

Waterboro deputy clerk attends institute

Waterboro Deputy Town Clerk Yvette Murray, who also serves as registrar of voters, dedimus justice and notary, recently completed her first year of studies at the New England Municipal Clerks' Institute at Plymouth (New Hampshire) State University. This first year is for clerks who have not previously attended an institute. It offers an introductory course in public administration with interactive classes on communication skills, decision making, management theory, inter-government relations and procedures and media and written communications. Clerks in the first year experience practical lessons in general and theoretical courses.



Yvette Murray

veloping and maintaining the high level of administrative expertise needed for the successful operation of increasingly complex municipal governments. Completion of the three-year program entitles graduates to apply for the International Institute of Municipal Clerks' coveted Certified Municipal Clerk (CMC) designation.

Murray's tuition was paid for by a combination of a \$150 contribution by the town of Waterboro, a grant from the York County Clerks' Association, and personal expense. She was one of only two Maine clerks in the New England-based 19-member cohort that will move on as a group in the second and third elements of the program.

When asked what she found to

be the most significant experience of the program, Murray replied, "So much! Learning about good communication, building relations between town hall and the community, and returning with a new level of energy for my job. I also learned that I have more to learn, which is an added level of professional development for me."

When she completes the second and third years of her training, Murray hopes to attain the Master Clerk designation.

By Brigit McCallum

Waterboro Property Tax Club

The Waterboro Select Board announced the fifth year of a Tax Club program for the fiscal year beginning July 1. The Tax Club allows homeowners to pay property taxes over the course of the year using a payment book issued by the town once an application has been completed and tax commitment set. Taxpayers must make payments by the 15th of each month to take advantage of the "no interest" benefit. The plan is automatically terminated if a pay-

ment is late, and the taxpayer is subject to the same due dates and interest rates as other taxpayers who are not participating in the club. Applications for the club must be made before Sept. 1 and the first payment received by Sept. 15.

Any property owner who wants additional information or would like to join the club can fill out an application at town hall and will be contacted to finalize the application. FMI stop at town hall or call 247-6166.

DISPATCH

(Continued from page 1)

work. "They are clear, concise. It's a good fit."

Residents should not notice any difference when they pick up their phones to dial 911. Dispatchers take incoming calls for emergencies such as fires, accidents, and matters requiring the help of police. Asking questions, dispatchers get pertinent information from callers and then send appropriate responders to the scene via radio communications frequencies. While fire and emergency medical service calls are now being handled by Biddeford dispatch, police services for Waterboro remain in the hands of the York County Sheriff's Office which is dispatched from Sanford.

"The county deputies are all dispatched through Sanford's dispatch center, so nothing changes there with our switch to Biddeford dispatch, said Waterboro Town Manager Gary Lamb, who confirmed that the town will continue to be served by contract deputy Shawn Sanborn. "Our York County Sheriff's Office contract deputy Shawn Sanborn is our one and

only Waterboro police officer. He works his full 40-hour shift solely in and for Waterboro, except for an occasional out-of-town emergency he might respond to. He is a county employee and is supervised by county staff, although I only need to call him if I have something for him to look into."

Lamb said he is thankful for the strong fire and emergency medical services staff in the town of Waterboro. "Our Waterboro Fire and EMS staff continues to be very busy and works hard to answer calls with the highest level of professionalism and training possible. We are pleased to be part of the SMCC firefighter and EMT training program as we house student employees in our Central Station. We are also very thankful that we continue to have a strong firefighter call force that provides much-needed manpower throughout the year."

Chief Bors explained that the Waterboro Fire Department regularly houses and trains students enrolled in the Southern Maine Community College Fire Science program. Students "live-in" rent-free at the station in exchange for being on-call members of the department. "We have some starting

in at rookie school in Falmouth today," Bors said. After this initial training, Waterboro fire personnel begin training the students on equipment, and they are supervised on the job. "Most of these kids have experience as volunteers from where they lived," Bors said. Many of these students end up going to work full-time in larger, city departments such as Portland.

The Waterboro fire and rescue station is staffed 24 hours a day by personnel that are paid per call. Lamb emphasized the important job these students, volunteers, and paid personnel do for the town. "The next time you see one of our volunteer call force members, make sure you thank them for being willing to leave their families at all hours of the day and night to respond to emergencies and work with our full time crew. Our department provides assistance on many mutual aid calls to our neighbor towns, and those same neighbors do the same for us when our fire trucks or ambulances are tied up on calls."

The town of Alfred has also switched their dispatching services from Sanford to Biddeford.

KYLE ETHERIDGE

(Continued from page 1)

life. Kyle, who has always loved to tinker and fix up dirt bikes to sell - his mother calls him her "little barter king" - is taking an online course to become certified to work on ATVs and dirt bikes. He also plans to take a mechanic's course as well.

"I feel either way, Kyle will

be fine," said Kimberly. "He has great determination and his spirits are great."

"He doesn't stay down."

Tickets to the fundraising event are \$10 and may be purchased by calling 776-4820 or online at www.kylestrong.myevent.com.

To donate towards Kyle's medical expenses, go to <http://www.gofundme.com/9htcjo>.



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