



# THE BOWDOINHAM NEWS

Volume 20, Issue 5

bowdoinham.com

September - October 2022

## Bowdoinham Rowing

Sit ready, ready all, and row!

You may have seen the red and black dory-style rowboats either out in front of the Long Branch Workshop or on the Cathance River. Bowdoinham Rowing is a club that was formed six years ago by Pete Feeney. Pete had always wanted to find a venue in Maine similar to his competitive rowing experience in San Francisco. In 2016, he acquired one of the two Chamberlain-style dories and started with a small group of fellow rowers. As time passed, a second dory was added to the fleet. The rowing activity has slowly but steadily increased. Today, there are approximately twenty-five active rowers with new rowers showing up frequently. The season has also extended. Initially, rowing would start in June and be done by September. The last row in 2021 was November 5th and the first row this year was April 15th.

The primary mission of Bowdoinham Rowing is community building through rowing. Getting exercise and getting out on our beautiful river and Bay are also part of the fun. Anyone and everyone are welcome to come join the rowing club. No one is turned away and no prior rowing experience



is required. If you feel you may not be up for pulling on an oar, coxswains are in high demand. There are also bow seats referred to as "Princess seats" if you would like to just ride along in a boat to check out the rowing and scenery.

Some members of the group have also started competitive rowing. The first racing experience was to take a borrowed Cornish Pilot Gig to Hull, Massachusetts the first week of March and row in the annual Snow Row. January and February practice rows were held in Rockland.

The racing activity quickly ratcheted up a few notches when Pete entered Bowdoinham Rowing into an international fixed seat rowing competition. SkiffieWorlds is a rowing event that occurs every three years

and is based on a four-oared boat called the Saint Ayle's Skiff. SkiffieWorlds took place in Kortgene, Netherlands from June 25th to July 2nd. So, in short, Bowdoinham Rowing went international. A small contingent of five people attended consisting of Kirsten Coker, Katie Campbell, Katherine Dixon Wheeler, Fran Jensen, and Pete Feeney. The team was able to borrow a local boat from the Skumskower Rowing Club.

Bowdoinham Rowing raced in a variety of divisions ranging from the 40+ Mixed category to the 50+ Womens' category. Our ladies did absolutely amazing especially considering it was the first time they had rowed in a Saint Ayle's skiff! Pete was coxswain for the rowers in the 50+ womens'

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# THE BOWDOINHAM NEWS



## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Friday, September 9<sup>th</sup>

5:00pm: **Pie Contest Judging (Drop pies off 3pm-5pm)**

5:30pm: **Chicken Run!**

Saturday, September 10<sup>th</sup>

10:00am: **Parade**  
Route: Fire Station (Post Rd) to Main St; down Main St to River Rd; then River Rd to Ridge Rd to Cemetery Rd to Center St; back to Fire Station

11:00pm: **Citizen of Year Award**

11:30am: **Zucchini Races**  
at Matthew Townsend Parker Memorial Skatepark, 6 Main St

1:30pm: **Lobster Crate Races**

3:30pm: **KenDucky Derby Race**

8:00pm: **FIREWORKS!**

## ACTIVITIES (SATURDAY)

11am-4pm: **Kids Activities**  
Inflatable Obstacle Course, Games, Bubble Frenzy (@12:30pm) and more!

11am-12pm: **Mr. Drew & His Animals Too!**

11am-8pm: **Music at the Gazebo**  
Bob White opening

12:30 pm: **Bubble Frenzy**  
Play in or catch the bubbles from a bubble machine

11am-3pm: **Open Studio**  
at Merrymeeting Arts Center

9am-4pm: **Open Art Gallery**  
Cathance River Art Gallery  
Knights of Pythius Bldg

10am-3pm: **1930s-1950s Fashion Showcase**  
at Merrymeeting Hall

1pm-3pm: **Merrymeeting Trails Bike Ride**  
Meet by RR Tracks

4pm-6pm: **Face Painting & Balloon Twisting**  
Sponsored by Five County Credit Union

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**THREE ROBBERS PUB**

## Bowdoinham Rowing

*Continued from page 1...*

### Bowdoinham Community Development Initiative (BCDI) and the Comprehensive Planning Committee (CPC) to Co-Host A Community Conversation on Housing

It seems likely that everyone in Bowdoinham has been affected by the housing market in some way. Rentals are scarce and expensive, home sales prices are at a record high, boomers are navigating aging in place, and adult children are still living with their parents.

In the spirit of BCDI's Village Community Conversations of the past, BCDI is partnering with the CPC to host a Community Conversation about housing. And in the spirit of gaining community input on important topics to help shape the Bowdoinham Comprehensive Plan, the CPC is excited to co-host this event. Housing is a topic that will be covered in the Comprehensive Plan as the result of community input.

The Comprehensive Plan vision statement has this to say about housing: "Bowdoinham has an impressive diversity of people, with differing incomes, occupations, and heritage. As a community we are intentional about welcoming them all. People here help each other out. Housing that is affordable is available."

Everyone is invited to discuss housing in Bowdoinham; what's needed, what's wanted, what's possible, and who might want to pursue the possibilities.

The Conversation will take place in October. Stay tuned for specific date, time, and location as we finalize the details.

Please look to the November/December newsletter for updates on new topics that will be added to the Comprehensive Plan, as well as updates on ongoing efforts.

As always, everyone is welcome to attend the CPC meetings held on the second Tuesday of each month, usually at the Coombs Building, Graduates Room from 6:30-8:00. This is a great time to join the group. For more information please contact Jennifer Curtis at [planning@bowdoinham.com](mailto:planning@bowdoinham.com). Members of the CPC are Joanne Joy, Chair; Allen Acker, Laura Arnold, David Asmussen, Co-Chair; Peggy Christian, Jan Marks, Buddy Schott, Bill Stanton, and pending, PJ O'Hanlon.

race and he can attest that the Bowdoinham women gave some very strong teams something to think about. One fellow female rower from a Dutch team commented, "You ladies row beautifully. Your strokes are long and graceful."

Pete returned from the Netherlands with some big aspirations. The dory-style rowboats have served the club well, but the plan is to build a Saint Ayle's Skiff over the winter. Also, Pete is actively working with the Lake Champlain Maritime Museum Rowing Team and other rowers in our region to establish a North American Saint Ayle's Skiff Association. Saint Ayle's Skiff rowing

is centered in Scotland but is now in at least eight countries around the world and is the fastest growing rowing sport. Pete's mission, in addition to getting Bowdoinham Rowing in a Skiff, is to expand Saint Ayle's skiff rowing throughout our region. A personal goal he has set is to bring the SkiffieWorlds competition to Portland, Maine in six years.

If you would like to join Bowdoinham Rowing whether to row, be a coxswain, or help build a Saint Ayle's skiff, you can request to join the Bowdoinham Rowing group on Facebook. Alternatively, you may contact Pete Feeney directly at 319-6324.





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## Merrymeeting Arts Center

“Gallery for Everyone” was a tremendous success! Nearly 400 visitors flocked to the gallery in July alone. Our featured artists all had an opportunity to engage with gallery goers, and we could not be more proud to be part of such a welcoming community. The series was intended to provide a gallery experience for artists, but we found it also provided an opportunity for visitors to feel at home in the gallery, too. Many of our first time visitors at the start of the series became regulars throughout the summer and we hope that feeling of inclusion continues with future exhibits.

It was such a pleasure to work with Manon Whittlesey this summer in the studio with her Block Printing for Teens class. Her experience and expertise were invaluable to building the structure we needed to welcome more artist educators in MAC’s studio. Instructors collaborating with MAC have access to our versatile studio space and to the Heron Fund which provides scholarships to students of all ages in our community, removing financial barriers for artistic opportunities. The Heron Fund is made possible by the generosity of the Muir Family and donations from MAC friends and supporters like you. Donations can be made on [www.merrymeetingartscenter.org](http://www.merrymeetingartscenter.org) or in-person at our gallery or studio spaces. These funds allow us to compensate instructors, build programming that fills creative needs in our community, and ensure Art for Everyone! If you would like to share your creative passion with the community by offering a class or workshop, reach out by email with your ideas and we will work together to add it to our calendar!

Celebrate Bowdoinham on September 10th will be a fantastic opportunity to show off your zucchini racing skills, enjoy some quiet crafting in the studio, and drop in at the gallery again. Over 100 “Swallow Clears the Air” 10”x10” canvas Take & Make kits were picked up for the Community Art Show at Celebrate Bowdoinham. We are looking forward to displaying our community’s creativity, inspired by Bryce Muir’s Local Myth, and hope that all the kits were enjoyed regardless of participation in the exhibit. We will be walking in the parade and (fingers crossed) introducing you to a VERY exciting new member of the Arts Center family! See the Celebrate Bowdoinham brochure and town website for details about dropping off your zucchinis for the big race!

We look forward to continuing the Open Art Studio and we are appreciative of everyone who has offered their ideas and contributed to shaping a new program that will hopefully provide a reliable makerspace for the community. Open Pottery Studio will continue on Saturdays with Catherine from 9-11am and Wednesdays with Melissa from 6-8pm. Evening and daytime options ensure everyone has an opportunity to get their hands dirty and make something amazing - \$10 donation covers clay, kiln, and glazes. Grab a date, grab a friend, or meet some of our fantastic regulars; it’s a Bowdoinhammy welcoming space with lots of knowledgeable, friendly faces waiting to share their experience with you.

Merrymeeting Arts Center is a volunteer run non-profit led by a small board who have been very busy this summer. In order to continue building studio programs

and gallery exhibits, we need to also build our volunteer base. If you would like to be part of MAC’s creative momentum, we would love to count you in! We are looking for a team to support Open Studio times, gallery assistance, help in the garden, and anyone interested in lending a hand or paintbrush as needed. Email [merrymeetingartscenter@gmail.com](mailto:merrymeetingartscenter@gmail.com) with the subject VOLUNTEER to let us know you would like to be added to our volunteer list and what activities interest you most.

Visit [www.merrymeetingartscenter.org](http://www.merrymeetingartscenter.org) to view our calendar for events, exhibits, and classes, and see our Facebook page for updates!



## Morning Jo

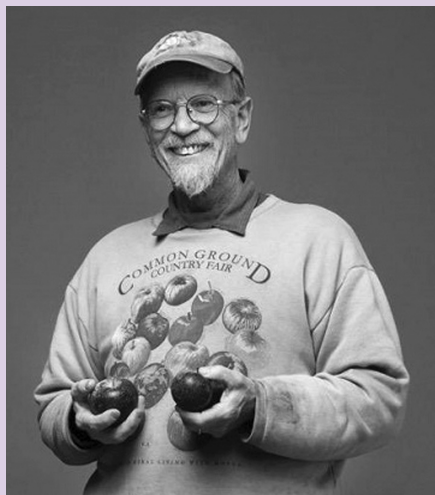
By Jo Werther

If our lives are a book, then the stories of our lives are the crayons we use to color it in.

### Bowdoinham Welcomes John Bunker, Maine's Apple Guru!

On Saturday, October 1, the Bowdoinham Public Library will welcome author, apple historian, gardener and orchardist John Bunker. John will set up an apple display at the Bowdoinham Farmer's Market from 8:30 to noon, displaying and discussing a sampling of his heritage apples from Maine's 16 counties. John will do his best to answer people's questions about their own apple varieties. He has visited Bowdoinham before and studied the journals of Bowdoinham's own orchardist, Abraham Prebble. At 1:00 Saturday afternoon at Merrymeeting Hall, John will talk to us about his book, Apples and the Art of Detection, published in 2019, and a little about his fruit explorations in Bowdoinham.

John Bunker is an apple historian, gardener and orchardist. In 1984 he started the cooperative mail-order nursery Fedco Trees. In 2012 he founded the Maine Heritage Orchard in Unity Maine. His recent book, Apples and the Art of Detection recounts his forty years of tracking down, identifying and preserving rare apples. He lives with Cammy Watts on Superchilly Farm in Palermo Maine. Find out more about John and Cammy's activities, at [outonalimbapples.com](http://outonalimbapples.com).



The experiences that shape us over the course of our lives are uniquely our own. Yet it is those same experiences - and our stories about them - that connect us to others in a way nothing else can.

Stories are why we cry at movies. They're why we can't put books down. They're the reason we are never the same afterward.

Everyone has wrestled with a dilemma, made a difficult decision, or had a life-changing moment. When we share our stories, we give other people permission to do the same. We connect around common themes. And everybody is enriched.

All of your stories matter. Even the hard ones.

All of your experiences deserve their place in the stories of your life. You can choose what you share, and with whom. But all of it is essential.

"Did I ever tell you about the time...?"

Consider making storytelling a part of your life. Make space to share with children, family, and friends. Set aside time, pick a theme ("What was your favorite part of the summer?" "What's the hardest thing you've ever had to overcome?" "Name something that makes you feel proud, happy, sad..."), and take turns.

Storytelling vs. "Telling stories"

Storytelling is not "complaining." It is not mundane "reporting." It is not rote. It is not a debate. And it is not the same as talking about other people.

This kind of storytelling is all about you and your own experiences, thoughts, and feelings.

When you genuinely share yourself in this way, you will often be delighted to find unexpected connection with others.

It's a gift that goes both ways. Try it and see for yourself.

Comments? Something you'd like me to address next time? Email me at [jowertherlcs@gmail.com](mailto:jowertherlcs@gmail.com).

Happy Fall!

### News from the Bowdoinham Guild of Artisans

The summer season keeps the twenty three members from the Bowdoinham Guild busy with shows and events. Thanks to all who stopped by to visit artisans in various locations during the Farm and Artist day in July.

Some of us will see you at Celebrate Bowdoinham and we all look forward to participating in the 17th annual Holiday Show at the Town Hall the first two weekends of December. We have not as yet finalized the exact times we will be open, but look for more information in the November/December newsletter.

Thank you for supporting the Bowdoinham artisans and check us out at [bowdoinhamartists.com](http://bowdoinhamartists.com).

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## Assessors' Agent Article

### *Property Tax Stabilization Program*

#### What is it?

It is a State program that allows certain residents to stabilize the property taxes on their homestead. As long as the resident qualifies and files a timely application each year, the tax bill to the resident for their homestead will be frozen at the amount the one was billed in the prior tax year.

#### Who qualifies?

- At least 65 years old, before April 1st, 2023.
- A permanent resident of the State of Maine.
- Have owned a Maine homestead for at least ten years.
- Be eligible for a homestead exemption on the property being placed in the program.
- Apply to the Town Assessors' Agent by December 1st, 2022.

If the homestead is owned by more than one individual, only one owner needs to

qualify for the program.

#### How do I apply to the program?

Applications are available at the Town Office or on the Assessors page of the Town Website. A completed application should be submitted to the Town Assessors' Agent by December 1st each year.

#### Frequently asked questions

1. Are there income or other limits on who can participate in the Program? There are no income or asset limitations to participate. As long as you meet the age, residency, and ownership qualifications, and timely file your application, you are eligible.
2. What happens if I forget to file my renewal application? Once you are in the Program, if you fail to timely file an application one year, the bill for the next tax year would revert to the "normal" amount of tax. You can apply again the following year, but your new

stabilized amount would reset to the missing year's normal tax amount.

3. What happens if I move or change my homestead? If you move to a new homestead in a different municipality, you must request that your old municipality notify your new municipality that you are participating in the Program and your stabilized tax amount. In addition, you will need to file a new application with your new municipality.
4. What happens if the tax assessed on my homestead goes down? If the tax assessed for a given year is less than your stabilized amount, you will be billed for the lower amount. If you continue to qualify and file timely applications in subsequent years, your tax will be stabilized at that new, lower amount.
5. What if I no longer wish to participate in the Program? The Program requires annual applications in order to continue participating. If you no longer wish to participate, you can simply not file an application and your homestead will revert to being assessed as it would normally be for that (and subsequent) tax years.

## New Regulations for Vessel Fire Extinguisher

Last year, most boat operators in this area were required to begin using an engine cutoff switch (ECOS) attached to their person unless the boat had an enclosed cabin, was not traveling on plane or above displacement speed, or was engaged in low-speed activities such as fishing and docking. This year, effective April 20, there are new regulations regarding onboard fire extinguishers.

All fire extinguishers that are no longer serviceable or are older than 12 years since manufacture must be replaced. "No longer serviceable" means the pressure gauge is no longer in the green area, the lock pin is damaged or missing, the nozzle is not clean and unobstructed, or the extinguisher itself shows significant corrosion or damage. The manufacturing date of extinguishers is usually stamped on their bottoms, with four digits showing the year, two digits the last two numbers of the year (for example, 08 = 2008). It is recommended that boaters check existing fire extinguishers to see if they are serviceable and manufactured after 2010.

All this, however, is complicated by a recent change in the way that fire extinguishers are labeled. Most boaters are familiar with labels such as B-I and B-II, designations that have been used for many years. But go and buy a new fire extinguisher, for use at home as well as on a boat, and you will see them labeled with a number at the beginning, followed by a dash, and then letters such as A, B and C.

The number refers to the size, in square feet, of the fire that the extinguisher is designed to put out. The letter refers to the type of fire it is designed to put out, the same as before. A = wood and paper. B = oil, grease, alcohol and gasoline. C = electrical equipment. D = flammable metallic substances. Therefore, a fire extinguisher labeled "10-B" is intended to combat flammable liquid fires no larger than 10 square feet in size.

If the model year of your boat is 1953-2017, there is no need to replace B-I or B-II fire extinguishers—unless they are unserviceable or 12 years old or older. They then must be replaced by extinguishers using the new labeling system. This also applies if your boat is 2018 or newer. Having B-I or B-II types on board does not meet federal regulations now in effect.

Finally, all fire extinguishers for use on boats must be Coast Guard approved. Extinguishers that are Underwriter Laboratory (UL) classified as 5-B, 10-B or greater meet this requirement. Those rated 5-B:C, 10-B:C or greater also comply with regulations, plus they are designed to combat electrical as well as liquid fires, both of which can and do occur on boats.

See [uscgboating.org](http://uscgboating.org) for further information about all current fire extinguisher regulations for recreational boaters. Enjoy being out on the water this boating season, but—always—please keep safety in mind.

### ASSESSING REMINDER: Bowdoinham is Updating its Property Cards

The Town of Bowdoinham has contracted with RJD Appraisal for assessing services to update the Town's property cards to be completed over a 4-year period. If your property is in the current assessing group, you should have received a letter from the Town.

In September/October 2022, RJD Appraisal will continue to conduct on-site reviews of the developed parcels to ensure the Town's property tax data is accurate. This will be achieved by gathering missing or incorrect building information. At the time of review, any building information that is in error or omitted will be corrected. RJD will inspect the exterior of buildings only. Interior inspections will only be performed if requested by the owner.

Please contact Darren Carey at (207) 666-5531 or [dcarey@bowdoinham.com](mailto:dcarey@bowdoinham.com), if you have any questions relating to the inspection process.

## Cemetery Advisory Committee

This column will include some “catching-up” as the May-June column wasn’t published until July-August, and the update addendum missed that boat. Sorry! Sam Tome and Cassie Hensley both resigned as of June 30 2022, when their 3 year terms expired. We miss them and appreciate their hard and thoughtful work. Sam will continue as Keeper for the Pratt Cemetery, the Sedgley Plot, and the Read Tomb, all on the Wildes Road, with Cassie and neighbors assisting. Due to Sam’s health issues this summer, the work on restoring the fence at Pratt Cemetery (already authorized by the Town) has not been completed. Public Works and the BCAC plan to assist this summer.

Tobey Frizzle, Public Works Foreman contacted State Oversight Agencies Regarding our concerns about South bank erosion and possible unauthorized dumping of stones, fencing, etc. over the bank toward Sampson Brook. An inspection was done and the Town was informed that there is “No Current problem with erosion.” The fencing from the Lunt Family lot remains over the bank; and Tobey recently found half of the gate (Lunt name on it) in the Town Office attic. Again, if anyone is or knows of a Lunt descendant, we would like to hear their wishes regarding restoring that fencing.

And regarding fencing, our ask is still out there for any leftover or replaced fencing that we could use to protect some of the smaller Plots. Any donations may be left at Public Works on Pond Road.

The planned Cemetery cleanups for this season (now through October) are:

Pratt Cemetery fencing party, hopefully this month, if cooler.

McFadden Yard, as soon as we get permission from the state to make a ROW from the end of the Old Dump Road.

Adams-Cromwell Cemetery and Meeting House Burying Ground. A large cleanup, probably in October If Interested in helping with any of these, please contact a Volunteer Coordinator (contact info at end of this column).

At present, we need at least 2 more members on the BCAC. To apply contact Tina at the Town Office 666-5531. Responsibilities include attending monthly meetings, plus smaller work group meetings. The Committee is responsible for assessing the condition and needs of all the 71 +/- known or heard-of burying sites in Bowdoinham or on town lines. We are also working on getting documentation

of all interments in the lots on a website and available at the Town Office. Because of the enormity of this task, we very much welcome more Keepers and general volunteers. Keepers are people who live near or choose a Plot to look after. This may include anything from just observing and contacting the BCAC or the Town, regarding any needs or problems to upkeep, mowing, fencing, planting flowers, etc. Many small Plots have been tended for generations by nearby families, who may or may not be Descendants. We do hope to learn of people in this area who are descendants of people buried in our cemeteries as local policies and State ordinance require their consent or involvement in some decisions.

### Volunteer Coordinators:

**Linda Temple**

666-3343

**Elaine Diaz**

666-8255

e-mail: elainediazhome@gmail.com

**BCAC Chair, Nina Jewell Mendall**

666-8838

e-mail: njmendall@comcast.net

## Nazarene News

*By Marilyn Davis*

Maybe you have been out school shopping, getting kids ready for another busy year. Perhaps you have started to clean up your garden. Did you freeze some veggies, make some great jam? We are all wondering what the next few months will bring. If you have toddlers, ages one to three, are ready for a little break from the to-do list, and would like an opportunity to sit and talk with other parents, this is your chance: Wednesday mornings 9:30am - 11am, at the house behind The Nazarene Church at 7 School St. An informal time for parents and toddlers. Pastor Christina Couch can be reached at 207-351-0289.

## News from Age Friendly

1) See article from George on Window Dressers

2) **Learn about Scams at Luncheon**

Luncheons will resume on the fourth Thursday of each month. The first in the series will be held on **Thursday, September 22, 2022** at 11:30 am in the basement of the Second Baptist Church.

We are delighted to have Grace McCarthy, a member of the Maine AARP Fraud Watch Network, join us after the luncheon. Grace will speak on how to spot and avoid scams that collectively cost U.S. adults tens of billions of dollars a year.

To learn more, please call Barbara (Cree) Rollins at 207-666-3873. The luncheons are free; donations accepted.

3) **Come Learn to Play Bridge**

Come join other Bowdoinhamers in learning the wonderful card game of Bridge. Taught by Nina Mendall and Martha Cushing, classes will start at the very beginning but will be helpful as a refresher course as well. Partners will be available as you learn the game but by all means bring a friend if two of you want to be partners. They say that Bridge is like Chess only with cards. But we say Bridge is a fun way to exercise your gray cells--and we all need exercise, right?

Classes begin September 8, 2022 from 10am to noon and will continue each Thursday during the month of September. Classes will be held in the Graduates Room, Coombs Building, 23 School Street. To learn more, please contact Martha Cushing at 207-573-7447.



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# THE BOWDOINHAM NEWS

## Volunteers Winterize Windows at Low Cost

by George Oliver

Winter is probably on most people's minds already, and keeping your home warm is a critical concern. While having enough fuel is an important factor, preventing home heat loss is just as important, especially through windows.

A volunteer organization called WindowDressers, which began in Rockland in 2010, is committed to a community-based solution: volunteers creating custom-built inside window inserts constructed of pine frames wrapped in two layers of tightly-sealed, clear plastic film. Since WindowDressers' beginning, they have done many thousands of such windows in Maine, and have expanded to Vermont and New Hampshire.

WindowDressers is a non-profit organization run by a small staff and many volunteers. It's dedicated to helping everyone make their home heating more efficient by cutting heat loss from windows. Since these insulating window inserts are easily installed and removed, you do not need to own a home to request and participate in the program. Mobile home owners will be able to use these inserts as well.

These custom-fitted inserts are less expensive than anything currently on the market; as an example, an insert for a typical medium-sized window is \$44.50. For those who cannot afford the cost, WindowDressers offers 10 inserts free.

Experienced volunteers will come to your residence, measure each window precisely, and convey to the resident or homeowner the cost. Once the materials are ordered, they are sent to the assembly center in Brunswick.

Bowdoinham's local contact is Jeff Deblieu, who's been a volunteer for 3 years. Jeff said that they are looking for more volunteers who want to help assemble. Anyone of any age are encouraged. Volunteers are trained in the assembly process, which is easy.

High energy costs make this service a must-have for this winter for anyone with drafty or leaky windows. You can request window inserts from WindowDressing by going to their website at <https://windowdressers.org>, where you can find a calendar of dates for measuring, ordering, and assembly. You can also call them at (207) 596-3073, or send Jeff Deblieu an email at [jeff.deblieu@icloud.com](mailto:jeff.deblieu@icloud.com).



### 2022 CHICKEN RUN REGISTRATION!



2022

Friday, September 9th at 5:30pm

Registration through our website is open until Thursday, September 8th at 6pm. Just visit <https://runinarace.com/BowdoinhamCommunitySchool/>. All proceeds benefit the Bowdoinham Community School. We hope to see you there!

*Bowdoinhammers:* Everyone had so much fun at the Chicken Run on May 7 (which had been postponed from 2021), the Bowdoinham Parent Partnership decided we just HAD to host another one!

This September, the Bowdoinham Community School 5K Chicken Run and Kids 1-Mile Fun Run will return to its normal day and time on the Friday evening before Celebrate Bowdoinham. Please save the date and register today!

LAW OFFICES OF  
ARTHUR J. LAMOTHE

Bowdoinham

666-5713

or

721-9911

[www.lamothelaw.com](http://www.lamothelaw.com)



## Planning & Development Department Updates:

### Bowdoinham Joined the Maine Climate Resilience Partnership

The Town has been accepted into the Community Resilience Partnership (CRP). The CRP is the State's program for implementing the Maine Climate Action Plan. To join the partnership, the Town completed a resilience self-evaluation in a public forum to identify priorities, reviewed a list of recommended actions to see which ones fit with our self-identified priorities, and passed a resolution in support of the resilience effort, listing our priorities. The Town is now eligible to apply for grant funds to use towards projects to meet the State's goals here in Bowdoinham. The Select Board directed staff to move forward with a request for funds to upgrade streetlight equipment to LEDs, swap out the town office lighting for LEDs and add some heat pumps to the building. The grant application is due in late September, and awards will be made by early November.

As long as the CRP is included in the state budget there will continue to be opportunities for implementing the Maine Climate Action Plan at the local level, and staff have reached out to the new regional CRP coordinator, Gabe McPhail, to discuss future options for collaborating with other communities in the region.

### Waterfront Redevelopment Project Update

First, the good news: the Cathance Meadow Trails will be getting two lovely new metal benches made by local artist Hilary Olson. They will be a nice amenity, inviting visitors to sit a while and appreciate the park. They should be in place along the trails by the time this newsletter is out.

Unfortunately, we must share that due to economic circumstances beyond our control, Bowdoinham will not be getting a new handicap accessible non-motorized boat launch at the waterfront this year as anticipated. There is still hope for next year. The Town put a portion of the overall waterfront redevelopment project work out to bid this spring – the work included a gravel access road, handicap accessible boat launch, and paved parking area adjacent to the boat launch. A budget developed in fall 2021 by project design engineers, and reviewed by project grant funders, Maine DOT and Maine Boating Facilities Fund, estimated the work to cost around \$400,000. Two bids were received in late June 2022, and the minimum bid was nearly twice the estimated amount. With the prohibitively high price of construction, thought to be due largely to risks related to supply chain and labor uncertainty, the Town decided to reject

the bids and will try to break the project up into smaller pieces, re-design some portions to exclude materials and tasks that are now particularly expensive, and re-bid the work around January of 2023.

A vote at Town Meeting approved the application for a Land and Water Conservation Fund grant and to use TIF revenues as matching funds. The grant application was submitted on July 1st. Hopefully the grant request will be successful, and the large infusion of funding will help move the project forward into implementation.

### **Bowdoinham Solid Waste and Recycling**

The Solid Waste and Recycling Department is now accepting the following electronics for disposal:

- TV's to include CRT's, flat panel, console and projection televisions
- Computers and monitors including laptops
- Desktop printers
- Game consoles, E-readers and Tablets

Fees apply on some items

Contact the Solid Waste Department with any questions 666-3228.

# TIDEWATER TREE CARE



- Tree removals
- Tree and shrub pruning
- Tree preservation
- Free estimates and Insured

[tidewatertreeservice@gmail.com](mailto:tidewatertreeservice@gmail.com)

207 613-5458

# THE BOWDOINHAM NEWS

## Bowdoinham Historical Society News

PO Box 101 • [www.bowdoinhamhistoricalsociety.org/](http://www.bowdoinhamhistoricalsociety.org/) • Like us on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/thebowdoinhamhistoricalsociety](http://www.facebook.com/thebowdoinhamhistoricalsociety)

**B**owdoinham is Blessed to still have many of its beautiful historic homes and buildings, and to have citizens who appreciate them and the historic flavor they give our village. In hope of preserving this flavor for our children and others who follow after, work is beginning on an Historic District.

We stopped last month on the corner of Upper Main Street and Post Road/Fisher Roads. Now we step across Main Street to the east side

First we came to a trio of homes built in 1972. #156, #136 #132

Next, is #128 a Split Level built 1977, formerly owned by Jim Prop

#120 was built in 1960.

#116 Main Street, a white house with a front porch belonging to Ailish Kress, dates from 1850. 1850

#104 formerly the Captain Moulton/Captain William Purington (1783-1868) House, burned in late 1970s, and was replaced with the current version of a center entrance colonial dwelling.

#98 was built in 1840. It belonged to Vera Sherman in the 1970s. Jim Talbot restored it after her death. Now the Thomas Parkers live there.

#94 is a wonderful 'Gingerbread House, owned by Paul Bains & Lorna Bullock. It was built in 1880.

#80 Main Street. This 1850s farm house was long the home of Bev and Al Acker.

Next we find an empty lot, rising to ledge on which stood a small old cape which belonged to Walter Read, Jimmy Read's father. It collapsed in the late 1980s.

Now there is a trailer there. There used to be a small house near the road which Jimmy Read built for his mom out of pieces of the old Railroad Depot. Hattie Read ran a kindergarten there for many years.



68 Main Street - 1790

#68 Main Street in a beautiful cape built in 1790. It was restored in 1990 by Richard Leighton, and contains old painted wall murals/ stencils.

#60 is a modified cape which belongs to the First Church of the Nazarene and from 1955 until recently served as its parsonage. Harlan Joyce bought the old, unused Universalist Church, built in 1890, back to life as the First Church of the Nazarene in 1948.

Across School Street we arrive at #56, Lately known as the "Pig House," it was built in 1830 by James Temple. There are several similar houses in town built about the same time. Dr Irish, who served as physician to the citizens of Bowdoinham lived there from 18xx until his death in 1939. We lived there in the 1970s and 1980s.

Next comes the little white building which serves as the telephone center in Bowdoinham. It is #52, and was built in the mid 1970s.

Years ago the lot contained another center entrance colonial like #56.

Elizabeth Purington lived there and later long-time librarian Helen Dudley. It may have served as the parsonage for the Methodist Episcopal Church across Main Street until the church burned in 1935.

Next, actually #1 Back Hill Street (formerly Center Street) is another white center entrance colonial built in 1840. Eva Palmer bought it for her parents and sister in 196x. She lived there until her death in 1987.

#42, on the other corner of Main and Back Hill Street, is a light blue house with white trim and a flavor of Greek revival. It was built in 1910.

#38 is a small Cape which was built in 1811.

#36, an early center entrance colonial, belonged to the Douglass family for many years., then belonged to Cindy Sinclair, and was recently renovated by David Stinson for his mother, Ruth. They have since left, and the house has a new owner.

#32 This Center entrance colonial, built in 1850, belonged to R.A.Dickinson and his family. Dot Dickinson, their eldest daughter inherited the house, and for years walked to the RA Dickinson store until she retired in 1976. It has belonged to 2 families since: the Jerosh family and now the Tankersleys.

When we came to town in 1974, the little white cape at #28 belonged to artist Bill Fowler and his wife Bea. After they died it was renovated by a realtor.

#26 is a small house built in 1900.

#24 is another 1900 building. It has been renovated in the last few years.

John Cody's hardware store is #20. It has stood staunchly and served many purposes since it was constructed in the early 1800s. By 1850 Captain Nathaniel MaComber had a store there, followed by Ben Higgins. Its brick walls helped save it and the upper town

*continued next page...*

### BHS Bread & Hyacinths Yard Sale

Sundays in September:

9/11 - 10am - 4pm

9/4, 9/18, 9/25 - 1 - 4pm

Donations accepted

Sundays 1 - 4pm

## BHS News

*continued from previous...*

from fire in 1902 and 1904.

From the 1940s until 1966, Bowdoinham's chief industry, **E. Andrew Peterson's Patent Leather Finishing Company**, had its offices there. In 1966 the **Bowdoinham Federal Credit Union** opened in the brick building. After over 40 years, in 2008, BFCU was bought out by **DownEast Credit Union**, which continued in the there until 2011 when it moved to Topsham. Served a spell as a general store and part of LongBranch School. Now it is home to John Cote's Bowdoinham Hardware.

#18, The Knights of Pythias Hall, built in 1904, has housed The Bowdoinham Town Office, until 1984, a clothing swap, assorted offices, and now Bill Stanton's Cathance River Gallery where the works of many Bowdoinham artists rotate through on display.

Bowdoinham's Veterans' Park comes next. The Stinson House Hotel occupied this space until the 1902 fire. In 1905 the canon, from Fort Popham, was placed on its base and dedicated in 1908. The Cornish family gave the water trough for the horses of Bowdoinham. Originally it was across the street and parallel to Main Street. As a part of Bowdoinham's 250 Birthday Celebration in 2012, Lara Ashouwak turned that corner from a dismal, cut-through into a handsome park to honor Bowdoinham's men and women who served in the military.

Across Elm Street, now River Rd (Rte 24), stands #12, the 3 Robbers Pub. After the great fire of 1902 destroyed the Carr Building on that corner, a smaller clipped gable building was built as a Post Office, Barber Shop, and offices. It was eventually purchased by R. A. Dickinson who ran his store there until his death in 1960. His daughter Dot continued to run the store until she retired in 1976. Then it saw a number of different owners who ran an assortment establishment under many names. Lynne Spiro's much loved Town Landing was the last before the current The Three Robbers Pub.

Before the fire, a number of buildings with assorted shops lined this side of Lower Main Street nearly to the water, including, near the river, the Village Bank.

**Please join or renew your  
MEMBERSHIP in BOWDOINHAM  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
If you haven't already.  
Family - \$15.00; Individual - \$10.00**

## Early Fall Notes from the Bowdoinham Food Pantry

*BFP Director Jenn Stonebraker*



**B**owdoinham's Open Farm Day & Art Trail is always a real treat, highlighting the incredible farm stand artists in our community. This year the Pantry got in on the fun! On Sunday, July 24th, the pantry invited folks to take part in a variety of activities. We highlighted our raised beds, which were built utilizing hügelkultur. Families enjoyed a craft activity, printing vegetables on tea towels. At noon, presenters Chris Bement, an organic farmer, and Desiree Viviano, P-AC, led a free workshop on making your own organic fertilizer through the fermentation process. Visitors to the pantry bid on some local goods and services at our Silent Auction and returned later in the afternoon and evening for our Block Party & BBQ. On that last note, we served an Upstate New York-inspired Chicken BBQ including biscuits, coleslaw, potato salad, baked beans, and blueberry cobbler with whipped cream - all "by donation". It was great to see so many people come through.

A very special thank you to all of the volunteers and Silent Auction donors who helped make the event possible. We are so grateful.

As always, we are open for in-person shopping each Wednesday from 4-6pm. Come shop with us!

### Volunteer needs:

TUESDAY - Produce Prep  
WEDNESDAY - Pack Deliveries/Deliver  
WEDNESDAY - Distribution Prep,  
Donation Processing & Distribution  
THURSDAY - Backpack Shopper and  
Packers  
THURSDAY or SATURDAY - Recycling  
Help

### Wish List:

Paper Towels  
Toilet Paper  
Gluten Free Snacks/Meals  
Kid Friendly Snacks  
Cooking Oil  
Pasta  
Pasta Sauce  
Soup  
Eggs

## Recycling Dos and Don'ts

**DO** check your recycling bags or bins every time you make a trip to recycle, especially if you live with others or have had guests. Different items are recyclable in different areas, so visitors and others might not know or remember what's recyclable in your area.

**DON'T** put used paper plates, used paper cups, Kleenex type tissues, or used napkins/paper towels in your recycling. These items aren't clean. Body fluids, even if they're dry, and food/grease/chemical stains aren't recyclable; these items go in your trash.

Stay tuned for more **DOs** and **DON'Ts** in the next issue.

### **Andrews B. Campbell, Attorney**

*Fifty years' experience in  
legal matters great and small.*

- \* Felony and Misdemeanor Defense
- \* Probate and Real Estate Litigation
- \* Civil Rights Claims

**(207) 666-5601**

# THE BOWDOINHAM NEWS

## Volunteers Needed! Help Spectrum Generations Provide Medicare Education to the Community

Augusta - Spectrum Generations is seeking volunteers to serve as facilitators and provide assistance in numerous other ways for the organization's Medicare education program. Volunteers with the Medicare education program are trained to empower, educate and assist community members in Bowdoinham and across central Maine to help them make informed decisions about their Medicare options.

"Medicare is a complex, but important topic. At Spectrum Generations, we are committed to ensuring our community members have access to free support and resources to help navigate the Medicare enrollment process," said Katie Carlson of Spectrum Generations. "When you volunteer with this program, you are truly making a significant difference in your community by helping ensure people have access to trustworthy, unbiased information and have support in enrolling in Medicare plans that best suit their needs."

Volunteers are trained and supported by Spectrum Generations staff before and throughout the time they serve as volunteers. The initial training covers topics such as the parts of Medicare and how to enroll in Medicare. Additionally, volunteers are supported by mentors who are current Medicare educators.

Several different roles are available for volunteers within the Medicare education program, including:

- Medicare Admin: printing and organizing educational materials, assembling packets
- Part D Educator: discussing the Medicare drug plans (Part D) with individuals
- Medicare Educator: review Medicare plans with individuals to help them understand what options are available to them
- Medicare 101 Facilitator: facilitate sessions of Medicare 101, which provides a high level understanding of Medicare to participants before they meet with a Medicare Educator

Volunteers may also have the opportunity to work with individuals to discuss the Medicare advantage plans (Part C) and verify whether they qualify for Medicare Savings Plans.

The Medicare education program

is provided to community members free of charge as a service of Spectrum Generations. This project is supported, in part, by grant number 90SAPG0057-03-00 from the U.S. Administration for Community Living, Department of Health and Human Services, Washington, D.C. 20201. If you are interested in volunteering with the program, please contact Stacey Forkey, Spectrum Generations' Volunteer

Coordinator, at 207.620.1684 or by email at [volunteer@spectrumgenerations.org](mailto:volunteer@spectrumgenerations.org).

**About Spectrum Generations:** Spectrum Generations, the Central Maine Area Agency on Aging and Aging and Disability Resource Center, has been a leading provider of information and advice, referrals, programs and activities for adults for over 40 years. For more information, visit [www.spectrumgenerations.org](http://www.spectrumgenerations.org).

### October 9<sup>th</sup> Harvest Feast at Dandelion Spring Farm with chef Kristie Rudolph

Please Join Dandelion Spring Farm in celebrating an abundant growing season with our first annual Harvest Feast, Sunday, October 9th 5-8pm. At Dandelion Spring Farm we grow MOFGA certified organic vegetables and herbs on unceded Wabanaki land in central Maine. At Dandelion Spring we believe that by engaging all of our senses through the production and sharing of nutritious food, we are setting a table for conversations about larger cultural and environmental issues related to our communities. We look forward to sharing conversations and abundance at our Fall Harvest Feast on our property in Bowdoinham. Dandelion Spring Farm's Harvest Feast will be a Contemporary American style dinner influenced by Kristie Rudolph's Korean American heritage. This multi-course dinner will be celebrating the best of seasonal produce along with local proteins. Drinks will be served by Cocktail Mary. A queer friendly, neighborhood cocktail bar on the East End in Portland.

For more information and ticket purchase visit [dandelionspringfarm.com](http://dandelionspringfarm.com).

Kristie Rudolph's love of food and cooking is heavily rooted in family and community. Her first teacher in the kitchen was her Korean grandmother, Lily, who showed her the power food has to connect us with one another. This has become instrumental in the fulfillment she receives from cooking for others. Whether it's cooking for the Free Fridge Mutual Aid Project, pastry work in restaurants or hosting dinner parties with her husband (a Michelin starred chef), the common thread has always been connecting with others through food. Supporting local farmer's markets has been her passion since living in San Francisco where she and her husband would bring their son each week. The relationships that began at farmer's markets continue to nurture her family.

For more information: [eventsdandelionspringfarm@gmail.com](mailto:eventsdandelionspringfarm@gmail.com), (207) 200-1589, or [dandelionspringfarm.com](http://dandelionspringfarm.com).



## BOWDOINHAM COMMUNITY SCHOOL

***Substitutes Desired for All Positions!***

*Teachers  
Paraprofessionals  
Administrative Assistant  
Health Aide  
Custodians  
Food Service*

- \* Must have patience and show great care for children
- \* On-the-job training provided
- \* Work as much or as little as you want

**Make a difference as part of our school community!**

Contact: Chris Lajoie, Principal  
(207) 666-5546      [lajoiec@link75.org](mailto:lajoiec@link75.org)



# THE BOWDOINHAM NEWS

## Second Baptist Church News

The Second Baptist Church of Bowdoinham, celebrating 202 years in Bowdoinham, continues our mission to bring the Truth and Love of God into our community and world through the lives of committed and growing Followers of Jesus Christ.

The Church held a waterfront service and BBQ on July 17th welcoming TEEN CHALLENGE, a Christian faith-based ministry based out of Brockton, MA with a location in Winthrop, Maine. They serve as a refuge to those who are plagued by the devastation of addiction. Inspiring testimonies were shared by people who have benefitted from the programming and support. Teen Challenge Maine

During the summer months we held "Back Yard Camp Fire Bible Studies" on Wednesday evenings. This took place at various homes in the community. Watch for this opportunity next summer.

The church has been doing some building improvements including interior painting, technology upgrades and replacing decking for the entryways. A big thank you to Andy Desjardins for painting and repairing the interior of the church. Our sound and video equipment has been recently updated with cutting edge technology that will make a big difference to our Worship Services and special events held throughout the year. Also, plans are being made to enhance our newly acquired property next to the church with many ideas being considered for future development.



The church is blessed with the musical talents of Ryan Sweet and Judy Rathbun who play the piano on Sundays.

### Scheduled Events:

- Worship Service at 10:00 AM on Sunday
- Communion is held on the first Sunday of the month.
- A church luncheon is held after the service on the third Sunday of the month.
- Men's Breakfast at 7:00 AM on Saturdays

- Women's Bible study at 9:00 on Sundays

**Community Senior Luncheons will restart on Thursday, September 22. Social time at 11:30 and lunch served at Noon.**

Also, AA Meetings are held each Monday and Thursday evening at 7 PM.

For more information, you can go to the church's website at: [www.bowdoinhamsecondbaptistchurch.org](http://www.bowdoinhamsecondbaptistchurch.org) or visit our Facebook Page <https://www.facebook.com/bowdoinhamsecondbaptist>

## Municipal Election Nomination Papers Due Friday, September 9th by 4pm!

Nomination papers are available at the Town Office for the following:

Two openings for:

Select Board, Assessor and Overseer of the Poor, for a 3-year term

One opening for:

School Board, for a 3-year term

The Municipal Election is November 8, 2022.

If you have any questions please contact Tina Magno, Town Clerk at 666-5531 or email [townclerk@bowdoinham.com](mailto:townclerk@bowdoinham.com)

## The life and legacy of Frances Perkins

### MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

October 20, 2022 at 1pm  
Coombs Municipal Building, Kendall Room,  
13 School St. Bowdoinham, Maine  
Free and Open to the Public - Refreshments  
Loose Ladies Book Club & Bowdoinham Public Library

Please join us on Thursday, October 20, at 1:00 pm for a showing of the Frances Perkins Center's 30-minute documentary on The Life and Legacy of Frances Perkins. Frances Perkins (1880-1965), the first woman to serve in a U.S. presidential cabinet, was Secretary of Labor (1933-1945) for the entire tenure of Franklin Delano Roosevelt. Perkins was the driving force behind many of the groundbreaking New Deal programs that are still the foundation of the American social safety net—Social Security, unemployment insurance, the 40-hour work week, and the minimum wage. Based on its Senior College course of several years, this program includes interviews with lecturers Leah Sprague, Christopher Breiseth, Charles Wyzanski and Sarah Peskin who cover her Maine Roots and early career, the woman behind the New Deal, the letters of Charles Wyzanski's father,



the Solicitor of the Labor Department in the New Deal, and jobs, infrastructure and art in the New Deal. Frances Perkins' family has Maine roots back to the 1750s in Newcastle, Maine, where the Frances Perkins Homestead National Historic Landmark is located. According to Perkins, her greatest accomplishment was the establishment of Social Security.

Michael Chaney, Executive Director, and Emma Wegner, Program and Education Director will be on hand to answer questions and participate in audience discussion. A companion traveling exhibit will be on display.

The program, sponsored by the Loose Ladies Book Club which is in its 20th year, and the Bowdoinham Public Library, is in memory of Louise Huntington, avid reader and lover of biographies.

## Bowdoinham Municipal Directory

### Town Office

13 School St  
Bowdoinham, ME 04008  
Phone: 666-5531  
Fax: 666-5532  
Website: bowdoinham.com  
Hours:

Monday: 8:30am-4:00pm  
Tuesday: 8:30am-4:00pm  
Wednesday: 9:00am-6:00pm  
Thursday: 8:30am-4:00pm  
Friday: 8:30am-4:00pm

### Recycling

121 Pond Rd  
666-3228

Website: bowdoinham.com/SWR

#### Recycling Hours:

Tuesday: Noon-6:00pm  
Thursday: 8:00am-4:00pm  
Saturday: 8:00am-4:00pm

#### Trash Pick Up:

Thursday Mornings  
(or the following Saturday morning  
when Thursday is a Holiday)

### Bowdoinham Public Library

13a School St  
Bowdoinham, ME 04008  
Phone: 666-8405  
Website: bowdoinhamlibrary.org  
Hours:

Tuesday: 10:00am-2:00pm  
Wednesday: 2:00pm-6:00pm  
Friday: 2:00pm-6:00pm  
Saturday: 10:00am-2:00pm

### Animal Control

522-8816

### Fire & Rescue

666-3505 (non-emergencies)

### Public Works

666-3505

### Sagadahoc Sheriff Dept.

443-8201

### Water District

(Payments Due Quarterly)  
737-4721

## Yoga Classes at Merrymeeting Hall

Anita Goller will be offering a 75-minute yoga class every Monday evening from 4:15-5:30 pm at MerryMeeting Hall beginning September 19, 2022. Anita is a long-time student of Ann Flannery at the Yoga Barn in Topsham and a 2022 graduate of the 200-hour teacher training at Sundara Yoga in Brunswick.

The class is open to adults of all ages and experience levels. This is a slow flow hatha vinyasa style class that pairs movement with breath as the body smoothly transitions between traditional hatha yoga postures. Anita offers modifications and options to make the postures accessible to all students, whether they need less intensity, or are wanting more intensity. To learn more about the class, contact Anita at anitagollerphd@gmail.com.

## Bowdoinham Public Library

Stay tuned to the Bowdoinham Public Library Facebook Page for information on upcoming book sales and other events.

# THE BOWDOINHAM NEWS

## Community Calendar

### September

- 5th Labor Day  
(Town Office Closed)
- 8th Thursdays thereafter in September:  
Learn how to play bridge  
Graduates room at Coombs Bldg  
10 am - noon
- 9th Chicken Run
- 10th Celebrate
- 19th Mondays thereafter:  
Yoga at Merrymeeting Hall  
4:15 - 5:30pm
- Sundays: Bread & Hyacinths Yard Sale  
BHS Meeting House  
7 Browns Point Road
- 22nd Age Friendly Luncheon  
Basement, Second Baptist Church  
11:30am

### October

- 1st John Bunker's Apple Display  
At the Farmers Market  
8:30am - noon
- 1st John Bunker Book Talk  
"Apples and the  
Art of Detection"  
Merrymeeting Hall  
1:00 - 2:30pm
- 10th Indigenous People's Day  
(Town Office Closed)

### November

- 1st First half of property taxes due
- 8th General Election and  
Special Election for Sagadahoc  
County Register of Probate
- 11th Veteran's Day  
(Town Office Closed)

## Town Board and Committee Meetings

All meetings are open to the public.  
For more information please visit:  
[www.bowdoinham.com/calendar](http://www.bowdoinham.com/calendar)

### Select Board

2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays of Month at 6:30pm

### Planning Board

4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of Month at 6:00pm

### Advisory Committee on Age Friendly Bowdoinham

2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of Month at 1:30pm

### Comprehensive Planning Committee

2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of Month at 6:30pm

### Cemetery Advisory Committee

1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of Month at 6:00pm

### Solid Waste Committee

Every other Wednesday at 5:30pm

Town of Bowdoinham  
13 School Street  
Bowdoinham, ME 04008

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