



SERVING THE WESTERN MOUNTAINS OF MAINE WHERE THE KIDS GROW STRAIGHT AND TALL AND THE WOMEN ARE ALL GOOD LOOKING.

# Carrabassett voters approve new library

By David Hart  
 Irregular Staff

CARRABASSETT VALLEY — In a 112-20 overwhelming vote, residents of Carrabassett Valley clearly showed their support for a new library and their appreciation of a large scale fundraising effort in town. In a quick one-hour meeting, Moderator John Dill breezed the residents through 50 plus articles that were approved without question or comment.

When the final articles came about with regard to the proposed library, several got up to show their support for the project. There wasn't anyone who opposed the new \$1.5 million state-of-the-art facility. There was one question from a resident before the question was moved to a secret ballot by Selectman Bob Luce.

Andie DeBiase spoke of the history that led them to this point and that there's been talk about permanent space for a new library since she started her job in 1991. "It became clear that building one multi-use facility would be the most economical way to meet the needs of the community," DeBiase explained.

The building will be a full range library, a multi purpose community center with meeting space and the home for Western Maine Center for Children day care and after school program.

"Collaborating with the child care committee has helped secure building grants as well as the land donated from Sugarloaf."

DeBiase explained they formed a New Library Building and Community Center Committee, launched a capitol

campaign, hired an architect and construction manager who'll guarantee a fixed price.

"Libraries of the 21st century have been described more like 'community living rooms.'"

She went on to list a broad range of services the building will offer from educational to cultural to recreational.

"From the youngest baby being read to by a parent, to our retired seniors enjoying a class or a game of chess ... this really is the first facility to truly offer something for everyone," Debase said to the residents at the Outdoor Center.

Committee co-chairperson Marcia White told the crowd that she's often stated in her profession that "childcare is

— Please see **Library** on page 20



Bob Healy of New Vineyard casts his vote for selectman at Saturday's annual town meeting while town treasurer, Arlene Davis, looks on. Doug Withee defeated current selectman Lowell Dubay Jr. winning a three-year term by a vote of 31-21.  
 (Laura Dunham photo)

## More than 50 turn out in New Vineyard

By Laura Dunham  
 Special to the Irregular

NEW VINEYARD — Longtime moderator Roger Lambert of Strong welcomed the more than 50 residents to Smith Hall on Saturday for the annual town meeting.

"More people turn out for this meeting than any other in Franklin County," Lambert said, adding, "We vote early and often... a tradition in New Vineyard."

This proved to very true as the some 60 voters took care of their 45 articles on the warrant in less than two hours.

Elected as road commissioner was Earl Luce Jr. Winning a seat on the MSAD #9 board of directors was Scott Webber. In a contest for a three-year term on the board of selectmen, Doug Withee defeated the present board member, Lowell Dubay Jr. by a vote of 31-21. Named to two-year terms on the planning board were Patty Knapp, John Cavanaugh and Richard Hargreaves.

This year, voters raised about \$324,177 through taxation although this could change after a scheduled special town

meeting in June.

Although the sum of \$120,000 was finally approved for the snow plowing and sanding the town roads, it wasn't with out much discussion. Every one commended Nile Logging for the job well done this past year stating that the roads were the best in the county.

Fay Adams, chairman of the board said that bids on the snowplowing are expected to go out this year because Nile has indicated they no longer want to do the work. Nile, who was present at the meeting, said, "The money was not the problem but what is the problem is the turn-arounds on the roads where people leave their vehicles and put up mail boxes and make it impossible to turn their plows around. We had eight to ten vehicles towed away last year," said Nile, "and complaints day and night." "People are just uncooperative," said Adams. "We spent \$146,000 this year in snowplowing and sanding and if Nile continues the con-

— Please see **NV Town** on page 20

## Kingfield Planning Board Moose Alley approved

By David Hart  
 Irregular Staff

KINGFIELD — Members of the Kingfield Planning Board met on Monday, March 9 and made progress on two subdivisions in the town.

Planners granted final approval to John Carver for Phase One of his Moose Alley, five-lot subdivision located off the Tufts Pond Road.

Phase One consists of the construction of a road to meet the town's standards. The road starts at Tufts Pond Road and travels to a westerly point known as Lot Two. Carver explained that Phase I would be complete once he sells Lot One. After that he'll start the process of building a road that will travel to lots two through five. That road will include the construction of a hairpin turn.

Members discussed the requirements of starting the project within two years and the fact that there is no timeframe in the town's ordinance for completion.

Carver suggested that he'd start construction once the mud season ends.

Planning board member Wade Brown motioned to accept the project phase as complete pending the submission of the final set of Mylar drawings. Once received, individual members will sign them which will signify the approval to proceed with the project and the marketing of the lot.

The next order of planning board business was to hear from Scott Braley, P.E. of Plymouth Engineering. Braley was representing Jordan Ventures LLC which is in the permitting process of a large commer-

— Please see **Kingfield** on page 20

## Real science at Mt. Abram

By David Hart  
 Irregular Staff

SALEM — Mt. Abram High School students and Poland Spring Water Bottling Company have teamed up again for some hands-on learning in the arena of useful scientific data collection. Mt. Abram students, under the guidance of Poland Spring's Mark LaPlante, are participating in the United States Geological Survey and the Maine Geological Survey Maine Cooperative Snowpack Survey.

The purpose of the agencies is to gather data from over 100 locations across the state to determine the potential of spring flooding.

Now in the month of March, students go out each Tuesday to measure snow depth and the water content within the snow. The data they collect gets sent in to the state as part of a statewide cooperative. Hydrogeologists then convert the data into flood warning maps based on the major river basins and publish that information



Mt. Abram High School student Nola Dixon takes a snowpack sample as part of a statewide cooperative snowpack survey.  
 (David Hart photo)

— Please see **Science** on page 19