

**Memo To:** *Lincoln Town Council*  
**From:** *Lisa J. Goodwin, Town Manager*  
**Subject:** *Weekly News*  
**Date:** *February 19, 2010*

**ITEM 1.** Interim Police Chief, Phillip Dawson, is pleased to announce the hiring of patrol officer, Glenn Graef. Officer Graef is a former officer for the Waldo County Sheriff's Office. He has been working as a reserve officer for the Town of Lincoln for several months and is already familiar with our community. Officer Graef lives in Mattawamkeag within the 15 mile residency requirement. His first day as a full time officer will be February 25<sup>th</sup>. Welcome Glenn!

In other department news, nine-year veteran patrol officer, Richard York, has taken a position with the Houlton Police Department and has tendered his resignation as a full time officer effective March 1, 2010. Officer York will remain as a reserve officer until he relocates to the Houlton area. His willingness to serve as a reserve officer will greatly assist the department during the hiring process for his replacement. Officer York has served the community well and we wish him the best of luck with his future career.

**ITEM 2.** The spring ritual of limiting heavy loads on our municipal roads has begun. Due to unseasonably warm weather Public Works Director, David Lloyd has posted many of the town maintained roads this week. Each spring a limit on heavy loads is instituted to prevent damage to the road when the roads are at their weakest state. Mr. Lloyd reports that each year the Town's cost for asphalt, gravel, fuel and culverts increases so it is imperative that we try to keep the roads in as good as shape as possible for as long as possible. This is the earliest that Mr. Lloyd can remember posting the roads but with the temperature reaching close to 40 degrees he has no other choice. The following roads have been posted as of February 18, 2010:

- Mohawk Road
- Station Road
- White Point Estates Road
- Frost Street
- Town Farm Road
- Sweet Road
- Bagley Mountain Road
- Curtis Farm Road
- Phinney Farm Road
- Stanhope Mill Road
- Half Township Road
- Folsom Pond Road
- Center Pond Road

Residents can find out what state roads have been posted in the Lincoln area by visiting the Maine DOT website at <http://www.maine.gov/mdot/postedroads/q&a.htm>.

**ITEM 3.** The Lincoln Recreation Department's 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Basketball Tournament will be held February 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>. A copy of the tournament program is enclosed in each of the Council packets. This tournament is a fundraiser for the Community Recreational Center. Recreation Director, Ron Weatherbee, reports that this week he received an anonymous donation of a homemade quilt to be raffled off at the tournament! This lovely quilt will be on display at the games with tickets being sold both days. The drawing will take place at half time of the last game of the tournament on Sunday. Donations like this are always appreciated! Thank you to the anonymous donor; a lot of time and energy went into this beautiful quilt!

**ITEM 4.** The Lincoln Memorial Library's interlibrary loan (ILL) service has seen a big increase so far this year. In January 2009 there were 25 books borrowed. In January 2010 there were 46 books borrowed and three of our books were sent to other libraries throughout the state. In February 2009 patrons borrowed 34 books through the program, and as of February 18, 2010 patrons have exceeded that number.

The interlibrary loan program allows residents to borrow books from other libraries which are not in our collection. The best part of the service is that it is free! Each week the interlibrary loan van delivers a full tote of material our patrons have requested. Library Director, Linda Morrill, said as part of her cross-training program, staff members have been working together teaching and learning new job skills. Shandi Daigle, the interlibrary loan clerk, has been working with Mary Jo Hammond teaching her the process. During this time share they have worked on ways to improve the ILL system and to provide even better service to patrons. One change is that the ILLs are processed daily. As a result, patrons are receiving material in a timelier manner and the interlibrary loan request numbers are increasing weekly. Mrs. Morrill said, *"If we do not have it, we will get it for you!"*

**ITEM 5.** *Who is Birdie Googins?* Most people would recognize her as "The Marden's Lady"! This week Birdie Googins confirmed that she would be attending the 2010 Lincoln Homecoming Festival to provide entertainment on Friday night. Community Events Coordinator, Shelly Crosby, said that the negotiation process began in mid January as a plan B when it was doubtful that Comedian Bob Marley would be able to attend. Mrs. Crosby said, *"Birdie Googins is by far a genuine class act with a lot of quirky humor mixed in. The committee members had brain stormed for a plan B and one name resounded among all, that of the Marden's Lady. When I called and checked her references, I was further convinced that we couldn't go wrong extending the invitation. Her shows are usually sold out and she is in demand around New England!"* The show which is suitable for all ages is scheduled for Friday, July 16<sup>th</sup>. The night will start off with the *"Wild Woods Band"* playing at 6:00 PM while attendees take their seats. Birdie will take the stage at 7:30 PM. As Birdie has said *"It will be a hoot!"* Tickets are just \$10.00 and will go on sale at the town office as well as the Lincoln Federal Credit Union on April 1<sup>st</sup>. Harold Higgins, manager of the Lincoln Marden's commented when learning of the news; *"Her shows are very entertaining and everyone who has seen her has loved it! AWESOME!"*

Mrs. Crosby reports that the next Homecoming meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> at 5:30 PM. The committee will be working on the theme for the grand parade. If you have an idea for the theme, contact Mrs. Crosby at 794-6548 or by email at [promotion@lincolnmaine.org](mailto:promotion@lincolnmaine.org). Mrs. Crosby anticipates having a draft Homecoming schedule available on the town's website next week!

**ITEM 6.** With no snow in the forecast the crew at the Public Works Department has been busy performing some much needed preventive maintenance. The trackless MT sidewalk plow needed to have new center pins and new bushings installed this week. This required the crew to disassemble the machine into two pieces. Public Works Director, David Lloyd, reports that the crew did a fantastic job taking the tractor apart. They needed to borrow a pair of Hillti rollers and a porta-press to be able to move the rear on the machine away after disconnecting all the hoses, cables and wires. This needed to be completed first in order to get to the area where the new bushings would be installed. The crew was able to complete this task in only one day and was able to drive the machine out of the shop that afternoon before going home. Mr. Lloyd said, *"Having the crew perform this type of repair is priceless for this time of year. We were looking at having to do this in the spring which might have been more costly because it might have required the machine to be line bored by then."* Good job guys!

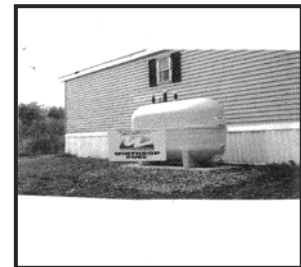
**ITEM 7.** Are you interested in the Water Stewards Program or erosion control around the lakes? If so, plan to attend the Upper Cold Stream Ponds Lake Association meeting on February 25, 2010, at 6:30 PM at Mattanawcook Academy. Code Enforcement Officer, Jerry Davis, will be the guest speaker and will discuss the importance of erosion control and maintaining lakeside buffers. Mr. Davis is pleased with the efforts being made by local lake and road associations to identify threats to water quality in Lincoln. Mr. Davis will also be providing information on the water stewards program that will be offered in cooperation with the University of Maine later this spring.

**ITEM 8.** Quick investigative work by Patrol Officers Patricia McLaughlin and Richard York resulted in clearing a camp burglary just five hours after receiving the report. Officer McLaughlin, with the assistance of Officer York, recovered the property and had two suspects on their way to jail in a very short period of time! A pickup truck load of thousands of dollars worth of property was recovered. Some of the larger items included a flat panel TV, a Blue Ray DVD player, and two large telescopes. During the investigation, Officer McLaughlin was also able to clear four other burglaries that had not yet been reported and likely would not have been until the spring, two of which were in the Town of Burlington. As a result 14 summonses were issued to the two individuals with several of these being felony charges. Interim Police Chief, Phillip Dawson, said *"I commend Officer McLaughlin for the excellent investigation as well as Officer York's assistance in the successful recovery of stolen items."*

**ITEM 9.** Municipal vehicle registrations are done every 10 years rather than on a yearly basis. This week Tax Collector, Tracie York, has been working on the last phase of re-registering the 80<sup>+</sup> municipal plates in Lincoln. These registrations include vehicles owned by the town, school department, water district and sanitary district. Mrs. York said that because these are done so infrequently, there were a lot of changes to be made to the list that the Bureau

of Motor Vehicles supplied to the town. Mrs. York had to verify the plate #'s and vehicle information first in March of 2009 and then again in November 2009. This involved contacting the school department, water district and sanitary district. This final process that is occurring now is the actual printing of the registrations that will expire in February of 2020. Before she can process the registrations, she must obtain the current mileage and insurance cards from the various entities. Mrs. York said, *"Everyone has been so helpful with getting me their information!"* She has completed the registrations for the water district, sanitary district and RSU No. 67 with plans to complete Region III and the Town of Lincoln vehicles next week.

**ITEM 10.** There are new requirements for the installation of new and replacement oil tanks in the Aquifer Protection Zone. State law now requires that new and replacement oil tanks in the Aquifer Protection zones must be double wall home heating oil tanks. A picture of a double wall oil tank is shown in the picture to the right. The double wall provides added protection for spills and leaks that could potentially contaminate the public water supply.

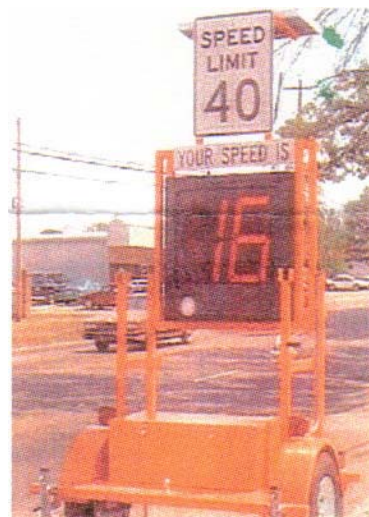


It will be the responsibility of the Code Enforcement Department to enforce this new law. Code Enforcement Officer, Jerry Davis, plans to send a mailing out to heating contractors in Lincoln to ensure that they are aware of this new law change.

**ITEM 11.** Town Clerk, Diana Hill, reports that the town office is seeing a spike in passport processing. With a week remaining in the month, there have already been 55 applications processed. The first week of the month there were 8 applications processed which is an average for a week. Last week, the clerks processed 22 passport applications and by 3:00 PM today an additional 25 passport applications were processed! In January 2010 a total of 70 passports were processed. In comparison, there were 47 passport applications processed in each of January and February 2009. This is good news for our revenue. For each passport application processed, the town receives \$25. The Fiscal Year 2010 revenue budget estimate of passport revenue was \$2,500. With the volume of applications being much higher this year than in years past, the town has already received \$8,800 in revenue with four months remaining in the fiscal year!

**ITEM 12.** School vacation weeks can result in increased activity at the library. Library Director, Linda Morrill, said that her staff planned daily events to encourage parents and children to visit the library during February vacation. Mrs. Morrill reports that the number of participants has been lower than anticipated however, new families have visited the library this week and signed up for library cards. On Tuesday seven children participated in the arts and crafts program and 14 children participated in the Lego Club on Wednesday. Mrs. Morrill said not all of the regular participants were there this week but some new faces joined in. One girl stated she was going to try to come on Wednesday afternoons since it was a lot of fun creating Legos with friends. Mrs. Morrill said the first three days of this week there were 136 patrons/visitors who used the public access computers and fifteen visitors used the Library's wireless connection. One of our juvenile patrons visited Mrs. Morrill to say thank you for having programs at the library this week, otherwise, she would not have had anything to do during vacation week." She stated *"I love the library-I am never bored"*.

**ITEM 13.** You may recall seeing a radar trailer like the one in this picture set up in various municipalities around the state. In January I applied to the Maine DOT's Western Region 4 Lottery for an opportunity to utilize the trailer. The MDOT loans the trailer to municipalities to promote speed awareness. Due to the popularity of the program, a lottery selection is used. A total of 17 communities from each region are selected and the trailer is loaned from March 29<sup>th</sup> through November 19<sup>th</sup>. I received notice today that the Town of Lincoln has been selected as one of the communities to participate in this year's program. Lincoln will be loaned the trailer for two weeks beginning June 21<sup>st</sup>. The Police Chief will determine the location(s) of the trailer based on areas where complaints of speeding traffic are high.



**ITEM 14.** The weekly street light report is included in the Council packet.

**ITEM 15.** Have a great weekend!