

## Two consent agreements sent on Robidoux case

by Mary Grow

Palermo selectmen did not act on any of the three land use issues they discussed at their June 3 meeting.

Codes Enforcement Officer Darryl McKenney told them he sent two consent agreements to close out the town's part of the Robidoux case. One went to the Robidouxes and the other to Norridgewock contractor Larry Knowles.

Knowles, hired by Laure and Real Robidoux to build a road from Banton Road to Sheepscot Lake, cleared in and near wetlands and clearcut along the shore, violating both local and state regulations.

McKenney expected Knowles to be at the selectmen's meeting. When he did not arrive, McKenney called him. He told selectmen Knowles said he thought the meeting was June 6 instead of June 3.

Action was therefore postponed to June 17.

By then, McKenney said, the Robidouxes will have started planting the replacement trees they are having put in as part of the remediation plan.

A new clearcut on the Haskell property on Babcock shore brought neighbors Elaine Cole and Maureen Standish to the selectmen's meeting to express their concerns about enforcement of town regulations.

As they see it, town officials are not strict enough. Anyone with the money to pay a fine can do whatever he or she pleases and get to keep an illegal road or building, they alleged.

Referring to the Robidouxes and the Haskells, Cole said once a fine is paid, "The bottom line is, they're getting what they want."

McKenney and selectmen disagreed, citing instances in which they required people to remove illegal structures.

McKenney said the Haskells had permits to take down an old camp, build a new one no more than 30 percent larger than the

old one and install a septic system. Because their lot has a lot of shore frontage but little depth, they had to clear parallel to the shore to put in the septic system.

McKenney said he expected them to cut six trees and leave a seventh midway along the cleared area. They cut all seven and told him the seventh was damaged when the others were felled, he said.

Town Clerk Sheila McCarty said she went by in a boat and the shore does not look at all as it used to. She advised selectmen to look from the water before acting on the violation.

Board member Harry Dean Potter suggested a \$2,500 fine, as a starting point for discussion. Action was postponed until selectmen have more information from the state Department of Environmental Protection, the Haskells or both.

McKenney reported on ongoing efforts by state and local officials to deal with Merton Hickey's gravel road across a wetland off Banton Road. Hickey needs state and Palermo Planning Board permits if he is to keep the road, McKenney said.

In other business June 3, McCarty announced that the planning board will hold a public hearing at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, June 23, on James Pepin's revised plan for a four-lot subdivision on Plummer Road.

Selectmen talked about whether to close Morse Road, off Level Hill Road, to winter maintenance. They postponed action to review procedures.

The selectmen appointed a 20-person planning committee for the 2010 Palermo Days celebration. Members are Connie Bellet, Jeremy Brown, Pat Clark, Kim Crouse, Charelle Cullivan, Martha Edwards, Amy Fowler, Eileen Fuller, Lew Fuller, Sophie Glidden, Miriam Keller, Chris Kellett, Teri Kellett, Dale McKenney, Ilene McKenney, Pam McKenney, Raini Perry, Gail Pottle, Kathy Tesseo and Clayton York.

## Memorial Day in South China

by Faith Ames

Memorial Day turned out to be a lovely day for a parade and a large crowd was present to clap, wave flags and listen to speakers.

Commander Rick Fischer, of American Legion Post #179 in South China, and organizer, welcomed everyone. Dawn Spoden, president of the auxiliary, spoke about the importance of the poppy program, explained the colors and that all decorations were used exclusively for veterans. Don Pauley spoke of the many veterans living in the China area and the honors they received. He also played his keyboard for his wife, Christa, to sing.

The South China Community Church entered a float for the first time with Sheldon Goodine at the helm. He decorated it with many flags and members of the choir (they sang a special selection), accompanied by Faith Ames on her keyboard, sat on the float with Pastor Jim Ferrone and



The South China Community Church float that was entered in the South China Memorial Day parade on May 31.

Photo submitted by Faith Ames

veteran Floyd Jordan. A squad from the Brewer ROTC was fired a volley that was followed by Taps, ending the ceremony.

Everyone was invited to the

American Legion Hall for a light luncheon which was donated by Tobey's Grocery and the China Dine-ah, both of South China.

### Langis, Glidden named leaders

Larian Langis and Abigail Glidden, students at Palermo Consolidated School, in Palermo, were recently honored as a middle level scholar leader at a banquet on May 20 at the Augusta Civic Center.

The criteria for this award includes demonstrating academic initiative and scholarship, providing service to classmates and school, exemplifying positive attitudes and demonstrating leadership in the classroom and school activities.

### Local college students recognized

The following local residents were named to the honors list at Saint Joseph's College of Maine, in Standish, for the spring semester: Kiera Walsh, of Benton; Natalie Bowden, of Freedom; Lindsey Adams, of Skowhegan;

Sarah Berube, of South China; Laurel Ferland, of Vassalboro; and Lindsay Bates and Brittany Locke, of Waterville.

To be eligible for Saint Joseph's College honors list, a student must attain an average of 3.0-3.49.

To be eligible for dean's list, a student must attain an average of 3.5 or better. The following local residents were named to the dean's list for the spring semester: Stephen Cooper, of Chelsea; Winston Fate and Danielle

Slaney, of Fairfield; Jessica Bridges, of Oakland; Hannah McGowan, of Sidney; and Jordan Grant, of Windsor.

### Local students named to dean's list

Keene State College, in New Hampshire, has named Nathaniel Cole Deas, of Winslow, and James Edward Taddeo, of Waterville, to the dean's list for Spring 2010.

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