



# SEBAGO HAPPENINGS



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## HOURS OF OPERATION

### TOWN OFFICE

- Tuesdays - 10am - 7pm
- Wed., Thurs., Fri. 8am - 5pm

### TRANSFER STATION

- Tues., Thurs., Sat., Sun. 7am - 5pm

### GENERAL ASSISTANCE

- Thursdays - 1pm - 3pm



## MAINE RESIDENTS

### PROPERTY TAX & RENT REFUND PROGRAM UPDATE

The Maine Residents Property Tax and Rent Refund Program also known as the "Circuitbreaker" program has been repealed in the last Legislative session as part of the enacted state budget for claims beginning on or after August 1, 2013. The program has been replaced by a refundable Property Tax Fairness Credit that can be claimed on the Maine Individual Income Tax Form.



The new credit will be available beginning in January 2014 on the 2013 Maine Individual Income Tax Form 1040ME. A worksheet will be included with the form to help calculate the amount of credit.

To qualify for the credit, you have to meet the following criteria:



- Have been a Maine resident during any part of the tax year
- Owned or rented a home in Maine during part of the year and lived in that home
- Have a Maine adjusted gross income under \$40,000 and
- Paid property tax in Maine during the year that was more than 10% of your Maine adjusted gross income or paid rent to live in a home or apartment in Maine during the year which was more than 40% of your Maine adjusted gross income.



Qualified Maine residents can get a credit of up to \$300, \$400 if they are over 70 years old.

Assistance with the credit and worksheet can be obtained by calling Maine Revenue Services at (207) 626-8475 during the hours of 8:00 am to 5:00 pm., Monday through Friday.



## 2013 KIDS FREE SUMMER LUNCH PROGRAM!



This very popular program offers free "bag style" lunches to any child (including non-residents) under the age of 18 years old. This program started on June 24th and will continue during the weekdays between the hours of 11:45 am and 12:30 pm until August 23rd. Lunches are served at

the Veteran's Park. In case of marginal weather, they will be served in the park's gazebo. There is no cost to kids (or the town) for this federally funded program. This is a joint activity of the Sebago Recreation Department and the Warming Hut. Adult volunteer supervisors are still needed. If your interested in helping out, please contact Jim Libby at 274-1569.



# Thanks

Thanks to the people who have done such a great job taking care of their adopted cemeteries. The Town will be adding these cemeteries to the mowing contract and they will be cleaned on a yearly basis. We still would appreciate your help during the year and please let the Town know of any problems that arise with these cemeteries. Broken stones will be repaired in July and signs will be in place by the end of the year. Thank you again for helping to preserve this part of Sebago's history.

From the Ad Hoc Cemetery Committee

*Every day is*

*a great*

*day, you've*

*just got to*

*find out why!*



**THANK YOU**

Thank you to the Redmen Organization for building picnic tables and placing them at the Town Beach. Their contribution will be a great addition and is very much appreciated by the Board of Selectmen and the Sebago community.



## CLERK'S CORNER

By Michele Bukoveckas, Town Clerk

Now that we are in the swing of summer, here are a few tips to help us all enjoy the sun and water safely. The Town Beach/Boat Launch is located at the end of Marina Road (off Shore Road across from 4 Season's Variety) and is open to



Sebago residents and property owners. Permits are required and are available at the Town Office during regular business hours. Visitor's temporary passes are also available. Vehicles without passes will be towed at the owner's expense.



Please remember to inspect your boat before launching for milfoil. Milfoil is an invasive plant that attaches itself to your boat and motor. If you find any attached plants, please remove them. Once in the lakes, it takes over, killing the lake. Boats need to be registered and have the required milfoil sticker. Boats not registered in Maine require a non-resident milfoil sticker. You must be at least 12 years old to operate a boat, and over 16 years old for a personal watercraft (commonly



referred to as a jet ski) after the completion of a safety course. Make sure that you have adequate USCG approved personal floatation devices. Perform safety checks. Check for leaks, check the lights and steering. Avoid alcohol. Maine law prohibits anyone from operating under the influence. Keep an eye to the sky; be prepared, as weather conditions change rapidly. Know your navigational markers.

When visiting the Town Beach, please follow the posted rules. Be sure to use sun block and supervise children in and around the water. Let's not have accidents or injuries ruin the summer vacation. HAVE A GREAT SUMMER!!



## ASK THE TAX COLLECTOR

By Michele Bukoveckas, Tax Collector

Dear T.C.: What happens if property taxes are unpaid to the Town?



Dear Taxpayer: Taxes not collected by the end of the fiscal year (June 30th) will be listed in next year's Annual Report. In addition, if taxes continue to be unpaid by August, a 30-day notice of lien will be sent to the owner of record as of April 1 of the previous year. If after 30 days, the tax remains unpaid; a lien will be placed against the property which will then foreclose 18 months from the lien filing date (interest continues to accrue). If you have sold your property after April 1, 2013 it is imperative you forward the information to the new owner to avoid a lien in your name. In addition, if you purchased the property after April 1, 2013 you should contact the Town Office for a copy of the bill. If you are not sure if you currently owe taxes, please contact the Town Office at (207) 787-2457.

Lastly, please contact the Town Office if you had an address change.



## COMEDIAN GEORGE HAMM BENEFIT FOR FUEL FUND!



Everyone needs a good laugh from time to time. If you're ready to have some laughs while helping others, plan on joining us for another fun filled event with comedian George Hamm on Friday, August 16 at 8:00 pm at the Sebago Town Hall. The proceeds will benefit the Sebago Fuel Assistance Fund. Tickets will be available at the Town Office at a cost of \$10.00 each.



**THE PERLEY MILLS  
COMMUNITY FOREST**

The Perley Mills Community Forest Project includes 1,600 acres of land and three miles of the Narrow Gauge Trail spanning the towns of Bridgton, Denmark and Sebago. Loon Echo Land Trust, a regional non-profit land conservation organization, is spearheading the project and has invited the three municipalities to participate. At the June 2013 Town Meeting Sebago residents voted in favor of appropriating \$25,000 to accept 130 of these acres located on Swamp Road, subject to a conservation easement held by Loon Echo. The land will serve as a town forest and will safeguard water quality and wildlife habitat. The

Town may gain income in future years from selective timber harvesting. The property and the nearby Narrow Gauge Trail will remain open to public access for ATV'ing, snowmobiling, hunting, trapping, fishing, hiking and cross country skiing.

Donations are encouraged by December 31, 2013 to help Loon Echo and the towns complete this regionally significant project. Show your support by making a tax-deductible gift to Loon Echo today. For more information contact Loon Echo Land Trust, 8 Depot St., Suite 4, Bridgton, Maine, 04009, (207) 647-4352 , or [www.LELT.org](http://www.LELT.org).



**FROM THE DOGHOUSE**

By Bobby Silcott,  
Animal Control Officer  
e-mail:[asktheACO@yahoo.com](mailto:asktheACO@yahoo.com)  
or call 642-4343 (Standish Dispatch)

This summer, I'd like to talk about cats. We, as cat owners, are not required to license our cats. That means no money goes into the system to help absorb the cost of helping cats, as with dogs. So, how can we all make a difference? First, spay/neuter is vital. There are many low-cost S/N clinics available to-



day, throughout Maine. For a complete, up-to-date listing, visit Spay Maine, at [www.spaymaine.org](http://www.spaymaine.org). Second, don't allow your cats to roam freely. The dangers are many, and I receive dozens of calls every year with reports of missing cats. If your cat is found off of your property, it's considered a Stray Cat, and may be

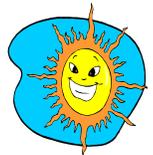


trapped, then taken to Harvest Hills Animal Shelter. Third, if you are moving, **DO NOT** leave cats behind to

survive on their own. These animals depend on humans for sustenance and shelter. Also, you could be charged with Abandonment or Animal Neglect. If you want to get involved and help cats, please contact Harvest Hills Animal Shelter at 935-4358 or Cat Coalition of Western Maine at 647-5220.



As always, I'm available to help, as well.



**Sebago Lake Land Reserve Trail Day 2013**

By Rod Beaulieu and Sarah Plummer, Portland Water District

The Portland Water District has trails... LOTS of them! The District owns over 1,700 acres of land with public access for outdoor recreational opportunities. These trails are specifically intended for the visitor who wants to enjoy low impact recreational activities such as hiking, trail running, cross country skiing, horseback riding, mountain biking, fishing for trout or bass in one of our stocked ponds, or simply exploring this natural resource. This summer Portland Water District will complete a three-year trail improvement project, which includes signs to mark the network of trails.



Join us to celebrate the new signs, trail map, and user-friendly trails of the Sebago Lake Land Reserve! The Portland Water District will host their first Trail Day the morning of Saturday, September 21st. Guided activities will begin at four different locations, with groups joining together midmorning for snacks provided by the District. Activities will include: a mountain bike ride, horseback ride, nature hike for adults, and family nature hike (designed for families with children ages ten and under). Participants must provide their own equipment/horses. Reservations are required and space is limited. To reserve your spot, contact [sebagolake@pwd.org](mailto:sebagolake@pwd.org) or 774-5961, ext. 3324.



**CAMP O-AT-KA HARVEST DINNER - BENEFIT SUPPER**

Once again, Camp O-At-Ka is hosting a Harvest Dinner to benefit the Sebago Fuel Assistance Fund. This fund is used for folks that "fall between the cracks" and would not normally qualify for fuel assistance. If you'd like a delicious meal and an evening of community spirit, plan on joining us at Camp O-At-Ka on Tuesday, August 27 at 6:00 pm. Tickets will be available at the door at a cost of \$7.00 each.



**We're on the Web!**  
[www.townofsebago.org](http://www.townofsebago.org)  
**Check Us Out!**



**Subscribe to  
 "Sebago  
 Happenings"  
 on-line!**

**MISSION STATEMENT**

*To provide truthful,  
 up-to-date and educational  
 information on how the  
 community works, in order to  
 provide the opportunity for  
 making informed decisions  
 while also enriching the lives  
 of our citizens that want to  
 live here, prosper, and raise  
 their families.*

**TOWN OF SEBAGO, MAINE**

406 Bridgton Rd.  
 Sebago, ME. 04029  
 Phone: 207-787-2457  
 Fax: 207-787-2760

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**CARRIER ROUTE  
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 ECRWSS**



**COMMUNITY CALENDAR**



**REGISTER YOUR DOG AND  
 ENTER TO WIN A PRIZE**

Effective October 21, 2013 we can start to issue 2014 dog licenses. This year to encourage the registration of dogs, a "pet friendly" gift basket and \$50.00 gift certificate will be raffled. Register your dog before January 31st for a chance to win. One entry per registration whether registered at the Town Office or on-line. The basket and gift certificate is going to be donated by Wizard of Paws in Bridgton, Maine.



**BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
 MEETINGS**

(Tuesdays at 6pm)  
 July 2 & 16  
 August 6 & 20  
 September 3 & 17



**PLANNING BOARD  
 MEETINGS**

(Tuesdays at 7pm)  
 July 9  
 August 13  
 September 10



**HISTORY WALK ALONG THE  
 NARROW GAUGE TRAIL**

On August 16th at 9:00 a.m. join us for a walk back in time along the old Narrow Gauge rail bed at the Perley Mills Community Forest, hosted by Loon Echo Land Trust and the Denmark Conservation Commission. Learn about the little trains that chugged their way from Hiram to Harrison at the turn of the last century. Bring your camera, water and proper shoes. This moderate walk will cover 2



miles in approximately 2 hours. Come learn more about this exciting regional project! Meet at the intersection of Hancock Pond and Swamp Roads in Sebago. FMI contact (207) 647-4352.



**HAVE A  
 GREAT  
 SUMMER!**

