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BY BUTLER SMYTHE

g Penobscot Bay

Eggemoggin Reach Regatta on August 4, winding up three days of regatta and more photos on page 8.



10 YEARS IN: Deer Isle Hostel marks a decade of homesteading

PAGE 5

Town manager to present on future of Deer Isle

BY MONIQUE LABBE

DEER ISLE—Deer Isle Town Manager Jim Fisher is scheduled to host a forum pertaining to the future of the town of Deer Isle on Wednesday, August 15, at 4 p.m. at Chase Emerson Memorial Library.

Fisher said he was asked to be the library's August guest speaker.

He plans to present a brief overview of demographic, social, environmental and economic trends for the region and particularly for Deer Isle.

"I will use the balance of the 90 minutes to facilitate a discussion about strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats with [the] people attending," he said.

The idea, he added, is to use the information gathered during the meeting to guide a number of important decisions the town is facing. These include supporting a vibrant economy, the future of the schools, adapting to climate change, meeting the needs of an aging population, assuring adequate workforce housing, managing solid waste, and rebuilding the roads.

"My goal is to support dialogue and active local participation in town affairs," said Fisher.

for PERC funds, talks of expanding pier parking

funds, however, was delayed until after an audit could be completed.

According to Town Manager Kathleen Billings, the MRC board had been scheduled to review the audit at its July 25 regular meeting, but did not approve the audit at that time. At their regular meeting on Monday, August 6, selectmen speculated that the delay might indicate that there were problems with the audit, but Greg Louder, the MRC executive director, indicated that it stems from the fact that the audit covers a longer period of time than normal.

to Billings, "but it has been promised in prelim form by Aug. 1. The board will have to have a special meeting in August to review it with the auditors and consider acceptance of the audit as complete. The big check run will follow by the end of the month."

The selectmen have been skeptical of the MRC-PERC breakup process right along, and again on Monday were irked at the delay. Selectman John Robbins

The town expects to receive

\$171,000 in the equity

it back from the MRC [equity payment]."

Billings reported that work on the transfer station is nearly completed, with just a few minor details to be dealt with.

Deer Isle Granite Museum

Selectmen opted to decline an offer to receive the downtown Deer Isle Granite Museum as a gift. Owners Frank and Deeny Weil had proposed gifting the museum to the town, but the selectmen had some concerns about taking on another building. Those concerns, which were shared by members of the