



Orono Observer

A Quarterly Town of Orono Publication December 2013-January-February 2014 Volume 20.4

Meetings, Events, etc

- December:**
- 9 Council Meeting, 7:00 pm, Council Chambers
 - 18 Planning Board, 7:00 pm, Council Chambers
- January:**
- 13 Council Meeting, 7:00 pm, Council Chambers
 - 15 Planning Board, 7:00 pm, Council Chambers
- February:**
- 10 Council Meeting, 7:00 pm, Council Chamber
 - 19 Planning Board, 7:00 pm, Council Chamber
- 5th Comp Plan Forum to be held in February (date TBA)

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2ND-HALF PROPERTY TAXES DUE FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 7TH

The second half of property taxes will be due on Friday, February 7, 2014 for the fiscal year July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014.

Please mark your calendars. The interest rate on unpaid taxes is 7%. Interest begins on February 8, 2014.

The Town of Orono is an equal opportunity employer and service provider.



HOLIDAY TREE PICKUP

Public Works will begin picking up holiday trees curbside on Thursday, January 2nd and continue collecting them through Friday, January 24th, 2014.

Please leave your trees out during this time period and the Public Works crew will circulate around town picking them up during their regular working hours.

MUNICIPAL ELECTION NOMINATION PAPERS AVAILABLE

Nomination papers will be available after December 16th at the town office for the March 11, 2014 Municipal Election. The deadline for filing papers is on or before 4:30 p.m. Friday, January 24, 2014. At least 25, but no more than 100 signatures of Orono voters are required to have a name placed on the ballot.

There are two 3-year terms available on Town Council and two 3-year term available on the Orono RSU#26 Board.

Councilors whose terms will expire are Geoffrey Gordon and Cynthia Mehnert. The Orono RSU#26 members whose term will expire is Lisa Buck and Jacob Eckert.

TOWN OFFICE NEWS

Town Offices will be **CLOSED** from 11 am-1:00 pm on Wednesday, December 11, 2013 to allow employees to attend the Annual Town Service Awards luncheon.

DOG LICENSES Renew by January 31st



Maine Law requires that all dogs six months of age or older be licensed in the municipality where their owners reside. Dog licenses for the year 2014 are now available at the town office. All dogs must be licensed before January 31, 2014 to avoid a \$25 penalty. The fee for a spayed or neutered dog is \$6.00 and \$11.00 for an unaltered dog.

45 ATTEND PUBLIC FORUM #4

The Comprehensive Planning Committee received very informative feedback on its initial draft of policies and actions at its Public Forum #4 on November 12. Forty-five members of the public offered suggestions on matters relating to the Town's population and housing, economy, and in-town land use.

Many hands were in the air throughout the 3-hour session, and the insights were invaluable.

Follow the progress of the draft policies and actions at www.orono.org/planning, under updates to the Comprehensive Plan.

A fifth Forum will be scheduled for February – keep an eye out for the announcement of the date, and please consider attending. That forum will tackle issues that affect many of us – transportation, recreation, natural resources and municipal finance, for example.

The tentative plan is to conduct a formal public hearing on the draft plan in April 2014, with recommendations to the Town Council shortly after.

UPGRADES TO TRAILS BEHIND ORONO SCHOOLS

The recreation trails behind Orono schools have seen extensive improvements in recent years, partially due to a growing number of school aged cross-country skiers. Existing trails were widened and leveled, resulting in a smooth loop that winds through the woods and is groomed for skiing in winter months. The focus was to regrade the trail bed itself, so water will not run down the trails and create rocky, wet areas. Local Boy Scout, Billy DeSisto also constructed a walking trail that meanders along Johnny Mack Brook, complete with a handsome bridge for his Eagle Scout project. Trail work continued this fall with the addition of gravel in some areas, blazes to denote main trails, and a kiosk featuring maps and information near the school.

Skiers → During the winter, we ask that skiers traverse the groomed 4km loop in a counterclockwise direction

Others ↔ to help prevent collisions on the hills. Signs will be posted to remind skiers to travel in one direction and other users that they may travel in any direction. We would also ask that walkers and snowshoers stay on the side of the groomed ski trails in the woods; signs will also be posted to remind users of this request.

The improvement and maintenance of these trails has been a true community project. The Orono Public Works and Recreation Departments, Orono Trails Committee, Penobscot Valley Ski Club and Orono Land Trust have made these projects possible. Youth cross-country skiers and runners (and families) have provided the muscle to make these improvements a reality.

Questions about trail projects? Contact Daniel Perkins, Penobscot Valley Ski Club vice-president: daniel.perkins@maine.edu

WINTER PARKING BAN IN EFFECT

The Town of Orono has a “parking ban” from November 1 to April 15. Motor vehicles must be parked in off-street locations between 12 midnight and 8:00 am.

During a major snow storm, the Public Works Department has to plow the streets in the daytime. Vehicles in residential areas are required to be parked off street at these times to aid in snow removal. If owners of motor vehicles do not comply, they can be fined from \$10 to \$100 each day or vehicles can be towed. Please help the snow plow crews and keep vehicles parked off-street overnight and during storms.

YOU'RE INVITED!



ORONO UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

You're invited to join us for warm, friendly fellowship at 36 Oak Street! Our fall schedule begins on September 8; Church begins at 11:00 am with Sunday school offered for all ages. Check our website to learn more about the many activities offered to you and your family. We look forward to meeting you!

Website: www.oronoumc.com (We're on Facebook too!)

Address: 36 Oak Street Phone: 866-4605

COMMUNITY HOUSE ACTIVITIES
19 Bennoch Road

Mantis Yoga: Mondays 4:00-6:30 pm

Aerobics Classes: Tuesday & Thursdays 6:00-7:00 pm

Mary Drew Dance Classes: starting January 7th: Tuesdays &/Thursdays 3:30-5:30 and Wednesdays 3:30-4:30 pm

Zumba Classes: Mondays 6:30-7:30 pm and Wednesdays 5:00-6:30 pm

Check out more recreation opportunities available at www.orono.org.

Available to Rent: Book your next birthday party, anniversary or dance at the Community House.

ORONO PARKS & RECREATION NEWS

Recreation Office located at the Town Office, 59 Main Street, 866-2556

Holiday Events:



Tues., December 10th - Tea With Santa 10-11am at the Keith Anderson Community House

Join Parks & Rec and the Orono Public Library for a morning of tea and cookies with Santa and Mrs. Claus. Each child will talk with Santa and receive a gift from Mrs. Claus. This event is free. Space is limited, pre-registration is required at www.orono.org.

Cheerleading

Grades 3-5, Asa Adams, December 4 to March, 5:30-7:30 pm. There will be travel to recreation basketball games and local competition as well. Practices will be on Wednesdays and Fridays. Gage Alley will be lead coach. Gage cheers for the UMaine Cheering Team.

Check out other recreation opportunities by visiting www.orono.org.

Tuesday Toddler Time

Beginning January 7th, every Tuesday from 9-11am (except holidays) is Toddler Time at the Keith Anderson Community House.

This program is free. Toddlers have an opportunity to play in a large open space with a variety of mats, tunnels, a small play slide, and indoor Little Tike cars. Parents must be present and supervise their children during this open play time, but it provides a social outlet for all. Come on in out of the cold and join the fun.

Recreation Basketball

Grades 2-5, December 7th through February 1st. Pre-K to 1st grade, January 4 through February 1st. We welcome anyone who is interested in coaching. Sign-up at www.orono.org.

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ORONO LIBRARY NEWS CORNER

Visit us on the website at www.orono.org, call us at 866-5060 or stop by 39 Pine Street.

Tech Topics at the Library

- Dec. 10, 6:00 p.m.- IndieFlix. Come learn how you can have award-winning independent films stream through our library's website into your homes, for FREE. Join us for an hour of how-to's and get a glimpse of some of the thousands of movies available to you.
- January 7, 2014, 6:00 p.m.- After the Holidays eReaders and Tablets jumpstart! Several models of eReaders and tablets will be available to test-drive and learn how to use. Discover how to download free ebooks from the library website. A good time to ask questions from the State Library Tech Guru. Please preregister, 866-5060
- February 11, 2014, 6:00 p.m.- Tech Tuesday Topic-TBA. Watch for information on our website and Public Access Channel.
- Learn and improve your use of computers and ereaders or get assistance signing up for Affordable Care with free help from our Tech Tutors. Call today to schedule an appointment, 866-5060.

Youth Programs ~ December 2013 to February 2014

Call 866-5060 or email louise@orono.org

Winter activities sponsored by the library are about to kick off! The library's youth services department is in cahoots with the Parks & Recreation Department this holiday season!

Join us in the Keith Anderson building for **Tea with Santa**, December 10th, 10am and **Gingerbread Houses**, December 17, 3:30pm. For more information, and to sign up your child for those events, go to <http://www.oronorec.com>. For events in the library (no sign-up necessary), try out **Holly's Holiday Yoga for Kids** on Wednesday, December 18th, 3:30pm and our **Holiday Story Time** with Miss Julie and Pajama Time's Mark on Thursday, December 19th, 6pm. **All four events are FREE!**

In collaboration with Adult & Community Education, we have a **magician** visiting on Saturday, December 7th, 10am, at the Asa Adams Elementary School. **Wes Booth** will focus his magic on anti-bullying! All ages are welcome. **FREE!** Check our calendar for future Family Saturday Events and other programs we offer weekly and monthly: <http://library.orono.org/calendar>.



Your Local Bookstore

One of the largest suppliers of used textbooks and we also carry a great selection of general books!

- Art & Academic Supplies
- UMaine Clothing & Gifts
- Computer and MP3 Player Accessories



Hours:

Monday - Thursday: 8-6:30pm

Friday: 8 - 4:30pm

207.581.1700

When school is in session & subject to change.

Find Us on Twitter & Facebook!

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www.twitter.com/umbookstore

Located in the Memorial Union Building
at the University of Maine.



Your Off Campus Store of the UMaine Community

umaine.edu/bookstore

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- LONGFELLOW HEIGHTS
- HASBROUCK COURT

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Fax: 889-9501

37 Boulder Drive Orono, Maine 04473

**GATEWAY SENIORS
WITHOUT WALLS**

For more information, call 889-3031, leave your name and address and phone number, and we will send you an activity schedule for December 2013 through April 2014.

December 2013

Movies About Us: Invictus, Yarn Social
Lunch on the Town: Stone House, Veazie
Children's Books, Cookies Pot Luck

January 2014

Painting at the Wyeth, Senior Yoga
Lunch on the Town, Breakfast at Dysart's
Opera conversation over Dinner (Falstaff)
Asset Management, Pot Luck, Yarn Social
Movies About Seniors: Away from her
Hike at Mt. Hope Cemetery
Garden Pizazz: Creating an Envable Garden
Dinner at Oriental Jade and a movie
An Evening of Rodgers and Hammerstein
Lecture: Women in Leadership Roles
School of Performing Arts: Rogers &
Hammerstein's Classics
Keeping Geriatric Dogs Healthy and Mobile
Sing Along with Julie Monroe
Tai Chi for Seniors 55 +

February 2014

Lunch on the Town- Thai Basil Bistro, Old Town
Yarn Social, Painting at the Wyeth
Hike Bangor City Forest
Penobscot Theater matinee- One Blue Tarp
Opera Conversations over Dinner- Rusalka
Movies About Us- About Schmidt
2014 Income Taxes- Updates and Questions
Garden Pizazz: Creating an Envable Garden
Gourmet Cooking (and Eating) Together
School of Performing Arts matinee: Grease
A Smart Strategy for Smart Investing
Senior Cats: Keeping Them Mobile and Healthy

**ADVERTISE IN THE
ORONO OBSERVER**

Contact Nancy Ward at 866-2556 to reserve space for your ad in the Mar/Apr/May 2014 Orono *Observer Spring Issue*. Ads are \$90.00 per quarter page (3 3/4" by 4 3/4") with other sizes and prices available, and must be submitted as camera ready (pdf files preferred).

CODE ENFORCEMENT NEWS

Permits Required for New Heating Systems

Bangor Gas is running supply lines along the Bennoch Road. The Code Office wants to remind homeowners that before they convert their heating systems to natural gas they must obtain a permit for the new heating appliance.

Heating Permit Application Forms can be obtained by calling the Code Office at 866-5051 or downloaded off the Town website at <http://codeenforcement.orono.org/overview>



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- Full range of therapy services – 7 days a week

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COMMONS**

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117 Bennoch Road • Orono

NEW WINTER HOURS AT LANDFILL

The Landfill is now open! During the months of December 2013 through March 2014, the Town of Orono Landfill will have limited hours of operation. The Landfill will be open to permit holders on **Saturdays from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM** on the following dates:

December 7, 21
January 4, 18
February 1, 15
March 1, 15, 29

The landfill will also be available to permit holders on Wednesdays by **appointment only** at no additional charge. Appointments can be made by contacting Rob Yerxa or Ken Beyleirian Monday through Friday between the hours of 7:00 AM and 3:30 PM at 866-5062. Appointments will be taken at the discretion of the Public Works Department contingent on staffing levels and weather considerations.

Beginning April 2, 2014, the landfill will return to the standard hours of operation — every Wednesday and Saturday from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM. As always, the landfill is available to be opened on unscheduled days, by appointment only, for an additional charge.

Please feel free to contact Rob Yerxa, Director of Public Works, at 866-5062 with any issues or concerns regarding this change of operating policy.

DOWNTOWN PUBLIC PARKING

Free downtown public parking is available from 6:00 am to 2:00 pm every day in the municipal lots located behind the police station, off Pine Street and on Birch Street. Overnight parking is available by permit in the municipal lot behind the police station by calling the Police Department at 866-4000.

POLICE DEPARTMENT ROAD SAFETY

As winter is upon us, the Orono Police Department would like to remind people of the following information:

- Be aware of black ice and snow covered roads.
- Make sure you have good tires and remember to put on your studded snow tires.
- Make sure to clean the snow off all your windows before driving on the roadways.
- Do not over drive road conditions. Slow down and pay attention to your speed.
- Be aware of snow plows (you may see them, but they may not see you).
- Pay attention to pedestrian traffic and children playing on snow banks.
- Check your windshield wipers and replace if needed.

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~ SUNDAY WORSHIP ~

10:15 am Morning Worship with Sunday School and Nursery Care

~ CHRISTMAS CONCERTS ~

Bodwell Hand Bell Concert: *Monday, December 16, 7:00 pm*

Mount View Chamber Singers: *Thursday, December 19, 7:00 pm*

Epiphany Extravaganza Concert: *Sunday, January 5, 4:00 pm*

~ CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP ~

4:00 pm A Children's Christmas Eve

Do you want to be a wise man? An angel? A shepherd? Come and help us retell the ancient story. This is a creative and participatory presentation of the nativity.

Come and join the fun! Refreshments!

7:00 pm Traditional Candlelight Lessons and Carols

Welcome home! See you in church!

866-3655

cuf82@myfairpoint.net

churchofuniversalfellowship.org

Our church welcomes persons of every age, background, circumstance, ethnicity, family configuration, gender identity, and sexual orientation. We believe that diversity enriches our faith community and that each of us has the right and responsibility to support one another as we search for the divine by living, learning, and growing.
An Open & Affirming Congregation

HELP WANTED BOARDS/COMMITTEES

The Town of Orono seeks residents interested in serving on the Board of Appeals and the Board of Assessment Review.

An application form is available at the Town Office or on the website at www.orono.org under "Council & Committees/Town Committees, Application Form". Please consider volunteering to serve on one of these boards. Your input makes a difference!

For more information on what is involved in serving on a board or committee, stop by the Town Office or call us at 866-2556.

RSU 26 ADULT & COMMUNITY EDUCATION WINTER 2014 PROGRAMS

- High School Diploma
- English as a Second Language
- Adult Literacy Tutoring
- Family Literacy Programs
- Personal Enrichment Classes
- One-day Bus Trips
- Health & Fitness Courses
- Vocational Trainings

To view our complete catalog visit:
www.rsu26.org

We have over 500 online enrichment courses available at:
www.ed2go.com/rsu26

To register and pay for classes online visit:
<http://orono-hampden.maineadulted.org/>

New online health occupations courses:
<http://www.healthtoday.com/Splash-Page/RSU-26-RSU-22-RSU-34>

Most of our winter classes start in late January or early February. Please call 866-4119 for more information about our program.

Orono Thrift Shop
 Located in the Birch Street
 Senior Center Building
 Sponsored by the Orono Health Association

Hours Open:
9:00 AM-4:00 PM, Wednesdays
10:00 AM-3:00 PM, Saturdays

At Main St, take Pine St. 2nd right to Birch St.

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ORONO'S RECYCLING SCHEDULE FOR 2014



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**Town of Orono
 Hours of Operation**

Town Office: 866-2556
 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM
 Monday-Friday

Public Works: 866-5062
 Mon-Fri 7AM-3:30 PM

Recreation: 866-5065
 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM
 Monday-Friday

Library: 866-5060
 Sunday - Closed
 Tues/Thurs - 10AM - 7PM
 Mon/Wed/Fri - 10 AM - 5 PM
 Sat - 9 AM -1 PM

Disposal Area (Landfill):
 See Page 6 for details
 (Obtain permits from the
 Town Office)

CARDBOARD

Cereal Boxes, Pizza Boxes, Paper Towel
 Cores, Egg Cartons, Beverage Holders

PAPER

Newspapers, Junk Mail, Envelopes,
 Magazines, Soft Cover Books, Brown Bags

PLASTIC

Containers #1 - #7 (Milk Jugs, Bleach,
 Detergent, Shampoo Bottles, Etc.)

GLASS

Bottles and Containers
 (Any Color)

METAL

Aluminum, Tin, Steel Kitchen Cans,
 Aluminum Pie Plates/Trays/Foil

January '14						
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February '14						
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March '14						
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April '14						
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May '14						
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31						

June '14						
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July '14						
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August '14						
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31						

September '14						
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October '14						
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November '14						
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December '14						
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Inside:

- Nomination Papers
- Winter Parking Ban
- Dog License Renewal