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Town of Clinton Community Newsletter



OCTOBER 2015

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Under New Town Management!

Clinton's new Town Manager, Pamela Violette, is no stranger to municipal government—she actually began a career in public service as Town Clerk for the Town of Veazie in 1979. Since that time Pam has continuously held the office of Town Clerk for a total of 36 years serving the Maine towns of Veazie, Eddington and, the last eight years right here in Clinton.

Pam also served as Eddington's Town Manager from 1998 to 2003, so she is well schooled regarding the challenges of managing municipal budgets in an atmosphere of diminishing revenues and inflationary expenses. Pam's previous experience is invaluable in managing the ever changing issues

confronting towns in the 21st century.

Priority one on Pam's agenda is to solve problems NOT to manage problems. The chronic and seasonal problems that constantly frustrate citizens are already on her radar and citizens will soon begin to notice the positive results of consistent management.

Pam practices an "open door" policy and welcomes constructive conversations with citizens that will lead to forming an atmosphere of health and wellbeing for the Town of Clinton.



TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

After five years of service as Deputy Town Clerk Melody Fitzpatrick has been promoted and now serves as Clinton's Town Clerk. Melody and her husband Andrew are lifelong residents of Clinton and she finds it deeply gratifying to serve the towns people—most of whom she has known for years.

The Town Clerk position is an office of oath and is responsible not only to the Town of Clinton but also must meet requirements as an agent of the State of Maine for motor vehicle registration fees and Inland Wildlife licensing fees. Melody's office also plans and supervises all local and state elections, manages voter registration; supervises the issuance of various licenses such as marriage, hunting, fishing and dog licenses and maintains all state and town records for same.

The Town Clerk's office is also responsible to maintain records of births, deaths and marriages and files the documents with the State of Maine's Office of Vital Statistics.

To assist Melody with the day-to-day operation at the Town Office she has appointed two Deputy Town Clerk's. The new faces at the counter are Katina Hubbard, a long time resident of Clinton and, Earla Haggerty of Skowhegan.



**POLLS OPEN
8:00 AM - 8:00 PM**



State Referendum & Special Town Meeting—November 3rd

In addition to the State Referendum scheduled for Tuesday, November 3rd Clinton voters will be asked to vote on a Special Town Meeting Warrant consisting of two articles.

Article 2, which has been recommended by the Planning Board and the Code Enforcement Officer, asks voters to decide if Daycare facilities should be allowed to operate in a commercial zone.

Article 3, which has been recommended by Selectmen, asks vot-

ers to authorize a transfer of funds in the amount of \$79,603 from a Special Revenue account to be used for repair and reconstruction of sidewalks on Main Street and the Village District. **Please plan to vote on November 3rd!**



**Dog License
Available
Thursday,**



October 15th

It's Dog Days in October!!

**Dog licenses are due by
January 31 each year.**

Current rabies certificate needed at registration

Fees are: \$6 for neutered/spayed

\$11 for unaltered dogs

**Effective February 1st, a \$25 late fee will be assessed
(in addition to the current license fee)**

Community Food Drive



The "Feeding America" website currently reports a national statistic of 19% of households with children living with food insecurity. Recently it was reported by Maine Department of Human Services that in Maine one in four children live in a household with food insecurity. Town Clerk Melody Fitzpatrick knows there is no way to be certain what the percentage would be for Clinton households but feels certain there is child hunger in Clinton. Therefore, her goal is to jumpstart the existing Clinton Food Bank inventory by providing townspeople an opportunity to **"Share What You Can"** by bringing a non perishable item with you each time you visit the Town Office. There is a collection box in the lobby for your convenience. **You CAN make a difference in Clinton!**



**Food Bank Hours
2nd & 4th Tuesday
4 pm to 6 pm**

From Clinton Police Dept



Fall is upon us all at once it seems, so we want to remind you there are seasonal hazards that come around every year at this time.

First, it is getting dark earlier so plan accordingly and be aware of people walking or running in the early evening. With the change in temperature and falling leaves there will be spots that become slippery before areas are cleared of debris.

Second, please realize that icy spots are on the way whether we like it or not, Beware!

DEER!! They are out in force! Our officers have not covered many car/deer accidents yet this year, but the deer are beginning to move around more and

they will appear when you least expect them.

Legal Tip: If you encounter one of those deer, remember call 911 and report the accident. Please do not keep going and call us from work or school. Any accident \$1,000.00 and over is reportable. With all of the plastic in the vehicles \$1,000.00 is not much damage.

Speeding!! The CPD has been receiving speeding complaints at a higher than usual rate. The Battle Ridge Road, Mutton Lane and Pleasant Street are the most popular locations for complaints. Please beware - Officers do not want to give you a ticket. It is your responsibility to slow down and be careful, every-

one will be happier in the end.

Facebook: Please be encouraged to "Like" the Clinton Police Department on Facebook to receive updates and pertinent information. You can also message us with information or post a questions anytime. Also you may just get inside information as to where we are doing extra patrol and where we are looking for speeders!

Remember the Clinton Police Department is here to serve you. Call us if you need us. You are not a bother - YOU are the reason we are here!



Fire & EMT Department Grant

In April 2015, Fire Chief Gary Petley requested authorization from Selectmen to purchase a Phillips HeartStart MRx defibrillator in the amount of \$24,925. These funds were made available in 2014 by a grant from the **Steven & Tabitha King Foundation**.

Chief Petley advised that the new unit would become standard equipment in Clinton's EMT Ambulance for use on emergency calls requiring first responders to administer care for cardiac patients. **Another step in keeping Clinton safe!**

Clinton's Employee Safety Committee

Risk Management for the town is not an issue that immediately comes to mind for most citizens but employee safety can quickly become a huge liability for the town if not properly addressed. Early in 2015 Fire Chief Gary Petley was authorized to form a Committee that sets employee safety policy and reviews all 1st reports for Workers Compensation claims.

Having a municipal Safety Committee also opens the door to the Safety Grant Program sponsored by the Maine Municipal Association. In the last few years this grant program has awarded the Fire Department several \$2,000 grants for fire equipment.

The forming of this committee assures citizens and employees that the Town of Clinton is a responsible employer.

Code Enforcement & Plumbing Inspection

For the short term the Town is unable to staff the Code Enforcement Office on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. However, Code Enforcement and plumbing inspection service is still available to Clinton citizens.

If you have a question or need a permit, or an inspection please call the town office at 426-8511. The administrative staff will take your name, address and telephone number and within a short time the Deputy Code Enforcement Officer, Frank Gioffre, will return your call and provide you with timely and accurate service.



From the Fire Department

Fire Safety Checklist for Homeowners and Renters

If there is a fire, you may have less than 3 minutes to get out of your home. Talk about what you should do to be safe. Make sure everyone in your home knows what to do if there is a fire.

Put a check in front of each statement that is true for your home.

Smoke Alarms

- Smoke alarms are on every level of the home.
- Smoke alarms are inside and outside sleeping areas.
- Smoke alarms are tested each month.
- Smoke alarm batteries are changed as needed.
- Smoke alarms are less than 10 years old.



Test your alarm regularly.
Your smoke alarm is working if it makes a noise when you press the "test" button.

Cooking Safety

- The cooking area has no items that can burn.
- People stay in the kitchen when they are frying, grilling, boiling, or broiling food.
- Pot handles are always turned toward the back of the stove.

Escape Plan

- There is a fire escape plan that shows 2 ways out of every room.
- Everyone knows where the safe meeting place is outside the home.
- Everyone living in the house practices the escape plan 2 times a year.

Carbon Monoxide Alarms

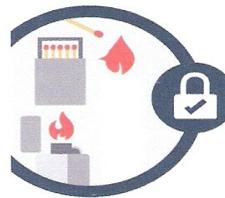
- Carbon monoxide alarms are located on each level of the home.
- Carbon monoxide alarms are less than 7 years old.

Electrical and Appliance Safety

- All electrical cords are in good condition and not broken or cut.
- People clean the dryer of lint after every use.
- All plug outlets are safe and do not feel warm when you touch them. (If they are warm, call the landlord or an electrician.)

Candle Safety

- Candles are in sturdy fire-proof containers that won't be tipped over.
- Adults blow out all candles when leaving the room or going to bed.
- Candles are kept out of reach from children and pets.



Children are sometimes curious about fire.

If you have children in your home, lock up any items that can start a fire (matches, lighters, cigarettes, etc.) and make sure children cannot reach candles.

October - Time to change batteries in fire/smoke detectors

Learn more about fire prevention:
www.usfa.fema.gov

U.S. Fire
Administration



FEMA



NEWS LETTER

One of the goals of Clinton's management team - made up of five Selectmen, the Town Manager and the Town Clerk - is to create a community newsletter with which to inform townspeople of items of interest happening in the process of managing town government and upcoming events that otherwise might go unnoticed. This newsletter will strive to be without bias while providing accurate and timely information thereby becoming a trusted communication tool. Please encourage friends and family to provide the town office with an email address that will allow them to have the Community Newsletter arrive in their inbox in December!

Send all requests to clintontownclerk@roadrunner.com