

POWNAL STARTS TO PLAN 250TH ANNIVERSARY

Thursday, August 14

POWNAL — The Select Board has endorsed a proposal to create a steering community that would help plan celebrations for the town's 250th anniversary in 2010, Raymond Rodrigues, board member of the Pownal Historical Society, said.

Select Board member Stephen Kauppi said the board would likely discuss the formation of committees in further detail the next time it meets on Aug. 21.

Rodrigues said the Historical Society approached the town because it didn't want the community to think that the society was solely responsible for planning the events or that any decisions made were final.

Another concern was that people might think it was purely a historical event and might not get involved because of that, he said. "We'll be part of it, there's no questions about that," he said, but if people plan dances or block parties, that would be fine.

While Pownal's charter was signed in January 1760, Rodrigues said the idea was for celebratory events to be held throughout the year in 2010, with different groups hosting events. Rodrigues said groups like the American Legion and the elementary school might be asked about contributing.

"Like most events, they creep up on you pretty fast if you're not paying attention," he said.

State Representative Bill Botzow, D-Pownal/Woodford, said that 250-year celebrations were going to be observed across the state for some time. "Towns can identify who they are, have been, and what they want to be," he said.