



THE BOWDOINHAM NEWS

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www.bowdoinham.com

July & August 2020

BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

Summer Guide for Bowdoinham Farms

By Wendy Rose



Apple Creek Farm

Offering: The farm is a MOFGA certified organic farm. They offer grass-fed beef, pasture-raised chicken, eggs, grass-fed goat & lamb and pasture-raised turkeys. Value-added products include chicken liver pate, and bone broths. They also sell sheepskins and cashmere goat hides.

Where/When: Products are available for purchase online with four pick-up locations listed on their website under the "about" tab. They also sell at the Brunswick Farmers' Market on Tuesdays and Fridays, 8-12. This market is currently housed at St. John's Catholic Church at 39 Pleasant St.

Updates: Any new information can be found at <https://applecreekfarm.me/products>.

Contact Info: You can reach Abby Sadauckas and Jake Galle at info@applecreekfarm.me.

Message to the community: "Bowdoinham is a great place to live and farm because of the support of the community. We love feeding you!"

Continued on page 2.



Open Farm Day & Art Trail

By Nicole Briand

Join us on Sunday, July 26th for our first Virtual Open Farm Day! Due to COVID 19, we will not be holding our traditional Open Farm Day event with open farm and studio tours. Instead of canceling Open Farm Day completely, we are going virtual!

Rebecca Conley of Boco Video Production, worked overtime to interview and produce farm/studio video tours of our farmers and artists. A special thank you to the Fire Department for capturing all the great drone footage of

Bowdoinham for the videos! And as always, this event would not be possible without the farmers and artists who open their farms and studios to us, so please join me in saying, thank you!

We will be posting the virtual farm and studio tours to the Town's website and Facebook page to celebrate this year's Open Farm Day on July 26th. We hope you enjoy them!

We look forward to bringing back our traditional Open Farm Day event next summer, until then enjoy the Farmers' Markets and local Farm Stands.

For more information, please visit the Town's website or Facebook page.

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Summer Guide for Bowdoinham Farms

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Blue Bell Farm

Offering: Mixed vegetables, salad greens, tomatoes, cucumbers, peppers, squash, peas, beets, beans, carrots, and more.

Where/When: Farm stand at 767 Carding Machine Rd., Bowdoinham. Open 7 days a week during daylight hours. Bowdoinham Farmers' Market on Saturdays from 8:30-12:00 at Maily Waterfront Park. The market will go from June 13 to Oct. 3.

Updates: Any new information will be posted on Blue Bell's Facebook page or at their website: <http://bluebellfarmmaine.com>.

Contact Info: You can email David Asmussen at bluebellfarmmaine@gmail.com.
Message to the community: "Thank you!"

Bowdoinham Farmers' Market

Offering: Vegetables, bread, dairy, meat, and sweets from approximately 7 vendors, including Counterpoint Bread.

Where/When: Maily Waterfront Park, end of Main St., Bowdoinham. It will be open from 8:30 to 9:00 for Covid-19 vulnerable folks and from 9:00 to 12:00 for everyone.

Special Information: The market is observing Covid-19 protections. Customers are encouraged to pre-order/pay online with vendors (not required), to wear face masks, and to socialize outside the radius of the market. Most vendors will have chip readers.

Contact Info: David Asmussen coordinates the market, please refer to his Blue Bell Farm contact information above.

Message: (ed.) I know we are all looking forward to taking advantage of this wonderful resource.

Dandelion Spring Farm

Offering: MOFGA certified mixed vegetables and herbs.

Where/When: Portland Farmers' Market, Deering Oaks Park on Saturdays from 7-8 (reserved) and 8-1 (everyone). Rockland Farmers' Market at Harbor Park on Thursdays from 9-1. Some CSA's are available for pick-up at the farm which is located at 961 Ridge Rd., Bowdoinham. Beth welcomes new inquiries from restaurants and stores.

Updates: New information can be found at www.dandelionspringfarm.com where you can also sign up for a newsletter. Facebook and Instagram also will have updates.

Contact Info: Beth Schiller can be reached at beth@dandelionspringfram.com. You can text her from 7 am to 7 pm at 207-380-4199.

Message to the Community: "Thank you for supporting your local food producers!"

East of Eden Flower Farm

Offering: Specialty cut flowers.

Where/When: Harvest Tide Organics Farmstand on Main Street, Bowdoinham. They are at the Brunswick Farmers' market on Tuesdays and Fridays from 8-12. This market is currently housed at St. John's Catholic Church, 39 Pleasant St. They are also at the Crystal Spring Market on Sat. from 8:30-12:30. This market is currently housed at Brunswick High School. Their CSA is sold out.

Contact Info: You can reach Julia and David Baecher through email: eastofeden-flowerfarm@gmail.com.

Message to the community: "Thanks for everyone's support!"

Fairwinds Farm

Offering: Strawberries, raspberries, blueberries, asparagus, and mixed vegetables and grains.

Where/When: Brunswick Farmers' Market on Tues. and Fri. from 8-12 at 39 Pleasant St. Crystal Spring Market in Brunswick on Sat. from 8:30-12:30 at Brunswick High School. Portland Farmers' Market on Wed. from 7-1 in Deering Oaks Park. The farmstand at 332 Augusta Road in Topsham is open Tues., Thurs., & Sat. from 9-5. The U-pick fields off Browns

Point Road in Bowdoinham are open during the season starting mid-June.

Updates: Check the Fairwinds Farm Facebook page for updates on crops and hours.

Contact Info: You can reach Pete and Cathy Karonis at fairwindsfarm08@gmail.com.

Message to the community: "We are so appreciative of the support that our customers give us by visiting us at our various locations. The u-pick fields will be open this summer with some changes due to Covid-19. Check our Facebook page for updates."

Harvest Tide Organics

Offering: An array of MOFGA certified vegetables and greens. They also have goods from other Bowdoinham farms i.e. cheese, berries, and flowers.

Where/When: Farmstand at 218 Main St., Bowdoinham. It is open Wed.-Sun. from dawn to dusk. You can pay at the stand or take advantage of their pre-pay option as outlined on their webpage. They also have CSA shares available starting in June for a 17 week period. You can sign up through their webpage. The farm is located at 304 Pork Point Road, Bowdoinham.

Updates: Check out their webpage at www.harvesttideorganics.com or access Harvest Tide Organics through Facebook.

Contact Info: You can reach Bethany Allen and Eric Ferguson through their webpage. Their phone number is 449-7274.

Lalibela Farm

Offering: MOFGA certified tempeh (a soy-based product used in vegetarian/vegan dishes).

Where/When: You can find this product at the Stonecipher farmstand in the refrigerator (see below). Lalibela also sells to restaurants and stores.

Contact Info: You can reach Andrew or Jaime Berhanu at lalibelafarm@gmail.com.

Message to the community: "We are wishing everyone health and happiness during these challenging times."

Left Field Farm

Offering: Mixed vegetables.

Where/When: Left Field sells through CSA's (community supported agriculture shares). They have sold out for this year, so get in early on next year's shares. They are also doing some wholesale.

Updates: New information is at www.leftfieldmaine.com.

Contact Info: Owner, Sean Hagen can be reached at info@leftfieldmaine.com.

Message to the community: "Thanks to our CSA members for your support."

Maggie's Farm at Mulberry Creek

Offering: Goat dairy products i.e. raw milk, yogurt, Chevre cheese, Feta cheese, and periodically mozzarella, ricotta, and cajeta (caramel sauce). Cow dairy products i.e. raw milk, yogurt, quark, Vache (chevre-like), and periodically mozzarella, ricotta, and cottage cheese. Grass-fed meat i.e. beef, lamb, goat. Free to roam poultry i.e. eggs and whole chickens. A variety of fresh veggies that supplement Blue Bell Farm's offerings.

Where/When: Farmstand at 589 White Rd., Bowdoinham every day during daylight hours. They are also at the Bowdoinham Farmers' Market on Sat. mornings, the Falmouth Market on Wed. from 10-2, Auburn Market on Wed. from 4-7, the Cumberland market on Sat. from 10-1, and the Lewiston Market on Sun. from 10-2. Their cheese and eggs are also at Tender Soles Farmstand in Richmond.

Updates: New updates can be found at www.facebook.com/MulberryCreek Maine or at www.mulberrycreekcsa@gmail.com.



Contact Info: Please use the contact page on their website or call 812-489-1349 to talk with Glenn, Gail, or Maggie Shourds.

Message to the community: "Thanks for all the support we've been receiving this season from customers—old and new—our great family of fellow Bowdoinham farms, and BCDI! We look forward to a fantastic year and more to come!"

Six River Farm

Offering: Bagged vegetables (in various sizes) including salad and cooking greens and a variety of vegetables. Bread from Counterpoint Bread at farmstand.

Where/When: Farmstand at 52 Center Point Rd.. Open every day from 8-6. Brunswick Farmer's Market on Tues. and Fri. from 8-12 at 39 Pleasant St. Brunswick. Crystal Spring Market on Sat. from 8:30-12:30 at the Brunswick High School. They also supply Morning Glory and Hannaford stores in Brunswick and Royal River in Freeport along with various restaurants.

Updates: Check their website at <https://sixriverfarm.com>.

Contact Info: You can email Nate Drum-

mond and Gabrielle Gosselin at sixriverfarm@gmail.com.

Stonecipher Farm

Offering: Greens, all types of vegetables, tomatoes, sweet potatoes, melons, dairy, yogurt, butter, sauerkraut, kimchi, honey, duck eggs.

Where/When: Farmstand at 1186 River Rd., Bowdoinham. They are open daily from 9 am to 6 pm. They have also launched a CSA program.

Updates: Watch Bowdoinham Friends and Family Facebook page for updates.

Contact Info: you can reach Ian Jerolmack and Emily Goodchild at stonecipherfarm@gmail.com.

Message to the community: "We are so grateful for the local support. We lost most of our market when the restaurants closed, so we really have had to stay on our toes, and find new homes for all our food. We hope most of it can stay in Bowdoinham now!"

All the farms have emphasized that they are using strict safety standards for their food and marketing.



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THE BOWDOINHAM NEWS

BCDI News

By Ingrid Leschefske, BCDI Program Manager

Thanks to the extremely generous support of you, our members and friends in the community, BCDI was able to award \$12,000 in grants during our second round of funding for our BCDI Covid-19 Community Response Grants! In just over one month, we awarded \$19,000 to folks in the Bowdoinham community whose work supports BCDI's core mission with a focus in increasing access to food, improving the health and safety, and/or otherwise meeting the basic needs of the Bowdoinham community.

Grant funding is not something BCDI has ever done before. Again, it is thanks to supporters like the Elmina B. Sewall Foundation, Abbagadassett Foundation, and other individuals in Bowdoinham and our surrounding communities that we have been able to offer this Community Response Grant Program. Check out our website for a list of people who have generously contributed to this work and for more details about this Program: <https://www.bcdimaine.org/covid19-grants>.

Here are the round two BCDI COVID-19 Community Response Grants recipients:



Blue Bell Farm: Blue Bell farm has seen an increase in demand at its farmstand. Grant funds will be used toward the purchase of another refrigerator as well as additional hand sanitizer and packaging to ensure customers can obtain food safely.

Bowdoinham Farmers' Market: The Bowdoinham Farmers' Market will use grant funds to implement best practices according to guidance from the Maine Federation of Farmers Markets. Grant funds will be used for signage, tables and coolers for preorders, hand sanitizer, and touch free screen readers, as well as to support a Veggie Valet position to manage traffic flow and deliver pre-orders to customers safely.

Bowdoinham Public Library: The Bowdoinham Public Library will use the grant funds to help facilitate access to books in the current climate. Funds will support four different StoryWalk book projects on the Bowdoinham waterfront trail throughout the summer. Funds will also be used to support an expanded summer

reading program and to build the Bowdoinham Book Trailer, which will be used to increase access to books for people of all ages.

Fairwinds Farm: For almost twenty years, residents of Bowdoinham and surrounding communities have been able to pick fresh berries at Fairwinds Farm. Fairwinds Farm will use the grant funds to ensure that customers can continue to do this safely. Funds will be used toward tables, tents, contactless credit card machines, hand washing stations, masks, gloves and hand sanitizer.

Harvest Tide Organics: Harvest Tide has seen a significant increase in traffic at their farmstand and will use the funds to make

improvements to respond to the increased demand. Harvest Tide is also providing space for some other area farms and businesses to sell their products. Grant funds will be used to increase cold storage capacity to ensure that a wider selection of food is available in sufficient quantities to meet the increased demand.

Maggie's Farm at Mulberry Creek: Maggie's Farm has seen a significant increase in traffic to the farm. Grant funds will be used to make improvements to the farm stand and parking areas to ensure customers can access food safely.

Attention Bowdoinham Business Owners

Did you know that BCDI has a low-interest Loan Program just for Bowdoinham businesses?! BCDI's Neighbors Investing In Neighbors Loan Program offers low-cost loans to Bowdoinham small businesses, including those that may be unable to obtain loans from commercial lending institutions for reasons such as insufficient credit history. Loan amounts range from \$500 to \$20,000, offer a low interest rate, and are short-term with repayment expected within 1-3 years. Learn more at our website www.bcdimaine.org/loan-investment.

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Scape Goat Garlic Farm: Scape Goat Garlic Farm will use the grant funds to help defray additional costs associated with providing culinary garlic and seed garlic to the community.

Funds will be used for bags, gloves, sanitizing supplies, and other increased costs associated with delivering garlic safely.

Shearlings Salon: Julie Booty has been a licensed cosmetologist for 30 years. She is responding to the current crisis by reopening a one chair salon in her home. Grant funds will be used to support this transition, to purchase necessary protective equipment, and to help with the additional cleaning and sanitation costs necessary to provide Bowdoinham residents of all ages a safe place to get a haircut.

Stonecipher Farm: The farmstand at Stonecipher Farm has seen significantly increased traffic and has become an outlet for multiple area farms and businesses to sell their products. Grant funds will be used to continue to improve the farm stand, specifically to increase cold storage capacity to respond to the increased demand.

Whatley Farm: Whatley Farm has seen a significant increase in traffic and an interest in on-farm purchases. Grant funds will be used to convert an exist-

ing woodshed to a small self-service farm stand. The finished farm stand will have a glass door, a refrigerator and freezer, and new signage to facilitate safe and contactless access to food.

Thank you to those of you who participated in our inaugural May Membership Month! We welcomed several new individual members and business members, and received many membership renewals. As a small nonprofit your membership support is critical to our work! If you have been a member in the past and did not renew in May, please consider continuing your support of this organization by heading online to our website to renew (www.bcdimaine.org/membership) or by popping a check in the post to: BCDI P.O. Box 343 Bowdoinham, ME 04008. Likewise, we are always eager to welcome new members (membership begins at just \$10!), so please reach out (bcdi.maine@gmail.com), peruse our website (www.bcdimaine.org), and consider becoming a member of BCDI today. Your support matters!

Thank you again for your support and for continuing to inspire us. We are grateful for our strong, steadfast community. Our eyes are raised to the horizon -- we hope yours are, too. Be well, friends!

Farmers' Market News

By *Dave Asmussen*

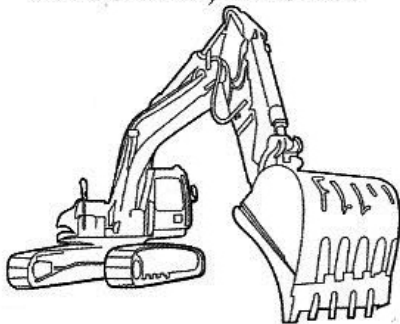
National and global events have really stirred up how we get our groceries. Pictures of bare shelves in some stores, while farmers on the other side of the country were plowing under crops made clear the fragile nature of overextended supply chains. Fortunately, our local food producers are nimble and our community is strong and supportive as we shifted to unique ways of getting food to our neighbors. The local food chain is robust, because YOU have been marvelous supporters of local agriculture in our farmers' markets, farmstands, CSAs, food stores, and restaurants. These events have shown us that buying local is not just a feel-good indulgence, it's an essential part of maintaining a strong, and resilient economy that provides critical supplies. We thank you for that support, and are proud to keep growing delicious and healthy food.

Down at the Bowdoinham Farmers' Market we are providing a convenient place to get local vegetables, dairy, meat, bread and tasty treats, even with a centerpiece of flowers to boot! We have a number of procedures in place to make it as convenient and safe as possible. This season you will see that: booths are spread out in the park; there is one way foot traffic; the first half hour (8:30-9:00) is reserved for higher risk customers; each vendor is taking extra steps to maintain social distance; vendors are able to take pre-orders to reduce lines; and we have a "veggie valet" providing curbside delivery of pre-orders.

Many of the adaptations the market made this year were possible thanks to a generous grant from BCDI, showing that investing in our local communities through organizations, infrastructure and commerce pays dividends in our own health and security. In Bowdoinham, and in Maine, we have so many diverse businesses, chances are, what you need is just around the corner. Even our hand sanitizer was made locally by Maine Craft Distilling. Here's to a great season!

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Internet Project Update

By Alan Hinsey

All the fiber is on the poles, splicing and drop wires are completed to many households, and LCI technicians are “lighting up” homes in Bowdoinham as quickly as they can. As of June 12th approximately 50 new Bowdoinham subscribers will be surfing the web, streaming video, participating in Zoom/Skype video conferences, and generally downloading and uploading to their hearts content on their 50 Mbps or 100 Mbps fiber optic internet connection.

A lot of work has taken place to complete this 25 mile fiber optic network for these previously underserved areas of Bowdoinham. The ConnectME grant that was secured last year, combined with TIF funds from Bowdoinham and private capital investment from LCI made this new fiber optic network possible.

LCI can serve 217 homes on the new 25 mile Fiber Optic Network – but so far only 110 of the 217 homes have signed up. LCI will continue to take applications for this first wave of installs. But after that date you may have to wait till late summer or early fall for the second wave of installs in Bowdoinham.

Don't miss this first wave of installations! If you already have LCI's fiber, tell your neighbors to apply today. The roads that are include in the LCI Fiber Optic Network are all or portions of: Batchelder Rd., Cranberry Way, Hatch Point Lane, River Rd., Beechnut Ridge, Dingley Rd., Hunter Lane, S. Pleasant St., Carding Machine Rd., Eagle Wing Lane, Island View Lane, Wallace Way, Carlson Cross Rd., Fiddlehead Lane, Pioneer Rd., White Rd.

Go to www.LCIFiber.net to apply. Already applied and have questions? Please email Chris at christ@lintelco.net with any questions.

Library News

By Kate Cutko

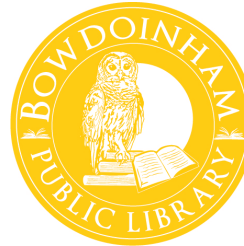
We've heard so many references to “the new normal”. With new routines, new ways of behaving, and new ways of maintaining our safety from COVID-19, I find myself asking each day, “Is THIS the new normal? ...Or is THIS? ...Or is THIS?”

I can only tell you what the “normal” is for today (written in early June) at the Bowdoinham Public Library. We are open for regular borrowing of books on Tuesdays from 10-2 and Fridays from 2-6. Capacity is 3 patrons in the Adult Room and one family in the children's room. For now, the library is not the “stay, relax and visit place” that it has always been, but more the “grab and go” sort of place. Masks are required and cleaning practices are vigorous. We are pleased that the State Library and other government agencies were able to provide guidelines for our safe reopening. Thank you to Max Zachau for building us a plexiglass shield for our counter.

We also have our own brand of “curbside” borrowing of books, using our online catalogue and the “Free Little Library” outside the Coombs Building.

People who are not able or not comfortable coming into the library can safely borrow books 7 days a week through this borrowing system.

The library was pleased to receive a BCDI grant to support programming for both children and adults during this time of COVID-19. We wanted a way to bring books to patrons of all ages and do it safely. With the craftsmanship of Brian Staid, and the inspiration of the old-fashioned book mobiles, we created a small utility trailer that can be filled with books and brought to locations such as the Farmers Market on Saturday mornings.



We're asking the public's help in naming it.

The BCDI grant also helped the Library purchase several “Story Walks” for families with younger children. You may see those pop up around town as well – a sequential series of posts displaying pages of a picture book. Families can take a walk and read as they go.

To keep up with the news of the library and learn whatever the “new normal” looks like, please check our website and our Facebook page. Sign up for our newsletter on our website's homepage or email works as well: bowdoinham@gmail.com.

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Arts Center News

By Jan Marks

The Zucchini Races Are On!!!

The Merrymeeting Arts Center is pleased to announce that the 2nd Annual Zucchini Races will take place on September 12, 2020. Due to Covid-19, the races will look a little different this year. Instead of the town gathering to watch and cheer the zucchinis in person, the event will be videotaped and broadcast live on FB or YouTube. Contestants will be assigned a time to drop off their racing zucchinis, and MAC staff will race the zucchinis, observing proper social distancing and wearing masks, of course, complete with race car music, a race master, emcee, and lots of laughs and excitement.

All you need to do is get a zucchini (whether home grown, donated or bought), fit it with wheels, decorate it (or not) in whatever way pleases you, and drop it off at the skate park at your assigned time, wearing a mask, please. There will be categories for size (14" and smaller and over 14") and a special category for zucchinis mounted on skateboards.

Anyone planning to race a zucchini must pre-register by contacting MAC at merrymeetingartscenter@gmail.com, or by phone at (207) 370-5002 no later than Tuesday, September 8th, at which time you will be assigned a time to drop off your racing zucchini. Additional information will appear on our website (merrymeetingartscenter.org) as final details get worked out.

With so many people planting their own gardens this year, there is sure to be an even larger surplus of zucchinis than usual, although more zucchinis than usual is hard to imagine! So grow, or be on the lookout for the perfect zucchini, design and "build" your car, and plan to enter the 2nd Annual Zucchini Races on September 12, 2020.



Community Art Show - The Year of Smelt Makes the Ice

Neither rain nor sleet nor Covid-19 can stop the postal service or the making of art in Bowdoinham! The Community Art

Show will open on our website on September 12, 2020. The theme of each show is centered around one of Bryce Muir's Local Myths, and this year's show features Smelt Makes the Ice.

The show is open to all artists, young, old, or in between, amateur or professional. All mediums (paint, sculpture, fiber arts, photography, carving, glass, collage, etc.) are acceptable. The only criterion is that the work be tied in some way to the theme of The Smelt, no matter how loosely interpreted. Due to uncertainty about the state of Covid-19, the show will be featured on our website, merrymeetingartscenter.org. (If the situation allows we will display the show in the MAC gallery as well).

To enter the show simply create your piece of art, photograph it, and send the photo, along with the artist's name, the name of the piece and a brief description, to MAC at merrymeetingartscenter@gmail.com by September 8, 2020. Please put Community Art Show in the subject line of your email.

For questions or additional information, contact MAC at merrymeetingartscenter@gmail.com.

Future Events and Updates

Be sure to check out our website (merrymeetingartscenter.org) from time to time to learn about goings on at the MAC Studio and other events and updates as they unfold.

Concerts Series & Celebrate Bowdoinham

By Nicole Briand

Unfortunately, both the Summer Concerts Series and our traditional Celebrate Bowdoinham event have been canceled for this year. We good forward to bringing both events back next year!

For this year, we are exploring new ways for us to Celebrate Bowdoinham. Here's what we have in the works so far. Merrymeeting Arts Center will be running the Zucchini Races virtually. We will be making our Citizen of the Year Award presentation. A documentary film is being created with our virtual Open Farm Day & Art Trail videos. And we are going to "reverse" the parade.

To reverse the parade, we are going to ask parade floats to set-up at a fixed location, then we are going to go see them. Please pre-register your float by August 19th, to be included on our Float Map in the next newsletter. This year's theme is Maine's 200th Birthday. To pre-register, please email nbriand@bowdoinham.com.

If you have any ideas or questions, please contact me, Nicole Briand at nbriand@bowdoinham.com or 666-5531.

Clothes Closet

The Clothes Closet at the Nazarene Church is open on Wednesdays from 3:30-5:30pm. Spring and summer clothes are out! We are located at 7 School Street in Bowdoinham (the corner of School and Main Streets) at the house behind the church. Anyone is welcome and the clothes are free. Please wear a mask and wait in your car to be invited in. Stay safe and healthy, everyone! Also, we are only accepting donations of spring/summer clothes at this time, and only during our open hours. We are small and run out of room fast.

Historical Society News

By Betsy Steen

We will no longer be able to have our office on the third floor of the Coombs Municipal Building, as there is no second exit and thus does not meet code. Tom and company, bless them, will be building a new office, library, and research space in part of the ground level of Merrymeeting Hall. We will, of course, need funds to do this, so if anyone would like to make a donation especially for the Bowdoinham Historical Society Reading and Research Room, it will be gratefully received.

Penobscot Marine Museum has an interesting website (penobscotmarinemuseum.org). If you 'join their mailing list' (bottom right of the Home Page), you will receive monthly emails loaded with interesting things. Such as:

Maritime Trivia Night
Tuesdays in June at 7PM
On Zoom

They also have a Nautical Book Club one can join to be able to discuss (online) the books they suggest. They provide links to the books available online.

Additional Trivia

Silas Adams, "In 1817, there were not more than 20 building at the landing."

What There Was NOT in 1820?

Railroads, Cars, Trucks, Bicycles, Paved roads, Sewing Machines, Photography, Indoor plumbing, Electricity, Telephone Telegraph/Morse Code, Food from away—very rare, Cook Stoves (even wood fired) Refrigeration, Canning of food (in 1820 one could smoke, salt, or dry foods to preserve them)

Lumber shipments provided capital for these isolated communities, allowing mill owners to diversify into grain-processing, wool-carding, tanning, and metal-forging, and edging these communities into the industrial Age.

Merrymeeting Hall News

By Betsy Steen

As I think I have said before, Merrymeeting Hall has been closed to public uses since March 17th. Therefore, we have had no rentals since February. Furthermore, we have seen our fundraising ventures cancelled, one after another: an April Musical event, the Bowdoinham 1820 Display at the Meeting House, our Strawberry Shortcake event at Open Farm and Art Day BBQ, and the two Concert Suppers we had planned to put on. Though the reason behind the closings is a good and necessary one, it still leaves us pressed financially.

Our biggest fundraiser has for the last nine years been our Super Yard/Tag/Treasure Sale. It is traditionally held the Saturday after Celebrate Bowdoinham, which has been cancelled. So the usual yard sale at the Meeting House is also in jeopardy. As a result we are planning alternatives for our TENTH ANNUAL YARD SALE. We hope to start the sale early and run it online. We have not worked out the details yet, but will let you know when we have the details figured out. Then, if it is safe to have the sale at the Meeting House, too, we can do that as well.

Meanwhile, if you have things to give to the Historical Society for the sale, please email me (bayviewess@comcast).

net) so we can arrange a way to transfer them to us for storage at the Meeting House. As always, we prefer books go to the Library for the Book Sale. And we do not accept clothing unless it is vintage (pre 1970s).

Thanks so much for your support. We look forward to the day when Merrymeeting Hall can once again be open to our Bowdoinham neighbors.



The theater floor, ADA bathroom, and north wall thanks to Brett Thompson, who continued to work alone on Tuesday mornings. The handsome paneling covers the exceeding unasthetic plumbing pipes and closes off the door directly into the theater from this room. The hidden door still opens from the theater side, revealing a small, useful closet. Thanks Brett!!!

Jeff **THE ELECTRICIAN**

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BHS Trivia Answers: Bowdoinham 1820

By Betsy Steen

1. 1820- 2259 and 2010- 2,889 people
2. Richmond, Not Cathance Neck
3. Yes, a toll bridge built 1805, Foot 2¢, Horse & Rider 6¢.
4. Graviett's House on Back Hill- 1790; Durbin-Leighton's cape Upper Main St.- 1790; Gray Estate, 15 Main St- 1800; Double Dormer Capes on River Rd. Spring St, Back Hill, Church/Vine St, Lower Ridge Rd- 1800; Brick Store- 1804; and Tiny Cape, 38 Main St.- 1811.
5. Ferdico (Harward) Pork Point Rd - 1777; Thirwall (Preble) Pork Point Rd - 1800; Ferguson-Allen Pork Point Rd; Leschefske (Cummins/Lilly/Purington) Bay Rd -1790-1820; and Fenimore (Fulton) Bay Rd
6. In school houses or private homes.
7. Shipbuilding.
8. On foot, on horseback, by horse drawn vehicle, by boat.
9. Hand Tub Phenix, built in 1798 and given to Bowdoinham in 1805 by Mr. Carr.
10. Massachusetts
11. Lincoln County
12. Yes
13. Yes, Village School House, built in 1794 behind the current Town Hall.
14. Yes, James Tyler - Main St. 1808; Leonard Tavern - Corner Main St. & Center St (burned 1847); and Joseph Curtis Tavern (burned 1843); Mustard Tavern - Post Road, built before 1775 and burned 1921; and Fisher Tavern - Fisher Rd, built in 1797 by Henry Fisher.
15. Road from Bowdoin to Bowdoinham/ Cathance Landing, Fisher-Post Roads, River Rd, Abbagadessett Rd, Center's Point, Bay Rd, Carding Machine Rd and Ridge Rd
16. Masonic Lodge #26 chartered 1817 in the front room of the Gray Estate, Master -Jonathan Purington 1819-1821.
17. \$900
18. Farming.
19. Banks of Abby River, many 'family plots', and Ridge Cemetery.
20. Fisher, Jellerson, Read, Williams, Mil- lay, Given, Temple, Jameson, Preble and Curtis
21. Cathance Landing
22. Tannery, Blacksmith and Hatter
23. The schooner Arms.
25. Embargo Act
26. Yes, Dr Urial Huntington
27. Loyalist Brown, Thomas Sanford and Robert Wilson
28. 45-75¢ per 12-15 hour day.
29. Town Cryer, Steam whistle, paper posted on tavern wall or courthouse wall, on horseback, and Bells.
30. Time didn't matter until RR came and had a schedule, until then people used the sun. Town Clock came in the 1850s.
31. 58 years old.

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historicalsociety

BHS 2020 DUES: \$15.00 family;
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Fire & Recue News

By Arthur Frizzle, Chief

First off, obviously COVID-19 has changed the way that everyday business is conducted. This change is quite evident to anybody that has a need for emergency services whether it is police, fire or EMS. When you call 911 the dispatcher's questions are designed to rapidly identify life safety issues and get the right help responding as quickly as possible. Since early March and at least for the foreseeable future there are a few extra questions dispatch is required to ask to help with responder safety. These additional questions do not delay response but they do help to identify situations that may involve a significantly higher risk of exposure to COVID-19 which in turn helps responders better prepare for what they may encounter on scene. Questions such as fever, chills, muscle pain, headache, and sore throat are now asked for every caller that would require some type of face to face interaction with an emergency responder. Please be patient with the dispatcher as they ask these questions. They are doing their part to make sure the caller and the responders are all as safe as possible.

As we roll into summer our concerns quickly shift from the snow storms of May to thunderstorm and hurricane season. The past four months has made us all experts in quarantine and creative home cooking but in doing so many of us may have tapped in to some of our emergency provisions. Take the time to double check and make sure your emergency kits are in order. Bottled water, flashlights with fresh batteries, light sticks, extra propane, car chargers for phones and other hand held devices, energy bars or similar foods with extended shelf life (don't forget pet food as well) are good items to start with. If the first half of 2020 has taught us anything it is that you can never be fully prepared but you can certainly minimize the immediate impact of an unexpected event. Be prepared, stay safe and stay healthy.

Seeking Nominations for Citizen of the Year Award

The Town is currently seeking nominations for Citizen of the Year. The criteria for this award are as follows:

- The Citizen of the Year award recipient shall be an outstanding individual recognized for their impact on the lives of Bowdoinham citizens, a special individual who shows dedication and spirit beyond what is considered regular duty.
- The following characteristics will be considered: present activities, previous activities, charitable/philanthropic efforts, improvement in the quality of life for Bowdoinham residents, and commitment to the community.

Previous residents receiving this honor include:

- 2013 – Susie Uhle
- 2014 – Leslie Anderson
- 2015 – Lynn Spiro
- 2016 – Nancy Curtis
- 2017 – Doug Tourtelotte
- 2018 – Besty Steen
- 2019 – Kate Cutko

Please submit your nomination by July 31st, to the Town Manager, Tom Woodin at 666-5531 or by email at twoodin@bowdoinham.com.

Have you heard of the Town's Tax Club?

The Town of Bowdoinham now offers a "Tax Club Plan" that allows property owners to pay their annual property tax bill in monthly installments without incurring interest. This plan was first authorized by a vote at the town meeting in June 2014 and is expected to be offered again this July after town meeting approval.

To be eligible to participate in this plan, the property owner must be current with their property taxes, must enroll no later than July 31, 2020 and must abide by the requirements of the plan. Automatic electronic payments are not offered under this plan, but property owners can schedule payments online through the Town's online payment system. For more information on the 2021 Tax Club Plan, please contact the Town Office at 666-5531, or email Melissa Halsey at assistant-clerk@bowdoinham.com.

This is an easier way to pay your property taxes in smaller monthly payments without incurring any interest. We are pleased to be able to offer this payment option to our residents.

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Morning Jo

By Jo Werther

In a World Where You Can Be Anything, Be Kind.

Compassion. For yourself. And for others too. To feel compassion means to be aware of and moved to alleviate suffering. Though we typically think of it as other-focused, self-compassion plays a strategic role in regaining your emotional wellbeing in hard times.

Compassion and Acceptance: Two Sides of the Same Coin. There is no way around the fact that much of what must be accepted, from the personal to the political, is painful. Thus the only way to do it is with compassion. Non-acceptance in all its forms (denying, withdrawing, tantruming, giving up) is strongly correlated with correspondingly higher levels of stress, unhappiness, and suffering. The more you beat yourself up - or beat up others - the more distracted you will be from accepting the plain and simple truth of whatever is right in front of you. Compassion, on the other hand, greases the wheels of whatever you need to do next: give yourself a break, give others a break, or just cope more effectively with how difficult it can be to do even that.

You're Only Human. With practice, compassion improves your ability to think more clearly, to be less caught up in your own emotions and reactions, and to rebound more quickly whenever you do find yourself in the grip of difficult thoughts

and feelings. You will get better at bearing the unbearable, when that's how the truth feels to you. And from that place, you will move you forward with more more clarity and inner peace.

A Simple Self-Compassion Practice: "There, There." Once you've taken a few "balloon" breaths (see previous newsletters for refresher), try to hold an attitude of compassion in your heart as you practice acceptance of the current moment,



just as it is, right now. Feel the place within where you know some harshness toward yourself or toward others still resides. It might be in the form of thoughts (e.g., "It's all my/their fault!"); or body sensations (e.g., muscle tension). Allow yourself to embody compassion for your-

self, for others, and for the world, just as they are right now, just as you would soothe any suffering being. "There, there." Place your hands, one on top of the other, on the left side of your chest where your heart is. Notice the sensation of warmth and the way that it grows after a moment or two. Speak to yourself gently, aloud or silently: "This pain is difficult for me to bear." "May I be a little kinder to myself and to everyone else right now." Remember the words and phrases of comfort you would offer to someone else and then offer them to yourself. With each in-breath, inhale the wish to be free of this suffering. With each out-breath, imagine a growing space inside yourself where you may more easily co-exist with it. Continue breathing in and out.

Questions/Comments? Email me at jo@jowertherlcsww@gmail.com.

Annual Town Report Dedication

Each year, the Bowdoinham Town Report is dedicated to an individual in recognition of their extraordinary service to the town. Recent recipients have included Albert Acker, Ann Davis, David Berry, and Suzie Uhle.

This is not a typical year. We are in the midst of a deeply disruptive and challenging public health crisis, in the form of the COVID-19 virus. It is hard to find an aspect of life, including civic life, that has not been reshaped in significant ways by this virus. We have all had to adapt our routines, our activities, our family lives, and our livelihoods as a result.

Throughout this pandemic, our health care workers have been on the front lines. Bowdoinham is home to nurses, doctors, and other critical health care workers, including our own volunteer first responders. Every day, they wake up and prepare to put themselves between us and the virus, placing themselves at risk to care for the sick and the vulnerable. The vital role they play in our community has never been clearer.

We are deeply grateful to our town's health care workers for their perseverance and sacrifice during this difficult time. In recognition and gratitude, we dedicate this year's town report to the health care workers of Bowdoinham. Thank you for protecting us all.

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Devoted to the proposition: "All men are born equally free and independent, and have certain natural, inherent and inalienable rights, among which are those of enjoying and defending life and liberty, acquiring, possessing and protecting property, and of pursuing and obtaining safety and happiness." Article One, Section 1. Maine Constitution

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Town Manger's Report

By Thomas Woodin

To the Citizens of Bowdoinham:

Thank you to the Town of Bowdoinham for welcoming me to the community. Having managed my home town of Boothbay Harbor for 13 years I embrace the challenges of change. The learning curve is steep in a new community. The support of the Board of Selectmen and the staff have helped me greatly with the transition.

The COVID19 health emergency has challenged us in ways we couldn't anticipate and changed the way we do business and live our lives. In spite of these challenges municipal services continue to be provided remotely electronically and through the mail. I thank the staff and Boards and Committees for adapting to these extraordinary changes and for continuing to dedicate their efforts to the community. We could not do this without you.

Here are some of the things I've addressed this year:

- revised the job descriptions and the personnel manual;
- restructured the Public Works Department;
- hired a Full Time Finance Administrator/Deputy Treasurer;
- made significant upgrades in network security, server and computers;
- improved maintenance and capital improvements to municipal facilities;

- exploring improving efficiency of on-line transactions;
- streamlined internal accounting processing and banking procedures;
- pursuing debt consolidation at lower interest rates;
- improved comprehensiveness of future Capital Improvement Project planning;
- improved budgeting process and participation;
- improved communication and participation with the staff; and
- renewed focus on training, education and cross-training of the staff.

Town Meeting

The Bowdoinham Town Meeting has been rescheduled to coincide with the State Primary Election that is scheduled for Tuesday July 14, 2020. The Bowdoinham Town Meeting will be conducted through the secret ballot process due to the COVID19 State of Emergency. Absentee ballots will be available upon request for registered voters 30 days prior to the Town Meeting. The secret ballot process is the same format that the town uses for electing municipal officers. With social distancing and shelter in place directives public meetings of groups over 50 are not permitted.

Municipal Budget Highlights


The proposed 2020/2021 municipal budget is up \$205,888 vs last year 2019/2020. The budget for last year 2019/2020 was an increase over the previous year 2018/2019 by \$268,937.

Non-property tax revenues are expected to increase by \$92,614, or 6.7%, Municipal Revenue Sharing is expected to be significantly impacted by COVID19 lost state revenues and it was therefore budgeted conservatively this year. The Select Board and Finance Advisory Committee are recommending using \$140,000 from the unassigned fund balance which accounts for the majority of the \$92,614 increase.

The proposed budget reflects the hiring of a full-time employee last year and includes adding a part-time employee for the Public Works Department in 2020/2021. The total cost for the Public Works position is \$25,000. Offsetting some of that increase, the Administrative Assistant position has been decreased from 30 hours per week to 20 hours per week.

Wages & Benefits

This budget reflects wage adjustments to be competitive with surrounding communities and similar municipalities. In the tight labor market, it has become difficult to attract and retain employees. The budget provides a cost of living adjustment (COLA) of 2.2% for employees, based on the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) in the Northeast Region which shows a 2.2% inflationary index for 2018. I have also budgeted a 2.0% allowance for wage increases based on performance evaluations for all employees in those departments that do not have wage adjustments. Primarily due to staffing changes, the overall increase in wages has been held to



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to \$30,026 vs. last year.

Health insurance premiums have increased again this year but due to enrollment changes by staff members the overall cost of benefits is down \$5,000 or 2.9% vs. last year.

Undesignated Fund Balance

The Undesignated Fund Balance as of June 30, 2019 is \$1,273,614, an increase from \$1,168,923 in FY18. The Select Board and Finance Advisory Committee are recommending that \$140,000 of undesignated fund balance be used to reduce property tax commitment.

Personnel & Administration

The Personnel & Administration budgets show a combined increase of \$11,465, or 7.0%, which includes the wage adjustments for some office staff, and increasing risk management insurance costs. (liability, workers comp, vehicle and fire department insurance)

Debt Services

The Debt Services Budget has decreased due to refinancing existing debt with lower interest rates.

Fire & Rescue Departments

The Fire and Rescue Department budget shows a decrease of \$902, or .09%.

Public Works

The Public Works budget shows an overall increase of \$31,799 or 6.7%. This includes the additional part-time employee, additional operating expenses for the new facility and wage adjustments.

Solid Waste & Recycling

The Solid Waste and Recycling budget shows a proposed increase of \$44,709, or 23.4% due to large increases of disposal fees.

Non-Municipal Organization Requests

Two budget requests from non-municipal organizations were received and accepted as meeting the Town's "Non-Municipal Organization Funding Request Policy". One request is for \$1,500 from Spectrum Generations and the other is from Waldo Community Action Partners for \$539. The Select Board recommends \$1,500 for Spectrum generations and \$539 for Waldo Community Action Partners. The Select Board also recommends \$2,182 for the Historical Society.

Capital Reserves

The Capital Reserve budget has increased by \$122,839. This is mainly due to repurposing the cost savings from refinancing debt services of \$111,339. The remaining increase includes heating and electrical upgrades to the Town Hall building. It includes continuing funding for design and renovation work for the Town Office to include fire code upgrades and efficiency and security renovations. These renovations would occur in conjunction with an expansion project by the Bowdoinham Public Library. It also includes continuing to fund the Solid Waste & Recycling capital reserve and the building capital reserve at 8 River Road owned by the Town.

If you have any questions, or ideas that you would like to discuss, please feel free to contact me at the Town Office or by email at twoodin@bowdoinham.com. In closing, I would like to thank the municipal employees who work very hard to satisfy your need for municipal services. I would also like to thank the Select Board and the various other volunteer boards and committees for your unselfish dedication to make your community a better place to live, work and play.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas K. Woodin
Town Manager

Elections

By Pam Ross

Tuesday, July 14th is the State Primary/Special Referendum, Municipal Referendum, MSAD # 75 District Budget Referendum and Town Meeting Warrant Election. This Election will be held at the Bowdoinham Community School, 23 Cemetery Rd from 8:00am to 8:00pm.

Absentee Ballots will be ready thirty days prior to the election. To request an absentee ballot, you can:

- call the Town Office 666-5531; or
- electronically complete the form provided on the Secretary of State's Website: <http://www.maine.gov/cgi-bin/online/AbsenteeBallot/index.pl>; or
- print the application form from the Town of Bowdoinham's website: www.bowdoinham.com.

Please go to www.bowdoinham.com to view the sample ballots for the July 14th Election. If you have any questions, you can call Pam at the Town Office 666-5531.

NOMINATION PAPERS NOVEMBER 3, 2020 MUNICIPAL ELECTION

Nomination papers will be available to be picked up at the Town Office starting on Monday, July 27, 2020 for the following positions:

- 2 (two) Select Board Members, Assessors and Overseers of the Poor for a 3 (three) year term.

Papers are to be returned to the Town Office by Friday, September 4, 2020 at 4:00pm.

The Municipal Election is November 3, 2020. If you have any questions please contact Pam Ross, Town Clerk at 666-5531 or pross@bowdoinham.com.

Sample Ballots

State of Maine Sample Ballot Special Referendum Election, July 14, 2020

Instructions to Voters	Question 2: Bond Issue
To vote for a question, fill in the oval to the right of the YES or NO choice, like this: ●	Do you favor a \$105,000,000 bond issue for improvement of highways and bridges statewide and for multimodal facilities or equipment related to transit, freight and passenger railroads, aviation, ports, harbors, marine transportation and active transportation projects, to be used to match an estimated \$275,000,000 in federal and other funds?
To have your vote count, do not erase or cross out your choice.	
If you make a mistake, ask for a new ballot.	Total estimated life time cost is \$133,875,000 representing \$105,000,000 in principal and \$28,875,000 in interest (assuming interest at 5% over 10 years).
Question 1: Bond Issue	A "Yes" vote <u>approves</u> the issuance of up to one hundred and five million dollars (\$105,000,000) in general obligation bonds to finance transportation-related activities.
Do you favor a \$15,000,000 bond issue to invest in high-speed internet infrastructure for unserved and underserved areas, to be used to match up to \$30,000,000 in federal, private, local or other funds?	A "No" vote <u>opposes</u> the bond issue in its entirety.
Total estimated life time cost is \$19,125,000 representing \$15,000,000 in principal and \$4,125,000 in interest (assuming interest at 5% over 10 years).	Yes <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/>
A "Yes" vote <u>approves</u> the issuance of up to fifteen million dollars (\$15,000,000) in general obligation bonds to finance high-speed internet infrastructure.	
A "No" vote <u>opposes</u> the bond issue in its entirety.	Yes <input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/>

State of Maine Sample Ballot Democratic Primary Election, July 14, 2020 for Bowdoinham			
Instructions to Voters			
To vote for the candidate of your choice, fill in the oval to the right, like this: ●			
To vote for a Write-in candidate, fill in the oval to the right of the Write-in space and write in the person's name.			
To have your vote count, do not erase or cross out your choice.			
If you make a mistake, ask for a new ballot.			
Rep. to Congress District 1 Vote for One			
Pingree, Chellie M. North Haven	<input type="radio"/>		
Write-in	<input type="radio"/>		
State Senator District 23 Vote for One			
Vitelli, Eloise A. Arrowsic	<input type="radio"/>		
Write-in	<input type="radio"/>		
Rep. to the Legislature District 55 Vote for One			
Berry, Seth A. Bowdoinham	<input type="radio"/>		
Write-in	<input type="radio"/>		
Judge of Probate Sagadahoc County Vote for One			
Paris, David Bowdoinham	<input type="radio"/>		
Write-in	<input type="radio"/>		
Register of Probate Sagadahoc County Vote for One			
Lawson-Stopps, Ruth N. Bath	<input type="radio"/>		
Write-in	<input type="radio"/>		
Sheriff Sagadahoc County Vote for One			
Merry, Joel A. West Bath	<input type="radio"/>		
Write-in	<input type="radio"/>		

Sample Ballots

All Sample Ballots are available on the Town's website in the Election Calendar event and on the Election Department page with MSAD 75's Warrant. The complete Town Meeting Warrant, along with the Annual Town Report and proposed Land Use Ordinance amendments are also available in the Election Calendar event on the Town's website, www.bowdoinham.com.

U.S. Senator	1st Choice	2nd Choice	3rd Choice
Gideon, Sara I. Freeport	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Kidman, Bre Saco	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Sweet, Elizabeth A. Hallowell	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**State of Maine Sample Ballot
Republican Primary Election, July 14, 2020**

for
Bowdoinham

Instructions to Voters

To vote for the candidate of your choice, fill in the oval to the right, like this: ●

To vote for a Write-in candidate, fill in the oval to the right of the Write-in space and write in the person's name.

To have your vote count, do not erase or cross out your choice.

If you make a mistake, ask for a new ballot.

U.S. Senator
Vote for One

Collins, Susan Margaret
Bangor

Write-in

Rep. to Congress
District 1
Vote for One

Allen, Jay T.
Bristol

Write-in

State Senator
District 23
Vote for One

Kopp, Holly J.P.
Topsham

Write-in

Rep. to the Legislature
District 55
Vote for One

Lewis, Peter A.
Bowdoinham

Write-in

Judge of Probate
Sagadahoc County
Vote for One

Chipman, Richard R.
Bath

Write-in

Register of Probate
Sagadahoc County
Vote for One

Littlefield, Catherina P.J.
Topsham

Write-in

For all municipalities except Kittery, Portland and municipalities in Hancock County Commissioner District 3

**Declared Write-in Candidates
for the July 14, 2020 Primary Election**

Office	Dist.	County	Party	Name	Residence	Municipalities affected
US			R	Coller, Amy	Manchester	All municipalities statewide

**SPECIMEN BALLOT
MAINE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE DISTRICT NO. 75
DISTRICT BUDGET REFERENDUM
TOWN OF BOWDOINHAM, MAINE
TUESDAY, JULY 14, 2020**

Instructions to Voters

- ◆ TO VOTE, completely fill in the oval to the left of your choice like this: ●
- ◆ To have your vote count, do not erase or cross out your choice.
- ◆ If you make a mistake, ask for a new ballot.

ARTICLE II:

- Yes Shall the Maine School Administrative District No. 75 budget for the 2020-2021 school year that was adopted at the District Budget Meeting on June 25, 2020 be approved?
- No

THE BOWDOINHAM NEWS

Community Calendar

July

14th
Elections, 8am-8pm
Bowdoinham Community School

26th
Open Farm Day

September

7th
Town Office Closed

12th
Celebrate Bowdoinham

Town Board & Committee Meetings

For the time being, the Town of Bowdoinham will be conducting public meetings via video conferencing. This is in accordance with emergency legislation (PL 2019, c. 617) enacted by the Maine legislature on March 17, 2020, which temporarily authorizes remote participation at municipal board and committee meetings by board members and the public.

To join a meeting, by computer or phone, follow the instructions located in the meeting event on the Bowdoinham Calendar (www.bowdoinham.com).

Please direct any questions to Town Manager Thomas Woodin at twoodin@bowdoinham.com.



Open Saturdays
8:30am to 12:00pm

at Maily Waterfront Park

Visit us on Facebook!

For a complete listing of events, please visit the Town's Calendar at www.bowdoinham.com/calendar.

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