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The Wells Connector

Connecting local government to the people we serve!

Thank You Velux for Your Generous Donation!



Harbor Master Michael Yorke applied to the annual Velux grant contest with a proposal for a new shellfish lab. His proposal sparked the interest of the Velux leadership and now the Town has received \$40,000 and donated windows and design services to start construction of a building that we hope will be open in the spring of 2022. With additional support from Hancock Lumber and the help of volunteers to build the new facility, the Town's harbor will have a unique place for people to learn about shellfish harvesting. Thank you to all who are helping make this possible!

WELLS COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE

Community Forum

Wells needs your feedback!



**Childcare provided
at the event!**

WEDNESDAY

NOV. 10

6:00 PM

**Wells Middle
School
Gymnasium
1470 Post
Rd, Wells, ME
04090**

**Join us in planning for
the future of Wells!**

The Town of Wells is updating its 2005 Comprehensive Plan, which is a community-driven document that guides future development activity, growth, and infrastructure investments. Join us for this interactive event and provide feedback that will inform the Comprehensive Plan update. Topics community members can expect to explore include:

**Economics and Demographics
Housing
Critical Natural Resources
Water Resources
Marine Resources
Transportation and Circulation
Historic and Archaeological Resources
Public Facilities and Utilities
Land Use**

Visit the Comprehensive Plan Update website for more details.

Police Department Update

Jo-Ann Putnam, Chief of Police

On August 26th Author Jocelyn M. Lacey stopped by the station to donate a couple of copies of “What Police Officers Do” a book she wrote after she participated in a citizen police academy in Johnson City, Tennessee. In addition to working at a police department in North Carolina, she worked with law enforcement while employed at a domestic violence shelter and children’s advocacy center. She has since moved to Kennebunkport with her husband, two dogs, a cat and two fish.



On October 5th, 6th and 7th Wells PD hosted a training entitled “Intentional Leadership”. Twenty-one officers from Maine and Massachusetts attended the class. The Lead Instructor for the class was Dean Crisp, after a 38-year career in law enforcement he went on to become an instructor and an eventual National Trainer for the FBI-Law Enforcement Executive Development Association. He is also an author of two books on leadership.

With the recent retirement of Chief Charlie Szeniewski of York PD, Captain Kevin Chabot was elected to take over as the District 1 Training Council Chairman. The group is comprised of a representative from each police agency in York County and coordinates independent training for our agencies along with working with the Maine Criminal Justice Academy shaping police training in Maine.

Fire Department Update

Mark Dupuis, Fire Chief



The Fire Department will be wearing pink shirts for the entire month of October to support breast Cancer Awareness Month. The Wells Professional Firefighters will also be selling pink shirts at the new Safety Complex Building for \$20.00 a piece with all proceeds going to the [My Breast Cancer Support](#) organization. My Breast Cancer Support is a NH 501c3 organization providing support to local breast cancer patients and their families.

The Month of October is also Fire Prevention month with Fire prevention week starting October 3rd and ending October 9th and is always the week of October 8th through the 10th in memory of the great Chicago Fire that occurred in October between those dates back in 1871. The fire destroyed approximately 3.3 square miles, killing approximately 300 people, and leaving another 100,000 homeless and costing \$222,000,000 in damage which is approximately 4.7 billion in today's value.

This year Fire prevention week's theme is "Learn the Sounds of Fire Safety" The emphasize is on the sounds that everyone should learn to stay safe including the sound of smoke alarms, fire alarms, and other noises. When an alarm sounds you must act. Ignoring it or not knowing what to do can lead to disaster.

Harbor Update

Michael Yorke, Harbor Master

October has been a busy month at the Harbor as boaters pull their boats for the season and Winter preparations begin. The number of visitors has slowed considerably but all businesses remain open.

The shellfish building has been prepared to be jacked up and moved to a new location as preparations are made to break ground for the new Wells Harbor Shellfish Lab. The Shellfish Lab will house a place for our Junior lobster license holders to retail their catch, as well as an education center for schools and public alike, as well as continuing to raise clams to seed our flats and supplement our valuable resources.

Library Update

Cindy Appleby, Library Director

The library loves its Friends! October 17 – 23 is National Friends of the Library Week. Support the library by becoming a Friend. Memberships start at only \$5.00. The Friends have volunteer opportunities, as well, but just becoming a member helps provide funding for library programs. Come by and pick up an application! The library has some entertaining and informative programs coming up. We'd love to see you there!

Oct. 26th 6:30 p.m. *If the Broom Fits: A History of Witchcraft* with Ehris Urban and Velyz Jancz-Urban

Oct. 27th 1:00 p.m. Teen Halloween Party

Oct. 28th 6:00 p.m. Children's Halloween Party

Nov. 3rd 4:30 p.m. Non-fiction Book Group will discuss *The Warmth of Other Suns* by Isabel Wilkerson

Nov. 9th 6:30 p.m. *Discover Your Civil War Ancestors* with Clay Feeter

Our monthly email newsletter is a great way to stay informed about all our fun programs and events.

Interested in receiving the newsletter? Sign up here: <http://eepurl.com/dQa1ib>

Help Keep Kids Warm this Winter!

The Rotary Club of Wells has recently launched "Operation Warm" which is their newest service project to provide winter clothing for children in need within the Wells community. Earlier this year the club was awarded a \$2,000 grant from Rotary District 7780. The grant along with the generous support of club donors will help to provide winter coats and snow pants to children in need. Community partners included in this service project include the York County Community Action Corp., Operation Warm which is a nationally known nonprofit that supplies children's coats, and Reny's of Wells.

To further impact their efforts, the Rotary Club of Wells will be holding a warm clothing drive on November 2nd with the collection site being at the Wells Junior High School Gymnasium located at 1470 Post Road, Wells, ME. The Club is asking the community to consider donating new socks, mittens and winter hats for children ages 3 months to 8 years of age when they come to vote. A table and collection box will be available from 9 am to 6pm at the Wells Polling site.

Residents who may not be able to make it to the voting site on November 2nd can also [make an online donation](#) toward the clothing initiative. A donation of \$25 buys a child a warm winter coat, mittens, hats, and pair of socks. Or simply [visit the Rotary website](#) and click donate to make a donation.

[A Safety Message from the Amtrak Downeaster](#)

True or False

Look at the following statements about safety near tracks and trains. Determine whether they are true or false! Turn the card upside down to reveal the answers.

Freight trains can take up to a mile to stop

Every three hours in the US, a person or vehicle is hit by a train

You should leave at least 15 feet of distance between you and the train tracks

Playing, walking and taking pictures on railroad tracks is against the law

For more rail safety tips visit: www.OLI.org or www.StayOffTheTracks.org



1. True. That's 18 football fields!
2. See Tracks? Think train. You are more than a statistic. True.
3. True. Trains overhang tracks. This distance helps ensure you and your vehicle are safe.
4. Railroad trains, tracks and the property next to the tracks are private property. True.

Railroad Crossing Safety Tips

Wait, Look Both Ways

Trains may be closer and traveling faster than they appear and can run on any track, in any direction, at any time.



Cross Legally and Safely

The only safe and legal place for anyone to cross railroad tracks is at designated crossings.



Don't Get Caught in the Middle

Make sure you or your vehicle are not stopped in the middle of a grade crossing, waiting for traffic to move.



You vs. Train

This is NOT a race! Never attempt to outrun or beat a train. Trains ALWAYS have the right of way.



Call for Help

Locate the Blue and White Emergency Notification System sign located at every railroad crossing. Call the phone number listed or 911 to report problems on or near railroad tracks or trains.



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[Beaches](#)

[Calendar](#)

[Employment Opportunities](#)

[Town Code & Charter](#)

Town of Wells

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