



Volume 40

Issue 10

Established 1975

# THE *Rowe Goal Post*

October 2021



photo by Sue Williams

## **From the Town Hall**

Submitted by Janice Boudreau

### **MASK WEARING IN TOWN BUILDINGS:**

A reminder that the Board of Health voted at their last meeting to require masks be worn in all town inside events. While the Covid-19 infection rates dropped to an optimistic low in early Summer, with the Delta Covid-19 variant which is more infectious leading to increased transmission, we should remain vigilant. While the vaccines are highly effective, including against the Delta variant, breakthrough cases are occurring, and it is wise to wear masks to keep our friends, family and citizens safe.

### **JOB OPENINGS:**

We are short staffed now with the resignation of our Administrative Assistant and Town Nurse, so appreciate your patience during this time as we advertise for the position openings. The Administrative Assistant position will be filled, and more information will come next month.

### **MASSWORKS GRANT:**

We have been notified by the state Executive Office of Housing and Economic Development of a \$600,000.00 MassWorks Grant to repair the Yankee Road situation. The state recognizes the burden to the town to repair the road that is the primary access to the former Yankee Rowe nuclear power plant site which now serves as the spent fuel storage installation. Until the U.S. Department of Energy meets its statutory and contractual obligation to remove the material, Yankee Road is a town road and needs to be maintained. I am working with Lamson Engineering who performed preliminary engineering studies in 2019, to update costs and plan out the project to be completed by 2023.

### **FORD HILL ROAD WORK:**

Gill Engineering work is in the design phase and progressing to replace the culvert on Ford Hill Road over Shippee Brook. Permitting, Geotechnical Engineering and Hydraulic Engineering are the current focus. Eventually, the project will be reimbursed through the MassDOT Municipal Small Bridge Grant Program for \$500,000.00 with the remainder paid by town funding or \$130,000.00.

### **MUNICIPAL VULNERABILITY PREPAREDNESS (MVP) DESIGNATION:**

Rowe has been notified of our Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness designation on September 9th for completing the Community Resilience Building planning process by the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs. This MVP Community designation indicates the Town's commitment to preparing for climate change and makes us eligible to apply for MVP Action Grants. It requires a yearly review of our plans and take steps to implement priority actions.

### **VOLUNTEER REQUEST:**

Is there a someone who has respect and love for those who have served our country would be willing to take care of the town flag in our common and, when appropriate, lower the flag to half-staff. It is a small gesture, but it would speak for all of the citizens to lower at these times, like September 11th, Memorial Day, Veteran's Day or when there is a presidential decree. It does not take a lot of time and it means a lot to many people. Thank you for your consideration.

## Assessors News

Submitted by Rick Williams

FY19 thru FY21 Utility and Power Co Valuations Appealed to Appellate Tax Board: Values increased in FY19 for Bear Swamp Power Co., Great River Hydro, and New England Power Co. based on appraisals performed in 2018 for the Towns of Rowe, Florida, and Monroe by contracted appraisal consultant, GESansoucy. All three companies filed for abatements (which were denied by the BOA) and subsequently appealed their FY19 valuations to the MA Appellate Tax Board (ATB). Attorney David Klebanoff was retained to represent the Towns for these ATB cases. The COVID-19 pandemic caused postponement of all ATB activities early last year which have yet to be rescheduled.

Utility and Power Company values for FY20 remained essentially unchanged and the same companies filed for abatements (which were denied) and subsequently appealed to the ATB. Utility and Power Company values for FY21 remained essentially unchanged and two of the three companies filed for abatements (which were denied) and subsequently appealed to the ATB. Bear Swamp did not dispute the FY21 values. Utility and Power Company values for FY22 have remained essentially unchanged.

The FY19 thru FY21 cases for the respective companies will be consolidated when the ATB is reconvened. The following outcomes, or some combination thereof, are possible for these cases:

1) settlement will be reached between the taxpayer(s) and the Towns prior to ATB hearing(s) taking place, 2) ATB finds in favor of the taxpayer(s), 3) ATB finds in favor of the Towns, or 4) ATB declines the appeal(s) for any number of reasons.

Assessors Overlay/Surplus: The Department of Revenue (DOR) requires that towns set aside sufficient funds in Assessors Overlay for tax abatements. In light of the above pending ATB appeals which have yet to be resolved, the Assessors have planned for potential abatements. From FY03 thru FY18 the annual amount set aside for Assessors Overlay averaged ~\$30K. For FY19, approximately \$100K was set aside. For FY20 and FY21, approximately \$200K was set aside each year. For FY22, approximately \$100K is proposed to be set aside. This will bring the total Overlay balance to just over \$600K. Once the ATB appeal cases are resolved and any resulting abatements paid out as applicable, any remaining Overlay funds can be declared "surplus" by the Assessors and turned back to the town as a revenue source for that same fiscal year. Any Overlay Surplus balance at year end closes out to the general fund to become part of the subsequent year's Free Cash.

FY22 Property Values: FY22 is an interim update year (the next total town revaluation will be for FY23). The volatile real estate market over the past two years has had a significant impact on property values. Based on DOR-mandated real estate sales analysis, adjustments were made to the valuations of residential homes (adjusted up 30%) and yard items/outbuildings (adjusted up 50%). No valuation changes were made to land values (building lots and excess land). This has resulted in an

overall average increase of ~20% for residential parcel (LUC 101) valuations. Total town valuation increased by ~1.9% (from \$516.129 million to \$525.827 million).

**FY22 Tax Rates/Tax Bills:** A Tax Classification Hearing was scheduled to be held with the Board of Selectmen on September 30. An MRF (Minimum Residential Factor) of .6438 was recommended by the Board of Assessors representing the tax burden shift from Residential (R) to Commercial-Industrial-Personal (CIP). The proposed FY22 split tax rates are R/\$5.33 and CIP/\$8.69 compared to last year's rates of R/\$5.33 and CIP/\$8.64. Following DOR approval of the tax rates, the Assessors expect to sign the FY22 real estate and personal property tax warrants during the first week of October. The first half tax bills should be mailed out shortly thereafter. Payments are due within 30 days of tax bill postmark.

**Applications for Property Tax Abatement:** Applications for abatement for FY22 real estate and personal property taxes must also be submitted to the Assessor's Office within 30 days after the 1st half tax bills are mailed. The filing of an Abatement Application does not stay the collection of your taxes. The Assessors have three (3) months from the date an application is filed to act on it.

#### REAL ESTATE TAX RELIEF:

**Tax Exemptions:** The following Mass General Laws (MGL) Chapter 59, Section 5 property tax exemptions are currently available to Rowe taxpayers who satisfy eligibility requirements:

Clause 17D – Surviving Spouse, Minor Child, Seniors (Exemption amount: \$175+)

Clause 22, 22A-E, Paraplegic – Qualifying Veterans (Exemption amount: varies)

Clause 37A – Blind Persons (Exemption amount: \$500)

Clause 41C – Seniors (Exemption amount: up to \$1000)

#### Tax Deferrals:

Clause 41A - Seniors who meet certain ownership, age and domiciliary requirements and whose annual gross receipts are within certain limits may be eligible to defer payment of their taxes. The taxes, with interest, must be repaid when the property is sold or the taxpayer dies.

#### Notes on Exemptions/Deferrals:

Applications for exemption or deferral—and all supporting documentation—are not open to the public.

Clause 17D & Clause 41C exemption applications require the full disclosure of personal financial information.

Clause 17D eligibility age is 70.

Clause 41A eligibility age is 65.

Clause 41C eligibility as is 65.

Applications must be submitted to the Assessor's Office by April 1 or three (3) months after the 1st half tax bills are mailed, whichever is later.

The Assessors have three (3) months from the date an application is filed in which to act on it.

The filing of an application does not stay the collection of your taxes.

**TAX BREAKS FOR ACTIVE MILITARY PERSONNEL:** Certain tax breaks are also available for Rowe taxpayers who are active military personnel per the referenced MGLs, as described below: MGL Chapter 59, Section 5L provides a deferral of property taxes due by a member of the Massachusetts National Guard or reservist, or a dependent of a member of the Massachusetts National Guard or reservist, on active service outside the Commonwealth and for the next 180 days after that service.

MGL Chapter 60A, Section 1 provides an exemption from motor vehicle excise for Massachusetts residents who are on active military duty outside the country for at least 45 days of the excise calendar year, or if wounded or killed in an armed conflict, the exemption applies regardless of the number of days deployed.

MGL Chapter 60A, Section 9 provides a deferral of motor vehicle excise due by a member of the Massachusetts National Guard or reservist, or a dependent of a member of the Massachusetts National Guard or reservist, on active service outside the Commonwealth and for a period of up to 180 days after completion of that service.

**PERSONAL PROPERTY EXEMPTION:** The Town previously adopted provisions of MGL Chapter 59, Section 5, Clause 54 to establish an exemption from taxation on personal property valued less than or equal to \$10,000. This automatic exemption is only applicable to residents, businesses, or second homeowners whose personal property is valued at less than or equal to \$10,000. Those taxpayers with personal property assessed at greater than \$10,000 will receive a personal property tax bill based on the full assessed value of their personal property (i.e., there is no exemption for the first \$10,000 in value.)

**CONTACT THE ASSESSORS:** Assessor's Administrative Assistant Christine Bailey has posted office hours on Wednesdays from 8A-1P. She can be available other times by appointment. Regarding COVID considerations, the Town Hall is currently open to the public but facemasks are currently required. Christine can be reached at the Assessor's Office at 413-339-5520 x-104 or via email at [assessor@rowe-ma.gov](mailto:assessor@rowe-ma.gov). Contact Christine with any questions, for further information, or to request Abatement/Exemption Applications. You may also check the following websites for more info and/or to download applications:

Town of Rowe website – Board of Assessors (BOA) page

<https://rowe-ma.gov/g/39/Board-of-Assessors>

Department of Revenue (DOR) website

<https://www.mass.gov/service-details/taxpayer-forms-and-guides>



## Rowe Town Library News

Submitted by Molly Lane, Library Director

**NEW HOURS!!**

**Tuesday 10-5**

**Wednesday 12-8 Thursday 3-7**

**Saturday 10-3**

The library is looking for residents interested in teaching a 1 hour activity to students during our 6 week program. Do you have a passion for wildlife? Cooking? Woodworking? Fishing? Creating? The ideas are endless. Email or call us at the library for more details.

No appointments necessary.  
If you are more comfortable picking items up we will still offer curbside service.

Masks are still required inside the library building.

### Programs:

\*\*\*The library is hosting the 2nd annual Pumpkin Decorating Contest. Please drop off your pumpkin between Thursday October 28th and Friday October 29th. We will have them on display Saturday evening with a treat after sundown. Prizes awarded for most creative, scariest and largest.

#### **Adults:**

Multimedia Craft Workshop with Cyndi Stetson Wednesday October 6th @ 5:30pm

Book Club will meet on Wednesday October 27th at 3:30 p.m to discuss the book, Hamnet, by Maggie O'Farrell. All are invited to attend.

#### **Kids:**

Our Wednesday After school program will continue to meet, our last session will be held on Wednesday October 20th.

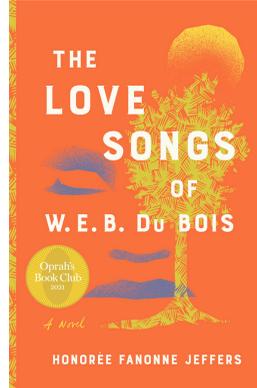
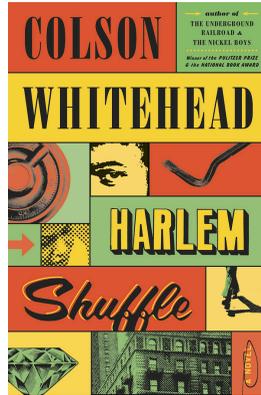
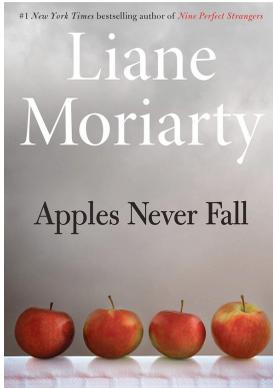
#### **For Everyone:**

Decorate a pumpkin, Thursday October 28th at 5p.m. Children, Teens and Adults invited. Pumpkins will be supplied.

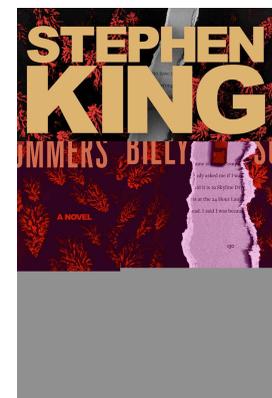
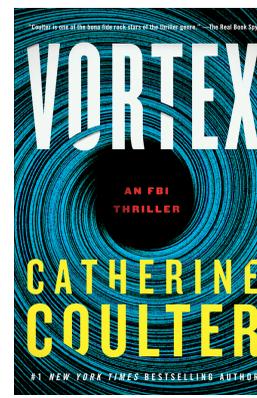
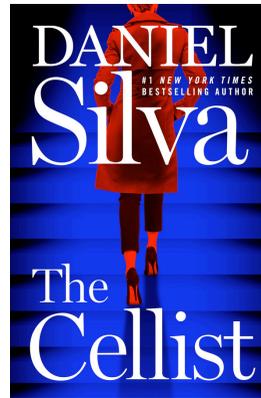
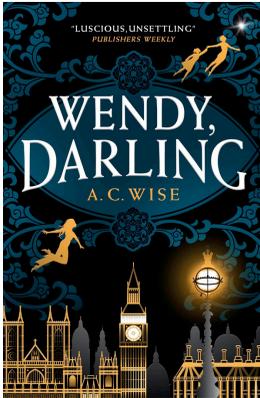
Contact the library if you would like to be put on our email notifications for programs Rowelibrary@gmail.com

Some New Items This Month

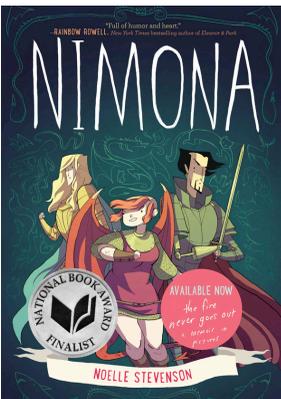
Adult Fiction:



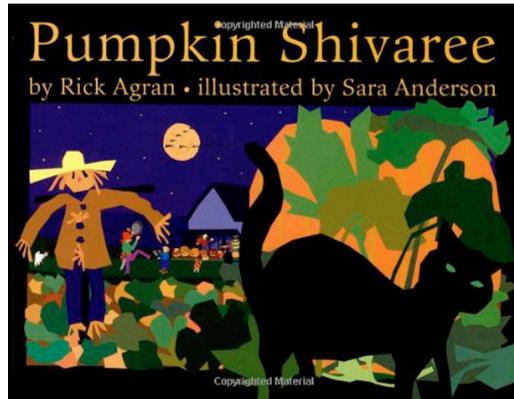
Mystery:



Teen Graphic Novel:



Kids:



“It’s a dangerous business, Frodo, going out your door. You step onto the road, and if you don’t keep your feet, there’s no knowing where you might be swept off to.”  
 - J.R.R. Tolkien, The Lord of the Rings



School is in full swing at the Rowe School. It's been busy and a little stressful (mostly for the staff, who are spending every moment working to keep everyone safe) during our first few weeks, but the students are happy to be back, and it's really nice to have kids in the school again. Students are meeting new friends, seeing old friends, meeting new teachers, seeing teachers they know, learning new procedures, learning new games, staying safe, and having fun, inside and outside! The staff has worked to get students outside as much as possible, which will become more complicated as the weather turns toward winter.

We had families at the school for our Open House in September, our first in two years and our first one held outside. Each class set up in a different place outside, displaying student work in a creative way, and showing and telling families what their students have been, and will be, doing. It was a great turnout, and it was nice to see students and their families spending time at the school again. Soccer practices continue, with almost 2/3 of our students involved. Great participation, and thanks to the staff and family members making it possible. Look for some games in October.

We are just about ready to implement the State's Symptomatic and Test & Stay COVID testing protocols here at Rowe Elementary. These two testing protocols will allow us to test students & staff in the event that they become symptomatic during the school day, or if we have positive exposure here in school. We believe these two options will help relieve some of the stress that families experience when you have a child experiencing mild symptoms during the school day.

I want to recognize the efforts of all the staff who have reinvented the Rowe School (again), physically and from a teaching and learning standpoint, over the last six weeks, and are making it work every day. We could not be having in-person learning without the efforts of each of them. The families generally are more familiar with what the teachers and the teaching assistants are doing, which is both amazing and non-stop during the school day, but people behind the scenes like custodian Jim Bleau, kitchen wizards Carol Lively and Mary Stafford, nurse Lydia Brisson, school secretary Laurie Laffond, and a host of others have also worked so hard to make this possible. And having the cooperation of the

families regarding masks, keeping kids home when they're sick, etc., helps make it all work. I also want to acknowledge the help of the Rowe Board of Health, the Rowe School Committee, and everyone at the NBSU Central Office for helping us in various ways to get ready to reopen. If there's someone I've forgotten, please know you have our thanks.

Some simple guidelines that are keeping us all safe and learning in-person: Students and staff must wear a clean mask every day, sanitize and/or wash hands regularly. Students follow the directions of staff regarding safety, physical distancing, masks, and hand-hygiene. Students and staff will stay home if sick. Students come dressed to be outside, regardless of the weather, because we are spending as much time as possible outside. No one other than staff and students will enter the school.

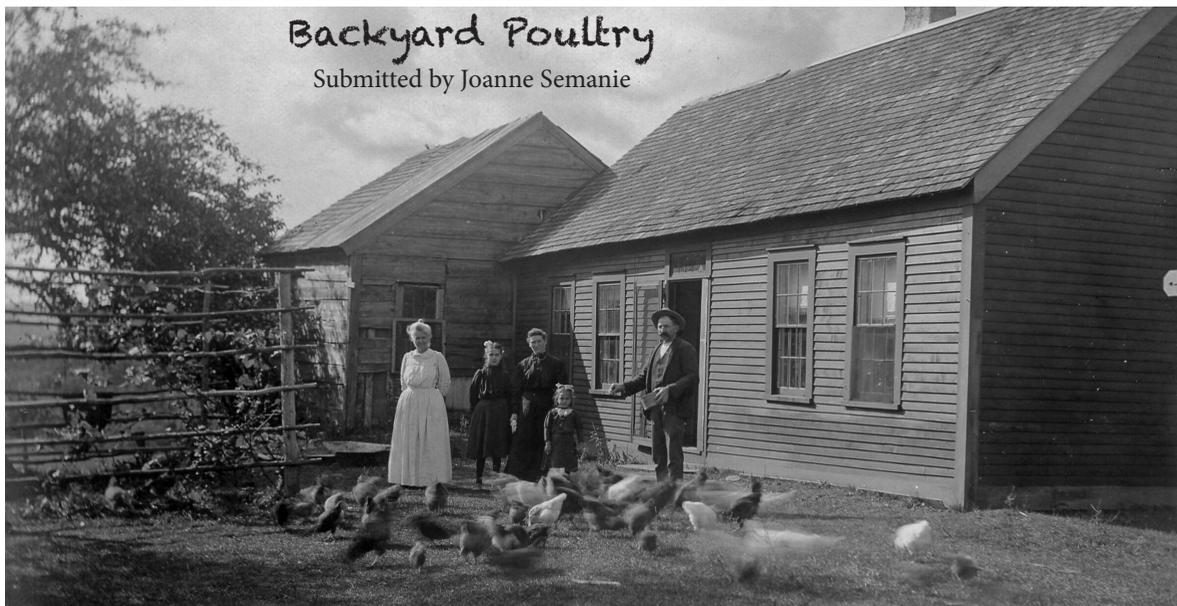
As always, if you have questions or concerns, please call me at 413-512-5201. You can also email me at [wknittle@roweschool.org](mailto:wknittle@roweschool.org). I look forward to hearing from you.

-Submitted by Bill Knittle



## Backyard Poultry

Submitted by Joanne Semanie



54 Brittingham Hill Rd. (Rossi) @1890

Chickens have been on my mind for the summer having raised two flocks from hatchlings – one for meat the other for eggs. I fret over my chickens, make sure they are sheltered, watered, and well fed, visiting them 3 or more times a day. I worry about predators – this year it's been hawks, the last few it's been foxes, but bears have been known to break into my hen's area in the past.

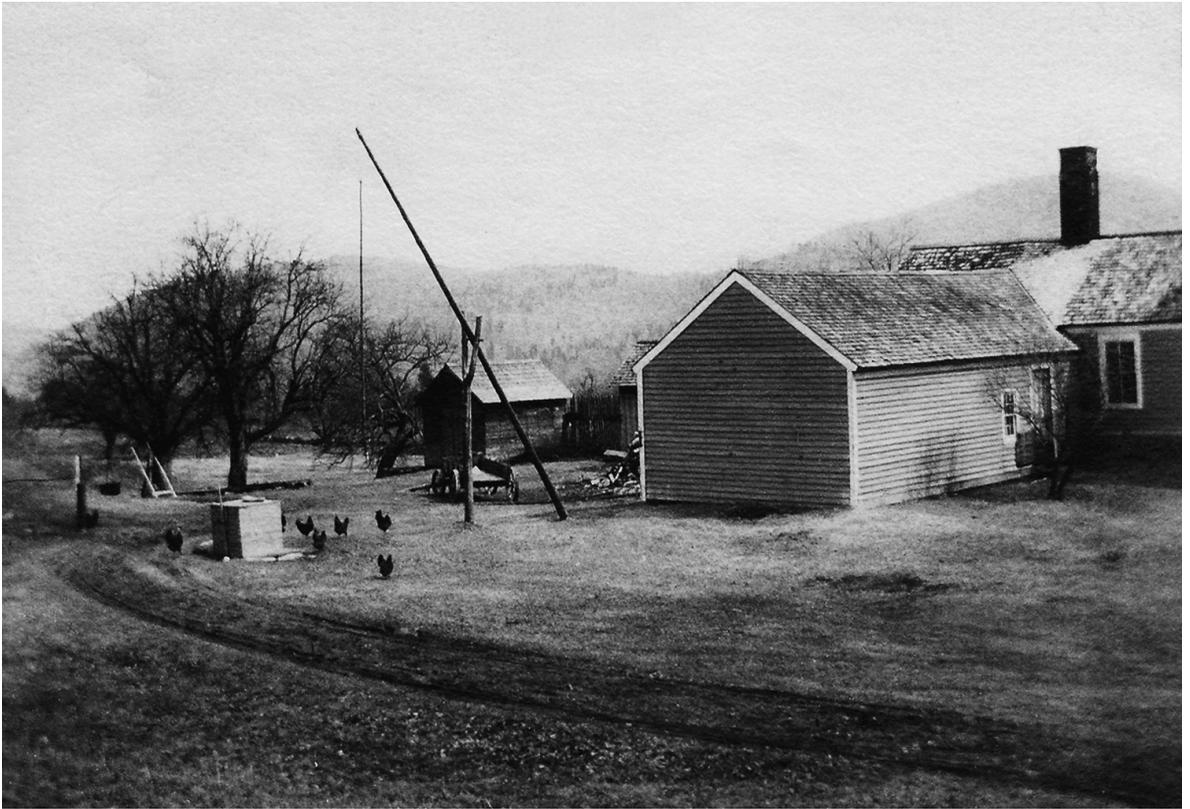


506 Tunnel Rd. (Cowie, Gordon) @1900

This got me to wondering how it must have been a hundred or more years ago when we would expect everyone to have chickens in their yard. The photographs we have at the museum show what we would expect to be the typical backyard flock, but it doesn't really answer any questions.

I pulled up the agricultural census for 1880 to give me an idea of how many chickens any given farm in Rowe had at a time. The count was done in the first week of June and only included the poultry that was on the farm not hatched that spring. I was surprised by the number. While a few had 25 or 30 chickens, most residents had anywhere from 10 to 20. The census also lists the number of eggs produced in the previous year and very typically there were 30 - 60 eggs or so listed per farm per year. I am thinking that the

number of eggs produced per year was underreported because in reading people's diaries from 1880 on there is often mention of carrying eggs and butter on the train from Zoar to North Adams to sell. Hens didn't lay the number of eggs then as they do now since more often than not their feed consisted of whatever they could forage but 10 hens with 30 eggs a year seems low.



59 Middletown Hill Rd. (Semanie) @1885

When Wrights (59 Middletown Hill Rd.) were renting out rooms in the summer months in the early 1900s they were also selling chicken dinners. These dinners were the chicken and gravy with biscuits type of meal because the meat went farther, and it utilized the whole bird. The chickens raised were a multipurpose type of bird, hatched on the farm by the hens with their own roosters. They were much smaller than any chicken you would buy in the store today. My guess is a plethora of roosters was always the case and into the pot they would go.

I love the photographs the museum has in its collection of the farms that were working around the beginning of the twentieth century. There is also an extensive collection of agricultural artifacts including a chicken brooder in the Bench Tool Factory Building. If there is something that you are interested in call the museum and we will put you in touch with a trustee to answer your questions or show you what we have that you might like to see.

## PELHAM LAKE PARK NEWS



The fitness center is now open Monday through Thursday 12:00-5:00pm. Please adhere to all the rules for the fitness center during the pandemic. On October 13, Deb Lively will be starting as the fitness center attendant and the hours will then be Monday & Wednesday from 9:00-11:00 and 5:00-7:00 (which is when Deb will be there) and Tuesday & Thursday from 12:00-5:00. Deb has a wealth of knowledge in the fitness world; if you have any questions regarding exercises, use of any of the fitness equipment or exercise form, and don't hesitate to ask her. She's there to help you out.

### **Fitness Center Rules:**

- Masks must be worn at all times while in the fitness center and the Town Hall
- No more than 5 people in the fitness center at one time
- Sign in every time you use the fitness center
- Fill out a waiver when you start to use the fitness center (you only need to fill it out once for 2021/2022)
- Do not use outside shoes in the fitness (always have a clean pair of shoes to wear in the fitness center)
- Clean equipment before and after every use
- Put all equipment away after use
- Children under the age of 18 must be accompanied by an adult

Deb will be hosting a "learn how to use the equipment" on Monday, October 18 from 9:00-11:00 and 5:00-7:00. If you were curious on how to use the equipment, need a refresher course on the equipment or just want to meet Deb, this would be a great time. Just remember that you might have to wait or come back if there are more than 5 people in the fitness room.

-Submitted by Sean Loomis, Park Manager

## FALL INTO YOUR CHAIR... In a Good Way!

By Kate Peppard

Here we are shifting into Autumn: gardens are winding down, the wood is stacked, leaves are turning and falling. This is a great time to take note of how you are feeling these days. Are you stiff from all of those winter prep chores you have been doing? Is your balance off - both physically and perhaps mentally (maybe spending a little too much time with social media or the news)? Perhaps there is a little stress and anxiety about the coming winter and COVID. An excellent antidote to stress, imbalance and physical strain is yoga. Yoga is not about bending yourself into a pretzel shape, or standing on your head, it is about centering yourself and feeling deeply connected with the world around you.

Chair yoga allows us to bring in the elements of strengthening and balance while not having to worry about holding a standing posture, which in turn allows us to focus in on breath and sensation just a little bit more than we might if we are worried about holding a pose. Whether you are sore and stiff from working on a roof, or have gotten a little unsteady on your feet due to the aging process, chair yoga is an accessible way to gain flexibility, strength and balance.

This fall, The Rowe Cultural Council (and the Massachusetts Cultural Council) is sponsoring a FREE six class chair yoga series focused on the Five Elements: Earth, Water, Fire, Air and Ether. This series is intended to help you connect to the elements, and ultimately to feel more grounded and connected to yourself as you move through the environment. You can join the live sessions by Zoom, or catch up with videos that will be available on the Rowe Cultural Council's website.

Skeptics and yoga lovers alike are encouraged and welcome to join! Let this seasonal transition inspire you to try something new or revisit something familiar in a new way. Check out Rowe Cultural Council webpage for the videos from the spring series (especially the introductory video for those new to chair yoga).



Kate and her trusty yoga assistant, Ranger.

CHAIR YOGA VIDEOS SPONSORED BY  
THE ROWE CULTURAL COUNCIL:

<https://rowe-ma.gov/g/51/Cultural-Council>

CHAIR YOGA SCHEDULE (FALL 2021):  
FRIDAYS 9:30 - 10:30 AM (10/15 - 11/19)

Videos will be available one week after each class  
Email Kate ([kate@highlandyoga.studio](mailto:kate@highlandyoga.studio)) for  
login information.

The Zoom login will also be available on the  
Rowe Cultural Council webpage.



Playwright Jean-Claude van Itallie, who established the Shantigar Foundation in Rowe as a center for theater, meditation and healing, died of pneumonia on Sept. 9 in Manhattan. He was 85.

One of the founding playwrights of the experimental theater club La MaMa in Greenwich Village, van Itallie was also an actor, director, teacher and translator. He was known around the world as the creator of such works as the trilogy “America Hurrah” and the play “Tibetan Book of the Dead.”

Van Itallie was born in Brussels, Belgium, in 1936. His family fled the Holocaust in 1940, coming to the United States via France and Portugal. They were saved in large part by the Portuguese consul in Bordeaux, Aristide de Sousa Mendes. The van Itallies were among the thousands of Jews to whom the consul issued exit visas despite the orders of his superiors.

After graduating from Harvard in 1958, he moved to New York City and studied acting at the Neighborhood Playhouse. He was quickly drawn into the off-Broadway experimental theater scene. He worked frequently at La Mama and also wrote for Joseph Chaikin’s Open Theater. His many plays included “Bag Lady,” “War,” “The Traveler,” “Light” and “The Tibetan Book of the Dead” (or “How Not to Do It Again”).

Most recently, in 2019, Andrea Clearfield’s opera “Mila, Great Sorcerer,” to which he contributed the libretto, was presented at the Prototype Festival; and his play “The Fat Lady Sings” debuted at La MaMa.

His family acquired land in Rowe in 1946. It became his adult home in the 1960s. In 1992, van Itallie established the Shantigar Foundation on Davenport Road, which serves as a center for theater, meditation and healing.

Shantigar has attracted myriad artists, teachers and performers over the years, in large part because of the connections and the vivid personality of its founder.

In addition to helming Shantigar and writing plays, van Itallie directed performance, writing and meditation workshops at Naropa, Princeton, Yale, and other universities and retreat centers. He also worked with local companies, including Pilgrim Theatre in Conway and Double Edge Theatre in Ashfield, according to Quinn.

Van Itallie didn’t write only plays. He produced books as well, including “Tea with Demons” and “The Playwright’s Workbook.”

Memorial celebrations will take place in the spring at Shantigar in Rowe and at Café La MaMa in New York City.





I operate a National Weather Service remote observing station here in the northeast corner of Rowe.

Each morning, I record and report the previous 24 hour high, low, and current temperature, precipitation, current conditions, and recent weather events. Reviewing my record books, I gathered the following:

The summer's rainfall totaled 29.98" of rain!

This includes 3.23" for the last 10 days of June (after the Summer Solstice), 14.94" for July, 5.56" for August, and 6.25" for September, up to the Fall Equinox on Sep 22.

The 30-year average annual rainfall in this area is about 50"

Of the 92 days of Summer, there was measurable precipitation 62 days.

And.... as of this morning's 7:00 readings, yesterday and so far today, we have gotten another 1.60"

-Submitted by Russ Jolly

## Town Clerk

Submitted by Paul McLatchy III

Office hours continue to be on Friday evenings from 6:00-8:00. If this time frame does not work for you, I am happy to make an appointment for another night or on the weekend. I check email, messages, and mail frequently and can also check voicemail and email remotely. The above aside- please note that from October 10th through October 17th, I will not be in the office. I will also not be checking email/phone/mail as I will be out of town and will not have access to cell/Wi-Fi. Please plan accordingly if you need any records or licenses as requests will have to wait until I return.

I have had several requests for information regarding remote participation in meetings. Due to recent legislation, public bodies have the option of conducting their meetings entirely in person, remotely, or a combination of the two (hybrid). These options will exist until April at the earliest. Thanks to the efforts of the Selectmen and Executive Secretary Janice Boudreau, the town has a wonderful hybrid system available for boards and committees to use. Now those who want to meet in person can go to town hall, while those who might feel more comfortable streaming due to Covid (or just want to stay on their couch in their pajamas), can call or video in. Boards and committees are not obligated to use any particular method, but it seems like a number are already embracing this hybrid style. A reminder that if you have not been sworn in yet for a position, you need to contact me to arrange to do so. We still have several elected officials that haven't been sworn in from the May town elections... four and a half months later. I am also going to start nagging those who haven't completed their ethics/open meeting law requirements- these are mandated by the state of all public officials.

### What is that weird plant???



You found **Beechdrops!** Beechdrops (*Epifagus virginiana*) are wildflowers with brownish stems and spiky clusters of small, tube-shaped flowers with maroon & cream stripes. Beechdrops bloom in late summer and autumn, and by late autumn, they turn brown and die. Although beechdrops can reach up to 18 inches, you may walk right past a plant without noticing it because the colors of the chlorophyll-less plants are so dull. Beechdrops are root parasites; they lack chlorophyll and possess only small, flat scales in place of leaves so they have no way to photosynthesize. The only way this odd little plant can survive is by the generosity of the American beech tree (*Fagus grandifolia*). Beechdrops are equipped with small root-like structures that insert into the beech root, thus drawing out just enough nutrition to sustain the plant. Since beechdrop plants are short-lived, they don't damage the beech tree.

Beechdrops have two kinds of flowers - near the top of the stems are open flowers and lower down on the stems are what look like buds, but are actually flowers that never open and self fertilize.

Beechdrops are fairly common here in Rowe and many can be found in the Park right now!

*Have you seen a flower or plant (or moss) in town that you want to know what it is?  
Send me a photo at [goalposteditor@gmail.com](mailto:goalposteditor@gmail.com)*

photos by Sue Williams

**HELLO Seasoned Citizens of Rowe:**

As you know, the Gracy House and its mold issue, plus the pandemic going into its second year has played havoc with keeping activities of the Rowe Council on Aging scheduled. With the recent retirement of Sandy Daviau and the resignations of long-term COA members, this is a call to all those Seasoned Citizens over 60 to become a part of reactivating the Rowe COA.

I was told a couple of SCs of Rowe have expressed interest in being on the Council or active on a committee to help with programming. But it is not up to me to suggest who should volunteer for the Council on Aging. The Select Board appoints members. Once a full complement of members is reached, those members will meet and choose a chairperson and secretary. It is up to you, the individual, to send an email or letter to the Select Board expressing your interest – what would you like to see offered on a regular basis? What is missing in your opinion? How would you like to see the COA proceed? I don't want to “lead questions”, so please feel free to make any comments.

The only suggestion is FORWARD THINKING. What has happened in the past is in the past and probably been hashed over enough. Our job as Seasoned Citizens is to identify the unmet needs, brain storm solutions, and step forward to help those solutions be realized.

My phone number is 339-5325 and mail address – is P.O. Box 300, Rowe, 01367. Leaving a message on the phone is questionable; we seem to sometimes get the messages, and

sometimes not. Email is susiet66@hotmail.com. Thank you for your attention.

**FUN FACT:** Census of Rowe in 2010 was just under 400. Mailing list I used to send this memo out lists 172 Seasoned Citizens over 60...that's almost half of the population of Rowe. Think about that!

-Submitted by Susan Tomlinson

A friendly deer on Hazelton Rd.



photo by Heidi Cousineau

## YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED



To a meeting of the Rowe Historical Society  
With a Potluck Dinner  
On  
Thursday, October 7th at 6:00 P.M.

The topic of discussion will be  
the way forward for the Historical Society  
and the Kemp-McCarthy Museum.

Come share your thoughts and ideas.  
This is a great town with a rich history that  
needs to be shared.

### Rowe Community Church

Submitted by Ros Mullette

- October 3 Worship Service & Observance of The  
Lord's Supper  
10 Worship & Praise Service  
17 Worship & Praise Service  
24 Worship & Praise Service  
31 Reformation Sunday

Bible studies are held on Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. and  
will be held on Oct. 6, 13, 20, and 27th.

## October Birthdays

- 1 - Sean Loomis
- 2 - Jane Stetson
- 2 - Sandra Silva
- 3 - Faith Travis
- 4 - Clifford Page
- 5 - Arlene Andognini
- 6 - Daniel Pallotta
- 7 - Rebecca Boutwell
- 8 - Dave Arney
- 10 - Kirsten Foberg
- 11 - Nancy Plante
- 11 - Lawrence Lesure
- 11 - Wayne Zavotka
- 12 - Chris Tower
- 13 - Bob Rice
- 13 - Jenn Morse
- 15 - Oral Jackson
- 15 - Tabitha Hyytinen
- 15 - Courtenay Brines
- 16 - Jasmyne Ostrowski
- 18 - Ken Fensky
- 19 - Arthur Corarito
- 19 - Russ Jolly
- 20 - Peter Columbus
- 20 - Rachel Richardson
- 22 - Raymond Gallo
- 22 - Roman Kichorowsky
- 23 - Darline Upton
- 23 - Edward Silva
- 26 - Shirley Veber
- 28 - Rob Williams
- 28 - Mary Veber
- 28 - Buster Reed
- 28 - Leslie Bauer
- 28 - Susan White
- 30 - Benjamin Werner
- 31 - Erin Laffond

## *Town Services*

<u>Position/Dept.</u>	<u>Ext #</u>	<u>MAIN</u>	<u>Alternate</u>		<u>Email Addresses</u>
		<u>PHONE#</u>	<u>Phone #</u>		
Admin Assistant	101	339-5520			
Assessors Office	104	339-5520			<a href="mailto:assessor@rowe-ma.gov">assessor@rowe-ma.gov</a>
Assessors FAX			339-8585		
Board of Health	105	339-5520			<a href="mailto:boh@rowe-ma.gov">boh@rowe-ma.gov</a>
Conference Rm 2nd Fl	148	339-5520			
DPW	111	339-5520	339-5588		<a href="mailto:dpwhighway@rowe-ma.gov">dpwhighway@rowe-ma.gov</a>
Executive Secretary	100	339-5520			<a href="mailto:townadmin@rowe-ma.gov">townadmin@rowe-ma.gov</a>
Fire	112	339-5520	339-4001		<a href="mailto:firechief@rowe-ma.gov">firechief@rowe-ma.gov</a>
Fitness Room	149	339-5520			
Hearing Room #1	150	339-5520			
IT/Server Closet Area	147	339-5520			
Library	114	339-5520	339-4761		<a href="mailto:rowelibrary@gmail.com">rowelibrary@gmail.com</a>
Park	110	339-5520	339-8554		<a href="mailto:parkmanager@rowe-ma.gov">parkmanager@rowe-ma.gov</a>
Police	113	339-5520	339-8340	339-0139 (H)	<a href="mailto:policechief@rowe-ma.gov">policechief@rowe-ma.gov</a>
Tax Collector	106	339-5520			<a href="mailto:collector@rowe-ma.gov">collector@rowe-ma.gov</a>
Town Accountant	102	339-5520			<a href="mailto:accountant@rowe-ma.gov">accountant@rowe-ma.gov</a>
Town Clerk	103	339-5520			<a href="mailto:townclerk@rowe-ma.gov">townclerk@rowe-ma.gov</a>
Town Nurse	107	339-5520			<a href="mailto:nurse@rowe-ma.gov">nurse@rowe-ma.gov</a>
Treasurer	108	339-5520			<a href="mailto:treasurer@rowe-ma.gov">treasurer@rowe-ma.gov</a>
Gracy House	-		339-4276		
School			413-512-5100		
Town Hall FAX			339-5316		

### **Town Main Line at 413-339-5520**

Town Hall has reopened as of June 17<sup>th</sup> for normal business hours 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. When visiting Town Hall, please wear a mask if you have not been vaccinated for Covid-19 or if you feel it necessary. Please contact Executive Secretary at: (413)339-5520 ext. 100 for appointments whenever possible.

Seasonal resident **MUST** notify the Executive Secretary of any change in address.

The Rowe Goal Post  
P.O. Box 462  
Rowe, Massachusetts 01367

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## **The Rowe Goal Post**

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All submissions for the next issue are due by the 25th.  
Any articles received after this time cannot be guaranteed that  
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Please e-mail all items to:  
[GoalPostEditor@gmail.com](mailto:GoalPostEditor@gmail.com)

Please send only high resolution images (do not resize).

If you have a question about your subscription or want to make a change to the mailing list,  
please contact the Town Administrator at:

(413) 339-5520 x100  
[admin@rowe-ma.gov](mailto:admin@rowe-ma.gov)

Seasonal residents **MUST** notify the Administrator of any change in address.