interest will begin to accrue 7 days after the due date.

- One-fourth of taxes due on 09-28-15
- One-fourth of taxes due on 11-23-15
- One-fourth of taxes due on 02-22-16
- One-fourth of taxes due on 04-25-16

Selectmen Recommend: Approval

## REVENUES

Article 4: To see if the Town will vote to use the following anticipated revenue amounts and from the sources named to reduce the 2015-2016 tax commitment:

Excise Tax	\$ 700,000
Agent Fees	14,000
Snowmobile agent fees	2,000
Boat Excise Tax	6,000
Interest/Penalties	32,000
State Revenue Sharing	120,000
State Road Assistance	63,500
Tree Growth Reimbursement	15,000
State Park Sharing	1,500
Veterans Exemption	2,500
Miscellaneous	5,000
Permit Fees	8,500
Solid Waste/Recycling	65,000
Franchise Fee/Cable Fees	14,000
Clerk Fees	6,000
Surplus	168,000
<b>TOTAL REVENUES:</b>	<b>\$1,223,000</b>

Selectmen Recommend: \$1,223,000  
Budget Committee recommends: \$1,223,000

## GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Article 5: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$425,847 for Administration.

Selectmen Recommend: \$425,847  
Budget Committee Recommends: \$425,847

Article 6: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$43,300 for Assessment Costs.

Selectmen Recommend: \$43,300  
Budget Committee Recommends: \$43,300

Article 7: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from SURPLUS the sum of \$100,000 for Capital Improvements/Reserves as follows:

Public Works Equipment Reserve:	\$ 75,000
Transfer Station Reserve:	25,000
<b>Total Capital Improvements/Reserves</b>	<b>\$100,000</b>

Selectmen Recommend: \$100,000  
Budget Committee Recommends: \$100,000

## PUBLIC WORKS

Article 8: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$459,949 for the Public Works Department.

Selectmen Recommend: \$459,949  
Budget Committee Recommends: \$459,949

Article 9: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$300,033 for paving work to allow the Town to pave the following roads: Church Hill Road (approximately 1.5 miles), Priest Hill Road (approximately .75 mile), Willow Street (approximately .1 mile), Canal Street (approximately .1 mile), Hunt Road (portion = approximately .1 mile), Mudget Hill Road (portion = approximately .3 mile), and a section of sidewalks in the North Village area; and for road striping and paved road maintenance and if any of said sums remain, the Selectmen at their discretion could do additional paving.

Selectmen Recommend: \$300,033  
Budget Committee Recommends: \$300,033

## SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL

Article 10: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$282,332 for the cost of operating the Town's Solid Waste Disposal and Recycling Facility.

Selectmen Recommend: \$282,332  
Budget Committee Recommends: \$282,332

## PUBLIC SAFETY

Article 11: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$71,602 for the Public Safety Department that includes the Police, Animal Control, and Dispatch expenses.

Selectmen Recommend: \$71,602  
Budget Committee Recommends: \$71,602

Article 12: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$12,275 for the cost of operating the Vassalboro First Responder Service.

Selectmen Recommend: \$12,275  
Budget Committee Recommends: \$12,275

Article 13: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$61,700 for the Fire Department.

Selectmen Recommend: \$61,700  
Budget Committee Recommends: \$61,700

Article 14: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum not to exceed \$20,000 from surplus to be used as local match dollars for new Fire Department equipment. These funds will be expended only in the event of a Fire Department grant award.

Selectmen Recommend: \$20,000  
Budget Committee Recommends: \$20,000

Article 15: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$19,500 for fire hydrant rental.

Selectmen Recommend: \$19,500  
Budget Committee Recommends: \$19,500

Article 16: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$17,250 for Street Lights.

Selectmen Recommend: \$17,250  
Budget Committee Recommends: \$17,250

**SPECIAL ARTICLES AND TOWN POLICY**

Article 17: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen on behalf of the Town to dispose of any real estate acquired by the Town for non-payment of taxes thereon, on such terms as they may deem advisable and to execute quit-claim deeds for such property.

Selectmen Recommend: Approval

Article 18: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to submit applications for State and/or Federal funding and if said program is approved, authorize the municipal officers to accept said grant funds, to make such assurances, assume such responsibilities, and exercise such authority as are necessary and reasonable to implement such program, and to disburse such funds for the purpose granted.

Selectmen Recommend: Approval

Article 19: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to take \$38,000 from the Alewife Reserve fund to give to the China Region Lakes Alliance for use towards the Alewife Restoration Initiative Project that will reintroduce anadromous fish passage into China Lake to improve lake water quality, and will likely result in an increase in alewife harvest revenue.

Selectmen Recommend: \$38,000  
Budget Committee Recommends: \$38,000

Article 20: To see if the Town will vote to require that the AOS 92 Central Office budget be available in the form of warrant articles at least 30 days prior to the date of the annual vote on the AOS 92 Central Office budget.

Selectmen Recommend: Approval  
Budget Committee Recommends: Approval

Article 21: To see if the Town will authorize the Selectmen, for the fiscal year 2015-2016, to transfer funds between appropriation accounts so long as the grand total of all appropriations is not exceeded. Any such transfers to be approved only at a properly called public meeting of the Selectmen and Budget Committee.

Selectmen Recommend: Approval

Article 22: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Municipal Officers under Maine statutes, Chapter 12 Section 6131 and amendments thereto, to promulgate such regulations compatible with the General Laws of the State to govern the time and manner in which river herring (alewives) shall be taken therein for the calendar year 2016.

Selectmen Recommend: Approval

Article 23: To see if the Town will authorize the Municipal Officers to sell surplus river herring (alewives) for one or more years, or take any action relative to the same, and to take an amount not to exceed \$1,500 from herring (alewife) revenues to pay the wages of the river herring counter(s) for current and future harvest seasons, whose services are used to determine the amount of fish entering Webber Pond via the fish ladder to help develop statistics for the Department of Marine Resources.

Selectmen Recommend: Approval  
Budget Committee Recommends: Approval

Article 24: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the revenues received in FY2015-16 from the Natural Gas Pipeline Municipal Development and Tax Increment Financing District into a fund designated as the Development Program Fund to be used for projects, loans and/or grants for economic development within the Town as outlined in the Development Program for the District to be expended on such projects at the discretion of the Board of Selectmen?

Selectmen Recommend: Approval  
Budget Committee Recommends: Approval

Article 25: Shall the Town of Vassalboro vote to approve a Community Development Block Grant project development application for the following program and dollar amounts:

Program: Public Infrastructure  
Amount: up to \$1,000,000

and to submit same to the Department of Economic and Community Development and if said program is approved, to authorize the municipal officers to accept said grant funds, to make such assurances, assume such responsibilities, and exercise such authority as are necessary and reasonable to implement such programs. Furthermore, the Town of Vassalboro is cognizant of the requirement that should the

intended National Objective of the CDBG program not be met all CDBG funds must be repaid to the State of Maine CDBG program. NOTE: The intended purpose is for the Vassalboro Sanitary District sewer project.

Selectmen Recommend: Approval  
Budget Committee Recommends: Approval

Article 26: To see if the Town will vote to combine the entire balance of the remaining CDBG grant funds from the former 1987 Community Revitalization Program with the revenues in the Natural Gas Pipeline Municipal Development and Tax Increment Financing (TIF) District Development Program Fund to be used for projects, loans, and/or grants for economic development within the Town as outlined in the TIF Development Program for the District, to be expended on such projects at the discretion of the Board of Selectmen? NOTE: The balance of the CDBG funds as of April 15, 2015 was \$22,942.54.

Selectmen Recommend: Approval  
Budget Committee Makes No Recommendation

Article 27: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to dispose of Town owned property with a value of \$10,000 or less, under such terms and conditions as they deem advisable.

Article 28: To see if the Town will vote to authorize an amount not to exceed \$15,000 from surplus to serve as a contingency fund to be spent by the Selectmen in the event of an emergency and to avoid overdrafts.

Selectmen Recommend: Approval  
Budget Committee Recommends: Approval

#### **LIBRARY**

Article 29: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$31,729 for the Town's share of the Library's budget.

Selectmen Recommend: \$31,729  
Budget Committee Recommends: \$31,729

#### **HEALTH AND WELFARE**

Article 30: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,000 for General Assistance and to authorize the Selectmen to expend any and all reimbursement funds received from the State.

Selectmen Recommend: \$3,000  
Budget Committee Recommends: \$3,000

Article 31: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,000 for the Vassalboro Food Station.

Selectmen Recommend: \$2,000  
Budget Committee Recommends: \$2,000

Article 32: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,600 for the Hospice Volunteers of the Waterville Area. (This article presented by petition.)

Selectmen Recommend: \$1,600  
Budget Committee Recommends: \$1,600

Article 33: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$4,925 for the Family Violence Project. (This article presented by petition.)

Selectmen Recommend: \$2,250  
Budget Committee Recommends: \$2,250

Article 34: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,500 for the Kennebec Valley Behavioral Health Center. (This article presented by petition.)

Selectmen Recommend: \$3,500  
Budget Committee Recommends: \$3,500

Article 35: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,000 for Spectrum Generations. (This article presented by petition.)

Selectmen Recommend: \$1,000  
Budget Committee Recommends: \$1,000

Article 36: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,519 for the Sexual Assault Crisis & Support. (This article presented by petition.)

Selectmen Recommend: \$1,417  
Budget Committee Recommends: \$1,417

#### **RECREATION**

Article 37: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$12,400 for the Recreation Department.

Selectmen Recommend: \$12,400  
Budget Committee Recommends: \$12,400

Article 38: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,500 for the Kennebec Trail Riders Snowmobile Club for the maintenance of snowmobile trails with the understanding that such trails will be open for the use of snowmobiles during snowmobile season.

Selectmen Recommend: \$1,500  
Budget Committee Recommends: \$1,500

#### **MISCELLANEOUS ACCOUNTS AND REQUESTS**

Article 39: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,000 for the support of the Vassalboro Historical Society to assist this organization with the maintenance of the former East Vassalboro school building.

Selectmen Recommend: \$3,000  
Budget Committee Recommends: \$3,000

Article 40: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$28,000 for the Town's share in the Maintenance of Cemeteries and Public Grounds and for Memorial Day expenses, the funding for which will be as follows:

From TAXATION:	\$24,000
From Cemetery Perpetual Care Interest Fund:	4,000
Total:	\$28,000

Selectmen Recommend: Approval  
Budget Committee Recommends: Approval

Article 41: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$300 for the maintenance of the Three Mile Pond Recreational Area.

Selectmen Recommend: \$300  
Budget Committee Recommends: \$300

Article 42: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$308,382 for the estimated assessment from Kennebec County Government.

Selectmen Recommend: \$308,382  
Budget Committee Recommends: \$308,382

Article 43: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 for the support of the China Region Lakes Alliance.

Selectmen Recommend: \$10,000  
Budget Committee Recommends: \$10,000

Article 44: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$76,160 for Debt Service (fire truck bond).

Selectmen Recommend: \$76,160  
Budget Committee Recommends: \$76,160

Article 45: To see if the Town will vote to increase the property tax levy limit of \$682,565.73 established for the Town of Vassalboro by State Law in the event that the municipal budget approved under the preceding articles will result in a tax commitment that is greater than that property tax levy limit. (Written ballot)

## **SCHOOL BUDGET ARTICLES TO APPROPRIATE MONIES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR**

### **ARTICLES PURSUANT TO 20-A M.R.S.A. SECTION 1485**

Article 46: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the School Committee to expend the sum of \$4,074,009.03 for Regular Instruction.

School Committee Recommends: \$4,074,009.03  
Budget Committee Recommends: \$4,074,009.03

Article 47: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the School Committee to expend the sum of \$1,123,314.17 for Special Education.

School Committee Recommends: \$1,123,314.17  
Budget Committee Recommends: \$1,123,314.17

Article 48: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the School Committee to expend the sum of \$203,913.36 for Career and Technical Education.

School Committee Recommends: \$203,913.36  
Budget Committee Recommends: \$203,913.36

Article 49: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the School Committee to expend the sum of \$54,611.30 for Other Instruction.

School Committee Recommends: \$54,611.30  
Budget Committee Recommends: \$54,611.30

Article 50: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the School Committee to expend the sum of \$285,383.76 for Student and Staff Support.

School Committee Recommends: \$285,383.76  
Budget Committee Recommends: \$285,383.76

Article 51: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the School Committee to expend the sum of \$176,903.68 for System Administration.

School Committee Recommends: \$176,903.68  
Budget Committee Recommends: \$176,903.68

Article 52: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the School Committee to expend the sum of \$301,434.11 for School Administration.

School Committee Recommends: \$301,434.11  
Budget Committee Recommends: \$301,434.11

Article 53: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the School Committee to expend the sum of \$437,389.83 for Transportation and Buses.

School Committee Recommends: \$437,389.83  
Budget Committee Recommends: \$437,389.83

Article 54: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the School Committee to expend the sum of \$484,143.70 for Facilities Maintenance.

School Committee Recommends: \$484,143.70  
Budget Committee Recommends: \$484,143.70

Article 55: To see what sum the Town will vote to authorize the School Committee to expend for Debt Service and Other Commitments.

School Committee Recommends: \$ .00  
Budget Committee Recommends: \$ .00

Article 56: To see what sum the Town will vote to authorize the School Committee to expend for All Other Expenditures.

School Committee Recommends: \$ .00  
Budget Committee Recommends: \$ .00

**ARTICLES PURSUANT TO 20-A, M.R.S.A. Section 15690**

Article 57: To see what sum the municipality will appropriate for the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act (Recommend \$6,455,280.63) and to see what sum the municipality will raise as the municipality’s contribution to the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act in accordance with the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 15688.

Statutory Recommendation \$2,712,893.34

School Committee Recommendation: \$3,196,071.65

Budget Committee Recommendation: \$3,196,071.65

“Explanation: The school administrative unit’s contribution to the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act is the amount of money determined by state law to be the minimum amount that a municipality must raise in order to receive the full amount of state dollars.”

Note: Per PL2009, Chapter 571, the amount recommended by the School Committee as the required local share for the FY 2015-2016 budget may be no less than 82.22% of the Title 20-A, Section 15688 amount, in order to receive the full amount of state subsidy.

Article 58: To see what sum the municipality/district/unit will vote to raise and appropriate in additional local funds for school purposes under Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, §15690.

School Committee Recommends: \$ 438,178.31

Budget Committee Recommends: \$ 438,178.31

The school budget does exceed the state EPS funding model. Increased cost for special education, salaries & benefits, and tuition.

Explanation: The additional local funds are those locally raised funds over and above the school administrative unit’s local contribution to the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act and local amounts raised for the annual payment on non-state funded debt service that will help achieve the municipality/district budget for educational programs.

Article 59: To see what sum the Town will vote to authorize the School Committee to expend for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2015 and ending June 30, 2016 from the school administrative unit’s contribution to the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act, non-state-funded school construction projects, additional local funds for school purposes under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 15690, unexpended balances, tuition receipts, state subsidy and other receipts for the support of schools.

School Committee Recommends: \$7,141,102.94

Budget Committee Recommends: \$7,141,102.94

Article 60: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the School Committee to expend such other sums as may be received from federal or state grants or programs or other sources during the fiscal year for school purposes provided that such grants, programs or other sources do not require the expenditure of other funds not previously appropriated.

School Committee Recommends: Approval

Budget Committee Recommends: Approval

The following articles will be decided by secret ballot election. The polls will be open from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., June 9th, 2015 at the Town Office.

Article 61: Do you favor approving the Vassalboro Community School’s budget for the upcoming school year that was adopted at the June 1, 2015 Annual Town Meeting?

Article 62: To elect all necessary municipal officers/officials by secret ballot.

**Given unto our hands this 7th day of May 2015, AD**

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Philip W. Haines, Selectman

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Robert C. Browne, Jr., Selectman

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Lauchlin W. Titus, Selectman

## Variance in Proposed Budget

ACCOUNT	CURRENT 2014-2015	PROPOSED 2015-2016	\$ change	% change	
<b>TOWN BUDGET:</b>					
ADMINISTRATION	397,075	425,847	28,772	7.25%	
PUBLIC WORKS	440,695	459,949	19,254	4.37%	
SOLID WASTE	294,035	282,332	(11,703)	-3.98%	
PAVING/MAINTENANCE PROGRAM	160,945	300,033	139,088	86.42%	
FIRST RESPONDERS	13,444	12,275	(1,169)	-8.70%	
FIRE DEPARTMENT	67,025	61,700	(5,325)	-7.94%	
PUBLIC SAFETY	68,689	71,602	2,913	4.24%	
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT/RESERVES	105,000	100,000	(5,000)	-4.76%	
RECREATION	15,000	12,400	(2,600)	-17.33%	
ROUTE 3 REST AREA	300	300	0	0.00%	
LIBRARY	31,729	31,729	0	0.00%	
UTILITIES	36,000	36,750	750	2.08%	
CEMETERIES	18,000	28,000	10,000	55.56%	
GENERAL ASSISTANCE	3,500	3,000	(500)	-14.29%	
ASSESSMENT COSTS	32,900	43,300	10,400	31.61%	
SOCIAL SERVICES	11,267	11,767	500	4.44%	
MISCELLANEOUS REQ.	14,500	14,500	0	0.00%	
DEBT SERVICE (Fire Truck Bond)	81,975	76,160	(5,815)	-7.09%	
TOTAL MUNICIPAL BUDGET	1,792,079	1,971,644	179,565	10.02%	
<b>REVENUE BUDGET:</b>					
GENERAL REVENUES	970,750	1,059,000	\$88,250	9.09%	
SURPLUS	150,000	268,000	\$118,000	78.67%	
HOMESTEAD AND BETE REIMB (est.)	67,718	74,066	\$6,349	9.37%	
TOTAL REVENUES	1,188,468	1,401,066	\$212,599	17.89%	
TAX LEVY REQUIREMENT - TOWN BUDGET					
MIL RATE MUNICIPAL	1.97	1.85	-0.13	-6.49%	
COUNTY TAX:	307,000	308,382	\$1,382	0.45%	
COUNTY TAX MIL RATE	1.00	1.00	-0.01	-0.63%	
<b>SCHOOL BUDGET:</b>					
REGULAR INSTRUCTION	3,917,051.81	4,074,009.03	156,957.22	4.01%	
SPECIAL EDUCATION	1,123,320.60	1,123,314.17	(6.43)	-0.00%	
CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION	168,224.60	203,913.36	35,688.76	21.21%	
OTHER INSTRUCTION	44,414.04	54,611.30	10,197.26	22.96%	
STUDENT & STAFF SUPPORT	289,155.74	285,383.76	(3,771.98)	-1.30%	
SYSTEM ADMINISTRATION	176,657.52	176,903.68	246.16	0.14%	
SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION	286,441.20	301,434.11	14,992.91	5.23%	
TRANSPORTATION & BUSES	460,636.80	437,389.83	(23,246.97)	-5.05%	
FACILITIES MAINTENANCE	473,829.74	484,143.70	10,313.96	2.18%	
DEBT SERVICE & OTHER COMMITMENTS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%	
ALL OTHER EXPENDITURES	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%	
TOTAL SCHOOL BUDGET	\$6,939,732.05	\$7,141,102.94	\$201,370.89	2.90%	
TAX LEVY REQUIREMENT - SCHOOL BUDGET					
SCHOOL MIL RATE	\$9.30	\$10.34	\$ 1.03	11.12%	
OVERLAY (estimated)	\$49,096	\$21,923	(\$27,173)	-55.35%	
Overlay mil rate	\$0.16	\$0.07	\$(0.09)	-55.83%	
TIF DISTRICT	\$109,235.20	\$130,729.23	\$21,494	19.68%	
TIF mil rate	\$0.36	\$0.42	\$ 0.07	18.39%	
COMBINED TAX LEVY REQUIREMENTS	\$3,914,200	\$4,227,684	\$313,483	8.01%	
ESTIMATED COMBINED NET MIL RATE	12.8000	13.68	0.88	6.85%	
VALUATIONS (estimated as of 4/16/15)	\$305,796,900	\$309,117,747	\$3,320,847	1.09%	
THREE BUDGET TOTALS GROSS AMOUNTS					% of Budget
COUNTY TAX (ESTIMATED)	\$307,000	\$308,382	\$1,382	0.45%	5.48%
MUNICIPAL BUDGET	\$1,792,079	\$1,971,644	\$179,565	10.02%	35.03%
SCHOOL BUDGET - local portion raised	\$2,845,258	\$3,196,072	\$350,814	12.33%	56.78%
OVERLAY	\$49,096	\$21,923	(\$27,173)	-55.35%	0.39%
TIF DISTRICT	\$109,235	\$130,729	\$21,494	19.68%	2.32%
TOTAL ASSESSMENTS FOR TAX COMMITMENT	\$5,102,668	\$5,628,750	\$526,082	10.31%	100%



Photo by Ben Magro

*Lucy Browne (holding steering wheel) with the extended Browne family.*