

# THE BRIDGE

Spring 2019  
Norridgewock, Maine

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townofnorridgewock.com

## Norridgewock Library Trustees Announce July Programming

### Featuring Inland Fisheries and CPR Demonstration

The Norridgewock Library Trustees continue to offer expanded programming opportunities for members of the community to enjoy. The Trustees recently announced the addition of two programs scheduled for July, including a presentation from Maine Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife.

On Saturday, July 6, beginning at 9:00 am, the Trustees are welcoming the public to Sophie May Library for a CPR/First Aid demonstration. The demonstration will be led by Norridgewock resident Denise Delorie. The presentation will provide an introduction to CPR and First Aid while offering attendees to sign up for a future certification class.

The following day, July 7, join Maine Game Warden Chad Robertson as he offers an information program on Water & Fishing Safety. This program is great for people of all ages and will be hosted at the Mercer Road Library.

There's no need to sign up in advance; questions/comments about the programs should be directed to Margaret O'Connell at [margaretjoconnell@gmail.com](mailto:margaretjoconnell@gmail.com). ★

## Town Seeks Engineering Proposals

### Road Committee sets out plans for 2019 construction season

The Town of Norridgewock is in the process of seeking proposals from qualified engineering firms to assist in long-term road planning and reconstruction. The goal of the request for proposals is to allow firms to submit proposals and demonstrate expertise in order to maximize the Town's productivity in substantial road construction. If a proposal is accepted, the intent is to proceed with planning a 2020 road reconstruction project, pending funding approval by voters at the March Town Meeting.

The Road Advisory Committee submitted their recommendations to the Board of Selectmen at a recent meeting, which were met with full support, with one exception. The Road Committee proposed overlaying approximately 3 miles of Winding Hill Road, in an effort to preserve existing pavement. The road sees substantial traffic, especially that of larger trucks who utilize the road to access pits and construction sites. The estimated cost of this project is approximately \$291,000.

The Committee also recommended paving approximately 0.5 miles of Beech Hill Road, from where the pavement currently ends to Red Barn Road. The cost estimate for paving this gravel section is \$83,220. Work on both projects will be completed by Wellman Paving (Winterport, ME).

The lone item proposed by the Road Advisory Committee which did not see action by the Board of Selectmen was the recommended removal of the speed table on Upper Main Street. The committee unanimously recommended its removal. After careful consideration, holding a public hearing, and acknowledging the speed table's effectiveness, the Board of Selectmen decided to table action on the item at this time. ★



### NEW FIRE TRUCK NEARS PRODUCTION LINE

Minuteman Fire & Rescue Apparatus, Inc. recently announced the arrival of the Town's new fire truck chassis. While work is expected to begin soon, the truck isn't expected to be complete for delivery until late summer. The truck will be built at Minuteman's facility in Bradenton, Florida. ★

## JUNE IS NATIONAL SAFETY MONTH



### Impairment

**DRUNK, DRUGGED, DROWSY,  
DIFFERENT. NO LEVEL OF  
IMPAIRMENT IS SAFE.**



**NATIONAL SAFETY MONTH 2019**

[nsc.org/nsm](http://nsc.org/nsm)



**Tax Bills are planned to be  
mailed the week of  
August 19, 2019**

## VI, Grange to Award Scholarships

Both the Village Improvement Society ("VI") and Somerset Grange will be awarding scholarships to graduating seniors. The 2019 winners will be announced at graduation on Sunday, June 9. The VI will be awarding two scholarships; the Grange will award one scholarship.

The Norridgewock Village Improvement Society raises money to support the scholarship through bake sales during elections, and a plant and bake sale each June. The Grange funds its scholarship with proceeds from public suppers held each month throughout the summer.

Grange suppers are held from 4:30 to 6:00 PM. Watch for posters to advertise the dates. ★

# TIF Committee Makes First Round of Façade Grant Recommendations

## Board of Selectmen formally authorize grant awards

The TIF Advisory Committee and Board of Selectmen introduced the Norridgewock Façade Improvement Program in March of this year. The program offers eligible local businesses the opportunity to apply for grant funding to complete eligible projects. The goal of each project is to improve curb appeal within the Town.

To date, the Committee has received four grant applications under the new program, two of which were approved. Frederick's Dar-I-Whip and Hardy's Motorsports were successful in their applications. Hardy's Motorsports (78 Mercer Rd.) has proposed installing new siding, as well as entrance modifications to the roadside building. Frederick's Dar-I-Whip (120 Mercer Rd.) intends to repaint the building, install new service windows on the front of the building, as well as the installation of new signage.

The program is open to eligible businesses in Norridgewock. To learn about eligibility requirements and for more information about the program, visit [townofnorridgewock.com/nfip](http://townofnorridgewock.com/nfip) ★

# Library-Sponsored "Predators" Program Hailed a Success by Attendees

## Chewonki Foundation brings another family-friendly animal event

Folks of all ages enjoyed the Chewonki Foundation program, *Predators: the Balance of Nature*. The event was held at the Grange Hall on May 18. Following a very informative talk about the life and times of some common predators, including the importance of each in maintaining ecological balance, attendees had the opportunity to "meet" a live saw-whet owl (pictured above), a milk snake, and a tarantula!



The show also included an exhibit of "cool stuff" as one youngster exclaimed. That "cool stuff" included a taxidermic (preserved) coyote and fisher.

Presenter Colleen engaged everyone in the audience, from preschoolers up to grandparents. The program was sponsored by the Norridgewock Library Trustees as part of their new community outreach program. Admission was free.

Check out Norridgewock Public Library on Facebook to learn about other upcoming events being sponsored by the Trustees. ★

# Municipal Attorney Changes

Jensen Baird Gardner & Henry selected as new firm

In an age of a far more complex legal environment, the Town determined that seeking new legal counsel with a specialization in governmental-related fields was imminent. While the Town has been well-served by its current attorney, the decision was made to protect the Town's best interests in all legal matters.

The Portland law firm Jensen Baird Gardner & Henry was selected given its tremendous breadth of knowledge and experience within the firm. The firm offers a Government Service Practice Group, which is led by Attorney Sally Daggett. Attorney Daggett will also serve as the Town's primary attorney for legal matters.

Other specialty practice groups include Employment Law, Environmental, and Real Estate. ★

# Downtown Revitalization Plan

## Streamlining economic improvement projects

Through funding from TIF revenues, the Town is proceeding in developing a Downtown Revitalization Plan. In its infant stages, the goal of the plan is to create a roadmap for improving the downtown area, in terms of aesthetics, but also economic viability, access, services offered, and more.

In order to create this plan, a working group of stakeholders will be established to set a baseline. There will be a series of public sessions for which all members of the community are encouraged to attend and provide input. Notice of these hearings will be advertised in advance, once scheduled.

The Town has selected Wright-Pierce of Topsham to assist the development of the plan; this firm has demonstrated extensive experience in developing similar plans. Wright-Pierce has completed plans for other municipalities including Skowhegan and Wilton. The plan is tentatively scheduled for completion in late fall 2019. ★

**The Town Office will be closed:**

**June 11 to staff the polling place**  
**July 4-5 in observance of Independence Day**  
**September 2 in observance of Labor Day**

*\*Subject to change, office is open weather-permitting*



**Airport Rd.**  
**634-2714**

*Waste Management is a private business.*  
*As a convenience to residents, we provide*  
*their back gate hours.*

Sun, Mon, Tues Closed  
Weds, Thurs, Fri 9:30am – 6:00pm  
Sat 7:30am – 4:00pm

Do You  
**FEAR**  
TECHNOLOGY?



**Have a friend or relative who does?**  
**Do you know someone who likes to leave**  
**computers and cell phones "up to the kids"?**

**Norridgewock Public Library is offering a**  
**FREE digital literacy program, which would**  
**be life-changing!**

**For more information, stop by the Library or the**  
**Town Office to let us know what program offerings**  
**you may be interested in.**

Programming offered by the Norridgewock Public Library, in cooperation with AmeriCorps and the National Digital Equity Center.