

TOWN OF NEWCASTLE 271st ANNUAL REPORT



July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023

Front Cover

The Newcastle train station was likely built around 1871. The first train arrived on July 17, 1871, according to Harold Castner in a *Lincoln County News* article: *A Brief History Together With Pictures of The Knox & Lincoln Railroad* (April 9, 1959). Passenger train travel was quite popular for the next 60-70 years and many Lincoln Academy senior classes traveled to Boston and Washington, D.C. from the Newcastle train station. President Franklin Roosevelt, aboard his presidential train, passed a waving crowd in Newcastle on August 16, 1941 on his way back from a secret meeting with Winston Churchill in Newfoundland just before the US entered WWII. As the automobile took over, train ridership fell off and the last passenger train left Newcastle on April 4, 1959.

**Photo credit: Newcastle Historical Society
Dinsmore-Flye Collection**

2023 ANNUAL REPORT of the Town of NEWCASTLE, MAINE

July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022 Financial Reports
June 2023 Annual Town Meeting Warrant



Town Office Hours:

Monday - Thursday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Friday 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Telephone: 563-3441; Fax: 563-6995

Board of Selectmen regularly meet the second and fourth Mondays at 6 p.m. at the community room at the Huntley Fire Station on River Road. The meetings are live stream broadcast via the Town's YouTube channel.

www.newcastlemaine.us

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Dedication



Rem Briggs

This year we recognize Rem Briggs for the dedication of this Annual Report. Rem is an exemplary Newcastle resident, a champion of volunteerism for our town as well as our greater community.

Rem moved to Newcastle in 2006 with his wife Taylor after he retired as a high school English teacher. He has spent his time since then as a very busy volunteer. Some of these roles include serving on the Newcastle Planning Board, as a member of the Newcastle Local Planning Committee and on the Comprehensive Plan Revision Committee and that is just to name a few of his devotions to our town. More broadly, Rem has been a dedicated volunteer to the Skidompha Library where he has served on the Board of Directors.

These days Rem spends his time working at the Skidompha Secondhand Bookstore, he has been a volunteer for Meals on Wheels from 2007 through 2016.

Beyond volunteering Rem's passions are his family of five children, two of whom live in Maine, and six grandchildren. Rem loves the craft of woodworking, building boats and spending time on the seas and local waters as a boatsman, a true sailor at heart. He has a passion for the outdoors which led him to hike the Appalachian Trail from bottom to top.

We greatly appreciate all that Rem has done and keeps on doing for our town and community.

We Thank-You!

Directory of Municipal Officials

Selectmen and Tax Assessors

	<u>Term Expires</u>
Joel Lind, Chair, Board of Selectmen & Assessors	2024
Rob Nelson, Vice Chair, Board of Selectmen & Assessors	2023
Tor Glendinning, Member, Board of Selectmen & Assessors	2023
Karen Paz, Vice Chair, Board of Selectmen & Assessors	2024
Thomas Kostenbader, Board of Selectmen & Assessors	2025

Municipal Officials

Town Manager / Treasurer:	Sarah Macy
Town Clerk / Registrar /	
Deputy Tax Collector/ Deputy Treasurer:	Jodee Kelley
Deputy Clerk, Deputy Tax Collector,	
Deputy Registrar, Deputy Treasurer,	
BMV Agent, CEO Asst.:	Shelly Clifford
Animal Control Officer:	Lincoln Co. Sheriff's Office
Assessor's Agent:	James Murphy, Jr.
CLC Ambulance Director:	Ellen McFarland
Code Enforcement Officer /	
Local Plumbing Inspector:	George Chase
Emergency Management Director:	James Kaler, Jr.
Fire Chief / Fire Warden (Interim):	Casey Stevens
Assistant Fire Chief:	James Bryant
Deputy Fire Warden:	Robert Hatch
General Assistance Administrator:	Sarah Macy
Harbor Master:	Eric Peters
Health Officer:	John M. Dickens, MD
Road Commissioner:	Seth Hagar
Shellfish Warden:	Lincoln Co. Sheriff's Office

Town Boards and Committees

Appeals Board:

Lydia Crafts	2024
Greg Gerbi	2024
Merle Parise	2025
Leonardo M DeAzevedo	
Roger Wilcox	
Vacant	

Damariscotta-Newcastle Harbor Committee:

David Lawrence	Newcastle Representative
Gisela Heimsath-Rhodes	Newcastle Representative
Charles "Chip" Holmes	Newcastle Representative
Eric Peters	Harbor Master
Bernie Delisle	Deputy Harbor Master
Michael Herz (Chair)	Damariscotta Representative
Steven Hufnagel	Damariscotta Representative

Damariscotta-Newcastle Shellfish Committee:

Ryan Fraser, Chairman	Damariscotta
Robert Wallace, Vice-Chair	Damariscotta
Blake Hay, Member	Damariscotta
Sandy Paulsen, Member	Newcastle
Carroll Lincoln, Member	Damariscotta (Non-Resident)
Heather Leslie, Member	Newcastle

Damariscotta- Newcastle Shellfish Warden:

Heather Leslie	Newcastle - 2022
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Finance Committee:

Eva Frey, Member
 John Hartman, Member
 Gates Torrey, Member
 John Mills, Member
 Tom Ruggerio, Member

Fish Ladder / Alewives Committee Representative:

James Brinkler

2021

Great Salt Bay Sanitary District Trustees:

Trustee

Alan H. Ray - 2024

Trustee

Louis Rector - 2025

Harriett Gertrude Bird Playground Committee:

Edna Verney, Chair

Carol Juchnik

James Mercer

David O'Neal

Christine Wajer

L. C. Regional Planning Committee Representative:

Mal Carey

George Parker

L. C. Television Committee Director:

Seth Hagar, President

Christopher Doherty

Newcastle Historical Society - Selectmen Appointee:

Arlene Cole - 2023

Newcastle Historical Society Members:

Tim Dinsmore, President

Michael Titus, Vice President

Karen Paz, Treasurer

Karen Campbell, Secretary

Betsy Evans, Trustee

Sandra Barth, Trustee

Bruce Campbell, Trustee

Arlene Cole, Trustee

Newcastle Veterans Memorial Park Committee:

Ellen McFarland, Chair
Betsy Evens, Member
Calvert Hurdle, Member
Allan Ray, Member
Ann Houlton, Member

Planning Board:

Chair	Ben Frey - 2023
Member	Peter McNaughton - 2022
Member	Kevin Houghton - 2023
Vice Chair	Lee Emmons - 2022
Alternate	Lucas Kostenbader - 2025

School Board Committee:

Member and Trustee	Dennis Anderson - 2024
Member and Trustee	Jesse Butler - 2023
Member and Trustee	Meredith Verney - 2025

Federal and State Officials**Senator Susan Collins**

Augusta Office
 68 Sewall Street, Room 507
 Augusta, ME 04330
 Main: (207) 622-8414
 www.collins.senate.gov

Washington, D.C. Office
 413 Dirksen Senate Office Bldg.
 Washington, D.C. 20510
 Main: (202) 224-2523
 Fax: (202) 224-2693

Senator Angus King

Augusta Office
 4 Gabriel Drive
 Suite 3
 Augusta, ME 04330
 (207) 622-8292

Washington, D.C. Office
 133 Hart Bldg.
 Washington, D. C. 20510
 (202) 224-5344
 www.king.senate.gov

U.S. Representative Chellie Pingree

Portland Office
 2 Portland Fish Pier, Suite 304
 Portland, ME 04101
 (207) 774-5019
 pingree.house.gov

Washington, D.C. Office
 2162 Rayburn House Office Bldg.
 Washington, D.C. 20515
 (202) 225-6116

Governor Janet T. Mills

Office of the Governor
 #1 State House Station
 Augusta, ME 04333-0001

Phone: Toll-Free: 1-855-721-5203
 TTY: Maine relay 711 (deaf/hard of hearing)
 Fax: (207) 287-1034

State Senator *District 13* Cameron Remy (D)

Senate Chambers
 3 State House Station
 Augusta, ME 04333-0003
 Tel: (207) 287-1515
 Office: (207) 287-1505

P.O. Box 156
 Round Pond, ME 04564
 Cameron.Remy@legislature.maine.gov

State Representative *District 90* Lydia V. Crafts (D)

House of Representatives
 2 State House Station
 Augusta, ME 04333-0002
 Tel: (207) 287-1400 (Voice)
 Tel: (207) 287-4469 (TTY)

4 Mills Rd., PMB#13
 Newcastle, ME 04553
 Lydia.Crafts@legislature.maine.gov
 Work: (207) 593-2664

1-800-423-2900 Toll-Free Message Center
 www.maine.gov/legis/house

Board of Selectmen

Life is never dull in the town of Newcastle and this past year is no exception. Thanks to our great staff and the continued dedication of our volunteers who fill the needs of our committees, boards and fire department, we have been able to keep the projects and services of Newcastle moving forward.

This year we welcomed Thomas Kostenbader to the Select Board. Tom works at Mid-Coast Energy Systems and is a volunteer with the Newcastle Fire Company. Tom's areas of expertise bring new and valuable insights to the board.

There has been some staff turnover at the town office in recent weeks so be on the lookout for a few new faces in the coming months and please welcome them to Newcastle.

In 2019 a broadband committee was formed to help identify the availability of high speed internet in town. Through the study, areas of town with absolutely no internet access or very poor internet access (remember dial-up?) were identified. With a combination of town support, state and federal grants and a collaboration with LCI/Tidewater Telecom, we will be able to move forward with a project to provide high speed internet access to those areas of town in the near future.

In 2022 our capital roads program saw the completion of paving on West Old County Road and reconstruction of the road base and drainage on Station Road. We are already seeing the long term benefits of this program play out as the drainage and base improvements to our infrastructure continue to perform well.

This year we began working with a town planner to aid in updating some of our existing ordinances and to assist the planning board on projects such as creation of an historic preservation ordinance.

There are some other exciting opportunities on the horizon for the town in the coming year as we continue to explore opportunities to collaborate with MDOT in planning processes for future projects. We are also looking forward to starting a comprehensive assessment of longer range facilities requirements of the town that we can invest our undesignated fund balance into with the goal of meeting our present and future growth needs.

As we look forward to another year ahead we are grateful for the support from the residents and businesses in our town that make it the truly unique and special place it is.

Respectfully,
NEWCASTLE SELECTBOARD

ELECTION RESULTS

Local Election, June 14, 2022

TOTAL VOTES CAST: 362

ARTICLE 2: Select Board/Assessor/Overseer of the Poor - 3 Year Term

Kostenbader, Thomas D	319
Write in with most votes	5/Burke, Catherine
Blanks	36

ARTICLE 2: GSB Sanitary District Trustee - 3 Year Term

No Candidates/Write in Only/Most Votes	4/Rector, Louis
Other Write Ins combined	18
Blanks	340

ARTICLE 2: Great Salt Bay School Board Member - 3 Year Term

No Candidates/Write in Only/Most Votes	29/Verney, Meridith
Other Write Ins combined	47
Blanks	286

TOTAL VOTES CAST 368

ARTICLE 3: Secondary Education Validation

Question 1: Yes - 329, No - 29, Blanks - 10
 Question 2: Yes - 248, No - 107, Blanks - 13

TOTAL VOTES CAST 358

ARTICLE 4: GSB Budget Validation

Question 1: Yes - 313, No - 36, Blanks - 9
 Question 2: Yes - 259, No - 89, Blanks - 10

Signed by:
 JODEE KELLEY, Town Clerk

ELECTION RESULTS

General Election, November 8, 2022

Total Ballots Cast 1,255

Governor	
Hunkler, Sam	15
Lepage, Paul R.	354
Mills, Janet T.	880
Blanks	6
State Senator (District 13)	
Reny, Cameron D.	872
Simmons, Abden	368
Blanks	15
Representative to the Legislature (District 46)	
Crafts, Lydia V.	871
Parise, Merle James II	377
Blanks	7
Register of Probate	
Moore, Catherine H.	810
Blanks	445
County Treasurer	
Richardson, Michelle M.	784
Blanks	471
Register of Deeds	
Wotton, Rebecca S.	800
Blanks	455
Sheriff	
Brackett, Todd B.	1,092
Blanks	163
District Attorney (District 6)	
Irving, Natasha C.	1,024
Blanks	231
Representative to Congress (District 1)	
Pingree, Chellie M.	866
Thelander, Edwin	369
MacDonald, Alan H. (Declared Write in)	0
Blanks	19

Signed by:
 JODEE KELLEY, Town Clerk

**ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT
AND SECRET BALLOT ELECTION**

Tuesday, June 13, 2023 AND Tuesday, June 20, 2023

To R. Benjamin Frey, a resident for the Town of Newcastle, in the County of Lincoln, State of Maine,

GREETING:

In the name of the State of Maine, you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Newcastle in said County and State, qualified by law to vote in town affairs, to meet at the Fire Station building at 86 River Rd on Tuesday, the 13th day of June, A.D. 2023 at 8:00 am, then and there to act upon Article 1 - Article 2 by secret ballot as set out below, the polling hours therefore to be from 8:00 am until 8:00 in the evening; Articles 3-29 are to be voted on at open Town Meeting to be held Tuesday, the 20th day of June, A.D. 2023 at 7:00 in the evening to meet at 81 Academy Hill Road, in the Lincoln Academy cafeteria.

ARTICLE 1: To elect a moderator by written ballot to preside at said meeting.

ARTICLE 2: To elect by secret ballot, in accordance with the vote of the town, the following offices:

1. Two (2) Select Board Members/Assessors and Overseers of the Poor for a three-year term
2. One (1) member of the Great Salt Bay School Committee for a three-year term

OPEN TOWN MEETING

Tuesday, June 20, 2023, 7:00 pm

For Fiscal Year 2024: July 1, 2023-June 30, 2024

And, to notify and warn said inhabitants to meet at the Lincoln Academy cafeteria in said town on Tuesday, the 20th day of June 2023 A.D., at 7:00 in the evening, then and there to act on Articles 3 through 29 as set out below, to wit:

ARTICLE 3: Shall the town utilize remote electronic keypad voting as the method of voting for all articles at this Town meeting, the June 20, 2023, Annual Town Meeting?

ARTICLE 4: Shall the Town repeal the Town of Newcastle Parking Ordinance adopted June 7, 1989?

ARTICLE 5: Shall the Town adopt the Town of Newcastle Traffic and Road's Ordinance as presented? For a digital copy, please visit the Town's website at newcastlemaine.us or visit Town Office for a paper copy.

ARTICLE 6: Shall the town raise & appropriate for Administration & Operations as follows:

Admin & Operations		FY22 Actual	FY23 Budget	FY 24 Select Board
1	Select Board	15,000.00	15,000.00	15,000.00
2	Town Manager & Treasurer	65,091.94	70,200.00	90,000.00
3	Town Clerk, Registrar	56,004.70	56,650.00	55,000.00
4	Treasurer, Tax Collector	34,031.28	30,252.83	55,000.00
5	Election Workers	753.50	1,200.00	1,200.00
6	Full-Time Deputy	48,274.12	50,057.28	54,370.37
7	Harbormaster	0.00	3,000.00	3,500.00
8	Overtime Compensation	1,120.22	1,000.00	1,000.00
	Compensation Subtotal	220,275.76	227,360.11	275,070.37
9	FICA (SS &) Medicare	20,515.13	15,671.03	19,553.96
10	Health Insurance	74,375.11	80,662.72	96,243.71
12	Retirement	20,549.31	17,690.73	24,360.74
13	Vision / Dental / Life Insurance	1,617.95	1,000.00	4,932.00
14	Short Term Disability	2,043.31	2,000.00	2,000.00
	Fringe Benefits Subtotal	119,100.81	117,024.48	147,090.41
15	Property Casualty Liability Insurance	19,808.80	20,000.00	20,000.00
16	Unemployment	447.77	1,000.00	1,000.00
17	Workers Compensation	6,774.00	8,600.00	8,600.00
	Insurances Subtotal	27,030.57	29,600.00	29,600.00
18	Assessors Agent	19,250.00	25,200.00	25,200.00
19	Legal Fees	25,000.00	28,000.00	28,000.00
20	Payroll Company	2,470.75	2,400.00	2,400.00
21	Audit Services	9,000.00	9,000.00	10,500.00
	Contracted Service Subtotal	55,720.75	64,600.00	66,100.00
22	MMA Annual Dues	3,259.00	3,357.00	3,546.29
23	Postage & Envelopes	3200.05	5,000.00	5,000.00
24	Election Supplies	2534.37	2,400.00	2,500.00
25	Computer Support	6,576.86	7,000.00	7,000.00
26	Computer Hardware	6,271.34	750.00	1,000.00
27	Computer Software	34,367.85	33,000.00	34,000.00
28	Website	2,200.00	2,500.00	2,500.00
29	Tax Maps	3,600.00	3,800.00	3,800.00
30	Town Report	2597.00	2,500.00	2,600.00
31	Records Restoration	0.00	2,700.00	2,700.00
32	Advertising	1,956.64	2,000.00	2,000.00
33	Mileage	98.02	1,000.00	1,000.00
34	Professional Development & Fees	2,629.63	2,700.00	3,000.00
35	Video Recordings	0.00	4,200.00	4,200.00
36	Registry of Deeds Recordings & Printings	2,658.00	3,500.00	3,500.00
37	Office & Other Supplies	4,530.59	9,000.00	6,000.00
	Operations Subtotal	76,479.28	85,407.00	84,346.29
38	Copier/Printer Lease & Supplies	3,322.57	3,000.00	3,000.00
	Leases Subtotal	3,322.57	3,000.00	3,000.00
39	Town Office – Heating Fuel	473.02	1,000.00	1,500.00
40	Town Office – Electricity	2,457.77	2,100.00	2,500.00
41	Town Office – Water & Sewer	806.08	800.00	800.00
42	Town Office – Maintenance & Repairs	10,377.48	5,000.00	5,000.00
43	Town Office – Telephone	2,328.54	2,700.00	2,700.00
44	Town Office - Janitorial	2,156.00	4,300.00	4,300.00

	Town Office Building Subtotal	18,598.89	15,900.00	16,800.00
45	Harriet Bird Clubhouse – Heating Fuel	0.00	600.00	600.00
46	Harriet Bird Clubhouse – Electricity	272.21	300.00	400.00
47	Harriet Bird Clubhouse – Maintenance & Repairs	837.11	2,000.00	2,000.00
	Harriet Bird Clubhouse Subtotal	1,109.32	2,900.00	3,000.00
48	Cemeteries - Maintenance	0.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
49	Cemeteries - Mowing Contract	16,650.00	14,400.00	14,400.00
	Cemetery Maintenance Subtotal	16,650.00	17,400.00	17,400.00
50	Veteran's Park Maintenance	175.84	1,000.00	1,000.00
	Veteran's Park Subtotal	175.84	1,000.00	1,000.00
51	Contingency	0.00	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00
52	Abatements	0.00	0.00	0.00
	CATEGORY TOTAL	538,463.86	579,191.59	660,907.07

ARTICLE 7: Shall the town raise & appropriate for the Public Services as follows:

Category: Public Services		FY22 Actual	FY23 Budget	FY 24 Select Board
1	Septic Waste Disposal	2,300.00	2,300.00	2,300.00
2	Solid Waste Disposal	111,019.50	119,325.15	125,315.55
	Waste Disposal Subtotal	113,319.50	121,625.15	127,615.55
3	General Assistance	1,740.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
	Services Subtotal	1,740.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
4	American Legion	450.00	450.00	450.00
5	CLC YMCA	0.00	0.00	5,000.00
6	Coastal Kids	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
7	Midcoast Conservancy	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
8	Ecumenical Food Pantry	500.00	500.00	500.00
9	Healthy Kids	1,700.00	1,700.00	1,700.00
10	LCTV	10,855.00	13,500.00	13,500.00
11	Maine Public Broadcasting	100.00	100.00	100.00
12	Midcoast ME Community Action	1,400.00	1,500.00	1,500.00
13	New Hope Midcoast	830.00	830.00	996.00
14	Skidompha Library	27,612.00	27,612.00	27,612.00
15	Spectrum Generations	1,756.00	1,756.00	1,756.00
16	Adult Education	9,635.00	6,595.39	8,811.00
	Provider Agency Subtotal	59,838.00	59,543.39	66,925.99
17	CEO/LPI Compensation	15,474.05	18,000.00	27,000.00
18	Planning Services	2,115.00	53,000.00	56,151.00
19	Harbor Master Cell Phone	0.00	500.00	500.00
20	Planning Board	0.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
21	Planning Consultation	0.00	0.00	10,000
22	Broadband Capacity	0.00	35,000.00	0.00
	Planning and Development Subtotal	17,589.05	109,500.00	96,651.00
	CATEGORY TOTAL	192,486.55	293,668.54	294,192.54

ARTICLE 8: Shall the town raise & appropriate for Public Safety as follows:

Category: Public Safety		FY22 Actual	FY23 Budget	FY 24 Select Board
1	Fire Chief	12,335.24	12,000.00	12,000.00
2	Fire Department Officers	5,050.00	16,350.00	16,350.00
3	Firefighters	11,686.21	16,000.00	16,000.00
	Compensation Subtotal	29,071.45	44,350.00	44,350.00
4	Phones	1337.36	2,520.00	1,500.00
5	Dues	0.00	0.00	700.00
6	S.C.B.A	5,911.57	7,282.00	8,000.00
7	Communications	1020.28	7,500.00	7,500.00
8	Training	240.00	4,000.00	4,000.00
10	New Equipment	3,214.64	6,600.00	10,000.00
11	Equipment & Vehicle Maintenance	15,646.80	12,550.00	15,690.00
12	PPE - Turn Out Gear	9,663.62	10,960.00	12,600.00
13	Hose Replacement	0.00	0.00	5,000.00
14	Administration & Office Supplies	4,333.42	4,000.00	4,000.00
15	Vehicles Gas & Oil	3,581.63	6,600.00	5,500.00
	Fire Department Subtotal	44,949.32	62,012.00	74,490.00
15	Animal Control Services	1,977.68	3,000.00	3,500.00
16	Lincoln County Animal Shelter	2,540.40	2,540.40	2,679.60
17	Wild Animal Control Officer	190.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
	Animal Control Services	4,708.08	6,540.40	7,179.60
18	Emergency Medical Services	30,398.77	82,702.86	74,241.09
19	EMA Director	850.00	850.00	850.00
20	Health Officer	100.00	100.00	100.00
	Emergency/Health Services	31,348.77	83,652.86	75,191.09
21	Hydrants	45,221.02	51,000.00	51,000.00
22	Street Lights	2,877.24	4,000.00	2,000.00
23	Traffic Lights	271.14	400.00	400.00
	Infrastructure Subtotal	48,369.40	55,400.00	53,400.00
24	Fire Station – Heating Fuel	5,710.84	7,000.00	6,000.00
25	Fire Station – Electricity	1,972.02	3,000.00	4,000.00
26	Fire Station – Water & Sewer	806.08	800.00	800.00
27	Fire Station – Maintenance & Repairs	3,268.31	4,000.00	7,000.00
28	Fire Station - Janitorial	1071.00	1,500.00	2,000.00
	Fire Station Subtotal	12,828.25	16,300.00	19,800.00
29	Sheepscot Fire Station – Heating Fuel	1184.21	1,000.00	1,000.00
30	Sheepscot Fire Station – Electricity	274.73	300.00	400.00
31	Sheepscot Fire Station – Maintenance & Repairs	301.19	1,000.00	1,500.00
	Sheepscot Station Subtotal	1,760.13	2,300.00	2,900.00
	CATEGORY TOTAL	173,035.40	270,555.26	277,310.69

ARTICLE 9: Shall the town raise & appropriate for Public Works as follows:

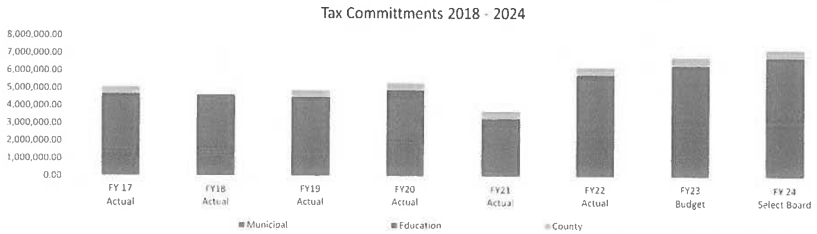
Category: Public Works		FY22 Actual	FY23 Budget	FY 24 Select Board
1	Road Commissioner	0.00	0.00	0.00
2	Technical Assistance	0.00	30,000.00	10,000.00
	Operations Subtotal	0.00	30,000.00	10,000.00
3	Electricity - Sand/Salt Shed	299.81	600.00	600.00
4	Maintenance - Sand/Salt Shed	0.00	5,000.00	5,000.00
5	Maintenance - Public Landing	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Facilities Subtotal	299.81	5,600.00	5,600.00
6	Roads - Snow Removal	277,530.78	277,311.00	280,505.00
7	Main Street & Downtown – Snow Removal	45,219.56	52,144.00	52,144.00
8	Permits - Snow Removal	2,500.00	4,500.00	4,500.00
9	Miscellaneous Winter Operations	125.00	2,000.00	3,500.00
10	Winter Salt	69,835.45	88,000.00	88,000.00
	Winter Operations Subtotal	395,210.79	423,955.00	428,649.00
11	Cold Patch	1,190.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
12	Gravel - Grading	22,000.00	28,800.00	35,700.00
13	Grading	38,050.00	42,000.00	43,600.00
14	Roadside Mowing	9,145.00	5,000.00	5,000.00
15	Catch Basin Cleaning	0.00	7,000.00	5,000.00
16	Catch Basin Repair	0.00	0.00	0.00
17	Catch Basin Replacement	0.00	0.00	0.00
18	Line Striping	0.00	10,000.00	10,000.00
19	Street Sweeping	0.00	7,000.00	7,500.00
20	Tree Work	15,306.10	25,000.00	30,000.00
21	Crack Filling	3,620.00	7,850.00	10,000.00
22	Bridge Maintenance	0.00	0.00	20,000.00
	Annual Operations Subtotal	89,311.10	134,650.00	168,800.00
22	Labor	4,877.30	6,500.00	9,750.00
23	Equipment	15,645.00	8,000.00	9,600.00
24	Culverts	15,213.10	23,100.00	10,000.00
25	Material	0.00	12,500.00	13,000.00
	General Contractor Subtotal	35,735.40	50,100.00	42,350.00
26	Traffic Control Equipment	1,720.50	1,000.00	1,000.00
27	Street Signs	3,483.23	4,000.00	4,000.00
28	Traffic Signs	2,326.77	1,000.00	1,000.00
29	Miscellaneous Signage	895.68	1,000.00	1,000.00
	Equipment Subtotal	8,426.18	7,000.00	7,000.00
CATEGORY TOTAL		528,983.28	651,305.00	662,399.00

ARTICLE 10: Shall the town raise & appropriate for Reserve Accounts as follows:

Category: Reserves		FY22 Actual	FY23 Budget	FY 24 Select Board
1	Harriet Bird Clubhouse	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00
2	Veteran's Park	1,250.00	250.00	250.00
3	Highway Equipment	0.00	0.00	0.00
4	Roads Capital Projects	686,734.00	855,530.00	855,530.00
5	Computer Reserve	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
6	Municipal Building Reserve	75,000.00	50,000.00	50,000.00
7	Revaluation Reserve	20,000.00	15,000.00	12,500.00
8	Alewife Reserve	0.00	0.00	0.00
9	Fringe Benefit Reserve	12,000.00	12,000.00	12,000.00
10	Firetruck Reserve		50,000.00	50,000.00
11	Village Partnership Initiative		0.00	0.00
12	Harbor Management Reserve	0.00	0.00	0.00
CATEGORY TOTAL		799,484.00	987,280.00	984,780.00

ARTICLE 11: Shall the town raise & appropriate for Debt Service as follows:

Category: Debt Service		FY22 Actual	FY23 Budget	FY 24 Select Board
1	Loan Payment – Lynch Road	0.00	0.00	0.00
2	Loan Payment – Fire Truck	29,339.96	27,084.00	27,084.00
3	Loan Payment - Town Office	0.00	0.00	0.00
4	Loan Payment - AH Road	228,540.45	243,422.57	226,633.07
CATEGORY TOTAL		257,880.41	270,506.57	253,717.07



ARTICLE 12: Shall the Town authorize the Select Board to accept prospective gifts and donations providing the Board place these funds in appropriately designated reserve accounts and only used for the intended purposes stated or in the best interests of the Town?

ARTICLE 13: Shall the Town authorize the Select Board to accept and expend, on behalf of the town, any State and Federal funds which may be received from time to time in the form of grants and funds from any source deemed appropriate by the municipal officers during the period of July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2024, or act on anything relative thereto?

ARTICLE 14: Shall the Town authorize the Select Board, on behalf of the town, to sell and dispose of any real estate acquired by the town for non-payment of the taxes thereon and to execute quitclaim deeds for said property, in accordance with appropriate state law and procedures?

ARTICLE 15: Shall the Town authorize the Select Board, on behalf of the Town, to sell and dispose of any surplus equipment owned by the Town in accordance with appropriate State law and procedures?

ARTICLE 16: Shall the Town direct the Select Board to establish the dates on which this year's taxes shall be due and payable?

ARTICLE 17: Shall the Town authorize the Select Board to fund abatements by expending overlay, and in the event the overlay is depleted, authorize funding abatements through the unassigned fund balance?

ARTICLE 18: Shall the Town authorize the Select Board to enter into multi-year contracts on behalf of the Town?

ARTICLE 19: Shall the Town authorize the Select Board to carry unexpended funds forward to the next fiscal year within the existing budget line items?

ARTICLE 20: Shall the Town authorize the Select Board to establish and appoint the members of standing and/or ad hoc committees of the Select Board to advise the Board regarding the administration and operations of the town government?

ARTICLE 21: Shall the Town authorize the Select Board to reduce the total amount of taxes to be collected by the FY 2024 total amount of estimated revenue (TBD) including use of surplus?

ARTICLE 22: Shall the Town vote to authorize the Treasurer to waive the foreclosure of tax lien mortgages pursuant to 36 M.R.S.A. § 944 upon a finding by the Select Board that ownership of the property that is subject to the tax lien mortgage would be contrary to the Town's best interests.

ARTICLE 23: Shall the town instruct the Tax Collector to charge interest at the rate of 6 % per annum on all uncollected taxes and authorize the Select Board to establish the date on which interest starts to accrue, except for those taxpayers enrolled in the tax club before June 1, 2023 and have made all payments on time and to date?

ARTICLE 24: Shall the Town vote to authorize the Tax Collector to accept prepayments on taxes not yet committed, and to pay interest at a rate of 0% (zero percent) as a courtesy to taxpayers who wish to pay some or all of their uncommitted taxes?

ARTICLE 25: Shall the town authorize the Select Board to expend funds from any Town Reserve account for an unbudgeted major expense: (Note: "major" is defined as any cost not included in a corresponding operating budget)?

ARTICLE 26: Shall the town allow the Select Board to transfer an amount not to exceed 2% of the total annual budget request from one category to another without prior approval of a special town meeting?

ARTICLE 27: Shall the Town authorize the Select Board to regulate river herring fishing in all streams in which the town has an interest in accordance with the plan filed with and approved by the Commissioner of Marine Resources?

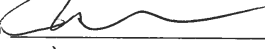
ARTICLE 28: Shall the Town authorize a transfer of \$50,000 from its undesignated fund balance to the village partnership initiative reserve account?

ARTICLE 29: Shall the Town authorize the previously allocated \$35,000 from FY 2023 for Broadband Expansion to be carried forward to expend in FY 2024?

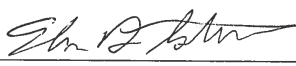
Given under our hands at Newcastle, Maine this 8th day of May 2023.

Joel Lind, Chair 

Tor Glendinning 

Robert Nelson 

Karen Paz 

Thomas Kostenbader 

A true and attested copy by: 
Cheryl Clifford, Interim Town Clerk

RESULTS

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT AND SECRET BALLOT ELECTION

Tuesday, June 14, 2022 AND Tuesday, June 21, 2022

To R. Benjamin Frey, a resident for the Town of Newcastle, in the County of Lincoln, State of Maine,

GREETING:

In the name of the State of Maine, you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Newcastle in said County and State, qualified by law to vote in town affairs, to meet at the Fire Station building at 86 River Road on Tuesday, the 14th day of June, A.D. 2022 at 8:00 am, then and there to act upon Article 1 - Article 4 by secret ballot as set out below, the polling hours therefore to be from 8:00 am until 8:00 in the evening; Articles 5 - 28 are to be voted on at open Town Meeting to be held Tuesday, the 21st day of June, A.D. 2022 at 7:00 in the evening to meet at 81 Academy Hill Road, in the Lincoln Academy gymnasium.

ARTICLE 1: To elect a moderator by written ballot to preside at said meeting.

ARTICLE 2: To elect by secret ballot, in accordance with the vote of the town, the following offices:

1. One (1) Select Board Member/Assessor and Overseer of the Poor for a three-year term
2. One (1) member of the Great Salt Bay School Committee for a three-year term
3. One (1) member of the Great Salt Bay Sanitary District Committee for a three-year term

ARTICLE 3: SECONDARY SCHOOL VALIDATION - Do you favor approving the NEWCASTLE SECONDARY education budget for the upcoming school year that was adopted at the latest Newcastle Special Town Meeting and that includes locally raised funds that exceed the required local contribution as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act?

ARTICLE 4: ELEMENTARY SCHOOL VALIDATION - Do you favor approving the GREAT SALT BAY, CSD ELEMENTARY education budget for the upcoming school year that was adopted at the latest Great Salt Bay, CSD Annual Budget Meeting and that includes locally raised funds that exceed the required local contribution as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act?

OPEN TOWN MEETING

Tuesday, June 21, 2022 7:00 pm

For Fiscal Year 2023: July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023

And, to notify and warn said inhabitants to meet at the Lincoln Academy Gymnasium in said town on Tuesday, the 21st day of June 2022 A.D., at 7:00 in the evening, then and there to act on Articles 5 through 28 as set out below, to wit:

ARTICLE 5: Shall the town utilize remote electronic keypad voting as the method of voting for all articles at this Town meeting, the June 21, 2022, Annual Town Meeting? **Passed as written**

ARTICLE 6: Shall the Town adopt the Taniscot Fire & Emergency Services Ordinance as presented? For a digital copy, please visit the Town’s website at *newcastlemaine.us* or visit Town Office for a paper copy. **Yes - 33 No - 4 Passed as written**

ARTICLE 7: Shall the town raise & appropriate for Administration & Operations as follows: **Yes - 41 No - 4 Passed as written**

continued next page

Admin & Operations		FY21 Actual	FY22 Budget	FY 23 Select Board
1	Select Board	15,500.00	15,000.00	15,000.00
2	Town Manager & Treasurer	88,559.37	91,000.00	70,200.00
3	Town Clerk, Registrar, Tax Collector	57,245.73	58,350.00	56,650.00
4	Part-Time Deputy	28,199.00	29,053.00	30,252.83
5	Election Workers	1,032.79	1,200.00	1,200.00
6	Full-Time Deputy	46,870.21	47,669.00	50,057.28
7	Harbormaster	0.00	0.00	3,000.00
8	Overtime Compensation	1,946.15	500.00	1,000.00
	Compensation Subtotal	239,353.25	242,772.00	227,360.11
9	FICA (SS &) Medicare	24,922.89	27,000.00	15,671.03
10	Health Insurance	52,333.54	70,784.56	80,662.72
12	Retirement	24,922.89	25,000.00	17,690.73
13	TM Cafeteria Style Benefits	5,766.34	6,100.00	1,000.00
14	Short Term Disability	1,866.47	2,000.00	2,000.00
	Fringe Benefits Subtotal	109,812.13	130,884.56	117,024.48
15	Property Casualty Liability Insurance	19,263.00	20,000.00	20,000.00
16	Unemployment	267.12	1,000.00	1,000.00
17	Workers Compensation	7,218.15	9,400.00	8,600.00
	Insurances Subtotal	26,748.27	30,400.00	29,600.00
18	Assessors Agent	24,870.66	24,000.00	25,200.00
19	Legal Fees	23,000.00	23,000.00	28,000.00
20	Payroll Company	2,552.65	2,400.00	2,400.00
21	Audit Services	0.00	8,000.00	9,000.00
	Contracted Service Subtotal	50,423.31	57,400.00	64,600.00
22	MMA Annual Dues	3,176.00	3,272.00	3,357.00
23	Postage & Envelopes	5,035.54	5,000.00	5,000.00
24	Election Supplies	2,250.71	2,400.00	2,400.00
25	Computer Support	0.00	1,000.00	7,000.00
26	Computer Hardware	629.78	750.00	750.00
27	Computer Software	35,090.83	24,375.00	33,000.00
28	Website	9,166.12	200.00	2,500.00
29	Tax Maps	3,300.00	3,800.00	3,800.00
30	Town Report	2,310.00	2,500.00	2,500.00
31	Records Restoration	0.00	2,700.00	2,700.00
32	Advertising	1,570.67	2,000.00	2,000.00
33	Mileage	0.00	1,500.00	1,000.00
34	Professional Development & Fees	270.00	2,400.00	2,700.00
35	Video Recordings	0.00	0.00	4,200.00
36	Registry of Deeds Recordings & Printings	2,187.80	3,500.00	3,500.00
37	Office & Other Supplies	8,208.83	9,000.00	9,000.00
	Operations Subtotal	73,196.28	64,397.00	85,407.00
38	Copier/Printer Lease & Supplies	3,628.19	3,000.00	3,000.00
	Leases Subtotal	3,628.19	3,000.00	3,000.00
39	Town Office – Heating Fuel	887.04	1,000.00	1,000.00
40	Town Office – Electricity	1,927.68	2,100.00	2,100.00
41	Town Office – Water & Sewer	806.08	800.00	800.00
42	Town Office – Maintenance & Repairs	2,026.45	5,000.00	5,000.00
43	Town Office – Telephone	2,380.32	2,700.00	2,700.00
44	Town Office – Janitorial	4,203.19	4,300.00	4,300.00
	Town Office Building Subtotal	12,230.76	15,900.00	15,900.00

45	Harriet Bird Clubhouse – Heating Fuel	0.00	600.00	600.00
46	Harriet Bird Clubhouse – Electricity	212.74	300.00	300.00
47	Harriet Bird Clubhouse – Maintenance & Repairs	597.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
	Harriet Bird Clubhouse Subtotal	809.74	2,900.00	2,900.00
48	Cemeteries - Maintenance	251.40	3,000.00	3,000.00
49	Cemeteries - Mowing Contract	14,519.00	12,000.00	14,400.00
	Cemetery Maintenance Subtotal	14,770.40	15,000.00	17,400.00
50	Veteran's Park Maintenance	291.46	1,000.00	1,000.00
	Veteran's Park Subtotal	291.46	1,000.00	1,000.00
51	Contingency	0	0	\$15,000.00
52	Abatements	0.00	0.00	0.00
CATEGORY TOTAL		531,263.79	563,653.56	579,191.59

ARTICLE 8: Shall the town raise & appropriate for the Public Services as follows: **Yes - 34 No - 11 Passed as written**

Category: Public Services		FY21 Actual	FY22 Budget	FY 23 Select Board
1	Septic Waste Disposal	2,300.00	2,300.00	2,300.00
2	Solid Waste Disposal	100,223.80	111,107.00	119,325.15
	Waste Disposal Subtotal	102,523.80	113,407.00	121,625.15
3	General Assistance	0.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
	Services Subtotal	0.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
4	American Legion	450.00	450.00	450.00
5	Coastal Kids	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
6	Midcoast Conservancy	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
7	Ecumenical Food Pantry	500.00	500.00	500.00
8	Healthy Kids	1,700.00	1,700.00	1,700.00
9	LCTV	5,205.00	10,205.00	13,500.00
10	Maine Public Broadcasting	100.00	100.00	100.00
11	Midcoast ME Community Action	1,400.00	1,400.00	1,500.00
12	New Hope Midcoast	830.00	500.00	830.00
13	Skidompha Library	27,612.00	27,612.00	27,612.00
14	Spectrum Generations	1,756.00	1,756.00	1,756.00
15	Adult Education	6,596.00	9,635.00	6,595.39
	Provider Agency Subtotal	51,149.00	58,858.00	59,543.39
16	CEO/LPI Compensation	17,539.90	18,000.00	18,000.00
17	Planning Services	0.00	3,000.00	53,000.00
18	Harbor Master Cell Phone	0.00	0.00	500.00
19	Planning Board	2,728.42	3,000.00	3,000.00
20	Broadband Capacity	0.00	0.00	35,000.00
	Planning and Development Subtotal	20,268.32	24,000.00	109,500.00
CATEGORY TOTAL		173,941.12	199,265.00	293,668.54

ARTICLE 9: Shall the town raise & appropriate for Public Safety as follows: **Yes - 40 No - 5 Passed as written**

Category: Public Safety		FY21 Actual	FY22 Budget	FY 23 Select Board
1	Fire Chief	50,713.26	60,000.00	12,000.00
2	Fire Department Officers	2,060.00	6,100.00	16,350.00
3	Firefighters	14,835.25	16,000.00	16,000.00
	Compensation Subtotal	67,608.51	82,100.00	44,350.00
4	Phones	1,859.55	2,520.00	2,520.00
5	Dues	414.00	850.00	0.00
6	S.C.B.A	1,878.20	6,620.00	7,282.00
7	Communications	3,817.26	3,200.00	7,500.00
8	Training	1,149.91	2,000.00	4,000.00
10	New Equipment	3,687.86	6,000.00	6,600.00
11	Equipment & Vehicle Maintenance	13,800.22	10,500.00	12,550.00
12	PPE - Turn Out Gear	10,773.00	9,960.00	10,960.00
13	Administration & Office Supplies	2,888.94	3,560.00	4,000.00
14	Vehicles Gas & Oil	3,235.11	6,000.00	6,600.00
	Fire Department Subtotal	43,504.05	51,210.00	62,012.00
15	Animal Control Services	812.42	3,000.00	3,000.00
16	Lincoln County Animal Shelter	2,277.60	2,278.00	2,540.40
17	Wild Animal Control Officer	750.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
	Animal Control Services	3,840.02	6,278.00	6,540.40
18	Emergency Medical Services	27,975.00	30,399.00	82,702.86
19	EMA Director	1,700.00	850.00	850.00
20	Health Officer	200.00	100.00	100.00
	Emergency/Health Services	29,875.00	31,349.00	83,652.86
21	Hydrants	45,223.90	51,000.00	51,000.00
22	Street Lights	5,062.54	7,500.00	4,000.00
23	Traffic Lights	248.10	400.00	400.00
	Infrastructure Subtotal	50,534.54	58,900.00	55,400.00
24	Fire Station – Heating Fuel	4,838.85	5,500.00	7,000.00
25	Fire Station – Electricity	1,583.68	1,900.00	3,000.00
26	Fire Station – Water & Sewer	806.08	800.00	800.00
27	Fire Station – Maintenance & Repairs	9,610.46	4,000.00	4,000.00
28	Fire Station - Janitorial	1,736.23	1,500.00	1,500.00
	Fire Station Subtotal	18,575.30	13,700.00	16,300.00
29	Sheepscot Fire Station – Heating Fuel	382.74	1,200.00	1,000.00
30	Sheepscot Fire Station – Electricity	222.10	300.00	300.00
31	Sheepscot Fire Station – Maintenance & Repairs	313.65	1,000.00	1,000.00
	Sheepscot Station Subtotal	918.49	2,500.00	2,300.00
CATEGORY TOTAL		214,855.91	246,037.00	270,555.26

ARTICLE 10: Shall the town raise & appropriate for Public Works as follows: **Yes - 28 No - 14 Passed as written**

Category: Public Works		FY21 Actual	FY22 Budget	FY 23 Select Board
1	Road Commissioner	0.00	0.00	0.00
2	Technical Assistance	0.00	5,500.00	30,000.00
	Operations Subtotal	0.00	5,500.00	30,000.00
3	Electricity - Sand/Salt Shed	373.95	500.00	600.00
4	Maintenance - Sand/Salt Shed	5,000.00	0.00	5,000.00
5	Maintenance - Public Landing	0.00	1,000.00	0.00
	Facilities Subtotal	5,373.95	1,500.00	5,600.00
6	Roads - Snow Removal	263,953.42	269,234.00	277,311.00
7	Main Street & Downtown – Snow Removal	49,391.00	50,872.00	52,144.00
8	Permits - Snow Removal	2,500.00	4,500.00	4,500.00
9	Miscellaneous Winter Operations	1,595.00	1,500.00	2,000.00
10	Winter Salt	68,958.10	70,000.00	88,000.00
	Winter Operations Subtotal	386,397.52	396,106.00	423,955.00
11	Cold Patch	557.69	2,000.00	2,000.00
12	Gravel - Grading	10,500.00	22,000.00	28,800.00
13	Grading	35,000.00	38,050.00	42,000.00
14	Roadside Mowing	2,400.00	4,500.00	5,000.00
15	Catch Basin Cleaning	4,000.00	6,500.00	7,000.00
16	Catch Basin Repair	0.00	2,500.00	0.00
17	Catch Basin Replacement	0.00	0.00	0.00
18	Line Striping	9,560.19	9,000.00	10,000.00
19	Street Sweeping	6,000.00	6,000.00	7,000.00
20	Tree Work	14,175.80	20,000.00	25,000.00
21	Crack Filling	5,000.00	5,000.00	7,850.00
	Annual Operations Subtotal	87,193.68	115,550.00	134,650.00
22	Labor	21,330.00	4,320.00	6,500.00
23	Equipment	60,642.25	4,320.00	8,000.00
24	Culverts	3,752.00	14,800.00	23,100.00
25	Material	0.00	0.00	12,500.00
	General Contractor Subtotal	85,724.25	23,440.00	50,100.00
26	Traffic Control Equipment	758.80	1,000.00	1,000.00
27	Street Signs	4,108.26	5,000.00	4,000.00
28	Traffic Signs	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
29	Miscellaneous Signage	895.08	1,000.00	1,000.00
	Equipment Subtotal	5,762.14	8,000.00	7,000.00
CATEGORY TOTAL		570,451.54	550,096.00	651,305.00

ARTICLE 11: Shall the town raise & appropriate for Reserve Accounts as follows: **Yes - 39 No - 5 Passed as written**

Category: Reserves		FY21 Actual	FY22 Budget	FY 23 Select Board
1	Harriet Bird Clubhouse	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00
2	Veteran's Park	1,250.00	1,250.00	250.00
3	Highway Equipment	0.00	0.00	0.00
4	Roads Capital Projects	546,354.00	686,734.00	855,530.00
5	Computer Reserve	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
6	Municipal Building Reserve	25,000.00	75,000.00	50,000.00
7	Revaluation Reserve	20,000.00	20,000.00	15,000.00
8	Alewife Reserve		0.00	0.00
9	Fringe Benefit Reserve		12,000.00	12,000.00
10	Firetruck Reserve			50,000.00
11	Harbor Management Reserve		0.00	0.00
CATEGORY TOTAL		597,104.00	799,484.00	987,280.00

ARTICLE 12: Shall the town raise & appropriate for Debt Service as follows: **Yes - 44 No - 2 Passed as written**

Category: Debt Service		FY21 Actual	FY22 Budget	FY 23 Select Board
1	Loan Payment – Lynch Road	0.00	0.00	0.00
2	Loan Payment – Fire Truck	27,084.00	27,084.00	27,084.00
3	Loan Payment - Town Office	0.00	0.00	0.00
4	Loan Payment - AH Road	-1,943,476.96	243,422.57	243,422.57
CATEGORY TOTAL		-1,916,392.96	270,506.57	270,506.57

Tax Commitments 2017 - 2023



ARTICLE 13: Shall the Town authorize the Select Board to accept prospective gifts and donations providing the Board place these funds in appropriately designated reserve accounts and only used for the intended purposes stated or in the best interests of the Town? **Yes - 38 No - 3 Passed as written**

ARTICLE 14: Shall the Town authorize the Select Board to accept and expend, on behalf of the town, any State and Federal funds which may be received from time to time in the form of grants and funds from any source deemed appropriate by the municipal officers during the period of July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023 or act on anything relative thereto? **Yes - 40 No - 3 Passed as written**

ARTICLE 15: Shall the Town authorize the Select Board, on behalf of the town, to sell and dispose of any real estate acquired by the town for non-payment of the taxes thereon and to execute quitclaim deeds for said property, in accordance with appropriate state law and procedures? **Yes - 38 No - 5 Passed as written**

ARTICLE 16: Shall the Town authorize the Select Board, on behalf of the Town, to sell and dispose of any surplus equipment owned by the Town in accordance with appropriate State law and procedures? **Yes - 31 No - 8 Passed as written**

ARTICLE 17: Shall the Town direct the Select Board to establish the dates on which this year's taxes shall be due and payable? **Yes - 39 No - 3 Passed as written**

ARTICLE 18: Shall the Town authorize the Select Board to fund abatements by expending overlay, and in the event the overlay is depleted, authorize funding abatements through the unassigned fund balance? **Yes - 36 No - 4 Passed as written**

ARTICLE 19: Shall the Town authorize the Select Board to enter into multi-year contracts on behalf of the Town? **Yes - 28 No - 7 Passed as written**

ARTICLE 20: Shall the Town authorize the Select Board to carry unexpended funds forward to the next fiscal year within the existing budget line items? **Yes - 36 No - 4 Passed as written**

ARTICLE 21: Shall the Town authorize the Select Board to establish and appoint the members of standing and/or ad hoc committees of the Select Board to advise the Board regarding the administration and operations of the town government?

Yes - 39 No - 3 Passed as written

ARTICLE 22: Shall the Town authorize the Select Board to reduce the total amount of taxes to be collected by the FY 2023 total amount of estimated revenue (TBD) including use of surplus?

Yes - 37 No - 4 Passed as written

ARTICLE 23: Shall the Town vote to authorize the Treasurer to waive the foreclosure of tax lien mortgages pursuant to 36 M.R.S.A. § 944 upon a finding by the Select Board that ownership of the property that is subject to the tax lien mortgage would be contrary to the Town's best interests.

Yes - 36 No - 8 Passed as written

ARTICLE 24: Shall the town instruct the Tax Collector to charge interest at the rate of 6 % per annum on all uncollected taxes and authorize the Select Board to establish the date on which interest starts to accrue, except for those taxpayers enrolled in the tax club before June 1, 2022 and have made all payments on time and to date?

Yes - 36 No - 6 Passed as written

ARTICLE 25: Shall the Town vote to authorize the Tax Collector to accept prepayments on taxes not yet committed, and to pay interest at a rate of 0% (zero percent) as a courtesy to taxpayers who wish to pay some or all of their uncommitted taxes?

Yes - 39 No - 2 Passed as written

ARTICLE 26: Shall the town authorize the Select Board to expend funds from any Town Reserve account for an unbudgeted major expense: (Note: "major" is defined as any cost not included in a corresponding operating budget)?

Yes - 26 No - 15 Passed as written

ARTICLE 27: Shall the town allow the Select Board to transfer an amount not to exceed 2% of the total annual budget request from one category to another without prior approval of a special town meeting? **Yes - 25 No - 12 Passed as written**

ARTICLE 28: Shall the Town authorize the Select Board to regulate river herring fishing in all streams in which the town has an interest in accordance with the plan filed with and approved by the Commissioner of Marine Resources? **Yes - 33 No - 6 Passed as written**

ARTICLE 29: Shall the Town vote to allocate \$186,623.12 from the American Recovery Plan Act (ARPA) funds to the following projects? **Yes - 34 No - 10 Passed as written**

Premium Pay to Town Employees -	\$7,000.00
Town Hall Safety Renovations in response to the COVID-19 Pandemic -	\$60,000.00
Fire Station Community Room	
Air Quality Improvements -	\$25,000.00
Town Hall Air Quality Improvements -	\$7,000.00
Chamber of Commerce - Economic Support -	\$25,000.00
Broadband Expansion Match to State and Private Contributions -	\$25,000.00
Central Lincoln County YMCA -	
Social Services Support -	\$15,000.00

Motion to end meeting 8:05 p.m.

Given under our hands at Newcastle, Maine this 9th day of May 2022.



A true and attested copy by: Jodee Kelley, Town Clerk

Town Manager

Summer is here, and for us working for the Town of Newcastle that means Town Meeting season. The Annual Town Meeting will be held at 7 PM on Tuesday, June 20th in the Lincoln Academy Cafeteria at 81 Academy Hill Road. In addition to budgetary adjustments, warrant articles of interest include one to adopt a new Traffic and Roads Ordinance and another to create a new reserve account titled the Village Partnership Initiative (VPI) reserve. The Traffic and Roads Ordinance will enable us to enforce road postings and will establish a winter parking ban among other necessary administrative functions. The warrant article establishing the VPI reserve will simultaneously allocate monies from the undesignated fund balance to place a balance in this account. This will enable the town to set aside money to assess traffic needs in the downtown in order to participate in a state matching program.

An update to our property valuations is planned for FY 25. Our Assessor, Jim Murphy, is beginning preparations for this in the coming year. Because we had a revaluation a few years ago, this is projected to be a smaller update. However, a revaluation is necessary on a regular, scheduled basis to ensure we are always maintaining accurate assessments in town.

I am proud to say, after a highly competitive process to obtain "Reach ME" funding from the Maine Connectivity Authority to expand broadband to all unserved and a large number of underserved households in Newcastle, our proposed project was selected to receive funding. I would like to extend sincere gratitude to all who have helped us reach this point in our mission to improve broadband capacity for Newcastle residents. Without years of work from the Newcastle Broadband Committee, the assistance and guidance from LCI, and the professional support from LCRPC, it would not have been possible to attain this generous grant of \$2.5 million to be shared between the Towns of Newcastle, South Bristol, and Union. Congratulations to all. Updates to this project will be provided on the town website as they become available.

This will be my last annual report as Town Manager for the Town of Newcastle. I am grateful for the opportunity to serve this beautiful community for the last two years, but I am ultimately looking forward to more time spent with my family, and future work endeavors a bit closer to home. I trust that the town is left in the competent hands of the Select Board, Road Commissioner, Town Office and Fire Department staff and I look forward to hearing about Newcastle's progress with ongoing projects in the coming years. When you work for a town, you are a steward to its progress. Perhaps the projects and goals accomplished were preordained to happen regardless of whether you were in your position or not, but it is always gratifying to see tangible results of your hard work and know that you were a part of that specific time in a municipalities history. Thank you to all in Newcastle who have been so warm and welcoming to me over the past two years.

SARAH MACY,
Newcastle Town Manager

Assessor's Report

James Murphy, Jr., Assessors' Representative
Murphy Appraisal Services, Inc.

I am going to sound like a broken assessor record. Average sale prices continue to increase and the average municipal valuations used for taxation purposes are not keeping up.

The goal after the 2021 revaluation is to keep valuations used for taxation on pace with the changes in real estate market. The revaluation was an in-depth review of all the baseline processes used to general ad valorem valuations with the understanding that future updates and revaluations would build upon that solid foundation.

The valuation update in 2025 will reflect that effort by having a significant cost reduction of an interim valuation adjustment as compared to a full general revaluation. It makes no sense to recreate data that the town already has that is being reviewed every year by an assessor's agent.

I am intending to try to stay in front of the warning letter from the state telling the town that the average ratio is less than 70%. The market is still strong. I do not want Newcastle to be behind on valuations. There are many towns around Newcastle that if they are not already in trouble by having low valuations they will be shortly.

The consequences of not being up to date are mostly financial. If the town is below 70% there is a reduction of reimbursements for Tree Growth properties and a tax shift from state funding of Homestead Reimbursements to your checkbook.

The recent, and unforeseen, addition of the Property Tax Stabilization for Senior Citizens law has caused many additional headaches. I have made no secret to everyone that this law is confusing, complicated and full of loopholes. The research and time burdens that have been added to the assessing duties is ridiculous.

I'm all for lower taxes and freezing taxes. In true legislative fashion the law shifts property tax to income and sales taxes. The winners? Property owners who taxes are now stabilized and professional tax assessors who will add time (money) to their contracts for the additional days of work.

I actually feel sorry for those towns that do not have access to a professional assessor. Given the new senior tax law, solar panel assessment and exemptions and the new tiny house law (LD 2003) I do not know how select boards who are also board of assessors can handle the changes on their own.

The Maine Homestead Exemption is available by application for those who qualify. At this time the PTSSC (senior frozen tax law) requires a new application to be submitted between August 1, 2023 and December 1, 2023. This law is currently being reviewed at the legislative level and changes are likely.

Applications are available at the town office or online through the state website. Also available is the Veterans Exemption, Blind Exemption and other programs that can assist at the town and state level. Please call me at 563-3441 if you have a question. I am usually scheduled for the Newcastle Town office only on Mondays. You can also email me at *assessor@newcastlemaine.us*.

For the coming year the Maine Homestead Exemption amount is \$25,000. This amount is adjusted by the town’s certified ratio in accordance with Maine Law.

ASSESSMENT STATISTICS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022-2023

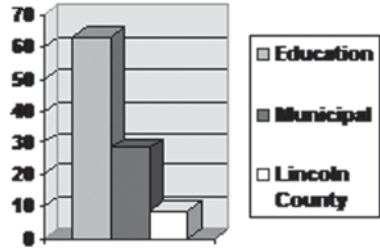
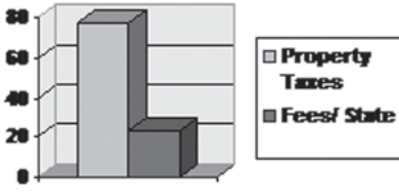
Total Taxable Valuation-Real Estate	\$ 331,403,000
Total Taxable Valuation-Personal Property	<u>2,022,900</u>
Total Taxable Valuation	\$333,425,900

2022-2023 Homestead Exemption Valuation	\$13,540,400
2021-2022 Homestead Exemption Valuation	\$12,196,000
2020-2021 Homestead Exemption Valuation	\$12,196,000

Commitment Date	July 11, 2022
Last day to appeal valuation	February 12, 2023
Tax (Mill) Rate	\$15.90 per \$1,000 of taxable value

2022-2023 Taxes to be raised	\$5,301,471.81
2021-2022 Taxes to be raised	\$5,067,766.98
2020-2021 Taxes to be raised	\$4,585,885.13

MUNICIPAL REVENUES



Revenue received from....
Property Taxes 77.1%
Other Fees/State 22.9%

And Expenses for.....
Education 63.1%
Municipal 28.4%
County 8.5%

Road Commissioner

To the citizens of Newcastle,

It is with great pleasure that I present to the citizens of Newcastle the annual Road Commissioner report for this past year. A great deal of support for our roads program is showing rewards as we make our way through the plan. This past year was another example of continued steps in a positive direction as the entire length of Station Road was the focus of most of our efforts. Despite continued supply chain issues and lingering effects of COVID, we added additional economic stressors that presented a challenge to accomplishing this year's tasks. We were able to complete all but one of the items in the CIP as a result of these complications, a very formidable accomplishment considering the fact that many municipalities had to scratch projects in their entirety due to budget constraints. The effects of the high cost of fuel in particular made for a challenge.



The picture above shows old log cribbing that was used to bridge wet spots and also allow for drainage on Station Rd. The road bed was built directly on top of these logs causing dis-similar materials and ultimately failing drainage. These logs were removed, new pipes installed and new gravel put in place. These culverts were extended to help with the intersection alignment.

Here are some details of the accomplishments from this past year, some insight on where we plan to go next.

Station Road Project:

The roads maintenance plan, called for Station Road to be reconstructed this year. Station road presented itself as a priority road due to its collective nature combined with the issues surrounding the culvert structure over Jenny Brook. These issues made this road a priority to address, below is a list of items that were corrected or altered as we worked our way through this project.

1. New sub-surface drainage
2. Ledge removal
3. Ditching / tree removal
4. Increased width to allow safe passage and compliance with MUTCD.
5. Built a turnaround at the end for public safety, buses and plow equipment. Cleaned the area at the turn around for better visibility with the train and provided positive drainage in this area.
6. Road alignment issues were addressed, and the intersection of Station Road and Island Road was widened and work in preparation for next year was performed to allow for easy connection.
7. New base pavement was installed.

As many of you know we have a 3-year road program that we have been utilizing to improve our infrastructure. The first year that a road enters the program it receives tree work, brush clearing and overall cleaning of the ROW. The second year is when a majority of the heavy work is performed, with drainage, ledge and base paving being installed. The third and final year the surface pavement is applied along with shoulder work.



A piece of the log drainage system under the Station & Island Rd. intersection.

This past year Station Road was in the second step of the process and Island Road entered the program in year one with tree work being completed. A noticeable difference on Island Road has been seen already allowing the sun to get into the roadbed, and a increased sight distance on the road due to all of the overhanging brush being cleared and removed. With the passage of the 23-24 budget Island Road will be entering into year two and Station Road will enter the final year of the plan.

West Old County Road entered its third year and final stage of completion, the finish layer of pavement was installed along the section that was reconstructed last year along with the base and finish pavement to the very end of the road. Shoulder gravel was also installed along the roadway to finish the project and now the road will enter a regular schedule of crack filling as a preventative maintenance measure.

Despite all the major capital work that was completed, we were able to complete all of the regular scheduled maintenance activities as well. Catch basins were cleaned, roads stripped, and we continue to try and get ahead of the street signs and the need for proper signage. This continues to be a struggle between vandalism and weather-related issues associated with signs. Winter maintenance activities were in full swing along with answering the call for any day to day needs that arose throughout the year. All in all, the maintenance budget survived the price fluctuations of this past year and we hope to see a consistent and steady approach for this coming budget cycle.

The annual gravel program continues to pay dividends as we see the spring approach each and every year. There is still lots of work to do on the dirt roads, however every year we make positive strides, as a result we have reduced the amount impassable sections of roadway. There are a few sections in town that need to be



Cross pipe on Station Rd. Father time has had its way with this piece of pipe and the entire bottom has rotten away. A new HDPE pipe was installed in its place.

improved as the hope to continue this program in the next budget cycle will be presented. It doesn't take very long to move in a negative direction, especially concerning dirt roads and the effects of Mother Nature on them.

One major accomplishment is a formal plan for the maintenance on the one town owned bridge located on South Dyer Neck Road This was completed by an engineering firm who provided the town with a comprehensive study and a formal maintenance plan was made because of that evaluation. This will be in the maintenance budget proposed for this year for funding and is available upon request for anyone that would like to take a gander.

Time, a mathematical measurement of being, as complicated as it may be, seems to pass so quickly and without pause. It is so hard to look back and see where we have been in this measurement process, however over the past few years the great work of the Town staff and the unbelievable support of the citizens of the Town of Newcastle has managed to tame this measurement with a great deal of work. The roads program has corrected many issues associated with time, and we have come up with a system that allows us to compete with the process of time, as we make these corrections and invest into the time of the future. The Town of Newcastle should be proud of how time has been managed over the past few years, this past year was no exception and thanks to all that make it possible. Make no mistake as we must keep our guard up at all times, there is much left to do in an effort to stay ahead of this measurement and the effects that it has.

Please feel free to reach out at any time with any comments, questions or concerns as I am always here to support the citizens of this great town. Please keep an eye out on the town website for updates on projects and road issues. Please utilize the e-mail option, for the quickest response in the event you need to contact me, roadcommissioner@newcastlemaine.us.

Respectfully,
SETH HAGAR
Road Commissioner

Tax Collector's Report

Unpaid Real Estate Taxes as of 05/08/2023

Name	Amt. Due
48 MAIN LLC	2,438.12
573 US ROUTE 1, LLC	10,167.24
AZEVEDO, LEONARDO	771.15
BAILEY, DESIREE	81.09
BALDWIN, ASHLEY	1,609.87
BARTLETT, LAWRENCE A	3722.19
BARTLETT, LAWRENCE A	486.54
BATES, ANN C	1,580.46
BENNER, BRUCE M	6,161.25
BERRY, DONNA	968.31
BOOTH, ANNE C	31.80
BOWDOIN, ANN M.	224.19
BUTLER, ROISEN	2,745.93
BUTTERFIELD, RANDY;, TRUSTEE	477.00
CAIN, ROBERT E	1,594.77
CAPITAL12, LLC	2,030.13
CHAMBERLAIN, PAUL D	3,558.42
CLAYTER, STEPHANIE L	973.08
COBURN, RUTH &	548.37
COFFIN, GARRETT S	5,908.44
COLLINS, GERTRAUD	1,289.49
COUSINS, JOHN L	1224.30
CRAFTS, JEFFERY H	7.95
CROWELL, DAVID A	3,536.16
DAIUTE, JESSE C	3,242.01
DAVIS, ROSWELL.; TRUSTEE	1,997.04
DOHERTY, CHRISTOPHER C	2,171.94
DRURY, FLORA M	620.10
DUMONT, THEODORE J	3,876.42
DUMONT, THEODORE J	95.40
EDGECOMB, VICTOR A	2,103.57
FERRANTE, DAVID J	2,163.70
FORD, ROBIN L	1,898.46
FORTIER, BERNICE M.; DEVISEES OF	3,587.04
FOWLER, DOUGLAS T	4,418.61
FOX, FAITH A	4,157.85
FREY III, , JOHN H.	478.59

Name	Amt. Due
GAGNON, ADAM W	3,944.79
GAGNON, STEPHEN R	1,214.72
GLASIER, SUSAN E	1,254.51
HACKETT, E.A. &	203.34
HAMLYN, ROBERT T	2,162.76
HART, WILLIAM	9.54
HEAFITZ, LEWIS	4,962.39
HEMINGWAY, JENNIFER A	2,963.76
HERVOCHON, GEORGE F III	1,100.28
HINGSTON, SAMUEL R	194.34
HINGSTON, SAMUEL R	1,279.95
HOFFMAN, MARK R	5,679.48
HOLME, CHRISTOPHER B.; TRUSTEE	5,382.15
HOMAN, JOHN W	1,135.73
HULL, FLORENCE W.	6,226.44
HUNT, FORREST C	294.15
HUTCHINSON, TAMARA M	3.18
HYMANSON, ANNA	1736.28
J&R SCHUMACHER, LLC	818.05
LEE, HENRY G	4.50
LEE, LAWRENCE R	6,792.48
LEEMAN, DAVID M	923.61
LENZYCKI, PAUL R	1,186.14
LIBBY, VIVIAN C	28.62
LIBBY, VIVIAN C	1,788.75
LIBBY, VIVIAN C	6,360.00
LUDWIG, DOUGLAS P	3,275.40
LYDECKER, KENNETH	214.65
MADDOX, MATTHEW R	3,927.30
MAIER, BETTY; TRUSTEE	3,083.80
MANZO, MICHAEL G	63.60
MCCLURE, JULIA	197.16
MCCORMACK, WINTHROP L.	11,101.38
MCLELLAN, KIMBERLY B	1,784.77
MERRITT, STEPHANIE A	1,703.04
MISIEWICZ, JANET C.; TRUSTEE	2,338.89
MORSE, NAHUM	726.63
NEILL, STEPHEN M	1,800.63
NEPTUNE-BENNER, CASANDRA L.	643.95
NEWCASTLE VENTURES, LLC	8,215.53
NORRIS, LYNNE M	472.54
PAUL, HOLLIE	601.02

Name	Amt. Due
PERCE, ROBERT M	342.82
PETEET, STARR G.	143.10
PETEET, STARR G.	1,264.05
POPP, STEPHEN J	4,141.95
QUINTERO, EMILIO C	1,462.80
RATH, STEPHEN D.; TRUSTEE	3,769.09
REED, JACKLYN D	1,250.30
REED, JACOB S	1,045.57
RIPPY, NICHOLAS J.	1,397.61
ROY, JOHN R	763.20
RUSSELL, ANNE A	2,060.64
SANDER, NATHANIEL J	264.73
SANDNER, JEFFREY R	429.30
SCHUMACHER, JOHN M	2331.73
SHERMAN, PETER M	303.69
SHERMAN, PETER M	319.59
SHERMAN, PETER M	1,400.79
SIMONDS, CYNTHIA J	2,017.78
SKENE, JR., ALEXANDER J.	3,657.00
SMITH, JAMES M	1,138.44
SMITH, JAMES M	4,812.93
SMITH, KIMBERLY	2,504.25
SPEAR, MARISHA	920.61
STEVENS, CASEY T.; TRUSTEE	1,520.04
STEVENS, THOMAS A	3,725.37
STEVENS, THOMAS A	1,063.71
STEVENS, THOMAS A	429.30
STRAW, LEE R	4,587.15
STUDLEY, DONNA LYNN & MODUGNO, JULIANNE; TRUSTE	584.32
SZCZEPANSKI, JOHN E	494.49
TAYLOR, JAMES E	2,028.84
TAYLOR, RAYMOND G	2,008.96
TRAILS END, LLC	4,651.54
TWIN VILLAGE, LLC.	275.86
UPTON, ANNE S	3,852.57
UPTON, ANNE S	12.72
VAN ABSHOVEN, MICHELLE M	2.03
VAUGHT, HANNAH H. AND HUGHES, CHARLES T. II; TRUS	2,216.46
WEBBER, DAVID	3.18
WEGMANN, CHARLES LUCAS	818.85
WEOALOT, LLC	2,177.50
WILKINSON, SETH	6,148.53

Name	Amt. Due
WOOD, ERIC M	536.96
YOUNG, JONATHAN R	4.313.67

Unpaid Personal Property Taxes as of 05/01/2023

ADP, DEALER SERVICES, INC.	27.03
COASTAL MAINE WOOD FLOORS	74.73
COLBY AUTO CENTER	144.69
FAUX, GEORGE F	238.50
MAINE INDUSTRIAL	1.08
MIKE'S PLACE	76.32
NEWCASTLE POTTERY DESIGN	17.49
NEWCASTLE PRE-SCHOOL	19.08
SANDNER, JEFFREY & BRENDA dba	360.93
STEVENS, THOMAS A	31.80
STONE EDGE FARM	19.08
STRAW, LEE R	268.71
TAXMAN INC.	40.85
TIPSY BUTLER B & B	15.90
TRUE NORTH SURVEYING SERVICES	106.53

Town Clerk

2022 Births - Our Newest Residents - 11 recorded births

Number and Location of Births

Augusta - 2; Brunswick - 5; Damariscotta - 1; Portland - 3

2022 MARRIAGES - Our Newest Couples

<u>Couple</u>	<u>Date of Marriage</u>
Allen-Perry, Stephen Paul/Toscano, Mina Emilia	09/10/2022
Bickford, Susan Carol/Simon, Richard Art	08/27/2022
Frost, Mary Elizabeth/Riccardi-Percy, Rufus Vincent	04/16/2022
Hammond, Kelsey Marie/Cole, Derek Kelley-Brennan	10/05/2022
Look, Merissa Kaye/Hodgkins, Maxwell Allen	08/20/2022
McLellan, Kimberly Bacon/Bartle, Mark Warren	10/15/2022
Searles, Stephen Michael/Rackauskas, Daniel James	06/30/2022
Sweeney, Richard Carroll/Okie, Karen Kruger	09/24/2022

2022 DEATHS – Our Losses

<u>Name</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Date</u>
Brooks, John Edward	68	Portland	01/23/2022
Caton, Dianne Ruth	85	Damariscotta	03/04/2022
Chapman, Heather A.	76	Damariscotta	11/26/2022
Conlin, Christopher Francis	55	Rockport	04/20/2022
Farnsworth, Earl C.	78	Bristol	01/14/2022
Foote, Robert Jeffery	66	Portland	10/12/2022
Fossett, Jacquelyn Ann	49	Newcastle	12/02/2022
Godden, Edward F.	87	Rockport	07/08/2022
Heady, William D.	80	Newcastle	01/17/2022
Hingston, John P.	43	Newcastle	01/05/2022
Lambert, Patricia K.	95	Rockport	06/07/2022
Maier, Betty A.	86	Newcastle	11/06/2022
Niedhamer, Julia J.	98	Newcastle	03/16/2022
Porter, Faith Merrill	81	Damariscotta	08/04/2022
Racz, Evelyn Elizabeth	94	Newcastle	02/25/2022

Russell, Anne A.	91	Damariscotta	03/02/2022
Sidelinger, David Louis	64	Rockport	03/24/2022
Spear, Ashley S.	70	Boothbay Harbor	08/31/2022
Steele, Pauline Joyce	96	Damariscotta	06/21/2022
Tigert, Douglas J.	84	Newcastle	10/19/2022
Unruh, Eric Neal	53	Damariscotta	03/09/2022
Welch, Benjamin M. Jr.	86	Rockport	03/30/2022

2022 Land Use Permits

1	Date w/CEO Approval	Permit #	Applicant/Owner	Map/Lot	Location	Reason for Permit	Fees	Planning Board Approval	Appeals Board Approval
2	1/10/2022	22-01	Frances Perkins Center	M3/L60	478 River Road	Restoration of Existing Structure	\$675.00	10/21/2021	n/a
3	1/14/2022	22-02	Lawrence-Friend-Jr	M5/L20	527-Route-One	Sign-330-Development - Sign-Removal/Install	\$40.00	n/a	n/a
4	1/20/2022	22-02	Rob Nelson - 10 Mills Rd Newcastle, LLC	M13/L5B	10 Depot St	Change of Use	\$100.00	1/20/2022	n/a
5	2/7/2022	22-03	Pamela Ostbye	M5/L45-A	179 Academy Hill	Convert Bsmt to Apt	\$100.00	n/a	n/a
6	2/22/2022	22-04	Michael Howland	M13/L50-1	26 Stewart St	2-story Home, Garage, Carriage House w/in-Law Apt.	\$350.00	n/a	n/a
7	2/28/2022	22-05	David Lawrence	M7/L45	289 Mills Rd	28x32 w/Living Area Garage	\$225.00	n/a	n/a
8	2/28/2022	22-06	Maxwell Hodgkins	M6/L41-C	146 Ridge Rd	24x30 Garage	\$100.00	n/a	n/a
9	3/10/2022	22-07	Jesse M Chaney	M12/L12	11 High St	Remodel for Extra Living Sp - 2nd Floor	\$25.00	n/a	n/a
10	3/10/2022	22-09	Jon Parker	M4/L65	Sheepsfoot Rd	New Residence - Mobile Home	\$125.00	n/a	n/a
11	3/14/2022	22-08	Mexicali Views LLC	M5/L20-B	561 Route One	Commercial Unit	\$1,375.00	2/17/2022	n/a
12	3/21/2022	22-10	Charlene Kellogg	M5/47-4	9 Middle Way	Tourist Rental	\$100.00	n/a	n/a
13	3/29/2022	22-11	Stanley Brown	M9/L24-A	232 Bunker Hill Rd	Accessory Bldg - Shed	\$100.00	n/a	n/a
14	3/22/2022	22-12	Mary Beavis	M4/L53-1	154 W. Old County Rd	Fenced Warming Shed 14x24	\$100.00	n/a	n/a
15	4/5/2022	22-13	Kenneth Taylor	M4/L66	Indian Trail	Single Home w/Garage/Access. Bldg	\$200.00	n/a	n/a
16	4/7/2022	22-14	Alex Nevens (Public House)	M12/L24	52 Main St	Retractable Awning	\$50.00	n/a	n/a
17	4/5/2022	22-15	Clark / Belnap	M3/L34	US Route 1	Camp	\$125.00	n/a	n/a
18	4/19/2022	22-16	Daniel Keller	M7/L16	214 Pond Rd	Lean-to	\$50.00	n/a	n/a
19	4/21/2022	22-17	Luc Levensohn	M13/L42	24 Pump St	Annual Tourist Rental Agreement	\$100.00	n/a	n/a
20	5/11/2022	22-18	Dexter Russell	M6/L68-A	576 N. Newcastle Rd	Detached Garage	\$100.00	n/a	n/a
21	5/12/2022	22-19	Tim Mellon/Community Housing Improvement	M13/L43	28 Pump St	Handicap Accessible Ramp	\$50.00	n/a	n/a
22	5/12/2022	22-20	Shelby Faux/Payson Cunningham	M12/L31-A	67 Main St	Wall & Pole Sign	\$30.00	n/a	n/a
23	5/12/2022	22-21	Rob Barrett	M12/L31-A	67 Main St	Annual Tourist Rental Agreement	\$100.00	n/a	n/a
24	5/19/2022	22-22	Roger & Wanda Wilcox	M8/L10-B	28 N. Dyer Neck Rd	Garage - Equipment Storage	\$100.00	n/a	n/a
25	5/24/2022	22-23	Watershed Center	M2/L23-C	19 Brick Hill Rd	Cabins - Housing for Staff	\$325.00	n/a	n/a
26	6/9/2022	22-24	Wendi Smith	M7/L6-A	149 W Hamlet Rd	8' Privacy Fence	\$25.00	n/a	n/a
27	6/23/2022	22-25	Deric Verney	M4/L45	127 W Old County Rd	40x70 Bldg/Barn	\$100.00	n/a	n/a
28	7/5/2022	22-26	David Hewitt	M16/L5	74 Lincoln Lane	24x12 Enclosed Deck	\$50.00	n/a	n/a
29	7/5/2022	22-27	Tom Stevens	M3/L13-A	10 Lynch Rd	20x30 Canvas Shelter	\$100.00	n/a	n/a
30	7/11/2022	22-28	Jonathan Young	M9/L23-B	201 Bunker Hill Rd	Storage/Sugar Shack 12x24'	\$100.00	n/a	n/a
31	7/11/2022	22-29	Jonathan Young	M9/L23-B	201 Bunker Hill Rd	Storage Shed 5x8'	\$100.00	n/a	n/a
32	8/5/2022	22-30	Dead River	M9/L50-B-1	Route One	Bldg / Entrance & Parking Lot / Util.	\$6,401.20	4/14/2022	n/a
33	8/9/2022	22-31	Todd Vincentzen	M3/L65	127 Perkins Point Rd	Exterior Stairs	\$100.00	n/a	n/a
34	8/11/2022	22-32	Kevin Burns	M3/L65-F	79 Castlewood Rd	40x12 Deck Addition	\$50.00	n/a	n/a
35	8/19/2022	22-33	Pamela Farnsworth	M8/L51-B	240 Jones Woods Rd	8x10 Storage Shed	\$100.00	n/a	n/a
36	8/22/2022	22-34	Eric Brewer	M5/L16-A	53 Sheepsfoot Rd	20x20 Cabin w/Pitched Roof	\$125.00	n/a	n/a
37	8/23/2022	22-35	David McKellar	M9/L31	30 Thistle Way	42x84 RubberMaid Plastic Shed	\$100.00	n/a	n/a
38	8/23/2022	22-36	David McKellar	M9/L31	30 Thistle Way	52' Square Shed	\$100.00	n/a	n/a
39	9/1/2022	22-37	Wray Fitch	M3/L57	434 River Rd	8x12 Entryway & 8x12 Deck	\$100.00	n/a	n/a
40	9/21/2022	22-38	Rick St. Amand	M11/L20	85 River Rd	27x8 Roofed Deck	\$125.00	n/a	n/a
41	9/21/2022	22-39	Jesse M Chaney	M12/L12	11 High St	12x12 Deck & 16x8 Shed	\$125.00	n/a	n/a
42	9/21/2022	22-40	George Faux	M7/L38	321 Mills Rd	20x28 Addition to Garage	\$100.00	n/a	n/a
43	9/21/2022	22-41	Laura & Leo Azevedo	M8/L27	507 Jones Woods Rd	8x4 Farmstand	\$150.00	n/a	n/a
44	10/13/2022	22-42	G & D Engineering (Williams)	M7/L3	35 Pond Rd	Demolition	\$50.00	n/a	n/a
45	10/17/2022	22-43	Justin Wood	M3/L7	144 Lynch Rd	Addition to Sugar House	\$50.00	n/a	n/a
46	HOLD	22-44	Starr Petzet	M5/L66	Glidden St	New Home	\$125.00	n/a	n/a
47	HOLD	22-45	Starr Petzet	M5/L66	Glidden St	Carriage House	\$125.00	n/a	n/a
48	10/26/2022	22-46	Mike & Maureen Laird	M13/L22-2	20 Stewart St	2 Car Garage	\$100.00	n/a	n/a
49	10/31/2022	22-47	Kyle Markman	M3/L72	River Rd	10x10 Bldg. Sign	\$100.00	n/a	n/a
50	12/1/2022	22-48	Bill & April Jubett	M8/L18-A	High Ground Rd	Single Family Home	\$125.00	n/a	n/a
51		22-49	NOT ISSUED						
52	12/27/2022	22-50	Suzanne Willis	M2/L50-B	81 Lynch Rd	16x12 Shed	\$100.00	n/a	n/a

2022 Plumbing Permits

2022 Permits	Permit	Property Owner	Type	Location		Street Address
				Map	Lot	
			S (Septic)			
			I (Interior)			
			T (Tank)			
2022						
1/10/2022	22-01	Steve Williams	I (Interior)	7	33	35 Pond Rd
2/7/2022	22-02	Kyle Burchesky	I (Interior)	13	62	39 Glidden St
2/7/2022	22-03	Christopher Hight	I (Interior)	7	52-B	257 Academy Hill Rd
2/11/2022	22-04	Brendan Parsons	I (Interior)	7	32-A	57 Pond Rd
3/10/2022	22-07	Jesse Chaney	I (Interior)	12	12	11 High St
*Permit 22-05 is non-existent (Clerk Mistake)						
3/14/2022	22-06	Wayne Farrin	I (Interior)	12	L9-3	3 Hall St
3/17/2022	22-08	Mexicali Views	S (Septic)	5	20	561 US Route 1
4/4/2022	22-09	Rob Barrett	I (Interior)	12	31-A	67 Main St
4/14/2022	22-10	Gordon Clark	I (Interior)	3	34	808 Route One
4/14/2022	22-11	Gordon Clark	S (Septic)	3	34	808 Route One
4/26/2022	22-12	Joseph Simone	I (Interior)	7A	30	3 Stonebridge Circle
5/2/2022	22-13	Erick Bessey	S (Septic)	4	29	357 Sheepscot Rd
5/2/2022	22-14	Alex Landau	I (Interior)	8	18-5	High Ground / Bluff
5/12/2022	21-27	Mike Webster	S (Septic)	8	32-B	Estey Rd - Rev from 2021
5/13/2022	22-15	Chris Garner	S (Septic)	8	35	175 Ridge Rd - *Rescinded
5/19/2022	22-16	Chris Garner	I (Interior)	8	35	175 Ridge Rd - *Rescinded
6/9/2022	22-17	Jessica Wrobel	S (Septic)	4	16	1 Cunningham Island Rd
6/16/2022	22-18	Mary Versailles	I (Interior)	2	65	307 Lynch Rd
6/23/2022	22-19	Deric Verney	I (Interior)	4	45	127 W Old County Rd
6/23/2022	22-20	Deric Verney	S (Septic)	4	45	127 W Old County Rd
6/30/2022	22-23A	David Lawrence	S (Septic)	7	45	289 Mills Rd
7/5/2022	22-21	Nida Angeliadis	I (Interior)	20	18	12 The Kings Hwy
7/5/2022	22-22	Nida Angeliadis	S (Septic)	20	18	12 The Kings Hwy
7/12/2022	22-23	Casey Stevens	S (Septic)	5	35-A	192 E Old County Rd
7/12/2022	22-24	Michelle Phelps	I (Interior)	9	13-2	Atkinson Rd

continued next page

7/12/2022	22-25	Mexicali Views	I (Interior)	5	20-C	565 Route One
7/14/2022	22-26	Joshua Eaton	I (Interior)	8	39-C	40 Forest Rd
7/18/2022	22-27	James Patten	S (Septic)	3	42	269 River Rd
8/5/2022	22-28	Dead River	I (Interior)	4	90-B-1	Route One
8/5/2022	22-29	Dead River	S (Septic)	4	90-B-1	Route One
8/11/2022	22-30	Chester & Jean Bunker	S (Septic)	6	25	224 N Newcastle Rd
8/18/2022	22-31	Robert Dewitt	I (Interior)	12	23	50 Main St
8/22/2022	22-32	Eric Brewer	I (Interior)	5	16-A	53 Sheepscot Rd
9/21/2022	22-33	Bill Jubett	S (Septic)	8	18-A	High Ground
9/21/2022	22-34	Richard Cash	I (Interior)	4	59-C	350 E Old County Rd
10/18/2022	22-35	Diane Sutherland	S (Septic)	18	9	53 Stafford Circle *Replacement
10/25/2022	22-36	Frances Perkins	S (Septic)	3	60	478 River Rd *Replacement
11/15/2022	22-37	Wray Fitch	I (Interior)	15	45	Goose Neck Cove
11/15/2022	22-38	Dick Johnson	I (Interior)	4	90	34 Sheepscot Rd
11/16/2022	22-39	Kenneth Taylor	I (Interior)	4	66	66 Indian Trail Rd

Planning Board

This year, for the first year, the town and specifically the planning board welcomed and enjoyed the professional services of a town planner. After a short adjustment period spent redefining and clarifying the roles and responsibilities between the town planner, the CEO, and the planning board, the town planner and the planning board worked to adopt best practices for the smooth operation of reviewing applications, communicating with applicants, and developing a more robust internal paperwork and information flow. The planning board also adopted new bylaws, developed better permit application forms, and began recording our meetings for public broadcast with the help of LCTV.

Due to this transition, several projects are still in progress from last year such as updates to both Shoreland and Subdivision regulations, which will incorporate the latest changes and recommendations from the state. However, the addition of professional planning services within the town has been transformative, and an overwhelmingly positive experience.

Respectfully submitted,
BEN FREY, Chair

Veterans Memorial Park Committee

The Veterans Memorial Park had a very good season again this past year. The asphalt sidewalks encouraged more use of the park including an historic photograph display and sale by the Newcastle Historical Society.

Our faithful volunteers have also cared for the Taniscot garden on Pump Street. It is kept looking pretty and well tended. This garden was designed and installed by Lincoln Academy students several years ago.

The Old Bristol Garden Club very kindly continues to grant money to help with fertilizers and plants for the perennial garden. Renys Department Store has again donated tulip and daffodil bulbs. Volunteers got the bulbs in the ground last autumn, so watch for tulips to bloom in May.

Thank you to the Chamber of Commerce for their dedicated work making the Park look so festive over the holidays

Allan Ray and Cal Hurdle are our heroes for their careful mowing and weed whacking. We want to thank the Congregational Church members for pruning the hedge so carefully.

Our volunteers, made up of local gardeners and neighbors, always cheerfully show up for our work parties. We get together for spring cleanup, planting, weeding and watering as well as for fall cleanup. We appreciate Louis Doe Home Center's careful delivery of mulch each spring.

Thank you to taxpayers for your continued support of The Veterans Memorial Park which honors our service men and women.

BETSY EVANS
ELLEN MCFARLAND
ALLAN RAY

K-12 Education Report

The Central Lincoln County School System (CLCSS), operating as an Alternative Organizational Structure (AOS 93) serves seven towns: Bremen, Bristol, Damariscotta, Jefferson, Newcastle, Nobleboro, and South Bristol. AOS 93 brings together five elementary schools: Bristol Consolidated, Jefferson Village, Nobleboro Central, South Bristol and Great Salt Bay. Approximately 1040 students attend PreK to eighth grade in their communities own school district within AOS 93.

AOS 93 is guided by a mission statement with the common purpose of providing high quality learning for all CLCSS students. This system creates a network to implement common curriculum, assessment and instruction aligned with important learning standards that supports all students achieving to high levels.

Alignment with our Vision

AOS 93 elementary schools work diligently to provide an innovative learning environment that prepares all of our students for challenges beyond grade eight. AOS 93 does not operate a high school, each AOS 93 town pays the approved state tuition rate to a local public or private high school. The majority of our students attend school locally and a small percentage attend schools with boarding options. In order to receive these public funds schools must meet criterias for instruction and complete an approval process with the State of Maine. During the 2022-2023 school year there were approximately 540 students attending area public high schools, private academies or equivalency programs.

We strive to teach our students to be good people and do what's right for their neighbors, near and far. Building social and emotional skills has become a priority in our schools as we see increased behavioral needs from our students after a lack of social interaction during the pandemic. AOS 93 schools have adopted initiatives to support social and emotional growth for students. Teachers support student learning by offering a positive environment for all grade levels. Every staff member contributes to the learning of the students and all staff members are responsible for all students. Staff

are diligent in addressing problem student behavior and, as often as possible, acknowledging and commending desired student behavior. Time and effort to train our staff in multiple methods for responses to behaviors continues to be a priority.

Our interest in promoting health and resiliency for our staff and students has extended beyond the pandemic. We continue to follow healthy practices to prevent and mitigate the spread of viruses in our schools. AOS 93 follows the communicable disease protocols as part of normal operations. We continue to maintain cleaning protocols and air filtration protocols to keep our schools safe. Water testing for lead and PFAS has been completed in each of our schools this year and results have been followed up with needed corrections to ensure the safety of the drinking water in each school building.

A continuous safe and supportive learning environment is nurtured for our staff and students. We have implemented updated emergency response protocols and considered upgrades to facilities and staffing to promote school safety in each of our schools this year. Our collaborative efforts with local safety agencies proved effective when tested this year. Every year schools have mandatory training for all staff on the topic of safety. We are grateful for the support of the Damariscotta Police Department and the Lincoln County Sheriff's Department who provided training for staff this fall to reinforce our preventative strategies and build our capacity to respond to safety incidents.

Meeting Emerging Needs

AOS 93 schools have been diligently recruiting and retaining staff in regular and special education. Our dedicated building administrators worked through the summer to hire many new staff for different roles in our elementary schools. Recruited staff were then supported at our New Teacher Academy event, at which staff were presented with a variety of activities and presentations to welcome and support them.

During the summer, intervention efforts for our students who have lost learning during the pandemic continue with a full-day summer school program. Each school partners with CLC YMCA to provide students with targeted academics as well as outdoor, experiential learning opportunities.

Planning Forward

Each school has a Comprehensive Needs Assessment Planning Team working in collaboration with the principal to complete the annual needs assessment, analyzing data to identify emerging academic and behavioral needs. The findings of these teams will be presented to the individual Boards and shared with the staff. The intent is to use collected data to identify goals and more purposefully leverage local, state, and federal funding to target those areas.

A Curriculum Planning Team with teacher members representing each school was recruited to focus on what works and what support is needed. Professional development in all aspects of writing instruction is being planned for this spring. A Math Review is planned to take a close look at both of our math programs to consider how current instruction aligns with best practices, to revisit research-based reviews, and to analyze the math data we have gathered. The results of our review will shape our math curriculum plans moving forward.

Great Salt Bay Community School (GSB) responded to their need for additional space with a new modular unit on school grounds. The roof, windows, and finishing construction have been completed and the new space has been put to good use. GSB continues to collaborate with local community partners like Coastal Rivers Conservation Trust to enrich classroom studies with place-based education opportunities that integrate the rich community history and resources to their classroom education. GSB celebrates its successes; one example of this is the recognition of Art Teacher Karen Hight as the Prang Art Teacher of the Year by a selection committee as one of 10 art teachers recognition from 200 from across the country.

The vibrancy of our local communities and their support for our AOS 93 schools is essential for the attainment of student aspirations. Our common mission of providing high quality learning for all AOS 93 students continues. Together we make a positive difference in the lives of our students, local families, and the communities in which we live and work. We are increasingly coming together to create a network to implement common curriculum, assessment and instruction aligned with important learning standards that supports all students achieving to high levels.

October 2022 Enrollment

2022 Primary Enrollment											
	Pre-K	Kdgn.	1st Grade	2nd Grade	3rd Grade	4th Grade	5th Grade	6th Grade	7th Grade	8th Grade	TOTAL ELEM.
Bristol	13	19	26	20	15	19	18	20	20	12	182
Open Enrollment	1	1		3	1	1					7
Superintendent's Agree											
Tuition Agreement										1	1
Bristol Total	14	20	26	23	16	20	18	20	20	13	190
Bremen		6	2	10	5	6	9	8	5	10	61
Damariscotta		16	23	22	23	19	13	29	16	22	183
Newcastle		9	13	15	11	13	18	14	22	18	133
Open Enrollment		1	1	1	0	0	0	1	4	1	9
Superintendent's Agree										1	1
Public Tuition		2	1	1	2	4	1	2	3	2	18
GSB, CSD Total		34	40	49	41	42	41	54	50	54	405
Jefferson		18	29	31	29	30	24	30	20	27	238
Open Enrollment											0
Superintendent's Agree											
Jefferson Total		18	29	31	29	30	24	30	20	27	238
Nobleboro		15	23	19	13	16	10	14	16	12	138
Open Enrollment			1			1	2	1	1	3	9
CAL (from out of NCS)											
Public Tuition					1						
Superintendent's Agreement											
Nobleboro Total		15	24	19	14	17	12	15	17	15	148
South Bristol	0	7	3	2	4	5	5	5	10	6	47
Superintendent's Agree		1	1	1			1	1	1	2	8
Open Enrollment											
So. Bristol Total	0	8	4	3	4	5	6	6	11	8	55
TOTAL ELEMENTARY	14	95	123	125	104	114	101	125	118	117	1036

2022 Secondary Enrollment						
	9th Grade	10th Grade	11th Grade	12th Grade	TOTAL SEC.	
Bremen	12.5	5	4	7	28.5	
Bristol	31	20.5	21.5	25	98	
Damariscotta	25	23	19	21	88	
Jefferson	27	31.5	28	24	110.5	
Newcastle	27.5	28	27.5	27	110	
Nobleboro	17	21	17.5	21.5	77	
South Bristol	9.5	6	9.5	7	32	
TOTAL SECONDARY	149.5	135	127	132.5	544	

K-12 AOS No. 93 Total 1580

Central Lincoln County Schools/AOS 93 Staff

Name	Position	Ext.
Lynsey Johnston	Superintendent	101
Linda Skiff	Superintendent Admin. Assistant	101
Peter Nielsen	Business Manager	106
Tara McKechnie	Asst. Superintendent	103
Candice Abruzese	Payroll & Benefits Manager	105
Lisa Dinsmore	Finance Assistant	112
Myra Lane	Account Payable Clerk	110
Kelly Stokes	Director of Special Services	104
Sherry Forstrom	Special Services Admin. Assistant	104
Shannon Siegal	School Psychological Svcs. Provider	109
Michelle Miller	Food Services Director	111
Pamela Sperry	Adult Education Director	563-2811
Bonnie Merril	Assistant to the Adult Ed. Director	563-2811

Lincoln Academy

To the Residents of Newcastle:

Thank you for your continuing support of Lincoln Academy, an independent school serving students from midcoast towns since our founding in 1801. The school is thriving thanks to our supportive community, vibrant and diverse student body, and hardworking faculty and staff. After more than two years of pandemic adjustments, we are back to a full schedule of academics and extracurricular programming in the 2022-23 school year.

Here is a quick “by the numbers” look at Lincoln Academy in the 2022-23 academic year:

Current Enrollment: 582 Students from 20 Towns and 15 Countries

- 35% of LA students qualified for free & reduced lunch
- 21% of current juniors and seniors attend vocational programming at BRCTC
- 20% of LA students take one or more AP classes during their years at LA
- 33% of LA students play at least one sport
- 23% participate in band, choir, and/or theater programs

Enrollment: 2022-23 school year enrollment has been strong thanks to large ninth and tenth grade classes. Next year’s incoming class so far looks smaller than the graduating class, but we anticipate total enrollment to remain consistent. The residential program continues to grow, and we expect to have over 50 international and domestic students in the dorm next year.

Academics: Lincoln Academy offers 135 classes, including 42 STEM classes, 30 Performing and Visual Arts classes, 30 Advanced Placement (AP) and honors classes, and 11 vocational certificate programs through the Bath Regional Career and Technical Center (BRCTC).

Athletics: In 2022 LA sports teams found significant success: The girls tennis team won their third State title in four seasons. The boys soccer team and both boys and girls cross country teams won KVAC championships, the girls cross country for the second year

in a row. Many individual athletes also won accolades and broke school records in wrestling (one new state champion!), swim, golf, and track and field.

Performing Arts: While performing arts programs were particularly hard-hit by pandemic restrictions, LA's award winning programs have bounced back this year. The theater program staged seven sold-out performances of *Les Miserables* in the fall, and 14 musicians (including band, choir, jazz, and orchestra) qualified for All-State music festivals and 29 qualified for District Honors music festivals.

Of the 125 graduates in the class of 2022:

- 62 enrolled in 4-year colleges
- 21 enrolled in 2-year colleges
- 37 entered the workforce
- 5 entered the military

Two members of the class were National Merit Semifinalists and 17 were AP Scholars. Graduates were awarded over \$350,000 in scholarships through Lincoln Academy, local, statewide, and national foundations.

Faculty Credentials

- 57% of Lincoln Academy faculty have their Master's or other advanced degree
- 5 faculty members have gone beyond their state certification to become National Teacher Certified Teachers

Career Preparation

- The First Annual Peter J. Benner Job Fair in spring 2022 hosted 19 local businesses with immediate openings for employment. Some students were hired on the spot! The second annual Job Fair is planned for April 5, 2023.
- A new weekly Career Exploration Series is currently underway, bringing professionals to campus to meet with students and discuss a wide variety of career paths.
- The online Jobs Board connected dozens of students and recent graduates with summer and year-round jobs at local businesses and organizations.

2022-23 Per-pupil tuition (set by the state, paid by towns)

Tuition Rate	\$12,558.90
Insured Value (added to tuition for facilities upkeep)	\$753.53
Total (<i>Maximum allowable tuition/MAT</i>)	\$13,312.43

Accreditation: Lincoln Academy is accredited by the Maine Department of Education and the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC). The comprehensive accreditation process takes place every ten years, most recently in 2015. The school will embark on the next round of accreditation in 2023-24.

Please join us on the historic Lincoln Academy campus this year for an athletic event, concert, theater performance, or Commencement on June 2, 2023 at 4 pm. You can find more information and a calendar of upcoming events on our website, lincolnacademy.org.

JEFFREY S. BURROUGHS,
Head of School

6-Year Totals for the town of	# Graduates	M/F	Students with an IEP	Students with 504 plan	BRCTC Students	AP Students
Newcastle	101	48/53	12.0%	18%	11%	58%

IEP: *Individualized Education Plan. Ensures children with disabilities identified under the law receive specialized instruction and related services.*

504 Plan: *Based on Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. A plan for students with disabilities who do not require specialized instruction but need the assurance that they will receive equal access to public education and services.*

Adult and Community Education

Although this past year saw us able to impact more lives than the previous one, it was nonetheless a challenge to remain vigilant in regard to COVID-19 protocols and guidance. Each time we thought we were finally out of the woods in regard to this pandemic, we would find ourselves back in the forest and looking for the way out. Yet despite all of the challenges, we managed to graduate six students between the ages of 17-28 who are now on a much brighter path to their futures. Our graduation was held on June 7th at the Lincoln Theater and was a truly inspiring event. One of our graduates from last year, Honora Boothby, made the moment especially touching with her hauntingly beautiful rendition of “Meadow Lark” from the musical *The Baker’s Wife*. From the processional to the flipping of the tassels once diplomas were in hand, it was a moving and magical night!

Since 2018 your local adult education program has served 65 students from our seven AOS 93 communities in our high school equivalency program and successfully graduated 36 of them! Additionally, 89 people accessed our College Transitions program for support in finding the right post-secondary school, in getting into the trades, in accessing workforce training, in completing financial forms, or simply figuring out what career might be best given one’s interests and strengths. And finally, this past year we graduated another 17 students in our CNA partnership program with LincolnHealth!

Since 2018, we have registered 1,070 residents of our AOS 93 towns for one or more of our in-person or on-line enrichment classes! From learning sign language to making cheese to getting into the right Medicare program, we here at Central Lincoln County Adult & Community Education have your back! We partner with all of the adult education programs from Topsham to Belfast as well as LincolnHealth, the YMCA, the National Digital Equity Center,

the Maine Tasting Center, Central Maine Community College, the Academy of Medical Professions, and the Learning Resources network to provide you with a wide range of learning options - both career-wise and just-for-fun wise. We may be a very small program but through these partnerships we are able to offer a host of new opportunities for both our educational and enrichment clients. Many of these new offerings are able to be accessed remotely which is especially beneficial during these still uncertain times.

Finally, for the first time in many years, your local adult and community education program is seeking an increase in financial support from each of our AOS 93 communities. Both of our federal grants are ending this year and, as you know, the price of almost everything has increased significantly over the past few years. In order for us to continue helping people reach their educational and workforce goals, we need to increase our towns' contributions to something closer to what other adult education programs receive from their local communities. Out of the ten adult education programs in our regional HUB (HUB #7), the local contributions range from 60.56% (Camden/Rockport) to 78.69% (Boothbay Harbor). Our Central Lincoln County program receives only 33.60% in local contributions from our AOS 93 towns. Clearly, we lag behind our adult education counterparts by a significant amount when it comes to local funding. Thankfully, donations from the Burns Family Foundation have enabled us to keep our doors open throughout this pandemic. However, we need to have a more stable and predictable source of income moving forward. I sincerely hope you will vote to support us when it is time to cast your ballot/raise your hand at the annual Town Meeting.

We are beyond grateful to our AOS 93 communities for all of the support we have received over the years and hope it will continue. We are your *Learning for Work & Life* team and we are here to help make dreams come true!

Respectfully submitted,
PAMELA J. SPERRY, Director

Skidompha Library

2021 and 2022 began Skidompha's climb out the pandemic service model. Newcastle's financial support has helped Skidompha hire new staff, continue to expand our programming, and make necessary improvements to the facility. Newcastle's contribution remains critical to maintaining the level of services we provide, and I am thankful to the Town for its ongoing confidence in Skidompha and its work in the community.

Skidompha hired two new key personnel over fiscal year 21-22, a new Teen Librarian, Kristi Favaloro, and a new Adult Services Librarian, Molly Coyle. Both librarians have surpassed our expectations. Each fearlessly leaned into their new respective positions bringing energy and creativity to everything they did. Early sign up for summer 2022 summer read surpassed any previous year of my tenure at Skidompha with both teens and adults showing surprisingly big numbers. Both librarians reached out to forge new professional relations and create new services to entertain, educate, and support the community, including a free pantry offering healthy foods and fresh vegetables, as well as personal hygiene items.

Skidompha also applied for and won a number of significant grants that brought needed funds to the library. These funds enabled us to improve health and safety by refurbishing and modernizing our heating, ventilation, and air conditioning system. This work significantly increased the filtration and air turnover within the library. We also won support to maintain our Hoopla downloadable library subscription and fund new programming targeting adults, teens, and young children. Our teen room was remodeled and our in-house EPOCH teen magazine published two new volumes.

In addition we maintained our regular programming of weekly drop-in tech help, Chats for Champions, Poetry, Mindfulness Meditation, Children's Story Time, and our monthly book club. We also continued to provide our bread-and-butter reader services,

access to two downloadable ebook collections, and our critical clerical services of open public WiFi, printing, faxing, scanning, and copying remained available. And as ever, we continued our commitment to being a source of compassionate human connection to our patrons.

Skidompha is rising. Over fiscal year 2020-2021, 21,800 people entered the library. In fiscal year 2021-2022 that figure rose to 36,000. Skidompha will continue to rise through the generosity of our community and supporting municipalities, and through the passion and energy of its staff.

My third full year as Executive Director, while challenging, was profoundly fulfilling, and I am both proud and privileged to work with such extraordinary people as the Skidompha Library staff. Their work makes Skidompha the bright, vibrant, and necessary resource it is.

We are grateful for your continued support.

With thanks,
MATTHEW GRAFF,
Executive Director

Newcastle Fire Company Taniscot Engine Company

The Newcastle Fire Company responds to protect life and property 24 hrs/day 365 days/year. Without your trust and support, we would not be able to provide the high level of service you have come to expect day in and day out, and for that we are thankful.

Firefighter training is one of the, if not the most important function at the fire station. As you can imagine, there are many different topics we are privileged to learn about, these are some examples: vehicle extrication, ladders, structural firefighting, wildland firefighting, water rescue, communication, emergency air quality monitoring, and hazardous materials. No two calls are the same, so our training is frequent.

The motorized equipment in the fire stations is in good serviceable order and is constantly being assessed by the Members of the Fire Company, Mechanics, and Pump Service Mechanics for reliability and service life. We take great pride in the maintenance and care of our equipment to ensure the longest service possible. We are currently working on the replacement of Engine 8, a 1974 Ford Pumper.

The Fire Company has 9-1-1 address signs available to our residents upon request. These signs are blue reflective backing with white reflective numbers. They can be one or two sided and mounted on a post or building. The signs cost \$10.00 each. Placing these signs at the end of your driveway or on your house or business helps the Fire, Police, and Ambulance responders locate you when you're in need of emergency assistance. If you would like a sign, please call the fire station at 563-3888 and leave a message; we will return your call.

Newcastle Fire Company Inc. is a non-profit 501(c)3 and our fundraising efforts are always ongoing. Our current fundraising will go toward additional battery powered hydraulic extrication tools,

and to replace our Avon Rescue Boat. All the donations we receive are much appreciated; they help reduce our fund requests through taxes and help to make sure we have the equipment we need to help you. Donations can be made to Newcastle Fire Company Inc. P.O. Box 270 Newcastle, ME 04553. All donations are tax deductible and a receipt will be provided.

We have a partnership with the American Red Cross's Smoke Detector Program. If anyone needs a Smoke Detector we have some available at the fire station and can install them for you at no cost. After the installation, the American Red Cross will discuss fire safety and planning with you and your family. If you or someone you know needs a smoke detector please call the fire station at 563-3888 and leave a message. Smoke detectors are your best defense at surviving a fire. Please, please, make sure yours are always working, and if you need one call us.

Like many fire companies across Maine and the Nation, we need more volunteers. In an effort to recruit more volunteers we have built a survey to help us. If you have considered being a volunteer firefighter but decided not to, this survey is for you. Please complete this survey by scanning the QR Code below or following this link: www.surveymonkey.com/r/VJPBDR5 The results of this survey will hopefully give us a better understanding of the reasons why people decide against being a volunteer firefighter. Our goal is to effect change that can help us bring in more volunteers. There are many jobs, not all firefighters go into burning buildings. We are at the fire station at 86 River Road at 7pm almost every Tuesday, if you would like to find out more about becoming a volunteer firefighter please stop by and see us!



SURVEY

Very Respectfully,
CASEY STEVENS, Fire Chief
Newcastle Fire Company Inc.



**SEVEN OUT OF TEN FIREFIGHTERS AND
EMERGENCY RESPONDERS ARE VOLUNTEERS.**

and your community needs more volunteers like you. We invite you to join a family that'll always have your back and train you up to serve our community in ways few can. We may even give you our secret chili recipe.



READY TO LEARN MORE?

Newcastle Fire Company
207-563-3888
newcastlefd@roadrunner.com

Lincoln County Sheriff's Office

Greetings,

In November of 2022, the citizens of Lincoln County elected me to my sixth term as your County Sheriff. The support that the Sheriff's Office in Lincoln County receives from the citizens that elect me each term is truly humbling. It is because of this support that I am constantly trying to find ways to improve the service we provide at a cost we all can afford while providing the transparency that you all deserve.

I am pleased to announce that in 2022 a citizen's advisory committee that has been a goal of mine was finally put in place and has begun its work of providing the Sheriff's Office a wide range of perspectives and opinions on the work we do. This diverse group of citizens from all over Lincoln County are currently assisting me with policy review and our ongoing process of accreditation thru the Maine Law Enforcement Accreditation Program sponsored by the Maine Chiefs of Police Association. If you are interested in serving on this committee or learning more about just what they are doing please reach out to me at any time.

In 2022, we began to formally track the number of mental health related calls for service. The Sheriff's Office works closely with the National Alliance on Mental Illness and we strive to enhance relationships with other community mental health providers to find ways to relieve some of the reliance on law enforcement responding to those having a mental health crisis.

In 2022, this data revealed 177 calls for service that averaged 43 minutes each time. 48 percent of the time, Deputies were able to stabilize the situation based on their own training or with the assistance of community based crisis services. Over 70 percent of these calls were investigated by Deputies with specialized crisis intervention training. Less than 3 percent of these calls resulted in injury to either the Deputy or the person in crisis. The ability to deescalate situations and reduce the risk of injury to all involved is why I am committed to having all my staff trained in Crisis Intervention.

This data did show that almost 55 percent of these calls involved individuals who had previously been involved with a mental health call. Surprisingly, over 10 percent of the time these calls involved individuals that we had responded to assist 10 or more times.

Because of this data, I am committed in 2023 to finding more opportunities to “co-respond” with community mental health providers in hopes of putting in place services to reduce the amount of mental health calls involving the same individual.

More detailed data on both our mental health calls for service and our use of force can be found on our website *www.lincolnsome.com*.

Once again, thank you for the opportunity to serve as your Sheriff. Please reach out to me at any time if I can be of assistance to you.

Respectfully submitted,
TODD B. BRACKETT,
Sheriff

Great Salt Bay Sanitary District

Great Salt Bay Sanitary District (GSBSD) is a publicly owned, quasi-municipal utility organized to provide safe drinking water in Damariscotta and Newcastle, and to provide wastewater treatment services in the Towns of Damariscotta, Newcastle, and Nobleboro. The District currently has 1428 water customers and 713 wastewater users. Scott Abbotoni is the Water Division Manager and LeeAnna Libby is the Wastewater Division Manager.

Our mission is to provide safe drinking water, adequate fire protection and effective wastewater treatment. The District is committed to public health, customer service and environmental protection.

The Drinking Water Division's water supply is "Little Pond" a pristine 77-acre spring fed pond with an ultraviolet light water treatment system as a primary disinfectant and Sodium Hypochlorite as a secondary disinfectant.

The Welton Tank on Standpipe Road in Damariscotta and the Academy Hill Tank in Newcastle feed the Twin Villages water for fire suppression and quality drinking water.

The Water Division is trying to get Federal Infrastructure money to replace some aging water lines. We would like to replace lines on Glidden, Pump, and Cross Streets in Newcastle, and a line that runs through the woods from Welton Tower on Standpipe Road, to Route 1 by Hammond Lumber in Damariscotta. This will help with water quality and increased fire flows throughout the water system.

The Wastewater Division's treatment facility for Damariscotta and Newcastle consists of three aerated lagoons with a capacity of eight million gallons.

In 2012 the lagoons were cleaned; aeration system was upgraded and the lagoon liners were inspected.

2016 an upgrade was done to the Plant's Office, electrical and lagoon blower system.

2018 an equipment storage garage was erected at the Main Plant.

2021 the District connected to a new collection line put in by the town of Damariscotta. The eight-inch line runs through the waterfront parking lot connecting to new service lines that run to the businesses.

The Damariscotta Mills area of Newcastle and Nobleboro has a small sand filter. The sand filter is fed by septic tanks which are maintained on a three-year rotation, by the District.

The Great Salt Bay Sanitary District's operations are carried out by five full-time employees and are overseen by an elected six-member Board of Trustees. Representing Damariscotta are William Brewer, John Gallagher, and Lewis Cameron. Newcastle Trustees are Alan Ray and Louis Rector, and representing Nobleboro is Robert Whear. The Trustees meet the second Wednesday of each month at 5 p.m. The District office is located at 121 Piper Mill Road in Damariscotta. The public is encouraged to attend.

Office hours are; Monday – Friday 7:00am -3:00pm, for more information, please contact our Water Division at 563-3010 or our Wastewater Division at 563-5105.

Respectfully submitted,
SCOTT L. ABBOTONI,
Water Division Manager
LEEANNA LIBBY,
Wastewater Division Manager

Nobleboro-Jefferson Transfer Facility

The Transfer Station, operated by Nobleboro and Jefferson, and under contract with Bremen, Damariscotta, and Newcastle, provides disposal for most types of solid waste generated in the five towns. In 2022 our household waste, construction, demolition, and bulky waste all went to Waste Management in Norridgewock, ME. We use the services of Lincoln County Recycling to recycle cardboard, newspaper, plastic and many other products. We also recycle our universal hazard waste (televisions, computer, fluorescent light bulbs, mercury switches and rechargeable batteries)

2022 saw a lot of changes in our staff. Brandon Achorn and Glenn Daiute left us in the fall. Thank you both for all your service. We hired John Arsenault as our new manager of the facility. We then hired Howard Griffin and Shawn Wilkie as full-time attendants. Along with Kevin Nunes they work hard to keep things running smoothly. With all the changes we were able to keep things running without problems. We hope your trip to the Transfer Station continues to be a positive experience.

I would like to thank everyone who takes the time to recycle. This effort really helps us save money in the long run. We do have programs for recycling paint, food waste, metals, electronics, paper, and cardboard. In 2022, we had a hazardous waste day for people to get rid of there hazardous chemical and other hazardous materials. We hope to do the same again this year. We will be advertising for this so be watching for it.

The outlook for 2023 is that we hope to continue our efforts to recycle whenever we can. The attendants are more than willing to help you recycle. Everything you recycle helps reduce the amount it costs to put items in the mainstream trash.

We are looking to keep things the same in 2023. We try to be efficient as possible to save taxpayers money. Thank you for you cooperation with the staff. They enjoy working with you.

The Transfer Station is open from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday. The front gate is closed at 3:50 p.m. each night to allow time to close out the computer. We are closed on Sunday and Monday. This allows our staff to have two days off in a row.

We will continue to review our operations in effort to provide good service and the most efficient Transfer Station possible. We are interested in your comments and recommendations and will attempt to incorporate them whenever possible.

Respectfully submitted,
RICHARD SPEAR,
Transfer Station Agent

Fish Agent

The alewife run in Damariscotta Mills started during the first week of May and didn't let up until the second week of June. The run was a huge success, both in terms of the number of fish passing into Damariscotta Lake to spawn and in terms of the harvest. Specifically, 1,103,346 alewives passed up the fish ladder enroute to their spawning grounds in Damariscotta Lake. Additionally, 1,588 trays of alewives - more than 95 tons of fish - were harvested for lobster bait, bringing in a total of \$95,415. The fact that we were able to harvest this many fish while passing over one million fish into the lake strongly demonstrates that the Damariscotta Mills alewife run has recovered fully from the depleted stocks prior to the fish ladder restoration.

We again sold our alewives to independent lobstermen, the South Bristol Fishermen's Cooperative, halibut fishermen, and even folks determined to express their culinary creativity by cooking a few fresh alewives. We also provided alewives to Jesse and Jake Oliver, who stepped up to help out their grandmother Mary Jane Buchan and her sister Sally Mulligan continue the tradition of smoked Alewives at Mulligans Smokehouse in Damariscotta Mills.

The big construction project this year was the replacement of the screens located in the Middle Stream above the dippers. The screens are a critical component of the fish run. Most importantly, they keep the alewives from trying to ascend the Middle Stream, which is too steep for fish passage. During the harvest, the screens serve as a fence line that the fish follow toward the dippers. The steel frame for the dippers had been slowly rusting, but the need for replacement accelerated when a log came over the falls and did significant damage to the entire screen frame structure.

The new screen assembly included structural improvements to the frame as well as openings in the center of each screen panel to improve the passage of runbacks (alewives returning to sea after spawning). Runbacks often return down the Middle Stream and they must pass through the screens. Previously, two of the screen panels had openings with chutes and now all six panels have openings with chutes, giving us far greater flexibility for moving alewives back downstream safely through the harvesting area.

Replacing the foot bridge that spans the fish ladder will hopefully be accomplished in 2023. This project is the combined effort of the Fishladder Restoration Group and the Towns of Nobleboro and Newcastle. The new design has been engineered by Gartley and Dorsky Engineering and Surveying, with construction planned for the summer of 2023. There are also plans to repair walls and weirs in several fish ladder pools.

Thanks again this year to harvesters Kurt Oehme, J.B. Smith, Jim Brinkler, Richard Powell, Leigh Morrell, and Tom Curtis for all their efforts, which made for another successful harvest season. Kurt and Leigh are busy with the fish ladder and its infrastructure year round, for which I am thankful. As usual, a number of folks continue to pitch in behind the scenes. Thank you to Deb Wilson for leading tours, dealing with the media, and being an advocate for alewives as a member of the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission; to Ken Ames and Bob Barkalow for their help installing the steel framework for the screens; to Laurel Ames and David Bridges with their continuing fundraising efforts; and to Charlie Huntington, who volunteered his time to paint the new steel frame and screens.

Respectfully Submitted,
MARK BECKER, Fish Agent,
Nobleboro and Newcastle

Newcastle Historical Society

Another year has come to a close and with it a time to reflect on what we have accomplished at NHS as well as our aspirations for 2023. With the pandemic easing or at least becoming less virulent we made the decision to open the museum for the first time in two years. For the months of July and August (Saturdays) and on special occasions such as the Memorial Day and Pumpkinfest, the museum was open. It was refreshing to converse face-to-face about local history with like-minded individuals. A number of people visited to learn about Newcastle's past or to share history on their respective families.

We have made tremendous progress in the restoration and documentation of Pleasant Street Cemetery thanks in large part to a generous grant provided by Glidden Cemetery Association. The funding provided NHS to hire two professional contractors— Grave Stone Matters of Hoosick Falls, NY and Sheridan Brick and Stone Work of Belfast. The work resulted in the restoration of a substantial retaining wall enclosing the Farley family tomb that had begun to collapse and also allowed for the partial restoration of several gravestones including prominent names to the Barstow and Bryant shipbuilding families. A couple head and footstones that were shattered were partially reconstructed while others that had fallen over or were leaning were placed upright. Several NHS members volunteered their time working many hours assisting and/or locating buried stones. The aim in 2023 is to continue work on Pleasant Street cemetery with the real possibility of completing the restoration of all known stones containing inscriptions.

Visibility is paramount to our mission at NHS. To this end we had two programs open to the public with topics on colonial blacksmithing and genealogy. We held once again an outside exhibit of select images from our Dinsmore-Flye Photo Collection that was well received. We also added new displays to the museum including

topics on brick-making and shipbuilding. We continue to scan documents and negatives from our collection with the aim of making them more accessible to NHS members and researchers alike. We are also in the early stages of scanning the “Newcastle Papers” that are retained at Skidompha Library. These original town papers were donated to the library in the 1970s prior to the organization of NHS and contain early tax valuations, laws and various town affairs.

Look for announcements of talks and programs sponsored by NHS in the Lincoln County News. Finally, we very much would like to expand our membership base and encourage those interested in preserving Newcastle’s history to become an active member. To become a member please visit our website at: nhsmaine.org or mail us at: Newcastle Historical Society. P.O. Box 482, Newcastle, Maine 04553.

Respectfully submitted,
TIMOTHY S. DINSMORE,
President

Harriet Gertrude Bird Playground Report

The Playground Committee meets on a monthly and ad-hoc basis.

The committee's goal is to maintain and improve the facility. The building is available for rent from April through November.

We are pleased to report that over the past year the Farm League and T-ball youth baseball teams as well as several local families used the field and basketball court. The building continues to be a popular venue for family functions and community gatherings. It was rented several times over the past year, with the upcoming season looking very active.

The property is an important asset to the town and we are grateful to have this wonderful, valued facility available to local families and organizations.

As always we appreciate the support of the town in our efforts.

The committee would like to thank Vern Verney for mowing the grounds.

If you are interested in renting the building, please contact Edna Verney at: 586-5442.

Respectfully submitted,
EDNA VERNEY, Chair
CHRISSE WAJER
DAVID O'NEAL
JIM MERCER
CAROL JUCHNIK

Lincoln County Television (LCTV)

Lincoln County Television (LCTV) begins its 34th year as the local community media station, with thanks to the Newcastle community for financially supporting your station and for your continuing support.

Even as in-person gatherings resumed this year, LCTV continues to be our community's central resource for citizen access to municipal meetings, community events, public health updates, sports, and cultural offerings.

We have expanded how we deliver local, fast, and trustworthy information to Lincoln County citizens with upgraded equipment and services, new staff members, and new shows for broadcast and online viewing. We continue to offer technology advising to Lincoln County municipalities to help them upgrade and optimize their remote meeting equipment for more robust citizen access.

In 2022, we broadcast and archived 158 municipal meetings from all over Lincoln County. We offered citizens regular updates with LincolnHealth experts, to keep our community up to date with trustworthy information. At the request of town officials, cable subscribers in South Bristol joined the LCTV viewing community on local channel 7.

For 2022 original programming, we doubled the number of original shows over 2021, including 50 weekly Wuzzup News Shows; 49 Chamber Chats featuring local businesses across all of Lincoln County; 27 essential Community Conversations with host Marva Nesbit; 25 Wiscasset Speedway shows; 9 Talkin' Town Talks that brought viewers people and places of interest; 6 What's Happening at the CLC-YMCA shows; 8 specials showcasing the Wiscasset Schoonerfest, Damariscotta Pumpkinfest, Boothbay Harbor Tuna Challenge, Windjammer Days, and Lobster Boat Races; historical society presentations; a live-streamed Candidates Forum for Maine Senate and House races; dozens of high school basketball games; local church services; and an online bulletin board for community non-profits.

In 2022, we continued broadcasts of our live-streamed high school basketball games on channel 7, for viewers who prefer to watch on their televisions rather than a computer. And for times when our local high school sports teams play at the same time, we offered multiple LCTV.org and YouTube live streams simultaneously.

We continued to grow our connections to the community with new partnerships, expanded sponsorships from local businesses, and a greater number of people receiving our weekly newsletter and social media posts. We were honored to receive a 2022 Paul Harris Community Service Award from the Damariscotta-Newcastle Rotary.

LCTV finished 2022 with a record-setting solid year of accomplishments, service to our communities, and increased capabilities. We are very grateful to our Board of Directors and to all the towns, businesses, and individuals who help us thrive.

We look forward to 2023 with solid plans and direction from our Board to deliver more quality programming for Lincoln County people, to connect more meaningfully to our broadcast and online viewers, and to strengthen community partnerships.

All our productions are available on channel 7 for Tidewater/Spectrum customers, streaming and on-demand viewing at *LCTV.org*, and also streaming services on Roku, Amazon Fire TV, and Apple TV. Community members are invited to contact us at *info@lctv.org*, by writing to LCTV, 29 Sheepscot Road, Newcastle, ME 04553, and by phone at 563-6338. LCTV's channel 7 schedule is found weekly in *The Lincoln County News*.

Coastal Rivers Conservation Trust

Caring for the lands and waters you love in the Damariscotta-Pemaquid Region

Coastal Rivers Conservation Trust is your community land trust, caring for the lands and waters of the Damariscotta-Pemaquid region by **conserving special places, protecting water quality, creating trails and public access, and deepening connections to nature.**

For the benefit of all Newcastle residents, in 2022 we provided:

- **Public access to trails, open space and shoreline** on Coastal Rivers' many nature preserves. We maintain a growing network of over 51 miles of hiking trails for low impact use in the Damariscotta-Pemaquid region, including the accessible Rhoda and Leon Cohen River Trail at Round Top Farm. In Newcastle, Baker Forest, Marsh River Bog, Mills Overlook Preserve, and Salt Bay Preserve are open to the public for low impact recreation on the trails. Dodge Point, a perennial favorite owned by the State of Maine, is co-managed by Coastal Rivers, whose staff and volunteers provide assistance with regular trail maintenance and constructing features such as stairs and bridges.
- Studies show that spending time in nature can reduce stress, lower blood pressure, and boost energy and mood, among other benefits. We invite you to find trails to explore at coastalrivers.org.
- **Strategic land conservation and stewardship.** Coastal Rivers owns 10 properties in Newcastle, all open to the public for low impact recreation and enjoyment of the natural world. In addition to opportunities for recreation, these conservation lands serve to keep wildlife habitat intact, protect water quality, and help mitigate the effects of a changing climate. We also monitor 4 voluntary landowner agreements, or conservation easements, on privately owned land. In addition, Coastal Rivers co-manages Dodge

Point Public Land, owned by the Maine Bureau of Parks and Lands, and Sherman Marsh Wildlife Management Area, owned by the State of Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife.

We have been monitoring the spread of the **invasive Hemlock Woolly Adelgid (HWA) insect** that is threatening the health of hemlock trees in our area. Coastal Rivers released extensively tested predatory beetles in May in the towns of Newcastle and in Bristol, and we are planning further releases in 2023, in the hope that they will help protect the hemlock populations that are an important part of our coastal forests. We are also working with individuals to secure bulk pricing on these beetles to be released on private land.

- **The River~Link Trail and wildlife corridor.** Coastal Rivers is one of 13 organizational partners behind the River~Link Trail and wildlife corridor spanning from Newcastle through Edgecomb to Boothbay. The partnership includes land trusts, towns, and state and federal agencies. The trail, over 5 miles long, offers a rare deep-woods experience right here in midcoast Maine. The 2022 purchase of 65 acres off of River Road in Newcastle has expanded the “River~Link North” conservation area between Dodge Point and downtown Newcastle.
- **Prime agricultural land for Twin Villages Foodbank Farm (TVFF).** Our partners at TVFF grow nutrient-dense vegetables for donation to the Damariscotta/Newcastle Ecumenical Food Pantry plus six other Lincoln County food pantries, school backpack programs, and other low-income food programs. Coastal Rivers provides farmland for TVFF at Salt Bay Farm at no cost as well as administrative support and a home for TVFF’s Community Food Storage Hub. Last year, TVFF grew and donated 45,000 pounds of food and distributed an additional 25,000 pounds of food through the Food Storage Hub.

- **Water stewardship.** Coastal Rivers water quality initiatives have two main goals: protecting water quality and preventing the introduction of invasive aquatic plants. Programs include:
 - **Estuary water quality monitoring,** at seven points along the Damariscotta River Estuary, including at the town landing and in the harbor. Twice a month from May through October, volunteers test for transparency, dissolved oxygen, salinity, temperature, and total nitrogen. These data help us understand changes in water quality and habitat conditions over time.
 - **Maintenance of the pump-out barge in the Twin Villages harbor.** Boaters use the barge to dispose of their sewage at no charge. Coastal Rivers helps monitor the levels and move the barge to the town dock as needed, where it is pumped into a truck and taken away for treatment.
 - **A River clean-up,** together with 8 oyster growers and representatives from Darling Marine Center and Maine Sea Grant, that resulted in the removal of 1,840 pounds of trash from the banks of the Damariscotta River.
 - **Fresh water quality monitoring,** in support of Lake Stewards of Maine. Trained volunteers check for changes in water quality and cyanobacteria blooms in Pemaquid, Biscay, and Muddy Ponds that might lead to conditions that could have an effect on human health, wildlife habitat, recreational opportunities, or property values.
 - **Swim beach monitoring.** Water samples were taken weekly at Pemaquid Beach and Bristol Mills all summer long to check for bacterial contamination. In 2022 the weekly water quality numbers were extremely good, with no safety alerts issued.
 - **The Courtesy Boat Inspection (CBI) program** at the Pemaquid Pond boat landing, which seeks to keep aquatic invasive plants out of our lakes and ponds. Invasive plants can have a devastating impact on water

quality, recreation, and property values. As part of the CBI program, friendly interns talk to Pemaquid Pond boaters about invasive plants and, with permission, look over boats and trailers for any sign of invasive plants before they are launched. CBI is the first line of protection from invasive aquatic plants for the entire Pemaquid river system and its beautiful ponds.

- o **Information and resources.** These include water quality resources for waterfront homeowners, boating and fishing regulations, boating safety materials, lead tackle exchange, and loon habitat information.
- o **In collaboration with Maine Audubon's Loon Count,** volunteers participated in the annual loon count on all our local fresh-water ponds and lakes. Coastal Rivers hosted the volunteer breakfast at which the data sheets were collected and volunteers regaled each other with stories of sightings and observations about local loons.
- **Coastal Rivers nature education programs** that connect people of all ages with nature, growing the community of people who care about our landscape and natural resources. We provided over 11,000 student-hours of programming to people of all ages in 2022, from pre-K on up.
 - o Kindergarteners and 2nd and 3rd graders from Great Salt Bay Community School participated in regular programs with Coastal Rivers. They engaged in hands-on programs on a variety of topics including horseshoe crabs, estuaries, wetlands, oysters, winter ecology, animal life cycles, alewife migration, and much more. The Outdoor Club, led by school guidance counselor Jill Davis, worked with Coastal Rivers Education staff weekly to build trail bridges, spread wood chips, and remove invasive species in the school's nature area. Students from the Life Skills program pressed apples to make apple cider with us in October.

- o Also in October, students from each of the AOS 93 schools and Lincoln Academy attended Coastal Rivers' Wabanaki Program at Salt Bay Farm with Passamaquoddy educator Sandra Bassett. Students worked on wigwams, learned a Wabanaki dance, and tasted wild edibles such as groundnuts.
- o Lincoln Academy IDEAL and ED Lab students meet with us weekly throughout the school year to engage in a variety of natural history, service learning, and project learning activities. While most classes take place at Coastal Rivers Salt Bay Farm, we take field trips to preserves throughout the area. A highlight of last year's work with these students was conducting a "Bio Blitz" on Witch Island in the fall.
- o We offer outdoor classes, trainings, boxed exploration kits, and other resources for teachers. School group offerings and teacher resources, including recorded trainings, can be found on our website at coastalrivers.org/events-programs/for-schools-groups. **All teacher support and outdoor education programs are free of charge to AOS 93 schools.**
- o Throughout the year, for people of all ages, we offer in-person guided hikes and family programs that are open to the public and free of charge.
- o We also host free online workshops, trainings, and discussions on a variety of topics. Find our calendar of events and programs at coastalrivers.org/events. Recordings of past programs are available on our website at coastalrivers.org/category/recorded-workshops-trainings.

Formerly Damariscotta River Association and Pemaquid Watershed Association, Coastal Rivers is a nationally accredited land trust. Our accreditation was renewed in 2020 after rigorous peer review. This distinction signifies we meet the highest standards of financial management, ethical conduct, responsible government, and lasting stewardship.

Coastal Rivers' work is made possible by support from the community, including many members and volunteers who reside in Newcastle. To become a member or volunteer, please visit coastalrivers.org/get-involved.

We welcome your comments and questions. Contact us at 207-563-1393 or info@coastalrivers.org.



GSB School 3rd graders participated in the Wabanaki Program at Coastal Rivers Salt Bay Farm in October.

Governor Janet T. Mills

For four years it has been my privilege to guide our great state, working with the Legislature to keep Maine people safe and put our economy on a path to recovery.

Since the arrival of the COVID-19 vaccines in December 2020, we have worked hard to get as many shots into the arms of Maine people as quickly as possible. In the last year, more than a million Maine people have gotten fully vaccinated from COVID-19. It is thanks to them that our state has one of highest vaccination rates and one of the lowest death rates from COVID-19, despite having a much older population than other states. People are coming to Maine because we are one of the safest states in the nation.

Following the recommendations of the Economic Recovery Committee, our economy has not only fully recovered, but has surpassed pre-pandemic projections and unemployment claims have dropped to pre-pandemic levels. And, last year, I was pleased to sign a balanced, bipartisan budget that finally achieves the State's commitment to 55 percent education funding, fully restores revenue sharing, and expands property tax relief for Maine residents.

Maine can be proud of our nation-leading progress, but our work is far from done. Through the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan, we will continue to address our longstanding workforce shortage, the expansion of broadband, education and job training opportunities, housing, child care, and transportation. Drawing on the hard work and resilience of Maine people, together we will rebuild our economy and rise from this unprecedented challenge a state that is stronger than ever.

In 2022, we focused on our economy, on our climate, on our kids, on keeping people safe and on the health and welfare of all Maine people. We have persevered, and, while challenges remain, we will get through them together. I am proud of the people of Maine, and I am proud to be your Governor.

Thank you,
JANET T. MILLS, Governor

U.S. Senator Angus S. King Jr. Washington, DC

Dear Friends,

I've often thought that Maine is just one big small town connected by long roads. Well, in the past year or two, those roads have gotten steeper and bumpier as we dealt with an unprecedented pandemic and the resulting economic troubles.

As we faced the historic challenges, something impressive happened. We came together and lent a hand to our neighbors wherever we could to keep things running and spirits high.

Down in Washington, Congress tried to help Maine communities get through this struggle, so that our state would come out stronger. To do that, we put in the work and set some things into motion that are already helping Maine people. That's why you hired us, after all.

The pandemic made something we'd known for a while clear: those roads and networks that connect our big town needed repair, improvements, and expansion – from bridges to broadband. So, while Maine was uniting towards a common purpose, Congress came together to pass the *Bipartisan Infrastructure Law* – legislation that makes generational investments in physical infrastructure, broadband connections, harbors, and the energy grid. These efforts will lay the foundation for Maine's 21st century economy and make sure even the most rural areas aren't left behind.

Over the last two years, as we drove up and down our state, you couldn't help but see storefronts in trouble and prices rising as the economy struggled through a global recession. And again, while you focused your efforts on getting through the difficult times, Congress took meaningful action. We passed the *American Rescue Plan* in 2021, which enabled Governor Mills and the state of Maine to better meet the health and economic difficulties of the pandemic. At a critical moment it expanded healthcare efforts to confront COVID and invested in the state to keep the economy in far better shape than most others nationwide.

Congress didn't stop there. This year, we took even more concrete steps to cut costs, create jobs, and provide more affordable, cleaner energy. The bipartisan *CHIPS Act* will bring home the manufacturing of the technical components known as "chips" that are used in everything these days – from smartphones to microwaves to cars – and in doing so reduce prices and create good American jobs. We also passed the *Inflation Reduction Act (IRA)* to lower healthcare costs, allow Medicare to negotiate drug prices, and cut energy bills with new rebates for things like heat pumps and solar panels.

Beyond these major investments, we also passed vital legislation to improve the day-to-day lives of Maine people and Americans nationwide. On a bipartisan basis, we expanded health care for veterans exposed to toxins, strengthened protections for marriage equality, supported Ukraine as it fought off a bloody Russian invasion, secured our elections and the peaceful transfer of power, and delivered millions in federal investments to projects up and down our state.

So, as Maine worked to get through hard times, Congress took steps to support our state – and we're already starting to see brighter days ahead. I'm proud to have played a small part down here; it's a true privilege to listen to you, work with you, and build a brighter future for all the incredible people up and down the roads that connect our big small town. Mary and I wish you a happy, and safe 2023.

Best Regards,
ANGUS S. KING, JR.,
United States Senator

U.S. Senator Susan M. Collins

Dear Friends:

It is an honor to represent Maine in the U.S. Senate. I am grateful for the trust that Mainers have placed in me and welcome this opportunity to share some key accomplishments for our state.

Last year, I secured more than \$500 million for 285 projects from Aroostook County to York County that will promote job creation, workforce training, and economic development; expand access to health care; improve public safety, infrastructure, and community resources; and protect our environment. To address the crisis of soaring inflation and high energy prices, I led efforts to provide \$2 billion in supplemental funds to the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program. In the new Congress that begins in 2023, I expect to be the Vice Chairman of the Appropriations Committee and will continue to champion investments to support Maine's communities and families.

Strengthening our economy and supporting good jobs remain a top priority. Along with the Governor and the rest of the Maine Delegation and the associations representing the lobster industry, I worked to protect our hardworking lobstermen and women by pausing for six years the onerous federal regulations that jeopardize our lobster fishery's very existence. Another ongoing threat to Maine's small businesses is the shortage of workers. That's why I led an effort to push the Administration to nearly double the number of H-2B visas that are critical to our hospitality industry. Additionally, when the Administration proposed to cut the construction of a destroyer to be built by Bath Iron Works, I restored this funding to protect Maine jobs and our national security.

When Maine Veterans' Homes announced last year that it planned to close its facilities in Caribou and Machias, I opposed that decision which would have had such a devastating effect on rural veterans and their families. I am glad that the decision was

reversed, and I have secured \$3 million to help with upgrades to these facilities. *My AUTO for Vets Act* also became law, which will help disabled veterans maintain their independence by supporting the purchase of a new adaptive vehicle once a decade.

This past year, Congress demonstrated how effective it can be on behalf of the American people when both parties work together. A few of the bipartisan achievements that I was involved in include the *Respect for Marriage Act*, which will provide certainty to millions of loving couples in same-sex marriages while protecting religious liberties, and the *Electoral Count Reform Act*, which establishes clear guidelines for our system of certifying and counting electoral votes for President and Vice President.

No one works harder than the people of Maine, and I have honored that work ethic by showing up for every vote. During my Senate service, I have cast more than 8,500 consecutive votes, never having missed one.

I remain committed to doing all that I can to address your community's concerns in 2023. If I may be of assistance to you in any way, I encourage you to contact one of my six state offices.

Sincerely,
SUSAN M. COLLINS,
United States Senator

U.S. Representative Chellie Pingree

Dear Friends,

I hope this letter finds you well. It is my honor and privilege to serve the people of Maine's First District in Washington, DC, and I appreciate the opportunity to share this annual update with you.

This past year, our state faced unprecedented challenges, mirroring the difficulties experienced by communities across the nation. High inflation rates, a rapidly changing climate, aging infrastructure, and increasing energy costs were among the top concerns I heard while home in the district. Keeping these in mind, I was proud to work with my colleagues in the Maine Delegation to pass historic legislation to bring federal dollars back to our communities.

One of the ways we delivered for Mainers was through the passage of the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) in August. This law provides much-needed assistance to struggling families. With the help of the IRA, Americans will save an average of \$800 per year on health insurance and Medicare beneficiaries will have increased access to medication.

Additionally, the IRA offers billions of dollars to expand rebate programs for Americans who wish to make their homes more energy efficient. Homeowners can now receive up to a 30 percent tax incentive for the cost of home solar installations and a 30 percent incentive when investing in a heat pump. Over the next decade, these rebates will offer Mainers thousands of dollars in savings while decreasing fuel costs for winters to come.

In 2022, Congress also passed meaningful legislation to help create skilled jobs in the construction, manufacturing, and engineering sectors. The Creating Helpful Incentives to Produce Semiconductors (CHIPS) Act will allow the U.S. to advance its leadership in the development of semiconductors used in the manufacturing of computers, cell phones, cars, and numerous other

technologies we rely on. By developing this industry at home, we can bolster our national security and lessen our reliance on foreign technology.

As I look toward this Congress, I am excited to work with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to improve the lives of Maine people. It is critically important that we continue to take action to increase job growth, decrease inflation, take measures to promote our national security and invest in our health care and education systems.

Each year my office receives over 40,000 calls, letters, and emails from Mainers. I recognize the tremendous trust you place in having me represent you in Washington and by sharing your stories, thoughts, and concerns. Please rest assured, I will continue to fight for the interests of Mainers in Congress, and my staff and I will do everything we can to ensure your needs are met.

Sincerely,
CHELLIE PINGREE,
Member of Congress

State Senator Cameron Reny

Dear Friends and Residents of Newcastle,

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your State Senator. I'm proud to represent our communities in Augusta, and I will work hard to represent us well. I am also happy that lawmakers and the public will return, in person, to the State House.

For the 131st Legislature, Swearing-In Day was Wednesday, December 7, 2022. I'm excited to share that I will serve as Chair of the Joint Standing Committee on Marine Resources. I also have been appointed to serve on the Health Coverage, Insurance, and Financial Services Committee.

This district means a lot to me. This is where I grew up and where I have chosen to raise my own family. I have spent my career as an educator, community advocate, and leader of professional associations working at local, school, district, and state-wide levels to solve problems, support equitable policies, and advocate for children and families. I look forward to putting these skills to work for you.

Please remember that I am a resource for you all year. If you need help contacting a state agency or just want to share a comment or concern, please don't hesitate to reach out. You can email me at Cameron.Reny@legislature.maine.gov or call my legislative office at (207) 287-1515. My cell phone number is (207) 400-9910. Life has never been easy, but it seems harder than usual right now. Please don't be afraid to ask for help. After all, I'm here to serve you.

Sincerely,
CAMERON RENY,
State Senator

State Representative Lydia Crafts

Dear Newcastle Neighbors:

It is an honor to serve you in the Maine House of Representatives and I am proud to continue to advocate for our community in Augusta.

As I write this, we are in the third month of the 131st Legislature. We have a lot of work to do between now and the end of June, from addressing the rising cost of living and the threat of climate change to improving access to affordable housing and health care. We are in the thick of conversations, committee hearings and work sessions, gathering feedback from people across the state regarding issues that matter to them, including many of you.

Our most significant priority will be the creation of a balanced two-year state budget, which will play a critical role in shaping the direction of our state. I am pushing to ensure the budget works to improve the lives of all Mainers, including our most vulnerable neighbors. Some of my top goals for the budget include funding municipal revenue sharing, protecting our community from predatory financial scams and fighting the opioid epidemic.

This session, I am serving on the Marine Resources Committee and the Transportation Committee. My work on both committees is a direct reflection of the needs of voters in our district who have voiced their concerns about protecting our fisheries and re-building and maintaining our roads. It is important for me to be able to work on policies that have an impact on our communities and can improve the day-to-day lives of all Mainers. I feel confident my committee assignments will allow me to continue to represent our district well in Augusta.

Please feel free to contact me if I can ever be of assistance to you or your family, or if you would like to discuss or testify on any upcoming legislation. My email is Lydia.crafts@legislature.maine.gov, and my phone number is (207) 593-2664. I also send

out monthly email newsletters that provide insight into our work at the State House, offer helpful information and resources and aim to connect you with your state government. Please let me know if you would like to receive them.

I am thankful that you have again entrusted me with this great responsibility, and I look forward to connecting with you over the next two years.

Respectfully,
LYDIA CRAFTS,
State Representative

Town of Newcastle Contacts

Emergency Calls Fire, Ambulance, Police – 911

AOS 93 Superintendent's District Office	<i>Aos93.org</i>	563-3044
Animal Control Officer	Lincoln County Sheriff Non-Emergency Number	563-3200
Assessor's Agent	Jim Murphy <i>assessor@newcastlemaine.us</i>	563-3441
Cemetery Sexton	Tom Stevens <i>stevens.memorials@gmail.com</i>	563-1376
Central Lincoln County Ambulance	Non-Emergency Number	563-7105
Code Enforcement Officer / Local Plumbing Inspector	George Chase <i>ceo@newcastlemaine.us</i>	380-6091
Deputy Clerk	Shelly Clifford <i>sclifford@newcastlemaine.us</i>	563-3441
Newcastle Fire Chief	Casey Stevens <i>cstevens@newcastlemaine.us</i>	563-3888
Great Salt Bay School	<i>Greatsaltbayschool.org</i>	563-3091
Great Salt Bay Sanitary District	Water - Scott Abbotoni <i>water@gbsbd.org</i>	563-3010
Great Salt Bay Sanitary District	Wastewater – LeeAnna Libby <i>wastewater@gbsbd.org</i>	563-5105
Harbormaster	Eric Peters <i>harbormaster@newcastlemaine.us</i>	682-8312
Lincoln Academy	<i>lincolnacademy.org</i>	563-3596
Lincoln County Sheriff's Office	Non-Emergency Number	563-3200
Nobleboro – Jefferson Transfer Station	Richard Spear, Transfer Station Agent	563-1610
Road Commissioner	Seth Hagar <i>roadcommissioner@newcastlemaine.us</i>	563-8588
Town Manager	Sarah Macy <i>townmanager@newcastlemaine.us</i>	563-3441
Town Clerk	Jodee Kelley <i>clerk@newcastlemaine.us</i>	563-3441
Skidompha Library	Matthew Graff <i>director@skidompha.org</i>	563-5513

Visit our website: *newcastlemaine.us*

