

# *Frye Island News Service*

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VOLUME 2006, ISSUE 23

SEPTEMBER 29, 2006

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# ***Important Information***

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## ***Town of Frye Island***

1 Sunset Road  
Frye Island, ME 04071  
Phone: 207-655-4551  
Fax: 207-655-3422  
Email: [office@fryeisland.com](mailto:office@fryeisland.com)  
Web site: [www.fryeisland.com](http://www.fryeisland.com)  
Town Manager: Wayne Fournier

### ***Office Hours***

Tuesday thru Saturday: 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM  
Sunday & Monday: Closed

### ***Code Enforcement Officer (Paul White)***

Tuesday thru Fridays 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM.

## ***Fire, Medical, or Police Emergencies – Call 911***

### ***Non-emergencies***

Frye Island Police: 207-655-2600  
Email: [wilgetm@maine.rr.com](mailto:wilgetm@maine.rr.com)  
Fire Department: 207-655-8618

### ***A Note from the Office***

Please make sure we have your current e-mail address (before the island closes) so that you may receive any important correspondence as well as the winter newsletter.

Also, before the island closes, you may want to check the mail in our post office. There appears to be a large volume of unclaimed mail in the alphabetical slots.

## ***Frye Island News Service***

Editor: Lisa Kerrigan  
Email: [lkerrigan@fryeisland.com](mailto:lkerrigan@fryeisland.com)  
Submission deadline:  
Wednesday, 3:00 PM - **No Exceptions**

### ***Transfer Station***

#### ***Post Season Operating Hours***

Saturday: 10:00AM – 3:00PM

Sunday: 12 Noon – 5:00PM

Holiday weekends: Closed Sundays, open Mondays

During low season the Transfer Station can be open on closed days by appointment only, between 8am to 3pm.

To set up a Transfer Station opening please call the Public Works Garage at 655-7493 or the office at 655-4551 (**please try to call the day before**)

Thank you, Your Public Works Department

### ***Attention All Property Owners***

As we quickly approach the end of our season here on the Island, this reminder goes out to all while closing up your properties for the season – **be sure to disconnect your waterline** from the Town System **and leave it disconnected** to avoid getting water in your piping when lines are abandoned.

### ***Ferry Web Cam***

The Ferry Web Cam is now available on our website. Go to About Frye Island, Ferry Web Cam, select either Mainland Landing or Island Landing, user name: user, password: user



# Town News

## Island Manager's Comments

Greetings Everyone,

**Ferry:** For most of the summer I have been attempting to keep you informed of the financial status of the ferry operation. I would like to share with you the latest in this attempt and I apologize for the length of it. I hope I don't bore you. Before getting into the numbers however, I would like to review a little bit of recent history. In 2004, we increased the cost for contractors to travel to the island quite significantly. In 2005 the real estate market slowed, and in 2006 came to a virtual standstill. In addition, the price of gasoline increased dramatically in 2006. In 2005 and 2006 we also experienced very wet and rainy springs. All of these factors contributed to a decrease in traffic to the island by contractors, renters and property owners. The following table will give you an indication of ticket sales for the last 3 years:

Type	2004	2005	2006 (YTD-09/26)	2006 Projections
Discount Tickets	22,580	18,642	15,787	17,478
Non-Discount Tickets	11,182	13,514	8,332	9,078

As you may recall, my projections through May and June indicated that by the end of the season, the revenues would fall short of the expenses by as much as \$25,000. On July 2nd we had a special Board of Island Trustees meeting to add a surcharge of \$4.00 to the price of the ferry ticket, (\$2.00 to discount tickets). Without this increase we would have had to reduce the ferry scheduled significantly to reduce the expenses. We made some cuts in expenses at the beginning of the season, primarily in the support staff and less in the ferry schedule. In September of this year, we made additional cuts by eliminating the weekly second ferry. The two tables below show the total ferry revenues through September 26, 2005 and 2006 respectively.

### 2005

Discount Tickets	Non-discount Tickets	Other	Total Sales
\$165,091	\$224,440	\$8990	\$398,521

This 2006 table includes \$45,599 in surcharge fees.

### 2006

Discount Tickets	Non-Discount Tickets	Other	Total Sales
180,500	\$204,388	\$9,812	\$394,700

You can see that even with the surcharge, the total revenue through September 22<sup>nd</sup> is less than the previous year. Over the years there has been a lot of discussion and some effort to reduce the traffic on the ferry and the island roads. One of the consequences of accomplishing this is the reduction in revenues needed to operate the ferry service.

After taking out the required contributions to the reserves and with the surcharge included, I am projecting that we will have approximately \$336,000 for operations to cover expenses projected to be \$322,000 at the end of the season. Assuming these estimates are accurate and we don't have any serious problems that we haven't anticipated, we should realize a surplus of about \$14,000 by the end of the season. This surplus will be placed in an operating reserve to cover unexpected expense for the ferry service in the future.

I have now prepared an operating budget of \$327,000 for next year's ferry operation which is slightly greater than this year. In order to keep the cost to a minimum, I eliminated the second ferry during the week in both the pre-season and the post-season.

In addition, I calculated the revenue to pay these expenses assuming the ticket sales will be the same as this year. I realize that the ticket sales have decreased over the last couple of years but I would hope that this downward trend has bottomed out. I also assumed that the ticket price and discount ticket price would remain at \$24.00 and \$12.00 respectively.

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Now it is your turn to decide what you want for ferry service next year. On Saturday October 7<sup>th</sup>, you will get an opportunity to vote on the selling price of a ferry ticket. Following that vote, in the weeks following your decision, I will establish an operating schedule based on the anticipated revenue. Please take time from your busy schedule to attend the meeting and express your opinion by voting accordingly.

On another related note, I have heard some discussion about the “free ferry rides” provided to select people and/ or operations.

At first glance instituting a new policy of **No Free Rides / No Free Tickets** sounds like a way for Islanders to sell more ferry tickets and save a lot of money. But that is not what would actually happen under such a policy. The unintended consequences would likely not be desirable.

Frye Island needs a store and a restaurant. Compared to a typical store/restaurant, two factors adversely affect the profitability of operating a store/restaurant on Frye Island— only 6 months of operation (of which only two are really busy) and additional shipping costs attributable to the ferry. Because of these factors, terms favorable to the tenant must be put into the Lease in order to attract someone to operate our store/restaurant. Thus, the terms of the Lease call for the Town to provide free ferry service to the store/restaurant. The cost of operating the ferry does not change if the store uses ferry tickets for their ferry rides. Yes, the ferry system would collect more revenue, but it would come not from the store, but from the Town. This happens because the store/restaurant has a binding Lease from the Town, which is its Landlord, and that Lease dictates the store/restaurant shall have free ferry transport. Under a **No Free Rides / No Free Tickets** policy, the Town would have to provide ferry transportation (that is, the tickets or the dollars) used by the store. In effect, the Town would have to buy ferry tickets from the ferry system. So, the Town then must increase its budget to pay the ferry system. When that happens, property taxes go up.

Frye Island needs employees, and must compete with other employers in order to attract them. So if the ferry system does not provide free rides, then the Town would have to pay for the ferry transportation (in tickets purchased from the ferry system or in dollars paid to the employees). Remember, our employees don't have to work on an Island; they could work on the mainland, where they would not have to take a ferry to get to work. Providing free ferry rides to work is not a **BENEFIT** for the employee, rather it is a **NECESSITY** for the employer in our case to be competitive with other employers. In short, if we institute a **No Free Ride / No Free Tickets** policy, the Town must increase its budget to pay the ferry system for employee travel because, in

effect, the Town would be buying ferry tickets from the Ferry system. When that happens, property taxes go up. Frye Island needs ferry workers, and these have been in short supply. When the ferry system cuts a deal with some ferry workers to pay them in ferry tickets, the ferry system pays for the tickets. But, providing those ferry tickets as compensation doesn't cost the ferry system as much as the wage dollars would. This is true because there is often excess capacity on any given ferry taking such workers to the Island; hence, the ferry worker's travel adds no additional expense to the operation of the ferry. Put another way, if there would be an empty space on the ferry run any way, letting a ferry worker (or any Town employee or store delivery truck for that matter) travel for free costs the ferry system next to nothing. To pay a worker “next to nothing” to work a shift on a ferry boat sounds like a very good deal for Islanders. Under a **No Free Rides / No Free Tickets** policy, the ferry system would not have as good a deal.

Frye Island needs volunteers. We are highly dependent on our volunteer system to keep the Town functioning at a high level and at a minimal expense. The practice of giving free (complimentary) ferry tickets to key Board/Committee Members attending certain Meetings was begun some years ago by the Municipal Services Corporation AFTER authorization by MSC voters. A small token of gratitude is appropriate for us Islanders to offer those who give up time one, two, or more days (usually on weekends) a month throughout the season in order to assist the Town. To the extent that there is excess capacity on any given ferry taking a Town volunteer using a complementary ticket to the Island, the volunteer's travel adds no additional expense to the operation of the ferry. Put another way, if there would be an empty space on the ferry run any way, letting a volunteer travel for free costs nothing. Thus, complimentary tickets are “thank you” notes that cost us Islanders very little to send.

Frye Island needs co-operation. Inter-departmental co-operation is the rule, not the exception on Frye Island. It would be divisive, administratively a nightmare, and contrary to the basic philosophy of Frye Island to eliminate the good will and cooperation that currently exist on Frye Island. As examples, consider the following for which no payments are extracted: Department of Public Works' equipment is used to do repairs on the ferry landing and haul-out. The ferry transports Public Works trucks to the Island. The Golf Department, which has mowing equipment, maintains the ball-field for the Department of Public Works Police use the Ferry Dock for police watercraft and provide for the safety of all departments. Similarly, fire services are provided to all departments, as well as the community at large. By instituting a **No Free Rides / No Free Tickets** policy, we risk starting an avalanche of divisive

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departmentalism that is contrary to what makes this Island unique in all our lives.

Bottom line is this. Instituting a **No Free Rides / No Free Tickets** policy does not help us accomplish our goals. It would bring more revenue into the ferry system, but most of that revenue would have been paid by the Town, and as a result property taxes would go up.

**Water Level:** The SAPPI paper mill, (formally S.D. Warren) in Westbrook has the operating license for the Eel Weir Dam at the outlet of Sebago Lake. This license requires them to maintain the lake level within the guide lines set forth in the license. This license also requires them to lower the lake level below an elevation of 261 feet at least two years in every nine years. I just learned last week that one of those years is now.

The lake level has been going down to the tune of 17 ½ inches since August 1<sup>st</sup>. I was told by Tom Howard, from SAPPI, that on October 1<sup>st</sup> they would increase this rate and by the end of October the lake level would be down to 261.5 feet and then below 261 by the end of November.

I printed the lake level chart that is displayed on our website and extrapolated the chart through October to estimate when the lake would be at what level. I also talked to the design engineer to see at what lake level we should be concerned. He indicated that 262.3 feet was the safe operating limit for larger vehicles which would include emergency vehicles. Based on my extrapolated chart we will reach 262 feet on the weekend of October 21<sup>st</sup>. I will discuss this with the Board this weekend and try to determine what our course of action will be.

Therefore, I will be making arrangements to have the docks removed from the Marina on that weekend. If you have a boat at the marina please have it out by then. Remember, Frye Island is not the only place that will be affected. If you have other business around the lake, you had better consider how the lake level might impact that business as well.

I will do my best to keep everyone informed.

**Taxes:** We sent out the 30 day notices to all delinquent tax payers last week. The next step is to place a lien on the property. These liens will be recorded at the Cumberland County registry on October 13<sup>th</sup> for all properties that are not paid by then. If you got a notice, please pay the taxes promptly to avoid the lien / foreclosure process.

**Elections:** The Town Meeting is coming up on October 7<sup>th</sup> and with it, we will be holding municipal elections for one selectman and one member of the Board of Island Trustees Executive Committee. If you are interested in running for either of these offices please let us know in the office so that we can have you complete the volunteer form and publish it in the FINS.

**Cameras:** If you haven't noticed, we have 2 cameras set up showing the ferry terminals on the mainland and the island. You can access these cameras at our website. To log-in, the user is "user" and the password is "user". We can only support 20 users at a time so if you go on to check the traffic, please log-off when you are done to allow others to use the service.

Have a safe week!

Wayne

## ***Interested Candidate for Board of Island Trustees Executive Committee***

Robert Miner Lot 60

Homeowner on Frye Island since 1996. Retired from United Parcel Service after 25 years in management. Married to Margaret Miner. We have two grown children. We spend our summers on Frye Island and winters in Port St. Lucie, FL.

I now have the time to become more involved with the concerns facing Frye Island. When we bought in 1996 the main issue was becoming a town. Now we face growth problems – specifically the ferry and water system. I would like to be involved with the solutions to these and other issues we face.

## ***Interested Candidate for Selectman***

John Nun Lot 269

Currently work full-time Nov – Apr as a Systems Engineering Consultant to the Army and spend May – Oct on Frye Island on-call to the Army. Purchased on Frye Island in 1991, started spending full summers about 4-5 years ago. Served the F.I. Volunteer Fire Department until 2004. Supported F.I. Planning Board development of the Town Comprehensive Plan. Served as Selectman over the past year. Also occasionally do some volunteer work while on the Island.

Mimi and I have owned here since 1991 and I have been spending the entire season for the past 4-5 years. We love this place and the fine people with whom we have become great friends. We have been involved with island function since it became a town to include the fire department, the golf club, the Planning Board and, most recently, as Selectman the past year. I feel that I can make a solid contribution to the town as it grows by continuing in that position.

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**Board of Selectmen / Executive  
Committee Meeting**

Meeting Notice

Saturday, September 30, 2006 at 9:00 A.M.

Community Center

Budget Workshop

Open to the Public

**Annual Town Meeting**

Saturday, October 7, 2006 at 9:00 A.M.

Community Center

Please note that, although the meeting begins at 9:00, registration starts at **8:15 AM**. Please **don't wait** until the last minute to register so we can start the meeting on time.

**Zoning Board of Appeals**

Notice of Public Hearing to Property Owner and Abutters

Friday, October 6, 2006 at 7:00 P.M.

Community Center

Notice of this hearing is required for abutting lot owners within 250'.

**AGENDA:**

Variance request for Lot 1737 Paul and Lorraine Lyons – a reduction of the sideline setback of 2.5 feet. The required setback is 15'.

Variance request for Lot 242 Stephanie and Lewis Stone – a reduction of the front setback of 35 feet. The required setback is 100'.

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**Frye's Leap General Store & Café**

ONE SUNSET ROAD

FRYE ISLAND, MAINE

207-655-4256

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Frye's Leap General Store will be open for the following schedule  
Frye's Leap Café is closed

**Post Labor Day Store Hours**



Sunday	8AM - 6PM
Monday	8:30AM - 2PM
Tuesday	8:30AM - 2PM
Wednesday	Closed
Thursday	8:30AM - 2PM
Friday	8:30AM - 9PM
Saturday	8:00AM - 9PM



# Leisure Lounge

Fairway Lane (next to the golf pro shop)

655-3551

Air Conditioned

Open to the Public

## Hours:

Sunday - Thursday: 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Friday & Saturday: 9:00 AM – Midnight



Enjoy satellite reception on our 42" plasma TV.

## Full Bar

Beer, Wine, Mixed Drinks

\$3.00 Root Beer Floats

Complimentary Coffee

## Snacks

\$5.00 Pizza

\$1.00 Hot Dogs



## Christmas in October

Sunday, October 8<sup>th</sup>

Roast Pork Dinner

\$15.00 Per Person

Cocktails @ 5:00 pm

Dinner @ 6:00 pm

Following dinner there will be a Yankee Gift Swap. Bring a wrapped gift (\$10.00); tag it male, female, or unisex.

Reservations taken at the clubhouse, space is limited.





# Ferry News

655-4258

## ***This Week's Ferry Schedule***

	<b>First Ferry</b>	<b>Second Ferry</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	7 AM - 11 PM	
<b>Sunday</b>	7 AM - 9 PM	12 PM-8 PM
<b>Monday</b>	7 AM - 7 PM	
<b>Tuesday</b>	7 AM - 9 PM	
<b>Wednesday</b>	7 AM - 7 PM	
<b>Thursday</b>	7 AM - 11 PM	
<b>Friday</b>	7 AM - 12 Mid	2 PM - 8 PM

## ***Ferry Schedule***

The ferry schedule has reverted to the post-season schedule with changes to the second boat. Please make sure that you review this schedule to avoid any difficulties.



# Fire Department

Fire Barn: 207-655-8618

## ***CALLS FOR THE PAST WEEK***

FIFD had no medical or fire calls this week.



## ***Annual Barn Dance***

**Saturday, October 7, 6:00 PM**

### **Fire Barn**

A Thank You To All Frye Islanders For Support Of The Frye Island Volunteer Fire Department

Pot Luck Supper Beginning At 6 PM

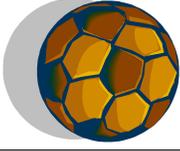
Dancing 8 - 10 PM

Square Dances, Round Dances, Line Dances

All called by Ray Hilton

Bring A Dish To Share & Your Favorite Beverage (Hot & Cold Cider and Cake will be provided by FIFD.) (Ice Cream will be donated by the Frye's Leap General Store & Café.)

YA'LL COME!!



# Activities & Recreation

Recreation Chairperson: Andrea Sansonetti

## Garden Club

Thanks to the following volunteers, the Community Center gardens and the ferry landing are now ship-shape! Thanks to Bob and Barbara Hannah, Elaine Vande Hei, Judy Comley, Kathy and Joe Potts, Terry Schmidt, Lori Wrzesinsky, and Nancy Perry.

There will be a brief business meeting on Saturday, October 7, in the library at 1:00.

## Frye Island Chapel

Established 1988

Weekly Non-Denominational Services are held every Sunday morning at the Community Center from 9:00 to 9:30AM. All are welcome. Dress is casual.

Services: May 28th thru October 8th, 2006

**Chaplains:** Rev. Richard Peterson, Ph.D.  
Rev. A. Theodore Ekholm

## ANNUAL HALLOWEEN PARTY FOR CHILDREN

Sunday, October 8, 2006  
2-4 p.m.

Community Center



The Recreation Commission will again be sponsoring a Halloween costume party for children on Sunday, October 8, in the Community Center. There will be treats for all, activities for the children and prizes for costumes. Plan now!

## Lost

Digital camera lost at the Marina area. If found please call Phil Spring 655-5027. Reward

## Labor Day Tennis Tournament Results

September 3rd: Flooded out – rescheduled for Saturday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>  
September 23rd: Rained out – rescheduled for Sunday, September 24th.

September 24th: Early showers cast some doubts on whether we would be able to play or not. Tournament players became groundskeepers with their own brooms, brushes, squeegees, and towels; they provided courts that were playable.



Light shower mists became a nuisance but did not halt the tournament players from playing the five set each matches. When we finished the sky was blue and the hot dogs, cookies and sodas were great.

Then, when we arrived home to our cottages the sky turned ugly and a downpour occurred but, we had won – we finished our tennis tournament in style and had a terrific time doing it!

The winners:

“Phil Perry and Steve Comley”

P.S. Many thanks to Maura Bullock for her help in cooking and serving the refreshments.



# Frye Island Golf Club

655-3551

Open to the Public

Fairway Lane

## Hours

Sunday - Thursday: 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM  
Friday - Saturday: 9:00 AM - Dusk  
(Weather permitting)

## Greens Fees

Weekday: \$18.00  
Weekend and Holidays: \$30.00  
Twilight (after 5 PM): \$13.00  
Weekday Youth (16 and under): \$10.00  
3-day weekday pass: \$45.00  
Week-long unlimited golf pass: \$100.00

## Cart Rentals

**Gas Cart:**  
9 Holes: \$16.00  
18 Holes: \$26.00  
**Pull Cart:**  
9 or 18 Holes: \$4.00  
**Club Rentals: \$12.00**

## Reminder:

All pro shop credits must be used before the end of the season, they are not carried over.

## Pro Shop

We have an assortment of golf balls, gloves, putters, hats, jackets, and shirts. If there is something you need and we don't have it in stock, we will try and order it.

## Tentative Tournament Schedule for 2006

September 30                      Shoot Out  
October 8                              October's Best

## Shoot Out Golf Tournament



Saturday, September 30<sup>th</sup> @ 1:00 pm  
9 Hole Elimination  
\$10.00 entry fee + any applicable green fees  
Sign up at the golf club

## October's Best Golf Tournament



Sunday, October 8<sup>th</sup> @ 1:00 pm  
18 Hole Mixed Scramble  
\$10.00 entry fee + any applicable green fees  
Sign up at the golf club

## Sunday Morning Scramble

Every Sunday morning, tee off at 9:00; sign up starting at 8:30.

### Sunday, September 24<sup>th</sup> Scramble Results

First Place Team- (-3) \$15.00 each:

Greg Tedford  
Mark Thomas  
Mike Mazzola  
Laura Davis

Closest to the Pin \$12.00:

Greg Tedford

## Thank you

Thank you Vic Solimini for your generous donation of a new refrigerator for the clubhouse, it is greatly appreciated.

# September 2006

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
24 9:00a Chapel Work Day @ Golf Course	25	26	27 9:00a Garden Club Work Day	28	29	30 9:00a BOS/EC Mtg @ CC Shoot Out (Golf)

# October 2006

1 9:00a Chapel	2	3	4	5	6 Zoning Board of Appeals 7:00p @ CC	7 8:15a Registration 9:00a Annual Town Meeting @ CC  1:00p Garden Club Board Meeting @ CC  6:00p Square Dance @ Fire Barn
8 9:00a Chapel October's Best (Golf) 2:00p Halloween Party @ CC 5:00p Roast Pork Dinner-Christmas in October @ Leisure Lounge	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

# Frye Island Winter Watch

Ken Thurston  
 413 Bean Road  
 Otisfield, ME 04270  
 ken\_tina@hughes.net  
 207-539-8870 h  
 207-515-2362 c



Extra Pay-Per-Job Services-

**\$25 A MONTH GIVES YOU-**

Dated Digital Photos

Peace of Mind

Insurance Assurance

Prompt notification of anything out of the ordinary

Sign on for 1-12 months  
 Summer services also available



Roof Shoveling

Fall / Spring Yard Clean-up

Discount on Fall / Spring Opening and Closing with winter watch sign up.  
 Contact Paul Kimball @ 207 539 4050; mention this form.

House Maintenance and Repair

Small Kubota with bucket and backhoe for light excavation

House Painting

Other Jobs Odd and Small

Cut here. Keep top portion. Submit bottom portion.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Island Address \_\_\_\_\_

Winter Address \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Winter Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Island Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Circle Months- Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun July Aug Sept Nov Dec

