



THE BOWDOINHAM NEWS

Volume 11, Issue 6

www.bowdoinham.com

November/December 2013

BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

Artisans & Crafters

By Wendy Rose

Bowdoinham has a wealth of skilled artisans and crafters who create beautiful and useful hand crafted items to treasure and enjoy. For this newsletter we only interviewed a few of the many artisans and crafters who will be participating in the Holiday Festival.

Bowdoinham Guild of Artisans

For 9 years, the Bowdoinham Guild of Artisans has showcased their high quality crafts at their annual Show & Sale at Town Hall. There are usually 10-11 vendors offering items such as pottery, fine art photography, and other gift items. This year, their annual Show & Sale will be Friday, December 6th, 6-8pm and Saturday, December 7th, 10am-3pm at the Bowdoinham Town Hall.



Martha Lentz

Martha Lentz is one of the organizers of the Bowdoinham Guild of Artisans Annual Show & Sale and is responsible for its promotion. Many in town know Martha from her years as a teacher in the Bowdoinham schools. Now that she is retired, she enjoys developing her skills as a photographer, something she's loved to do since she was a child. In her youth, she had an opportunity to work in a studio in Harvard Square and learned the whole process of taking and developing photos. After her children were grown, she took classes at the Maine College of Art, and then rode the new wave of digital technology. "Photography is a nice form of expression for me," she says. She has taken photo

tours and has turned her wonderful images into framed pictures and smaller greeting cards. You can reach her at 729-8862 or her email address at marthalentz@comcast.net.

Holiday Craft Fair

Last year, Bowdoinham's 250th celebration provided many opportunities for festivals, parades, and events. The Bowdoinham Parent Group decided to use the opportunity for a December holiday craft fair that would benefit the school. Jessica Sullivan and Laurel Lopez took on the challenge of coordinating this first time event. They were so pleased with the results, they decided to repeat the show again this year on Saturday,

December 7th from 10am to 2pm at the Bowdoinham Community School. "We had over 40 vendors last year, and I am hoping that many will come back," Jessica said. Crafters can bring their own table for a fee of \$25 or the fair will provide a table for \$30. If you are interested in participating in this year's show, you can contact Jessica at 504-7103 or email her at jessicamaysullivan@gmail.com.

Jessica Sullivan

Jessica, herself, enjoyed being on hand at the Holiday Craft Fair with crafted African baskets from Ghana. She has been selling the colorful baskets for 3 years now at various school craft fairs.

Continued on page 2.

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Artisans & Crafters

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Not only do the sales benefit the women crafters with needed income and improvements to their living conditions, but Jessica is able to earn enough to supplement the household finances. As a busy mom and home schooler, she appreciates the flexibility of this enterprise and the way in which it makes a positive difference for women in Africa.

Kate Cutko

Our very busy town librarian, Kate Cutko, has added “business entrepreneur” to her long list of activities. It all started three years ago when she wanted to purchase e-readers for the library. Not wanting to put a burden on the town or library budget, Kate decided to raise money through the sale of items made by herself and local crafters.

Fortunately, there were lots of raw materials at hand. The library had recently gone to an electronic system and was no longer using the old check out cards. There was also a wealth of old books along with lots of interesting paper items. Thanks to the help of a huge crew of crafting volunteers, an intriguing inventory was created: spiral notebooks with writing paper, bookmarks, gift bows, bead-like bracelets and necklaces, tote bags, Christmas tree ornaments, and magnets. Kate was able to transform an old, ratty copy of Blueberries for Sal into artistic, framed montages. The Bowdoinham Guild of Artisans generously offered one of their tables at the holiday show that year and the grand experiment turned into a huge success.

After making enough at the first show to purchase the e-readers, Kate has continued to work with town volunteers to create appealing items. Their second year was even better than the first. “I feel good that our booth draws people to the Guild Show,” comments Kate. The sales have even become a significant source of income for the library with all of the pro-

ceeds going directly to its budget. “I love that we have return customers,” Kate says. People are even placing special orders for things they have seen at the show. “My



Jessica Sullivan



Kate Cutko



Laurel Waterman-Lopez

goal is that we continue to have more community involvement and build a group of volunteers who enjoy doing these kinds of crafts. It’s a great way for people to contribute,” according to Kate.

“I want to thank the Guild for offering the table. I feel good that our booth contributes to the show and looks pretty.” If anyone would like to join Kate and the other volunteers to make items for this year’s show, please call her at 666-8405.

Thank you to all the volunteers who have created items: Alison Berry, Laurie Peavey-Ross, Diana Mosher, Katie Smith, Stephanie Miller, Jane Greeley, Kirsten Coker, and Amy and Larissa Decker. Apologies to anyone we have forgotten.

Laurel Waterman-Lopez

In the midst of raising a family and working 30 hours a week, Laurel has been steadily growing her business venture, Laurel’s Line—all natural personal care products. It all started when her first child was born 12 years ago. A neighbor showed her the basics of how to make

soap and Laurel went from there to grow her line of chemical-free body products including beeswax lotions, lip balm, soap, and deodorant.

Laurel’s background includes two degrees in fine arts with a focus on photography. She loves to cook and garden, so mixing up ingredients for effective products and creating attractive labeling and displays is a natural outgrowth of her talents. Her job at Casco Bay Frames and Gallery, owned by Tony and Heather Cox of Bowdoinham, gives her a chance to be around fine art and photography and is one base of financial support for the family. Her business brings in welcome supplemental income with the possibility of growing to another level in the future.

Besides offering her products at the Bowdoinham Farmer’s Market and four to five other craft shows each year, Laurel conducts classes at Long Branch School in town and Gardiner Adult Education. Teaching about the benefits and process of making natural products is a real joy for Laurel. She has recently added more classes to her schedule.

“The truth is, I love the products I make and will never go back to commercial products,” Laurel says. “I can’t wait to use them as soon as they are made.” There are number of people in Bowdoinham who have encouraged and inspired Laurel. “It is a nice energy to be around.” Their requests have often spurred her to try new product lines.

Laurel also contributes significantly to the community through her service on the MSAD 75 School Board and the Bowdoinham Community Development Initiative Board. All her commitments mean that the business has remained at a plateau for a few years. “I have a decision to make,” she says. “Do I want to go to the next level and grow the business as the children start to get older?” She can see the possibility of more time opening up as her two boys become more independent.

Laurel can be reached at 504-2034. Her classes are listed at the Gardiner Adult Education and Long Branch School websites when they are available.

Delilah Pottery

Sara Cox

Sara has always been an artist and has explored many avenues of artistic expression including fashion design and fine art. For the last 10 years, however, her skills and talents have centered on pottery and her company, Delilah Pottery. This endeavor got a boost when she moved to Bowdoinham and converted her garage into a pottery studio. Her brother encouraged her to move from Portland to this more rural setting.

"I was working for Kennebec Flower Farm and wanted a yard and garden of my own," Sara relates. "I found that after moving to Bowdoinham, my imagery took on naturalistic themes. It used to be about people when I was living in the city, but now I have lots of birds, berries, insects, and seasonal themes."

Sara creates many items such as bowls, cups, and buttons, as well as larger items that make wonderful wedding presents. She has been experimenting with red clay, and has been honing her skills with the pottery wheel. Over the years, she has built her sales outlets and can now be found at her Facebook business page (Delilah Pottery), the Brunswick Winter Market at Ft. Andross, the Center for Maine Craft at the Gardiner highway exit, Casco Bay Frames, the Common Ground Fair, and a few small galleries. The demand for her items has grown to the point where she has back orders.

Sara tried to do her business on a full-time basis starting in 2007. Unfortunately, the recession hit and it turned out to be poor timing. She now does her business on a part-time basis while working full-time at Spindleworks in Brunswick. Last year, the income from Delilah Pottery provided about 20% of the household income, and will continue to be an important contribution to Sara's financial support.

The fact that there are other potters in the Bowdoinham community is a real plus as far as Sara is concerned. Matt Ahlers,

who is also a member of the Bowdoinham Guild of Artisans, has been helping Sara with her pottery wheel throwing skills. "Another potter, Stephanie Austin, has



Martha Lentz



Carolyn Sweet



Sara Cox

just moved to town, and I hope we can combine knowledge and talents," Sara adds. Matt's sister, Georgia, is also a collaborator who helps Sara with ideas and production.

"I love to have folks call and come to my studio," Sara says. You can call her at 737-8866, email her at sara@delilahpottery.com. Being at her inspiring studio, watching her at work and seeing her creations emerge from the kiln is a special privilege!

As We Grow

Carolyn Sweet

Carolyn Sweet has already had a busy professional career that involved a lot of travel and pressing responsibilities. When she started having children, however, everything changed. The demands of small children, including a special needs child, and a career just didn't mix. Fortunately, she and her husband were able to work it out so that she could stay at home to raise the children which she has been doing for the last 11 years.

As it turned out, she and a neighbor-mom found themselves constantly brainstorming about items that "they" (someone else) should make. They were inspired to experiment themselves with product ideas and started to focus on screen printing baby milestone sayings on onesies and t-shirts. While Carolyn's neighbor has gone back to work and is no longer involved, Carolyn has steadily grown the business.

As We Grow now has a website, an etsy sales site, a Facebook page, sells at 5 craft fairs, and takes custom orders. Carolyn has developed a full line of onesies and t-shirts for children and will do adult sizes for custom orders and special events. She especially enjoys creating the sayings and graphics—everything from milestones such as "I found my toes" to "I took my first step" and "I give kisses" to future goals like "Future Hockey Player." She has also branched into colorful images like butterflies and dragon flies and other messages such as "Fishin' Buddy," "Locally

Grown," and "There's no Place Like Om." The children sizes start with newborn items to 18 months old and come in white, pink, and blue. Carolyn's sister is a talented knitter and her unique, whimsical hats have found a place at As We Grow's website and fair booths.

Carolyn's goal is to have a steady income from the business. She has already sold 600 items and is poised to expand her markets and increase her sales. As the children get a little older, there will more opportunities for Carolyn to concentrate on business goals.

Being in Bowdoinham is a real plus. Carolyn says, "I love it because people come up to me and talk about the business." She loves to see people who return to her booth, ready to buy the latest designs. She adds, "This business has honestly helped me keep my sanity for the last 11 years while I've been at home with the children. I had to be passionate about whatever I did. After 4 kids, how can you not be passionate about onesies?"

You can reach Carolyn at 666-5544 or her website at www.aswegrowbaby.com.

News from Arts Center

By Peggy Muir

There's a lot happening this year at Merrymeeting Arts Center.

Fall Show

On October 4th we opened our major fall show "Lincoln and the Gettysburg Address" which celebrates the 150th anniversary of the Gettysburg Address. The show centers on eight portraits of Lincoln (one life size) by the late Bowdoinham artist Carlo Pittore. These black and white oil portraits capture some of the best known Lincoln photographs in Pittore's extremely strong style. Six other area artists have contributed treatments of Lincoln and the Gettysburg Address: Stephen Petroff, Susan Drucker, Howard Solomon, Leonard Meiselman, Emily Dobson, Mathew Pierce O'Donnell. The show will run until December 15th. Our hours are Saturdays 10am to 1pm or by appointment. We will be closed from December 15th to January 31st.

This show is the second to bring Pittore's works back to Bowdoinham, the town he loved. Works in the show range in price from \$25 to a Pittore portrait for \$15,000.

Gettysburg Address Recitation Contest

The Arts Center with assistance from the Pejepscot Historical Society and the Bowdoinham Historical Society is sponsoring a Gettysburg Address Recitation Contest, open to anyone 18 and under. The contest will take place on Sunday, November 3rd, 1-4pm at the Jellerson School on the Brown's Point Road. Contestants will perform the Address from memory in front of three judges. The winner of the Recitation Contest will receive a \$100 check, a book from the Pejepscot Historical Society, and will be expected to perform at the November 11th Veterans Day Concert. Second prize is \$50.

Veterans Day Concert

On Monday, November 11th the Arts Center will host its second Veterans Day Concert at the Town Hall. Admission will be \$10 for adults, \$5 for children under 12, and children under 5 are free. Skits, songs, dances and recitations will have the same exciting cast as last year. A full fun program to please any age!

2013 Achievements

2013 was an exciting year with four major shows: Bryce's Winter Views, Vernal Pools, Every Maine Light House, and Lincoln and the Gettysburg Address. We ran a Summer Drop-In Art Program as well as Lego Robotics, photography, pottery classes and the Place-Based Pre-School. We hosted the 2nd Annual Ice & Smelt Festival, a Wonderland Tea Party, a talk by light house artist Ernest Deraps, an auction of Light House Lawn Ornaments, a Hub Cap Art workshop and had art activities for Celebrate Bowdoinham!

Plans for 2014

Our year starts again with the 3rd Annual Ice & Smelt Festival on Saturday, February 1st. If you have ideas for this year's festival let us know.

In March, we will open our Vernal Pools Show. This year we focus on a key resident of the vernal pools: fairy shrimp. Artists 18 and under are encouraged to create works of art in any medium for this show. We're also planning workshops for fairy shrimp houses as well!

Classes

There are exciting developments in terms of our space. The Arts Center will soon be opening a true pottery studio for adults' and children's classes and firing of pottery! We also plan to offer drawing, Lego robotics, and photography as our renovation is complete.

For more information, please visit our website, www.merrymeetingartscenter.org.



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Gentlemen - start those beards !

The Best Beard Contest will be back at the 3rd Annual Ice & Smelt Festival on Saturday, February 1, 2014.

Prizes for winners in many categories, whimsy encouraged!

Holiday Festival

By Nicole Briand

This year the 2nd Annual Holiday Festival will be December 6th & 7th.

Holiday Tree Lighting

Friday, December 6th, 6pm
at Bowdoinham Town Hall

Enjoy singing holiday carols as the holiday tree is lit.

Bowdoinham Guild of Artisans Sale

Friday, December 6th, 6-8pm
Saturday, December 7th, 10am-3pm
at Bowdoinham Town Hall

Bowdoinham Artisans will be selling a variety of high quality goods.

Bowdoinham Woodworkers Showcase

Saturday, December 7th, 10am-3pm
at John C. Coombs Municipal Building

Come see the high quality craftsmanship of our fine woodworkers.

Kid's Holiday Storytime

Saturday, December 7th, 10am-12pm
at Bowdoinham Public Library

Let the kids enjoy hearing some holiday stories while you visit the Guild of Artisans and Woodworkers Showcase.

Holiday Craft Fair

Saturday, December 7th, 10am-2pm
at Bowdoinham Community School

There will be lots happening so come join the fun with:



- Over 40 Crafters
- Art Activities for Kids - Make-a-Present with Merrymeeting Arts Center
- Pictures with Santa
- Bake Sale and Cafe
- Holiday Village Display
- And much, much more!!

For more information, find us on Facebook at Bowdoinham Community School Craft Fair.

Polar Bear Dip

Saturday, December 7th, 3pm
at Maily Waterfront Park

Come see the dippers take the plunge in the Cathance River and enjoy some hot chocolate.

Horse Wagon Rides

Saturday, December 7th, 10am-3pm

Rides will be available between the Community School, Town Hall, Main Street and Maily Waterfront Park. Tips are appreciated.

Pony Parade

Saturday, December 7th, 11am-1pm

The ponies will travel around the village spreading their holiday joy.

Santa is Coming to Town

Sunday, December 8th, 4-6pm
at Bowdoinham Fire Station

Santa will come to Town from Preble Street, down Main Street to River Road, Ridge Road, Cemetery Road, Center Street to the Fire Station on a fire truck.

Don't forget to stop by **The Long Branch General Store** and **Home By the Bay Consignment Shop** for a wide variety of local goods, home decor and collectibles and the **Town Landing Restaurant** for a hot homecooked meal.

For more information, please visit the Town's website, www.bowdoinham.com or Facebook page or contact Nicole Briand at nbriand@bowdoinham.com or 666-5531.

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THE BOWDOINHAM NEWS

Celebrate Bowdoinham

By Nicole Briand

I would like to take this opportunity to thank of those who helped make Celebrate Bowdoinham a fun-filled community event.

- Ann Davis and Pam Ross for organizing the parade.
- Adelaida Gaviria for organizing and setting up Bowdoinham's Best.
- Susan Brown for helping with Bowdoinham's Best and organizing the Pie Contest.
- Ann Tourtelotte for helping to solicit items for the Silent Auction.
- Doug Tourtelotte for catching all our runaway ducks.
- Bowdoinham Fire Department for running the lobster crate races.
- Brent Zachau and Josephine Mussom-

eli for sponsoring and running the coin scramble.

- Wayne Dorr for being our commentator for the KenDucky Derby.
- Margot Frost for singing the National Anthem.
- Merrymeeting Arts Center for preparing and running the "Kids Art Tent."
- The Town Landing Restaurant for creating and sponsoring the scavenger hunt.
- Mount Ararat Cheering squad for supervising all the kids activities.
- Town Staff for all their hard work behind the scenes.
- All those who donated to the Silent Auction, our major fundraiser that supports Celebrate (in no particular order): As We Grow, Banana Banners, Bowdoinham Community Development Initiative, Bowdoinham Historical Society, Bowdoinham Public Library, Shotokan Karate

Academy, The Bowdoinham Country Store, The Long Branch School, Starlight Café, The Town Landing Restaurant, Topsham Veterinary Wellness Center, K&G Hardware, Annabella's Bakery & Café, Casco Bay Frames & Gallery, Knight's Farm Supply, Riverview Barber Shop, Ed Fenimore Carpentry, Herard Seat Weaving, David Waite Electrician, Jim Shufeldt Lobsterman, Fairwinds Farm, Six River Farm, Ackers Acres, Apple Creek Farm, Shearlings Salon, Burgress Computer, G&G Gas & Repair, Taurus Systems, The Great Impasta, Exit 43 Quick Stop, Creative Flow Foundation, Cobb's Repair Service, Paula C's Baked Goods, Innovative Therapy, Arthur Chapman, Adoption Day Cards, Jeff the Electrician, Christian & Robinson Plumbing Contractors, Top Tech Auto, Downeast Credit Union, Downeast Insurance Agency, Brenda at



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- All of those who bid at the Silent Auction.
 - All the participants and vendors who joined the event.
 - I apologize to anyone that I forgot.
- Thank you to everyone who helped make Celebrate Bowdoinham a wonderful community event!!!



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THE BOWDOINHAM NEWS

News from BHS

By Betsy Steen

Traditionally BHS has hosted a November event in the Town Hall, however this year we are changing it up a bit. Saturday and Sunday, November 2nd and 3rd, 10am-4pm, we will throw open Jellerson School for “**Childhood Past.**” We hope you and your children will come visit the school room furnished as in 1910. Our extensive collection of school and antique children’s books will be on display. And you will want to step next door into the Merrymeeting Bay Museum which will be filled with children’s clothes and toys and games from times long past. Don’t miss it!

A huge thanks to Jeanne Gillis and her Yard Sale Crew for putting together our amazing **BHS Super Yard Sale.** The Meeting House was crammed with treasures, and 12 people brought tables and sold their own items. When the day drew to a close, the folks selling declared that they had done very well, and BHS had taken in over \$1300 to put toward restoring our 1884 Meeting House. Mark your calendars for next year– Saturday, September 6, 2014.

At **Celebrate Bowdoinham**, the BHS Tent featured the new Century Box created by Isabelle Pelissier as well as the contents of the 1912, 1932, and 1962 box. Also on display was material to be

included in the box representing Bowdoinham 2012-13.

The **2012 Century Box** was officially sealed at the Select Board meeting October 22nd to be reopened in 2062. Thanks to everyone who has worked to make this happen and who helped at Celebrate. Copies of the 1912-1962 material will be in the library for winter afternoon reading. William Kendall’s Century Fund



Super Yard Sale

continues with \$2500+ at interest for use in 2112.

We gathered in August at Jellerson for an **Ice Cream Social**, complete with home made ice cream, toppings and old fashioned games. A great time was had by all. Thank you Leslie Anderson for spearheading this fun event.

Have you noticed the handsome new outhouse/woodshed that has sprouted at **Jellerson School**? Tom DeForeest and Bob Stetson are in the process of creating

the prettiest privy in Bowdoinham with wood from Leslie Anderson and Patty Melander and funding from The Merrymeeting Bay Trust. It will even have a 1902 Sears catalog!! Thank you!

And speaking of Jellerson, it is ready for students. We have already had one request and hope we will host classes from Bowdoin and Bowdoinham and well as home schooled groups.

What we still need: Sears Catalogs pre 1946, American Girl Doll school accessories, Wood to fill the wood shed, pre 1910 school materials, historic photos (to scan and return). Bowdoinham Historical Society: Another Way to Recycle!

BHS, under the guidance of Wayne Dorr, will soon have a **new work room** on the third floor of the Coombs



Ice Cream Social

Municipal Building next to our storage area. We envision interesting sessions sorting and cataloging.

BHS welcomes everyone interested in history and Bowdoinham!! If you aren’t a member, please consider joining and support the preservation and presentation of Bowdoinham’s history!

Christmas is Coming!!

Support BHS by purchasing:

- Albert Dunlap’s Life on the Abbagadassett - \$20
- Samuel Adams’ History of Bowdoinham 1762-1912 - \$55
- Frank Connor’s Atop That Hill - \$5
- Frank Connors Bowdoinham Advertisers (14 issues) - \$2/issue
- NEW: Frank Connors’ 1980 Merrymeeting Images Calendar - \$5
- Jellerson School Mugs - \$8

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New Teen Area at Library

By Jill Hooper

This fall the Bowdoinham Public Library was proud to introduce a new space in the library for teens. The Bowdoinham Public Library Friends recognize that teenagers are a valuable and active group in our community, and with the dedication of the new space, hope that teenagers will feel welcome to visit the library and visit it often.

Early in the summer, teens were asked to give their input about the library, focusing on what they would like to see improved upon. New shelving was built by Steve and Tom Hooper, which was installed by Steve Hooper and Brad Foley.

The new shelving more than tripled the shelving for Young Adult (YA) fiction. Thanks to the generosity of the Friends of the Library, money was budgeted to increase the YA fiction collection. There are a multitude of new books on the shelves, including a YA Graphic Novel collection. There is a new study area with two study carrels moved to a new and improved space in the library, comfy chairs, and a large table that teens can spread their homework out on, plus the library does have free wi-fi. We welcome students to get off the bus (we are an approved bus stop) on Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday. So come stop by the library!

It is our hope that these improvements for teens are just the beginning and we

plan to host teen events in the near future.

The Bowdoinham Public Library Annual Book Sale will be held on November 9th, 9am-2pm at the library. With thousands of books at rock bottom prices, and 100% of proceeds going to the Bowdoinham Public Library, you just can't go wrong.

Wreaths and Poinsettia's orders are being taken until November 9th. Stop by or call to place your order. We now accept credit cards! Pick-up will be December 6th and 7th during regular library hours.

Are you interested in being a Friend of the Library? Our next meeting is January 27, 2014 at 7:00pm at the Bowdoinham Public Library. Community members are always welcome to join.



Jeanine Beaudoin



Doug Courtelotte



Nate Drummond



Donald Foster



Brett Thompson

Thank you to the wonderful
volunteers who helped us
“Dig Into Reading”!

News from Committee on Aging

By Linda Jariz

Now that Fall is here, the activities sponsored and led by the members of the Committee on Aging are in full swing. Since the goal of the Committee is to provide activities you'd like, your feedback and suggestions are always welcome.

The Senior Center

Last January the Committee on Aging (formed in November of 2012) opened a Senior Center. Originally envisioned as a drop-in socializing opportunity, the Center is now evolving to more regularly structured activities. To do this, we need residents to volunteer their time and talents. So if you have a skill or a talent that you would like to share, don't be shy, we need you!

The Senior Center is open on Thursdays from 10am to 3pm (except the 4th Thursday of the month when the Center opens immediately following the Village Seniors luncheon). The Center is in the basement of the Second Baptist Church, which the Church generously donates for this purpose.

Walking Group

The Monday morning group began in mid-April. It meets at 9:00am at the Fire Station for walks of various lengths and paces. There have been about 10 to 12 residents participating overall with weekly numbers varying. If you would like to join in, just park in back of the Fire Station on Monday morning (weather permitting) and enjoy!!

Exercise Plus

This program also started in mid-April. It meets on Tuesday and Thursday morning at the Fire Station. The program begins at 9:00am and ends by 10:00am. All levels of fitness can be accommodated in this program, so if you haven't yet participated, come and check it out! Each class has anywhere from 9 to 13 participants. In fact, to date, there have been approximately 25 different people who've participated.

Resources

One of the tasks for the Committee on Aging is to obtain resources to assist older residents. To that end, there are several items available from the Bowdoinham Public Library. These resources include a home self-assessment tool to help reduce hazards in the home, exercise dvds

designed specifically for seniors, and books such as "The Driving Dilemma" (issues for elders and family members in evaluating driving ability) and "Alone and Invisible No More" (community action and assistive technology assistance for helping elders remain at home and healthy).

Each month the Committee publishes an Activity and Resource listing. These are available through e-mail, at the Town Office and at the Town Landing. Activities are also posted on the Town's on-line calendar (www.bowdoinham.com/calendar).

Volunteer Transportation Program

A fledgling program is under consideration. When elders need to get to appointments and errands but are unable to drive, we hope to have a volunteer network that can help meet some of these needs. Many who are unable to drive find family or friends to help but sometimes there is a need that friends, relatives, or neighbors can't meet. The Committee continues to consider options to assist.

The Committee meets on the second and fourth Friday of the month at 4:00pm in 2nd Floor Meeting Room at the Town Office. Can't get to a meeting? Call and leave a message on the Senior line at the Town Office 666-5531.

Hobart Farm

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369 Millay Road
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New Site Prep, Driveways,
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Land Clearing, Treework

Proposed TIF District

By Nicole Briand

The Town is working to create a new TIF District, along part of CMP's corridor along Browns Point Road. As part of CMP's Maine Reliability Project they will be separating the two 345 transmission lines onto separate towers, therefore constructing a second set of towers (or poles). CMP is planning on starting construction this winter and construction is expected to take a year.

To assist the Town in creating this TIF District the Town has hired Midcoast Council of Governments. Scott Benson, their Senior Program Director has been working with TIF Districts for over 20 years. The proposed TIF District will be brought before voters at Town Meeting 2014.

So what is a TIF District? A Tax Increment Financing (TIF) is a public economic development financing program, funded by the property taxes generated by the incremental new value from a development project, in this case CMP's project. The TIF only applies to the new value added as a result of the project, also known as the Increased Assessed Value. The tax revenues from the TIF district can be used for: Town economic development programs, Town events, marketing, creating a revolving loan fund, and skills

development and training.

Why create a TIF District? Creating a TIF District provides funding that is dedicated to economic development. The increased assessed value within the TIF District is "sheltered" from the Town's overall valuation, which is how the Town's share of county taxes, state revenue sharing and school budget are determined. Creating a TIF District allows the Town to capture up to 100% of the tax revenue on the increased assessed value. Whereas, if a TIF District wasn't created the Town would lose about 40% of that tax revenue to higher county and school bills and lower state revenue sharing.

So what could we use these proposed TIF funds for? So far the following has been discussed:

- Village Development – public infrastructure improvements (e.g. sidewalks)
- Operating budget of the Town's Economic and Community Development Department
- Events & Marketing
- Merrymeeting Trail - design, development and maintenance
- Village wastewater system feasibility study, system design
- Revolving loan program

If you have an idea, please let us know.

For more information about this project, please contact Nicole Briand at 666-5531 or nbriand@bowdoinham.com.

News from Bowdoinham Recreation Department

By Brandi Lohr

The Bowdoinham Recreation Department wants to offer activities for the adults in our community. In order to do this, I need your help! What would you like to do for fun? I have many ideas that I personally think are fun, but I want to have activities that you are interested in. If there is a talent that you might have and would like to share, please let me know. I realize that there are activities for the young and currently the Committee on Aging has had wonderful success in generating activities for those over the age of 50, but there is a huge gap that needs to be filled. Please email or call with your ideas so that we can start to get active as a community!

Ongoing and upcoming activities include:

- Basketball for grades 3-5 will begin December 7th.
- Basketball registrations for grades K-2 will be out first week of January
- Children's Museum and Theatre of Maine, in Portland, passes are available at the Town Office for free admission for up to 6 people per day. This pass may only be used once per day. So don't miss out on this opportunity, come-in and reserve your day today!
- Family Swim at Bowdoin College is on Sundays from 4:30-5:30
- Ice Skates, Cross Country Skis and Snow Shoes are available to residents. In years past people have kept them for the season and have returned them, but this year the usage will be for a designated time so that all residents can have an opportunity to use them. If you still have any Town equipment please return it, as we only have a limited supply.

For more information, please contact me, Brandi at blohr@bowdoinham.com or 666-3504 or visit the Town's website, www.bowdoinham.com or visit our Bowdoinham Recreation Facebook page.

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"Peggy the Plumber" Christian Mark M. Robinson
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Plumbing Tip

Have you taken your hose off the outside spigot?

If you have a frost proof silcock leaving the hose attached will almost certainly cause it to freeze and break. If it is not a frost proof then you must turn off the water to it and drain the pipe. If you have a traditional hose attachment that you have not drained in the past you may be losing a lot of heat through your foundation.

News from Long Branch

By Nanette Giacomia

There's lots happening at the Long Branch.

Wood Oven Bake & Potluck

November 16th, 12-2pm
at Long Branch Workshop, 25 Main St
Bring a dish and your favorite un-baked bread to bake in the wood oven.

Long Branch General Store

Join the Newly Re-vamped Buying Club:

- New Lower Family-friendly prices.
- Wider Selection of local, natural and organic items
- Opportunities for volunteering in exchange for reduced pricing.

Long Branch School

The Long Branch School held both an Introductory Timber Framing Class and Wood-Fired Oven Class this year. Both classes resulted in us high quality products and successful classes. For the 2014 season, we are looking for others to host these classes. If you would like to have a small timber frame or wood-fired oven in your backyard.

We will be taking our wood-fired oven on the road in 2014. If you would be interested in having us bring our oven to your event, such as a wedding or party, please contact us.

For more information, please contact us at info@longbranchschool.com or 666-8900.

News from BCDI

By David Whittlesey

Bowdoinham Community Development Initiative has launched a membership drive to broaden participation and to help sustain the organization. Membership fees are an important part of meeting our modest budget. But not only is membership one of the most important sources of support for BCDI, in 2014 the membership will determine the future direction of the organization. It's easy to join, just go to www.bcdi.us/membership. Please consider becoming a member today!

Since its beginning, BCDI has worked closely with the Local Farms - Local Food initiative, a joint effort of the Kennebec Estuary and Brunswick Topsham Land Trusts, to facilitate links with local farmers and those interested in food systems and land preservation. In early October BCDI and the two land trusts made this cooperation more concrete, and for the next six months and hopefully longer, BCDI will receive some financial support for the activities that it carries out under this arrangement.

At Celebrate Bowdoinham, BCDI sold packages of Daffodil bulbs, specially prepared by FEDCO for the occasion. Almost 1000 bulbs were sold! Not only will this help support the organization, but also next Spring we will have wonderful splashes of yellow all around town! Thanks to all who purchased a bag of bulbs, now don't forget to plant them well!

For more information, visit our website at www.bcdi.us or contact David at david.whittlesey@gmail.com.

Merrymeeting Trail News

By Nicole Briand

There's lots underway in the development of the Merrymeeting Trail.

Over the summer, Kennebec Estuary Land Trust hosted the first bike ride of the interim (on-road) route of the Merrymeeting Trail. The process for developing signage for this interim route is ongoing. The goal is to develop the signage over the winter so that the signage can be placed along the interim route in the spring.

Kennebec Estuary Land Trust is working on several outreach projects with the money they received from the Sewall Foundation. These projects include the development of kiosks and a brochure, as well as the purchase of Merrymeeting Trail sport water bottles.

Richmond was approved for funding from Maine Department of Transportation's Transportation Enhancement Grant Program for the design and construction of the two Richmond village sections of the trail. This project is expected to receive its funding in 2015/2016, so we'll have the first segment of Merrymeeting Trail constructed in 2017.

The development of the governmental structure for the planning, construction and maintenance of the trail is also underway. The goal is to have this decision making organization in place late spring/early summer 2014.

For more information, find us on Facebook or visit www.merrymeeingtrail.org.



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The Five Bond Questions

By State Representative Seth Berry

I wanted to take this opportunity to tell you about the five bond proposals on the ballot this November 5th. These bonds were placed on the ballot by the Legislature and Governor Paul LePage. They relate to transportation, to Maine's three public institutions of higher education, and to our state National Guard armories.

The largest of these, the transportation bond, would invest \$100 million in our roads, bridges, rails, harbors and ports. Despite the importance of our state's highways to Maine businesses and economic growth, 33 percent of Maine's major roads are in poor or mediocre conditions, costing Mainers \$296 per driver each year in extra vehicle repairs and operating costs, for a total of \$301 million annually. Another 33 percent of Maine's bridges are considered structurally deficient or functionally obsolete. A safe and strong transportation network is essential to Maine's economy.

Equally important to our economy are our public institutions of higher education, to develop our future leaders and workforce. In Maine, these include the University, the Community Colleges, and the Maine Maritime Academy.

One higher ed bond would invest \$15.5 million to improve the University of Maine system, particularly in the areas of Science, Technology, Engineering and Math, or STEM disciplines. The high-demand, high-wage jobs these fields produce not only lead to new opportunities for our young people, but also help Maine as a whole to compete.

Polar Bear Dip

Seth Berry will be taking the Dip again this year to raise money for the construction of the Bowdoinham Community Skatepark. Please make his shivers worthwhile and help us build skatepark for youth in the Bowdoinham area by supporting his dip through a pledge!

A similar higher ed bond would invest the same amount, \$15.5 million, in Maine's Community College System to add more classroom space, better science labs and to make buildings more energy efficient. This funding will give the schools more space to teach and train skilled workers and help alleviate the backlog of people on the waiting list.

The third higher ed bond would put \$4.5 million into a new science lab at Maine Maritime Academy. This school routinely trains some of our best and brightest students and places them in top paying jobs.

Last but not least, another bond question asks for \$14 million to renovate Maine's armories, where the men and women of Maine's National Guard train. Many of these facilities are in need of basic upgrades. Critical improvements are needed to update the ventilation, heating and air conditioning systems, remove asbestos, repair electrical systems and lighting, repair leaky roofs, drafty windows and update fire alarms and sprinklers.

I voted in favor of sending these five bonds out to you because I believe they will grow our economy, create new construction jobs, keep our roads and bridges safe, help more Maine students find good-paying jobs and make sure the National Guard can properly train, since we depend on them to help us during major natural disasters.

When considering these and other bond proposals in August, Maine's Legislature and Governor were urged to bond "more and sooner" by prominent economist Charles Colgan. Dr. Colgan called this moment a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to put Mainers back to work and to invest in our future. The state currently carries an extremely low debt service as compared to other states or to a typical household or business, and bond interest rates are at an historic low. In addition, there is high unemployment in the trades and contractors are working hard to get a bid accepted.

Whichever way you decide to vote on these issues, I do hope to see you at Town Hall on Election Day, November 5th! As always, voting absentee is also an option.

Citizen of the Year Award

By William Post

The Town of Bowdoinham Select Board has created a new award that will recognize one Citizen of the Year each year at Celebrate Bowdoinham. The Citizen of the Year award is to recognize an individual that goes above and beyond for the people of the community.

A committee will be formed and tasked with soliciting nominations for the award from the public and forwarding a nomination to the Board for an individual to receive the award. For this year, the first year, the Select Board chose the recipient.

Bowdoinham's Citizen of the Year for 2013....

is no stranger to the community. She serves the citizens of Bowdoinham in many ways and never asks for, or seeks, recognition. Whenever a neighbor is in need, she steps up with a fundraising event or a kind word. She is well respected and never thinks twice about helping her community.

In appreciation of her many years of dedication to the people of our community, the Select Board of Bowdoinham thanks and recognizes:

Susann 'Suzie' Uhle 2013 Citizen of the Year



If you are interested in serving on a committee to develop criteria for the award and to help the Town recognize a citizen each year, please contact Town Manager Bill Post at 666-5531 or wpost@bowdoinham.com.

News from Around Town

Community Thanksgiving Dinner

Thursday, November 28th at 12pm

Come join members of the community for a traditional Thanksgiving Dinner. Transportation or Meal Delivery is available. To reserve your seat (or meal) or to donate food, please contact Ann Davis at 751-4238 or annied59@comcast.net no later than Friday, November 22nd.

Thanksgiving Pie Sale

Tuesday, November 26th 8am-5pm

Why spend hours in the kitchen when you can get homemade pies (and various other deserts) for Thanksgiving and support the Fire Department at the same time?!?! Only \$8 per pie.

Want to help - donate a pie! Can't make pies? Make any desert/bread of your choice. Please drop off your pie (or other desert) between 5-8pm on Monday, November 25th at the Fire Station.

Bowdoinham EMS Craft Fair

Saturday, November 23rd, 9am-2pm at Bowdoinham Fire Station

To reserve a table (\$25), please contact Ann Davis at 751-4238 or annied59@comcast.net.

Holiday Giving Tree

The giving season is upon us and the preparations for the Holiday Giving Tree have begun at the Town Office. The purpose of this tree is to help any resident, family, or elderly person who may be in need this time of year. The Holiday Giving Tree which will be located at The Town Landing Restaurant, starting November 29th.

If you would like to help bring some holiday cheer to our fellow residents all you need to go to the Town Landing Restaurant and choose a gift tag from the tree. The gift tag will have all the pertinent information that is needed. We ask

that you bring the unwrapped gift (along with the gift tag) back to the Town Office or Library by December 18th.

If you know a family or someone who may need help this season or have any questions, please call Pam at the Town Office at 666-5531, name(s) are kept strictly confidential.

Wreath & Poinsettia Sale

Cross it off your holiday to-do list and support the Bowdoinham Public Library at the same time!

Poinsettias, in two sizes

6.5" pot - \$12

7" pot - \$18

choose your color: red, white or pink

Handmade Wreaths

\$15 with a red bow

\$12 without a bow

Taking orders at the library until the Book Sale and at the Book Sale. Poinsettias & Wreaths will be available for pick-up at the Library on Friday, December 6th, 2-5pm and Saturday, December 7th, 10am-3pm.

Book Sale

Saturday, November 9th, 9am-2pm

At the Bowdoinham Public Library

Hardcover books: \$1.00

Paperbacks: \$0.50

For more information, please call the Library at 666-8405.

Heating Assistance Program

Fall is here, winter is right around the corner and the heating assistance program is running low on funds. This program is funded entirely from private and business donations as well as fundraising efforts, since it began in 2008. Please consider making a donation, to help your neighbors stay warm this winter.

Donations can be dropped off or mailed to the Town Office at 13 School Street. For more information, please contact the Town Office at 666-5531.

Bowdoinham Food Pantry

Visit our new location at 9 Main Street, next to the Merrymeeting Arts Center during our new hours, Fridays 3-6pm. Thank you to Fred & Jill Haer, the new location is perfect! Can't get to the pantry - we will deliver! For more information, email bowdoinhamfoodbank@gmail.com or call 751-0080.

Thanks to everyone who made Celebrate Bowdoinham such a success, special thanks for United Bikers of Maine - Sagadahoc County Chapter!

Winter Clothing Giveaway

November 1st the Bowdoinham Community School Parent Partnership will begin collecting gently used winter clothing. This is outer wear that would be used during the cold winter months. Long shirts, long pants, coats, boots, gloves, mittens etc. There will be collection boxes at the school, the library, and town office. Please feel free to drop your donations off between November 1st and December 1st. Please contact Jessica Sullivan with any further questions, 504-7103.

Buy-a-Brick Special

(limited quantities available)

Thanks to the generous donation by Dwight Sholes and Glenn Mayer kids can now buy a \$100 brick for just \$25.

Help support our Skatepark through the "Buy-a-Brick" Program. Your brick will be located in the pathway connecting the skatepark to the main entrance. Order forms are available on the Town's website or at the Town Office.

Polar Bear Dip

Join the Polar Bear Dip on December 7th, 3pm at Maily Waterfront Park. You can take the dip just for the fun of it or to raise money for an organization, project or cause. Don't want to take the dip yourself, sponsor someone who is!

Dippers please come to the Park at 2:30pm to turn in your pledge sheet and pledges. Pledge sheets are available on the Town's website or at the Town Office.

Attention Business Owners

You can advertise in this newsletter!

The Bowdoinham News is published six times per year in January, March, May, July, September and November by the Bowdoinham Department of Community and Economic Development. It is mailed directly to the all households in Bowdoinham (approximately 1,400) and placed on our website. Advertising is restricted to businesses located in Bowdoinham or businesses located outside of Bowdoinham that are owned by a resident of Bowdoinham. The ad rates for 2014 are as follows:

- 2.25" wide by 3" high is \$30
- 4.5" wide by 1.5" high is \$30
- 4.5" wide by 3" high is \$50
- 4.5" wide by 4.5" high is \$75
- 7" wide by 3" high is \$75
- 7" wide by 4.5" high is \$125

The ad rate is based on \$20 per two column inches (columns are 2.25 inches wide), with an additional discount given for larger ads.

For more information, please contact Nicole Briand, Director of Planning & Development at 666-5531 or nbriand@bowdoinham.com or go to the Town's website, www.bowdoinham.com/bowdoinham-news-advertising.

Finance Advisory Committee

The Select Board is seeking volunteers to serve on the Finance Advisory Committee. The Finance Advisory Committee consists of five members and one alternate member. The Committee assists the Select Board and Town Treasurer with financial decisions regarding development and administration of the town's budget and the investment program for the Town. The Board is seeking volunteers that have experience in business analysis, financial analysis, investments or development and administration of a budget. If you are interested in serving on this committee, please contact Town Manager Bill Post at 666-5531 or wpost@bowdoinham.com.

2014 Dog Licenses

The 2014 dog licenses are now available at the Town Office. Fees are \$6.00 for a neutered/spayed dog and \$11.00 for a "fully equipped" dog. Please license your dog(s) annually on or before January 1st. To avoid the late fee, come into the Town Office before February 1st. Please remember to bring in proof of rabies.

Online Services

The Town of Bowdoinham offers many services through its website www.bowdoinham.com for the convenience of its residents. When visiting the Town's website, click on "Online Payments". This will take you to a new screen that lists all of the services the Town offers on-line. These include: paying property taxes, re-registering vehicles and trailers, purchasing hunting and fishing licenses, registering ATVs and snowmobiles, registering boats and purchasing a dog license. Each of these services has different requirements for who can use them and different payment options (credit card, debit card and electronic check).

Elections

The State Referendum Election and the Municipal Election will be held on Tuesday, November 5, 2013, 8am-8pm at the Bowdoinham Town Hall.

You will be able to request an absentee ballot 30 days before the election. To request an absentee ballot you can call the Town Office, send in an application, come into the Town Office, or you can go through the absentee ballot request site at www.maine.gov/cgi-bin/online/Absentee-Ballot/index.pl

If you have any questions you can call Pam at the Town Office (666-5531).

Municipal Election Ballot

Select Board Member, Assessor & Overseer of the Poor, 3 year term (*Vote for 2*)

- Beckwith, Dean O.
- Cunningham, Wendy
- Lewis, Peter A.

- Tourtelotte, Douglas
- Write-in Candidate

School Board Member, 3 year term
-Write-in Candidate

State Referendum Election Ballot

1. Bond Issue

Do you favor a \$14,000,000 bond issue to provide funds for the State's share of maintenance, repair, capital improvement, modernization and energy efficiency projects for Maine Army National Guard readiness centers and support facilities and the purchase of land for training and to draw down federal matching funds?

2. Bond Issue

Do you favor a \$15,500,000 bond issue to enhance educational and employment opportunities for Maine citizens and students by updating and improving existing laboratory and classroom facilities of the University of Maine System statewide?

3. Bond Issue

Do you favor a \$100,000,000 bond issue for reconstruction and rehabilitation of highways and bridges and for facilities or equipment related to ports, harbors, marine transportation, freight and passenger railroads, aviation and transit, to be used to match an estimated \$154,000,000 in federal and other funds?

4. Bond Issue

Do you favor a \$4,500,000 bond issue to provide funds for a public-private partnership for a building project for a new science facility at Maine Maritime Academy to be matched by other funds?

5. Bond Issue

Do you favor a \$15,500,000 bond issue to upgrade buildings, classrooms and laboratories on the 7 campuses of the Maine Community College System in order to increase capacity to serve more students through expanded programs in health care, precision machining, information technology, criminal justice and other key programs?

THE BOWDOINHAM NEWS

Community Calendar

November

5th

Elections, 8am-8pm
Town Hall

9th

Book Sale, 9am-2pm
Bowdoinham Public Library

11th

Veterans Concert, 1pm
Town Hall

Town Office Closed
in observance of Veterans Day

16th

Wood Oven Bake & Potluck, 12-2pm
Long Branch

23rd

EMS Craft Fair, 9am-2pm
Bowdoinham Fire Station

26th

Pie Sale, 8am-5pm
Bowdoinham Fire Station

28th

2nd Annual Thanksgiving Dinner, 12pm
Bowdoinham Fire Station

28th & 29th

Town Office Closed

December

6th

Holiday Festival

Tree Lighting, 6pm
John C. Coombs Municipal Complex
Bowdoinham Guild of Artisans Show
Town Hall, 6-8pm

Christmas Open House, 3-8pm
312 Millay Road

7th

Holiday Festival

Holiday Craft Fair, 10am-2pm
Bowdoinham Bowdoinham School
Bowdoinham Guild of Artisans Show
Town Hall, 10am-3pm

Woodworkers Showcase, 10am-3pm
John C. Coombs Municipal Building

Christmas Open House, 9am-4pm
312 Millay Road

Polar Bear Dip, 3pm
Maily Waterfront Park

8th

Santa is Coming to Town, 4pm
at Bowdoinham Fire Station

24th & 25th

Town Office Closed

Town Board & Committee Meetings

All meetings are open to the public and held in 2nd Floor Meeting Room at John C. Coombs Municipal Building, 13 School Street.

Select Board Meetings

2nd & 4th Tuesdays of Month at 5:30pm

Planning Board

4th Thursday of Month at 7:00pm

Biking, Walking, Paddling

4th Monday of Month at 6:30pm

Committee on Aging

2nd & 4th Fridays of Month at 4:00pm

Community Development Advisory Committee

3rd Tuesday of Month at 6:30pm

Comprehensive Planning Committee

1st Tuesday of Month at 6:30pm

Solid Waste Committee

To Be Announced

Energy Committee

To Be Announced

Finance Advisory Committee

To Be Announced

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

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