

## Town Department Heads

**State Senator:**  
Jim Hamper..... 287-1505

**State Representative:**  
Nat Wadsworth.....838-7451

**Selectmen:**  
Paul Naughton.....935-4273  
Rick Eastman.....542-6822  
Jeff Cox.....576-9352

**Town Manager:**  
**(treasurer & Tax Collector)**  
Sharon Jackson.....935-2805

**Town Clerk:**  
Theresa Shaw.....935-2805

**Public Works Director**  
(Highway & Transfer Station)  
Dan Nowell.....935-2805

**Police Chief:**  
Josh Potvin.....935-3323

**Fire Chief:**  
Richard "Ozzie" Sheaff.....935-2615

**Fryeburg Rescue:**  
Steve Goldsmith..... 935-3024

**Recreational Depart:**  
Rick Buzzell.....935-3933

**Code Enforcement Officer:**  
Katie Haley.....935-2805

**Animal Control Officer:**  
Kathleen Hathaway.....935-3197

**Eastern Slope Airport:**  
David Cullinan.....935-4440

**Fryeburg Library:**  
Donnette Barnes.....935-2731

## COMMENTS , IDEAS & SUGGESTIONS

Email to:  
donnawbe@gmail.com

Mail to: Newsletter  
13 West Fryeburg Road,  
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## WINTER AUTO FACTS YOU OUGHT TO KNOW *By Eric Meltzer*

No matter how little maintenance modern vehicles require, there are still some items that demand regular service. The timing belt is one of those items. The timing belt, like it's name implies, maintains the timing of the engine.

The timing keeps the engine running by ensuring internal components are spinning in sync and gas and spark are delivered at the appropriate times relative to the piston stroke and valve operation. Everything in your engine has to work in harmony for your engine to run. The timing belt is a fibrous rubber belt with teeth on the inside that meshes with the timing gear on the crankshaft, to which the pistons are linked, and the timing gear on the cam shaft, to which the valves are linked. All these parts are moving in very close proximity and very fast (several thousand Revolutions Per Minute or RPM). Now for the bad part, if the timing belt breaks on an interference engine, valves and pistons can collide. It's mass mechanical chaos, and that, my friends, is expensive!

Like all regular maintenance, even complex preventive jobs are much cheaper than the alternative. The timing belt functions under tension which is provided by a separate pulley. The whole assembly is located on the front of the engine and, as you can imagine, requires considerable dis-assembly to access. Typically the cooling system must be drained and the water pump removed along with other components depending on the particular configuration. Since the majority of the labor cost is expended on the actual timing belt replacement, it's strongly recommended that all wear items like the water pump, timing belt tensioner, and serpentine or accessory drive belts be replaced at this time also to save on the individual labor costs of replacing these parts later.

Not all engines have a timing belt. Some achieve the same function through use of gears or a timing chain.

There are various engineering and practical reasons to use one method over another. Not all engines are interference engines; some have enough clearance internally that if the timing belt breaks the engine will simply stop without damage. Of course this is still inconvenient if not outright dangerous and the repair cost is more substantial than scheduling a timing belt replacement but it's still repairable.



The interval required for timing belt replacement depends on your particular vehicle and the best way to find that information is to consult your owner's manual. Generally, the interval is anywhere from 60,000 miles to 120,000 miles so you can see why manufacturer's recommendations are helpful. However, it's not just the mileage that matters, age of the belt is also a factor. Over time and successive heating and cooling cycles, the belt can dry out and become brittle. An older car with it's original timing belt regardless of mileage should be suspect and at least checked for condition. The timing belt is one of the more involved regular maintenance items; don't let it slip or it might leave you stranded.

## DID YOU KNOW? EMPLOYEE APPRECIATION DAY - First Friday in March

Is Employee Appreciation Day celebrated where you work? Does your boss even know about it? Recognitions may include a lunch, snack, cakes, or other munchies, and small recognition gifts. Don't expect a day off. Chances are, it just won't happen.

Origin of "Employee Appreciation Day":

"Employee Appreciation Day first arrived on calendars in 1995. One of Recognition Professionals International's founding Board members, Bob Nelson, together with his publishing company, Workman Publishing, created Employee Appreciation Day as a way of focusing the attention of all employers, in all industries on employee recognition."



# FRYEBURG TOWN MATTERS

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Due to the varied sources for information, Town Matters may be subject to errors from time to time. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause and strive for accuracy in keeping the community aware and involved. Thank you for your understanding and feedback.

To download a copy of past or current Town Matters go to [www.fryeburgbusiness.com](http://www.fryeburgbusiness.com)

Vol 12 • Issue 11 • Editor: Donna Woodward - 207-441-8170 - [donnawbe@gmail.com](mailto:donnawbe@gmail.com) • MAR 2015



Participants charged into the frigid water of Highland Lake in Bridgton last month during the Freezin for a Reason fundraiser for Harvest Hills Animal Shelter, raising a record breaking \$32,000. Seventy-two brave and hearty participants endured single digit temperatures and high bone-chilling winds to raise money to help the animals at the shelter.

This fundraiser is one of the largest events Harvest Hills holds on a yearly basis and raises much needed funds for the shelter. They make every effort to offer a comfortable, warm, loving and healthy environment while these shelter animals await adoption. Freezing for a Reason donations are typically earmarked for special projects that otherwise could not be accomplished from the general fund. This year's project is no exception and Harvest Hills is excited to announce the continued renovations of their dog runs. Freezing for a Reason donations, combined with the recent Christmas Eve Shelter Sleepover fundraiser by longtime volunteer and supporter Deb Cloutier (which raised over \$10,000) will fund the entire project.

In 2014 a longtime volunteer and supporter of Harvest Hills donated enough funds to remodel one side of the runs, in which the concrete block barriers were replaced with glass blocks allowing more light and a fresh clean look to the kennels. The remodel also included paint, murals and the icing on the cake is a beautiful epoxy floor. When you walk in to the shelter and turn right, you see all of this incredible work. When you walk in to the shelter and turn left, it almost seems as if you are in a completely different shelter in comparison - but not for long!

This new project is very exciting to their dedicated staff and volunteers who spend each day with these dogs and love seeing them in this new, bright and cheery atmosphere.

There are many opportunities and ways for everyone to help this very special animal shelter. They are always in need of supplies such as paper products and bleach. If you have some time consider being a volunteer a few hours a week to help exercise and play with the dogs. Cleaning out your closets? Harvest Hills has a fabulous thrift shop that could make good use of your discarded treasurers and clothes. Or simply stop by their Nine Lives Thrift Shop and buy some of these wonderful items they have to share. Of course donations are always welcome and help with their fundraisers. For more information on Harvest Hills Animal Shelter please visit our website: [www.harvesthills.org](http://www.harvesthills.org) or call 207-935-4358. You can also find us on Facebook.



*Kathleen Blankenship & Amy Mains taking the plunge!*

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## Town of Fryeburg by Town Manager, Sharon Jackson

My message is to tell Fryeburg residents and taxpayer about two of the specific parts of the Governor's proposed budget.

**1. Homestead Property Exemption:** If you are currently receiving the Homestead Exemption of \$10,000, which reduced your last tax bill by \$161.00 per year, you will lose this benefit and your tax bill will increase by \$161.00 when you receive your next tax bill in September, unless you are 65 years of age or older. The Governor's proposed budget will immediately eliminate the "Homestead Property Exemption" for homeowners under the age of 65, while doubling this exemption to \$20,000 for homeowners age 65 or older. If the mill rate remains at \$16.10 per \$1,000, and you are 65 or older, your tax bill will be reduced by an additional \$161.00.

**2. Municipal Revenue Sharing:** Under the Governor's proposed budget, Fryeburg will receive Municipal Revenue Sharing funds in the amount of \$165,246 for the Fiscal Year 2016 budget. However, this revenue will be eliminated in Fiscal Year 2017. This will be a significant loss of revenue for Fryeburg and would equal a \$.40 increase in the mill rate. The elimination of revenue sharing will affect every town and city in the state and will have a direct impact to property tax increases.

These are just two of the many complex changes to tax policy recommended in the Governor's proposed budget. I encourage you to contact your local representative to share your concern about these proposed changes that will have an impact on property tax increases.

The next Selectmen's meetings are scheduled for March 12th and 26th in the Town Office meeting room.

The second half of Fryeburg's 2015 tax bill is due Wednesday April 15, 2015.

I would like to remind Fryeburg residents that the Comprehensive Plan Committee has completed the draft of the Comprehensive Plan that can be found on the Town website at [fryeburgmaine.org](http://fryeburgmaine.org) under the Committee page on the left side of the main page. You can view or print the draft for "Chapters 1-9"; "Goals, Policies & Strategies & Future Land Use Plan" and "Maps". You can also ask for a hard copy at the town office. There will be public hearings at 6 PM at the American Legion building on Bradley Street on Wednesday March 11th and Wednesday April 15th. The updated Comprehensive Plan will be voted on Tuesday June 9th by written ballot.

The annual town meeting has been scheduled for Thursday June 11th at 6 PM at the Performing Arts Center at Fryeburg Academy.

If you have any questions or concerns, please call me at the Town Office or stop in to talk with me.

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## IN THE KNOW WITH REAL ESTATE

Suzie Laskin from JtRealty Lakefront to Mountainside  
Cell: 603-986-3123  
Office: 603-356-7200 x 112

Home not selling? That could happen for a number of reasons you can't control, like a unique home layout or having one of the few homes in the neighborhood without a garage. There is one factor you can control: your home price.

These six signs may be telling you it's time to lower your price.

1. You're drawing few lookers.  
You get the most interest in your home right after you put it on the market because buyers want to catch a great new home before anybody else takes it. If your real estate agent reports there have been fewer buyers calling about and asking to tour your home than there have been for other homes in your area, that may be a sign buyers think it's overpriced and are waiting for the price to fall before viewing it.

2. You're drawing lots of lookers but have no offers.  
If you've had 30 sets of potential buyers come through your home and not a single one has made an offer, something is off. What are other agents telling your agent about your home? An overly high price may be discouraging buyers from making an offer.

3. Your home's been on the market longer than similar homes.  
Ask your real estate agent about the average number of days it takes to sell a home in your market. If the answer is 30 and you're pushing 45, your price may be affecting buyer interest. When a home sits on the market, buyers can begin to wonder if there's something wrong with it, which can delay a sale even further. At least consider lowering your asking price.

4. You have a deadline.  
If you've got to sell soon because of a job transfer or you've already purchased another home, it may be necessary to generate buyer interest by dropping your price so your home is a little lower priced than comparable homes in your area. Remember: It's not how much money you need that determines the sale price of your home, it's how much money a buyer is willing to spend.

5. You can't make upgrades.  
Maybe you're plum out of cash and don't have the funds to put fresh paint on the walls, clean the carpets, and add curb appeal. But the feedback your agent is reporting from buyers is that your home isn't as well-appointed as similarly priced homes. When your home has been on the market longer than comparable homes in better condition, it's time to accept that buyers expect to pay less for a home that doesn't show as well as others.

6. The competition has changed.  
If weeks go by with no offers, continue to check out the competition. What have comparable homes sold for and what's still on the market? What new listings have been added since you listed your home for sale? If comparable home sales or new listings show your price is too steep, consider a price reduction. Ask your REALTOR for an updated CMA (Comparative Market Analysis) so that you can see where you stand in relation to other homes on the market and other homes that have sold recently in your neighborhood.



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**Fryeburg Police Report by Chief Josh Potvin**

Fryeburg Police Officers have gone door-to-door warning our local businesses of counterfeit currency circulating throughout the area. Investigators from Fryeburg Police and the U.S. Secret Service are investigating these incidents.

To learn how to identify a counterfeit bill go to our website at:  
[www.fryeburgmaine.org/town-departments/police](http://www.fryeburgmaine.org/town-departments/police)  
 and scroll down and click on "Know Your Money".

We are also warning citizens of a telephone scam. Several residents have received calls requesting a donation to the fallen officers and firefighters fund on behalf of Fryeburg Police. There is no such fundraiser and residents should decline giving out their personal information over the phone.

Have a safe and enjoyable Saint Patricks Day and a fun month of March



**FRYEBURG AREA ADULT EDUCATION**

**FREE WorkReady Class starts APRIL 7th:**  
 Have you been looking for a better job? Could your work skills use some updating? Would you like to make yourself a better candidate for employment? WorkReady could be exactly what you've been looking for! WorkReady is a FREE 60-hour program, endorsed by local businesses, that will teach you to:

- Evaluate your workplace skills, experience, & preferences
- Develop cover letters & resumes
- Practice for interviews
- Improve time management & reduce stress
- Communicate effectively with others
- Work as part of a team
- Find out what employers expect

Classes will be held at the Bridgton Community Center. Transportation from the Fryeburg area may be able to be coordinated.  
 For more information and to register, call Rhonda Jacobson at 207-627-4291 Ext. 30 or email [rhonda.jacobson@lakeregionschools.org](mailto:rhonda.jacobson@lakeregionschools.org)

**Fryeburg Area Enrichment Classes:**

<i>Molly Ockett Middle School</i>	
Forgiveness Class	March 4, for 3 weeks, 6-7:30 pm,
Pet First Aid & CPR	March 14, 8:00 am - 12:00 pm,
First Aid	March 16, 5:30-8:00 pm
CPR	March 23, 5:00-8:00 pm
Hunter Safety Course	April 1, 6:00-9:00 pm & April 11, 8AM - 4:30PM
<i>New Suncook School, Lovell</i>	
How Money Works	March 10, 6:00-7:30 pm,
Full Body Workout	Starts March 28, for 6 weeks, 9:00-10:00 am
<i>Charlotte Hobbs Library, Lovell</i>	
EBook Readers for Beginners	March 21, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm,

For more information about Adult Education services in the Fryeburg area, or to register for enrichment classes, call 207-627-4291 or 1-888-825-4291 or register online at [www.crookedriver.maineadulted.org](http://www.crookedriver.maineadulted.org)




**FRYEBURG RESCUE** by Eric Meltzer

I'm sure you've noticed the snow piling up around here and we have too. Please make an effort to keep your address visible from the street. We want to get you help as quickly as possible when necessary but we have to find you first.

Please check all chimney and heat source vents to make sure they are clear. Direct vent heating systems that exit through an exterior wall are particularly susceptible to blockage. A plugged or blocked vent can prevent CO (Carbon Monoxide) gas from exhausting properly leading to possible CO poisoning. This is a very serious matter. CO is a odorless, colorless gas that can cause sudden illness and even death. Be sure smoke and CO alarms are working correctly and never dismiss their alarm or assume it's false.

Whenever possible keep driveways and walkways clear and if you can please help out your neighbors, the sick, and elderly with this important winter maintenance item.

As always, please use caution when driving, particularly on snow-covered roads and in slippery conditions. We respond to numerous vehicle crashes each year. Don't give into distractions, leave a safe following distance, allow longer braking times, and never drive faster than conditions safely allow. Vehicles today are safer than those built in the past, designed to protect occupants with crumple zones, as well as active and passive restraint systems. All these safety features are designed to work together and that includes the seatbelt. Buckle up; it's safe and it's the law. A car can be replaced but you can't!

The plans for our station expansion project is still moving forward. As we finalize plans and raise funds we will keep you informed of our progress.

**PROJECT GRADUATION IS IN FULL SWING AND NEEDS YOUR HELP**

**PLEASE DONATE:**  
 Saturday, March 28th, Project Graduation will host its ANNUAL SILENT AUCTION at Fryeburg Academy's Wadsworth Arena. This will be the 25th annual auction, which always draws a big crowd! We are asking families, community members and local businesses for donations of merchandise, gift certificates, services or other items that would help to make a successful auction event. Goods like homemade crafts, jewelry, baked goods, paintings, photography, gift certificates, event tickets, and services are wonderful. In the past we have had service items such as snow removal, cooking, wood stacking, water ski lessons, and much more. We have received many large items in the past like canoes, kayaks, airline tickets, hotel accommodations and vacation rentals. All donations are tax deductible.

Consider donating any item from your home in virtually new condition - regifting is encouraged! Many thanks in advance and Good Luck at this years auction! Please contact Jen @ 609-558-1844 for pick up of your donation.

Other Project Graduation Fundraisers:  
 Friday, March 6th and Sunday, March 8th between the hours of 11AM and 9PM enjoy two hours of Snow Tubing at Cranmore Mountain Resort for ONLY \$19 with a voucher from Project Graduation or simply mention Fryeburg Project Graduation and get this amazing discount (\$28 value). \$5 from every ticket will be donated to Project Graduation so tell all your friends and family they can have two hours of fun at a huge discount and help Project Graduation all at the same time. A big thank you to Cranmore Mountain Resort for their sponsorship. FMI contact Bernie at 207-542-9957 or email her at [Bernie@badgerrealty.com](mailto:Bernie@badgerrealty.com).

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## NORMAL AND NATURAL OPERATIONS OF THE LEGISLATURE

In the normal and natural operations of the Legislature, the election season ends and members wait in great anticipation for their committee assignments. There are seventeen joint standing committees.

Joint; meaning there are comprised of both House and Senate members. There are 13 members on each committee, 3 Senators and 10 House members. The Committee assignment really means it is your first and foremost focus of your time in Augusta. The Committee work is what will consume the bulk of your time from January to the beginning of May in the first year of the biennium.

This biennium, I have been assigned to the big one, the one that takes all of a Legislator's time and energy, the committee that has the reputation of working seven days a week and sometimes all night, the Appropriations and Financial Affairs Committee; AKA Approp's, AFA, or Room 228, and some even call it the divorce committee. This is the place where all the state spending is ultimately decided, and this is the room from which the money flows. My assignment is Senate Chair, the person in charge of the budget process, and let me assure you; I do not take this responsibility lightly.

This Committee is in charge of \$6.3 billion in State money and \$5.3 billion in Federal monies. Yes the State budget is around \$11.6 billion State and Federal dollars. Nearly half of what government spends in Maine is federal dollars. So my writing in the future will be centered around how we spend YOUR tax dollar, I trust you will understand that this is where my focus is.

Speaking of focus, recently the funding of county jail system was brought to the forefront and there was a great need for an addition \$2.5 million just to get through the fiscal year ending June 30th. Simply put, the county jails needed more money to continue to operate and the question of how to fund that need was pending.

I had a long conversation in the evening with another AFA member about county jail funding and at 2:48AM the next morning my eyes were open and jails were on my mind. After some thought and some prayer, a possible solution was in my head. There was another long conversation at 6AM with the same committee member and at 11:30AM we were in the Governor's office proposing the solution for his "buy in". The next day we had the official thumbs up! Language was drafted to alter a spending bill making the money available. It was introduced to the AFA Committee the following week receiving approval from the County Sheriffs and ultimately from the Criminal Justice and AFA Committees. The end result is a temporary fix to funding the county jails.

I hope this has given some you some insight into the consuming nature of this committee assignment and I have not even mentioned the biennial budget and the major changes in taxing/spending policy. As these policies become headlines in the news and in more of the media focus let me know what you think.

E-mail me at senatorhamp@gmail.com The budget process has just begun, public hearings will continue through March. No decisions have been made, and votes will be cast in May. In the meantime, stay safe and warm and know what follows March is SPRING!

District 70 Rep Nathan Wadsworth  
P. O. Box 321, Cornish, ME 04020  
207-838-7451 Nathan.Wadsworth@legislature.maine.gov



### The work starts now.

With over 1,500 bills submitted to be considered by the Legislature this session the work in Augusta is just beginning. Over the next several weeks members will spend most of our time working in our assigned committees to decide which bills hold merit to continue moving forward. This is typically a lengthy process that includes a work session and public hearing for each bill. This gives us the opportunity to gauge the bill's impact, the public's interest and whether or not the bill is even need for a particular bill. At this point our committee votes on each bill and sends a recommendation to either the House or Senate on its passage.

I can't stress enough how important it is to make sure your voice is heard by your Representative or Senator. I'd strongly encourage all of my constituents to stay well informed on issues that are coming before these committees as many of these issues affect us all on a daily basis. Make your voice heard.

### Unclaimed Property... Do you have any?

Unclaimed property consists of money and other personal assets that are considered lost or abandoned when an owner cannot be located after a specified period of time. It includes checking accounts, certificates of deposit, overpayments, gift certificates, paid-up life insurance policies, unpaid wages, commissions, uncashed checks, death benefits, dividends, insurance payments, money orders, refunds, savings accounts, stocks, and contents of safe deposit boxes. Unclaimed Property does not include real estate, animals, or vehicles.

Millions of dollars are turned over annually to the State by entities who cannot locate the owners. There is no fee charged to process your property claim.

To search for unclaimed property, please visit Unclaimed Property Search and Claim at [www.maine.gov/upsearch](http://www.maine.gov/upsearch). If you have any questions, please contact the Office of the Maine State Treasurer at (207) 624-7470 or send an e-mail to [up.generalinquire@maine.gov](mailto:up.generalinquire@maine.gov).

### Here for you!

Call me at 838-7451 or email at [Nathan.Wadsworth@legislature.maine.gov](mailto:Nathan.Wadsworth@legislature.maine.gov) to keep me updated on those concerns and happenings in your community, especially if you think I can help with any issues or needs. If you would like to be added to my email update list, you can do so by signing up at the town office or emailing me directly with your request.

The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at Granite State College in Conway, NH is announcing their 21 new spring classes for people over 50. Most classes are just 1 to 4 sessions and are designed for fun! There are 5 different arts and crafts classes, several literature, history, science and current event classes and even 3 basic technology classes. You can even try aqua zumba or learn about affordable, non-traditional ways to travel. Classes start on March 23 and go through June. To see complete list and register please go to <http://olli.granite.edu> or call 603 513-1377.

Members pay from \$15 to \$45 for the classes depending on their length. Scholarships are available.

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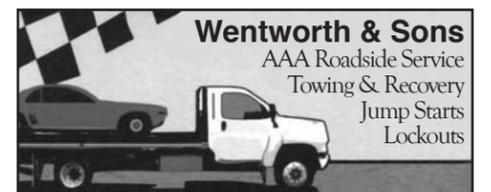


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