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its budget. This appears to make the budget look more expensive, Clark explained, but rather it's just a shift in calculations and may in fact not be up at all.

This year, Clark explained as one example, the state is making districts include State Agency Clients in its budget. SAC are students that come from foster homes or other state programs whose expenses are reimbursed by the state.

In the past, the expenditure and revenues for SAC were always handled outside of the district budget. Now, a good amount of this year's budget increase comes in terms of the expenditure side of the SAC account. This is an accounting change, not a change in added service or added expenses. Nearly \$155,000 of expenses comes under this SAC heading and is now in the district budget due to state demands.

It is anticipated that the state will continue to reimburse districts for State Agency Clients.

Board members heard about increases in wages for the athletic trainer's position as set forth by Franklin Memorial Hospital. FMH supplies the district with a part-time trainer. The board may want to explore a new way of doing business and instructed athletic director Jeff Pillsbury to look into the possibilities of directly hiring their own trainer.

Board chairman Mike Pond said it's worth exploring and there just may be someone out there that knows their stuff and may not want to give up a portion of their salary to Franklin Memorial Hospital. The part-time trainer's position is currently capped at \$7,000.

FUTURE continued from page 3

We must change the way we power our world.

There are many new and emerging technologies on the horizon that need time to develop to replace our current need for fossil fuels. Whether it is nuclear, tidal, wind, solar or some energy form not even invented yet, we have to be ready to embrace these changes and understand that the benefits far out weigh the risk of doing nothing. Renewable energy does not "take" from the environment; rather it uses the environment's natural properties (wind and sun) and converts them to electricity —much the same way our ancestors used water and wind in the past.

I don't believe that wind and solar will ever replace the fossil fuels we use to power our world, but it will slow down the rate at which we are destroying our environment due to our reliance on fossil fuels. Given that extra time, we will see the emergence of energy sources that

A new bus, and possibly two, is on the ticket for next year, Clark noted, and said that the state may be able to subsidize the cost for one of them based on its thought that they purchased two this year. If the state subsidizes one bus, the district may be able to purchase a second bus next year.

Clark explained that the district should plan on the cost of 1.5 buses each year to maintain their newer bus fleet or three busses every two years.

Clark told members the good news by reporting extra money in the heating fuel account with the oil prices dropping this past winter. This money or savings could assist with the purchase of buses.

Clark reported that the Mt. Abram librarian's position may be covered by current MTA teachers working the library on shifts. Clark reported that he has spoken to two teachers who are willing to do this and also become certified as librarians.

Likewise they're exploring the opportunities of hiring their own occupational therapist at a tune of nearly \$55,000 rather than subcontracting this service through Franklin Memorial Hospital. Currently the district is paying the hospital nearly \$100,000 for this service.

Clark did not get into many facility maintenance upgrades that evening, but did say the plan is to replace the 15-year telephone system at the Strong Elementary School. This will come at a cost of nearly \$30,000.

After going through each line, Clark said that at this point in the process, they have not cut any programs. "We have not cut any teachers, we have not consolidated any classes, we have not cut any coaches or sports... This is where it is," he said.

only our greatest scientists can envision today. We need to get to this point in time, and it is going to take compromise by all of us to make it a reality. If wind and solar are replaced years from now it is simple to remove those sources from the mix. (In fact, projects approved today must have decommissioning costs just for that reason.) If we continue to attempt to "drill our way out" of this crisis the environmental damage may be irreversible.

Many of us may never see the "new" sources of energy that will be invented to power our world in the future. The decisions we make today, will give the environment time to heal, and future generations the opportunity to develop energy sources which will allow them to enjoy the quality of life that we hold so dear.

The future starts today ... because tomorrow is too late.

Lloyd Cutler is a resident of Carrabassett Valley.

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considers that the total impact on Maine's economy from the major industries the department oversees exceeds \$2.4 billion annually, it is imperative to adequately fund the stewardship role of IF&W in protecting and preserving the economic lifeblood of this state which impacts every one of us.

Our natural resources are the engine and foundation of our economy, and protecting and preserving them is the

most pressing stewardship challenge of our times. It is really all about the natural resources.

Regis Tremblay is the Director of Public Information & Education for the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife. Your feedback is welcomed. Readers may view a nine-minute video titled, "A Wicked Good Deal For Maine," at www.mefish-wildlife.com.

Sous Chef

The Loon Lodge, a 100 year old Lodge located in Rangeley, Maine has an immediate opening for a Sous chef from June 1 to October 15. Qualifications include prior kitchen experience in management, grill, sauté etc. Duties include assisting the Chef in day to day operations of the restaurant and pub and creating daily specials. Must be able to work independently and lead at least two shifts on the Chef's days off. Baking is a plus but not a requirement. If you are ambitious, professional and desire to work in a team oriented environment please call 207-864-5666 ask for Karen or Patrick.

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"The budget itself is not up dramatically; in fact it may be down a bit. Our subsidy is going to drop by a couple of hundred thousand dollars. We have more tuition revenue coming in."

Clark did report that Jim Rier from the Department of Education most recently said that the reduction in subsidy includes the penalty money for not consolidating. It also includes increases in revenue through the federal stimulus package.

Members agreed to Tuesday April 28 for their next scheduled meeting.

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Quadrainers ATV Club. Woodcock explained that a similar amount of ATVs were registered in Kingfield to snowmobile registrations and stressed the value of allowing these riders to have access to the downtown business community for economic development purposes.

The selectmen unanimously approved the use of town-owned land near Stanley Avenue to connect the downtown community with the club's trail network. They also acknowledged that the riders will travel down Stanley Avenue, use a short section of Maple Street before they cross the Memorial Bridge to refuel or get supplies and food. The town land of discussion also houses existing town septic beds.

Members stressed the need for the club to consult with wastewater superintendent Michael Durant and other abutting property owners.

The board decided to have the wastewater department join the Maine Water/Wastewater Agency Response Network. There is no cost or commitment in joining the Network and it could be useful in terms of emergency response and assistance, administrative assistant Greg Davis noted.

In other business, members heard from resident John Goldfrank who suggested that the selectmen consider dividing the town-acquired Newell property into three parcels. One parcel on the west side of Route 27 could be divided and deeded to the cemetery for future expansion plans. The other lot on the westward side of the road could be divided to contain a lot with a dwelling that could be sold by the town. The third portion on the east side of Route 27 would be retained by the town for future wastewater expansion plans.

The board authorized Davis to obtain a cost for a surveyor to subdivide the parcel.

In other municipal news outside of this meeting on April 6, the administrative assistant scheduled an emergency meeting on Monday, April 13 to discuss the time-frame associated with his resignation from the position.

After town meeting in March the selectmen did not renew the term of the administrative assistant which expires on May 1. The emergency meeting occurred after the Irregular went to press Monday.

Nostalgia Tavern Restaurant

Lunch Sat & Sun. 11:30 am to close

Dinner Wed. – Sun. 4pm to close.



Bar opens at 3pm Wed-Fri

Dirty's Tavern Happy Hour – Thursdays
50 cents off drinks & \$3 appetizers 4-7pm

Kid Icarus Tavern Trivia – Fridays 8:30 pm

Live Entertainment: April

Sat. Apr. 18th

The BULL is BACK! 7pm – 10pm
w/ Ron & Scott from Dreamin Big until 1am

Sat. May 2nd Dirty McCurdy \$5 cover

Closed May 3rd through May 13th
for renovations!

**Located 1/4 of a mile off Route 27
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